

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: J Martin (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams
R J L Boase
Mrs F N E Boase
M H Thomas

Mrs G A Geer
D J Potter
T E Grattan-Kane
Rev. D P Reed

R F Edgcumbe
M J Kenchington

Officers: Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)

313. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Reverend Reed.

314. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Mrs Roberts and the Projects Officer.

315. Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations

a) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

b) Requests from Members for Dispensations

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Mrs Geer had submitted a dispensation request for the Helston CIC as she was the Town Council's representative.

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor Mrs Geer a dispensation for the civic year to remain in meetings, participate in debates and vote on matters relating to the Helston CIC.

The Town Clerk further advised that Councillor R J L Boase had submitted a dispensation request for the Helston in Bloom group as the Town Council's representative.

It was proposed by Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor R J L Boase a dispensation for the civic year to remain in meetings, participate in debates and vote on matters relating to the Helston in Bloom group.

316. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors

Cornwall Councillor Martin informed Members that he had been involved in Licensing Committee meetings advising that the licensing team were currently heavily involved with inspections of premises licensed to handle animals. Councillor Martin advised that he had also been involved in the West Sub Area Planning Committee meeting which had considered some contentious applications. Councillor Martin also advised that he had been involved with case work regarding housing, parking, benefits, and anti-social behaviour.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that it had been a busy month and he had been involved in meetings for the Neighbourhoods Committee, Planning, the Standards Advisory Council for Religious Education and the Community Governance Review. Councillor Thomas advised that he had been involved in a number of case work issues regarding planning and other matters. He advised that both himself and Councillor Martin would be attending the Cornwall Council Full Council meeting the following Tuesday to set the budget for the coming year. Councillor Thomas confirmed that he was also a digital advocate and wished to encourage people to use digital more. Councillor Thomas confirmed that the main issues he would be focussing on for the forthcoming weeks would be the budget and connectivity for Helston.

Councillor Potter enquired if the Cornwall Councillors present had any comment to make regarding the Climate Change Emergency declaration made by Cornwall Council and whether they were involved in the decision or the discussions. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that the Portfolio Holder for the Environment was developing a draft strategy for Cornwall Council and recommended that the Town Council look at that to work on the local issues. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that it was at an early stage at present and Cornwall Council had been deluged with e-mails from members of the public who were keen to hear how Cornwall Council was responding. He advised that he suspected there would be a Members' briefing which would outline the way forward and would be made available via their digital networks. Councillor Thomas advised that there was nothing concrete at present apart from the decision at the Full Council meeting which had taken place after lengthy debate and had been a very productive meeting. Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that, as a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group, they had met after the Full Council meeting for a discussion and wished to speed up the process as much as possible to affect any change to policy and would be meeting again before the next Cornwall Council meeting.

317. Public Participation

The Chair of the Helston in Bloom group spoke in support of their grant application to outline the work that the group carried out with particular mention of the planters in the town centre and organisation of the Town Tidy. She then gave an explanation to the financial information included with their grant application. In response to a question, the Chair of Helston in Bloom outlined her activities to engage with volunteers and to encourage participation with the town tidy. Councillor Thomas expressed his thanks for all the work carried out by Helston in Bloom.

A member of the public expressed the opinion that it was nice to hear the town had a good group of volunteers adding that Cornwall benefitted from a large number of volunteers. He then expressed concern with the condition of the kennels and the level of illegal and inconsiderate parking in the town.

A member of the public spoke to express concern regarding climate change outlining further issues that had been highlighted in the month since the last Full Council meeting and queried why Helston Town Council was not taking action. Two members of the public then spoke to make suggestions on action the Town Council could take which included changing to a renewable energy provider, turning down the heating thermostat, using LED bulbs, managing green areas differently, considering the issue in the planning process, educating the public on planting pollinator friendly flowers and not using glyphosate weed killer or insecticides. Following a brief discussion it was proposed by Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor Potter, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that an informal meeting be held on Thursday 28th February 2019 at 7.30pm to discuss what actions Helston Town Council could take and the results be brought to the March Full Council meeting for debate.

318. Minutes

On the proposition of Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 17th January 2019 be approved and signed as a true record.

319. Minutes of the Amenities Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 24th January 2019, be received.

320. Minutes of the Planning Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 7th February 2019, be received.

321. Announcements

The Town Clerk informed Members that Mr Mark Jones and Mr Daniel Pearce had been appointed to the Grounds Maintenance Team from 1st April 2019.

The Mayor informed Members that measurements were being taken for Flora Day suits on 19th March 2019.

322. Relay for Life

Councillor Grattan-Kane spoke on the impact of cancer on the population advising that improvements in medical diagnosis and treatment were increasing survival rates. He advised that Cancer Research runs Relay for Life events as part of a world wide effort to promote awareness, celebrate survivors and to remember those who were not so fortunate. He advised that the Relay for Life becomes a big community event with many teams participating to walk for 24 hours and each team holds fundraising activities during the preceding 12 months. Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that the Relay for Life was coming to Helston on 13th/ 14th June 2020 briefly outlining the arrangements and confirming that the South Kerrier

Alliance had agreed that it could take place in Coronation Park. He advised that he was not seeking a financial contribution from the Council but felt the event would benefit from support of the Council and it would enable access to Council resources. The Town Clerk further advised that the Helston Town Council staff would be submitting a team to take part in the Helston Relay for Life. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

- a) Helston Town Council supported the Relay for Life coming to Helston in 2020 and assist where able; and
- b) Helston Town Councillors submit a team for the Helston Relay for Life in 2020.

323. Report of the Projects Officer

Councillor Mrs Boase advised that she had recently spoken to the Projects Officer and as an update to his report he had advised that he had received ten expressions of interest to trade at the Monument Walk market.

In respect of Monument Walk, the Town Clerk advised that he had received the Solicitor's report regarding the devolution of the area which would be reported to the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee that would make a recommendation to Full Council.

Councillor Thomas asked the Council representatives on the Projects Group if there was any news regarding his suggestion on walking tours of Helston. Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that the group had discussed walking tours but no progress had been made at present.

Councillor Reverend Reed advised that the Projects Officer had queried whether any gazebo weights were still being stored at the Methodist Church and he confirmed that he had located thirty weights. The Town Clerk advised that he would ask the Town Warden to liaise with Councillor Reverend Reed to collect them.

324. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Grants

- a) Determination of whether a grant would be awarded

It was agreed to award a grant to each of the following organisations:-

- i) Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust
- ii) Cruse Bereavement Care
- iii) Helston in Bloom
- iv) Helston Memory Cafe
- v) South Kerrier Alliance CIC

- b) Determination of amount of grant funding awarded

- i) Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust towards the purchase of a new helicopter.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Williams, that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust towards the purchase of a new helicopter. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust towards the purchase of a new helicopter.

ii) Cruse Bereavement Care

It was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to Cruise Bereavement Care for the provision of skilled one-to-one support.

iii) Helston in Bloom

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £600.00 be awarded to Helston in Bloom for twice yearly planting of containers in Helston.

iv) Helston Memory Cafe

It was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,200.00 be awarded to Helston Memory Cafe for the provision of coach trips.

v) South Kerrier Alliance CIC

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and

RESOLVED – that a grant of £660.00 be awarded to South Kerrier Alliance CIC for the provision of picnic benches.

(2) Helston CIC – ‘Discover Helston’ Publication

It was proposed by Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council agreed to underwrite the cost of selling advertising opportunities for the ‘Discover Helston’ magazine to a maximum of £500.00.

The Town Clerk further advised that he had been contacted by Helston CIC to invite the Council to place an advert in the magazine and suggested that the Council had a half page advert to promote the Guildhall as a wedding venue at a cost of £186.00.

On the proposition of Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Mrs Geer, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council purchase a half page advert in the ‘Discover Helston’ magazine at a cost of £186.00 to promote the Guildhall as a wedding venue.

(3) Green Spaces Conference

The Town Clerk requested Members let him know if they wished to attend the Green Spaces Conference.

(4) Polling District and Polling Station Review

This item was noted.

(5) Air Quality Monitoring

This item was noted.

(6) Parliamentary Inquiry into Ethical Standards in Local Government

This item was noted.

(7) Planning Committee Vacancy

There were no volunteers to join the Committee. The Town Clerk advised that he would bring an amendment to Standing Orders to the following Full Council meeting for Members’ consideration.

325. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, it was

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 626-687 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £27,056.58.

326. Attendance at Meetings

Councillor Mrs Geer advised that whilst she was the Town Council’s representative on the Helston CIC she confirmed she was not a Director as Councillor Potter was and queried who should submit reports. It was suggested that both representatives were entitled to report to Council.

327. Items for the next Agenda

The Mayor requested an item on the following Full Council Agenda to consider holding public informal discussion meetings.

328. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Thomas, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

329. Confidential Report of the Projects Officer

(1) Monument Walk – Proposed Markets

Members considered the Confidential Report of the Projects Officer (circulated prior to the meeting) and following a brief debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Potter, and

RESOLVED – that the Council accepted the preferred option quotation from Canopies South West for replacement gazebo canopies, walls and weights at a maximum cost of £3,803 exclusive of VAT.

330. Trenance Close Open Space

Councillor Thomas updated Members on his research since the previous Full Council meeting and it was agreed the Councillor Thomas continue to pursue the matter for another month.

331. 'Welcome to Helston' Website

Councillor Potter advised that he had withdrawn this item as the Helston CIC wished to submit a marketing report which would include the website as part of the strategy.

Meeting closed at 9.01pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor