

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 20TH JUNE 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
D J Potter

T E Grattan-Kane
M J Kenchington

Officers: Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)
Mr M Searle (Projects Officer)

52. Prayers

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Thomas.

53. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Mrs Geer, Mrs Roberts, Reverend Reed and Edgcumbe.

54. Requests for Dispensations

The Mayor queried whether Members needed to resubmit their dispensations. The Town Clerk advised that the dispensations from the previous civic year had ended and Members would need to resubmit their requests if the dispensation was still required.

55. Police Matters

The Mayor extended a welcome to PCSO Berry who outlined Devon and Cornwall Police's activities within the town and highlighted an issue with telephone scams which had recently taken place. PCSO Berry then informed Members of the Devon & Cornwall Alert scheme and the Keyholder scheme advising of the benefits of each.

56. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Link Officer

Cornwall Councillor Martin outlined his activities advising that he had been involved in a number of issues locally regarding collapsed walls, parking particularly around schools and litter on bin collection day. Cornwall Councillor Martin further advised that he had been approached by fellow Cornwall Councillors to share the progress of the Helston Climate Action Group which had been recognised as a good model around the County. Councillor Martin advised that he had attended the reception at County Hall for the Cornwall Rugby Team and the opening of the new water fountain at the Coronation Park. Cornwall Councillor Martin then informed Members that he was meeting with highways officers to discuss the feasibility of project ideas before consultation with the public as part of the Place Shaping Initiative.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had been working with the local resident, Cormac and Cornwall Council Drainage Officers regarding the Falmouth Road leat blockage confirming that remedial work had been carried out with further work required and he hoped the leat would be operational in the near future. Councillor Thomas further advised that he had arranged the second management meeting regarding the Leats and Kennels with senior representatives from the Environment Agency, South West Water and Cormac for 23rd July

2019. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he had negotiated with the Executive Head of the Southerly Point Cooperative Multi Academy Trust to hold a community event to formally say goodbye to the Helston North Site/ Upper School which would take place between 6.00pm and 8.30pm on 12th July 2019 briefly outlining the format of the event. Cornwall Councillor Thomas confirmed that he had been involved with several case work issues regarding TPO's, road safety, road improvements and fly-tipping at the Sithney Common Hill Lay-by confirming that he was working with the Community Link Officer regarding the matter. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he was on the Electoral Review Panel confirming that it was still at the discovery stage with submissions for the Community Governance Review being accepted until 17th July 2019 and would begin the formal process of considering the boundary change requests at the end of July. Councillor Thomas advised that he had represented concerns regarding NHS dentistry provision in Cornwall and due to his interest in road safety he had been invited to accompany a Highway patrol in July/ August. Cornwall Councillor Thomas further advised that he was negotiating with Cornwall Council Estates for Isaac House to be an area that Cornwall Council Local Members could use for meetings and surgeries.

In response to a question Councillor Thomas advised that Helston Town Council would not be liable for works to the Leats and whilst he was hopeful the resident would not be charged he could not guarantee this. Councillor Williams expressed his thanks to Cornwall Councillor Thomas for the progress he had made regarding the Kennels and Leats.

Councillor Mrs Boase queried whether there had been any interest in the School Crossing Patrol position for Parc Eglos. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised he had no update at that time but whilst the position had been advertised he was not aware of anyone coming forward.

The Mayor advised that he had received a message from Cornwall Councillor Wallis who wished to express his thanks to the Lizard Peninsula Friends of the Earth and Helston CIC who had contributed to the Water Fountain at Coronation Park.

57. Public Participation

A resident of Meneage Street expressed concern with the speed and awareness of vehicles using the section of Meneage Street near Helston Garages giving several examples of near misses with pedestrians and damage to parked vehicles. She expressed concern that it had been suggested at a recent MP's public meeting that it was not possible to have a 20mph limit within the town as the Police did not have the resources to enforce it. She advised that the road was getting busier and drivers did not appear to be aware that it was a residential area and suggested that a pedestrian crossing would provide a safe method of crossing the road but would also slow the speed of traffic. Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that he had recently met with the Cornwall Council Portfolio Holder for Transport regarding a pedestrian crossing in Meneage Road. He confirmed that it was a long term project and dependent on Cornwall Council to do certain things. He then expressed the opinion that the width of the pavements in Meneage Street would limit the potential for islands and crossings. Councillor Potter advised that speed and volume of traffic were concerns raised with the Helston Climate Action Group and he was of the opinion that the streets needed to be returned to the people with people given priority over traffic. The Mayor advised that the Town Council was developing Traffic Regulation Orders for various highways works within the town one of which was a 20mph zone for the town centre. The Mayor advised that the Town Council would endeavour to solve the problems being experienced in Meneage Street. PCSO Berry advised that whilst she was not involved with traffic issues she understood that 20mph speed limits were not enforceable and the Police did not have the resources to monitor it. PCSO Berry further advised that sites for speed checks had to be assessed to ensure they were safe and Meneage Street would not meet the criteria.

58. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 14th and 16th May 2019 be approved and signed as a true record.

59. Minutes of the Planning Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 16th May 2019 and 6th June 2019, be received.

60. Minutes of the Amenities Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 23rd May 2019, be received.

61. Announcements

The Town Clerk informed Members that the new Mayor's Secretary, Ms Jacqui Heath, had started the previous week. The Town Clerk then reminded Members to return their blue folders for updating.

The Mayor advised that he was having his face and head shaved on Saturday 29th June 2019 raising funds for several charities including 'Man Down', a men's mental health charity. The Mayor further advised that he would be attending Mazey Day at Penzance that weekend and was holding his Civic Service on Sunday 14th July at 2.30pm. The Mayor confirmed that he had also attended the Mayor Making and Civic Services at Falmouth, St Austell and Truro with further events coming up that month and had given out certificates to those completing the Who Dares Works and Who Dares Serves programmes.

62. Report of the Projects Officer

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that, whilst he had not yet received an additional quotation for the reinstatement of granite pavements, a conversation had led him to believe that he would receive another quotation in the near future. The Project Officer further advised that another meeting of the Guided Tours group had been held and he would be bringing a report to the July Full Council meeting. The Mayor thanked the Projects Officer for his report.

63. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Community Governance Review

The Town Clerk briefly outlined the recommendations from the Community Governance Review Working Party. On the proposition of Councillor Kenchington, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Council requested:

- a) the extension of Helston parish boundary to include the HX1 development and the two fields to the north;
- b) an increase in the number of Town Councillors to 14; and
- c) a review of the Warding arrangements.

Councillor Thomas abstained from the vote.

(2) Grant Application

Councillor R J L Boase expressed the opinion that the request for support for litter bins should be funded from an alternative budget and not the grants budget. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council supported the ‘Revamp the Ramps’ application for £270 to provide new bins at Helston Skate Park to be funded from the Litter Bins budget.

(3) CALC Training Programme

This item was noted.

(4) Flora Day Guildhall Decorations

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that £500 from the 2019/20 Flora Day Decoration Budget be granted to Helston Football Club Youth Team to purchase football kit and £250 from the budgeted amount in 2018/19 be granted to the Flora Day Association.

(5) Proceeds of Sale of 3 Penrose Road

This item was noted.

(6) Energy Supplier

This item was noted.

64. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 145-217 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £37,690.83.

65. Attendance at Meetings

Councillor Thomas advised that he had forwarded a report on the Furry Youth Cafe to the Deputy Town Clerk that day for circulation to Members and suggested that Members e-mail him if they had any questions.

Councillor Potter advised that he had submitted a report regarding the Helston Climate Action Group (HCAG) advising that he had been critical of Cornwall Council's engagement with HCAG and the Town Council. Councillor Potter confirmed that he had submitted two questions via Cornwall Council's online portal and outlined the responses he had received.

66. Items for the next Agenda

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk's office a minimum of 10 days prior to the meeting to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

67. Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

68. Confidential Report of the Town Clerk

(1) CCTV Monitoring

Members considered the Confidential Report of the Town Clerk (circulated prior to the meeting). Following a brief debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the quotation from SSE for CCTV monitoring equipment at a cost of £651.98 be accepted.

(2) Town 2-way Radio System

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council commission a site survey by Gould Electronics at a cost of £156.00.

69. Trenance Close Open Space

Councillor Thomas updated Members on his continuing research regarding the Trenance Close Open Space. It was agreed that Councillor Thomas continue to pursue the matter.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor