

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 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  
Mrs N Roberts

D J Potter  
T E Grattan-Kane  
Rev. D P Reed

**Officers:** Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)  
Miss P J Lavelle (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Ms J Heath (Administrative Assistant)

The Mayor welcomed Ms J Heath to the meeting advising that she had joined the Council as the Mayor's Secretary and Administrative Assistant.

**96. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Reverend Reed.

**97. Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Kenchington and the Projects Officer, Mr M Searle.

**98. Absent**

Councillor Edgumbe was absent without giving apologies.

**99. Requests for Dispensations**

The Mayor reminded Members that they needed to resubmit any requests for dispensations for the current civic year.

**100. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors**

Cornwall Councillor Martin advised that he had been involved with Licensing and West-Sub Area Planning Committee meetings and had attended planning training events. He advised that he was assisting residents of park homes with a query regarding their contracts and was involved with casework regarding collapsed walls and numerous enquiries regarding the ongoing repair of the Kennels.

Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that Cormac had carried out the first stage of works to repair the water supply to the Kennels. The works required at a property in Falmouth Road included the installation of a length of pipe to join two sections together and he would provide further information as a confidential matter later in the meeting. He then confirmed that he had arranged the second meeting on the following Tuesday regarding the management of the Kennels with senior representatives from the Environment Agency and South West Water. Councillor Thomas advised that the community event at Helston Community College on 12<sup>th</sup> July had been well received and in response to a question advised that he believed they had raised approximately £700 at the event with further pledges made. Councillor Thomas advised that he was involved with a number of case work issues regarding road safety, road improvements, hedge cutting and a taxi meeting. He informed Members that

he had also been investigating the issue of fly-tipping at Sithney Common Hill Lay-by and confirmed that a variety of officers were considering the appropriate action which possibly could include a mobile CCTV camera at the site. Cornwall Councillor Thomas advised that he was awaiting the results of the evaluation of the use of Isaac House by Cornwall Councillors and also, whilst he had been unable to attend the Full Council meeting as he had been on leave, he had noted the concern of residents regarding the planned building of 52,000 homes in Cornwall by 2030. Councillor Thomas informed Members that he continued to work with Safer Cornwall regarding the involvement of other towns confirming that this would mean Safer Helston would be able to access support if incidents arose. In respect of the Community Governance Review, Councillor Thomas advised that the previous day was the deadline for submissions with a large number being received. He confirmed that monitoring of Nitrogen Oxide levels had been carried out in Helston with the results awaited advising that he had expressed concern that, whilst Government advice recommended turning off vehicles, there was some scientific evidence that switching car engines off and on again could cause more pollution in some instances. Councillor Thomas advised that he was also exploring the situation in Cornwall regarding the provision of HPV vaccinations for young women who had been too old to be included in the HPV programme several years ago.

#### **101. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 be approved and signed as a true record.

**Councillors Mrs Geer and Mrs Roberts abstained from the vote as they had not been present at the meeting.**

#### **102. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 20<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019, be received.

#### **103. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019, be received.

#### **104. Announcements**

The Mayor informed Members that he had Helston branded aluminium water bottles for sale at a cost of £7.50 with proceeds going to the Mayor's Welfare Fund to support his charities. He advised that the bottle would support the Plastic Free Helston initiative and encouraged people to take part in the Refill Scheme.

The Mayor then thanked everyone for their support at the Civic Sunday expressing his appreciation and thanks to Helston Town Band for their performance particularly as they had stepped in at short notice to perform the music for the whole service. The Mayor also thanked Councillor Reverend Reed for an enjoyable service, a sentiment which was echoed by many Councillors. The Mayor also expressed his thanks for the organisation of the Freedom Parade advising the he was of the opinion that the new format had worked well and gave greater community involvement. The Mayor advised that a number of events would be taking place in the near future including the Guitar Festival and Helston Harvest Fair. He then requested that Members be aware of a Coffee Morning being held at Helston Methodist Church on 27<sup>th</sup> July to raise funds for their Benevolent Fund which gave grants and support to people in need.

The Town Clerk reminded Members that the following weeks Amenities Committee meeting would take place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7pm not on Thursday as previously scheduled.

#### **105. Freeman Ceremony**

Councillor Thomas advised that it had been a privilege to oversee a Freeman Ceremony whilst he had been Mayor where three people had been conferred the honour. He advised that he had someone in mind who he felt was deserving of being made Freeman and he was of the opinion that the Council should form a working party to consider whether another ceremony should be held. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that a Working Party be formed to consider whether a Freeman Ceremony should be held.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Working Party would have to report to Full Council who would make the final decision.

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Williams, Mrs Boase, Thomas and Reverend Reed volunteered to be on the Working Party.

#### **106. Helston Community College**

Councillor Thomas advised that Helston Community College was faced with serious issues regarding the provision of equipment for the new school building giving an example of office equipment which would not fit into the new building. Councillor Thomas suggested that the Council could potentially consider giving a grant for a specific project, expressing the opinion that mental health was an issue that was increasingly affecting young people and the Council could consider proving funding for soft furnishings for a place where mental health issues could be addressed. Councillor Thomas then asked if Members had other ideas how the Council could assist. A detailed debate ensued where it was also suggested that the Town Council could facilitate donations from the community and that organisations which had previously been supported by the Town Council and the Downsland Trust could be encouraged to assist with the fundraising for the College. The Mayor expressed the opinion that many schools suffered from insufficient funding with government funding in the area for education being much lower than the national average and confirmed that as Cornwall Councillors they would continue to lobby Government for fairer funding.

At the conclusion of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk arrange a meeting between the Executive Head of the Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust and the Helston Town Council representatives to discuss the situation.

#### **107. Report of the Projects Officer**

Members considered the report of the Projects Officer (circulated prior to the meeting) and Councillor Grattan-Kane briefly outlined the work which had taken place regarding the informal guided tours. A detailed debate ensued at the conclusion of which it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Thomas, that the Council assume the role of managing the organisation of the proposed guided tours and any donations be retained by Helston Town Council in a heritage fund for improvements to heritage features within the town.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Mrs Geer, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, that the Council assume the role of managing the organisation of the proposed guided tours and any donations be given to the Museum of Cornish Life with a discussion on how the funding was used. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion. It was therefore unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council assume the role of managing the organisation of the proposed guided tours and any donations be given to the Museum of Cornish Life with a discussion on how the funding was used.

#### **108. Report of the Town Clerk**

##### **(1) Heritage Trail Leaflets**

On the proposition of Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Williams, it was

RESOLVED – that the Council reimburse Helston CIC the £330 charged by the publishers to include the Heritage Trail Leaflet in the Discover Helston magazine.

##### **(2) Code of Conduct Training**

Councillor Reverend Reed indicated that he wished to attend the Code of Conduct training held at Dolcoath Avenue on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

#### **109. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

On the proposition of Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 218-288 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £53,907.00.

**110. Items for the next Agenda**

The Mayor requested that Members contact the Town Clerk's office to place items on the following Full Council Agenda.

Councillor Reverend Reed requested an item on the following Full Council Agenda to discuss VE Day on Flora Day and briefly outlined a suggestion to purchase additional flags for the event.

Councillor Potter requested a regular Agenda item regarding the Climate Emergency.

**111. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

On the proposition of Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, 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.

**112. Confidential Report of the Town Clerk**

**(1) Proceeds of Sale – 3 Penrose Road**

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

RESOLVED – that a letter to the Editor be drafted to outline the history and restrictions related to 3 Penrose Road and to ask the public for ideas within the confines of the Act giving a deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> September for responses.

**113. Kennels and Leats**

Councillor Thomas updated Members on the situation regarding the Kennels and Leats.

**114. Trenance Close**

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 9.17pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**