

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF HELSTON**  
**HELD AT THE METHODIST CHURCH HALL,**  
**COINAGEHALL STREET, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 2019 AT 7.00 PM**

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**PRESENT:** Councillor J Martin (Town Mayor) in the Chair (also Cornwall Councillor)

**Helston Town Councillors:**

Mrs F N E Boase	M H Thomas (also Cornwall Councillor)	T E Grattan-Kane
	D J Potter	Rev. D P Reed

**Residents:**

Mrs A Boxer	Freeman I D Perry
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**Representatives of Organisations:**

Mr C Bowcutt – 3<sup>rd</sup> Helston Squadron Air Training Corps  
Ms L Grant – Cornubian Arts and Science Trust  
Mr P Martin – Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust  
Ms L Gent – Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall  
Mr S Osborne – Helston River Children’s Sailing Trust  
Miss J Hornsby – Helston Christmas Lights & Helston in Bloom  
Mr C Butterill – Helston Lizard Rotary  
Mr C Dale – Helston Lizard Rotary  
Mrs J Carroll – Helston Makes It  
Mr M Smith – Helston Memory Community Café  
Ms C Cooke – Museum of Cornish Life (South Kerrier Heritage Trust)  
Mrs V Matthew – South Kerrier Alliance CIC

**In Attendance:**

Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)  
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Mrs J Chambers (Administrative Assistant)  
Mr M Searle (Town Centre Regeneration Officer)

**1. MINUTES**

It was proposed by Miss Hornsby, seconded by Councillor Potter, and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the last Annual Town Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

## 2. **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor presented a resume of the affairs of the town during the preceding twelve months and made special reference to:

- (a) The work of the Town Councillors who gave their time and efforts unpaid, thanking them for all they did to encourage the town to look ahead and to achieve a better future;
- (b) The staff of Helston Town Council who he thanked for their hard work for the town and confirmed that an additional two grounds staff had been employed to assist in the management of the towns open spaces and streets;
- (c) The work of the many volunteer groups who worked hard to support many projects in the town including Helston in Bloom and Helston Christmas Lights and the many people who volunteered to support the elderly residents within the town;
- (d) The work of the South Kerrier Alliance CIC who had carried out excellent work restoring Coronation Park and Lake;
- (e) The formation of the Helston CIC which was considering projects to support the future development of the town and sought encouragement and support from Cornwall Council and National Government;
- (f) The work of the Helston Climate Action Group which was engaging with the Town Council to encourage a Carbon Neutral Future for Helston;
- (g) The Town Council's commitment to Plastic Free Helston which had formed a Steering Group who were meeting shortly to determine a plan of action;
- (h) The work of the Flora Day Association who organised the ancient event that was part of what made Helston a special place;
- (i) The launch of the Monument Markets which would be held monthly;
- (j) The new Helston Community College building which was nearing completion and would give students and staff long awaited modern facilities in which to study;
- (k) The Helston Business Park which was now open for business with additional units being constructed to attract business and new jobs for Helston;
- (l) The Library which also housed the Cornwall Council One Stop Shop and the Job Centre, with the pooling of these resources saving money and ensuring that the facilities were available for longer hours;
- (m) The new housing developments within the town and whilst not to everyone's taste they were welcome to those without homes and those who saw enhanced prosperity in an enlarged town; and
- (n) Forthcoming events taking place within the town including Freedom Parade, Hellys International Guitar Festival, Helston Harvest Fair and Helston Makes It.

**3. CHARITY ACCOUNTS: TREVENEN EXHIBITION**

The Town Clerk reported details of the Accounts of the Trevenen Exhibition Charity which showed balances on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 of £6,085.98 representing £4,498.51 in shares currently held and £1,587.47 in the Charity's bank account.

**4. REPORT ON THE DOWNSLAND TRUST**

Councillor Grattan-Kane, Chairman of the Helston Downsland Trust advised that it was the bicentenary of the Trust and outlined how the charity had been formed. He further advised that the Helston Downsland Trust gained funds from the letting of small parcels of land and its investment portfolio. Councillor Grattan-Kane confirmed that the Trustees had decided to invest £54,000 in Coronation Park and the provision of this funding had allowed the South Kerrier Alliance CIC to obtain further funding which had enabled them to dramatically improve Coronation Park for the benefit of the town. Councillor Grattan-Kane confirmed that the Trust had also been able to request a Carbon Audit for the town on behalf of the Town Council to see what improvements could be made.

**5. TOWN AFFAIRS**

A member of the public congratulated the volunteers who were busy preparing for Flora Day with particular reference to the volunteers who had painted the white wash walls. He expressed concern regarding climate change but was of the opinion that it was difficult to resolve the issue when the President of the United States of America did not take notice of the problem. The member of the public advised that people were concerned with crime in the town and whilst he did not feel there was a big issue, he believed the problem was increasing. He then raised concern with the condition of the kennels expressing the opinion that when they were repaired the existing styles should be matched. He also requested further information on the blockage of the kennels.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas provided an update on the blockage of the Leats which was preventing water from flowing through the kennels, advising that it was a complicated issue with discussions ongoing between Cornwall Council, Cormac and the landowner.

The Mayor advised that the Police had given a report at a recent Community Network meeting which confirmed there was no obvious rise in criminal behaviour and the recent problems had been centred around specific individuals who had moved out of the area. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had been concerned that Helston Town Council had not been approached by Safer Cornwall but this was because Helston was considered a safe town with low crime figures.

A member of the public expressed concern regarding the collapsed wall in Godolphin Road which continued to partially obstruct the pavement. The Mayor advised that the planning permission would lapse in the following months and once this happened Cornwall Council would be able to take action regarding the collapsed wall.

## **6. PRESENTATIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS**

Presentations were made by the following organisations that had received financial support from the Town Council over the past year:

- 3rd Helston Squadron Air Training Corps
- C A S T
- Cornwall Air Ambulance
- Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall
- Helford River Sailing Trust
- Helston Christmas Lights
- Helston in Bloom
- Helston Lizard Rotary Club
- Helston Makes It
- Helston Memory Community Cafe
- Helston Museum
- South Kerrier Alliance CIC

The Town Clerk read reports submitted by the following organisations that were unable to attend the meeting:

- Helston Town Band
- Helston WW1 Heritage Project
- Merlin MS Centre

**Meeting closed at 8.38pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**