

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON**  
**ON THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.15 PM**

**Councillors:** J Martin (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams  
R J L Boase  
Mrs F N E Boase

Mrs N Roberts  
D J Potter  
T E Grattan-Kane

Rev. D P Reed  
M J Kenchington

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

**304. Prayers**

The Meeting opened with Prayers offered by Councillor Reverend Reed.

**305. Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Thomas, Mrs Geer and Edgcumbe.

**306. Declarations of Interest**

The Mayor declared an interest in the grant applications for Helston Athletic Football Club and Helston Rugby Football Club. Councillors R J L Boase and Mrs Boase declared an interest in the grant application for Helston Harvest Fair. Councillor Mrs Roberts declared an interest in the grant application for the Epworth Hall - Central. Councillor Grattan-Kane declared an interest in the grant application for Hellys International Guitar Festival. Councillor Reverend Reed declared an interest in the grant applications for the Epworth Hall - Central, Helston Town Band and The Fishermen's Mission. (All relating to Item 1 – Town Clerk's Report, Agenda item 23).

**307. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors**

Cornwall Councillor Martin updated Members on his activities to advise that:

- as a result of excess water from recent storms, there had been a marked deterioration of the road surface and there had been damage to some properties;
- concerns had been raised regarding an increased level of dog fouling and Cornwall Council had issued a new poster campaign;
- the Licensing Committee had seen an increase in applications with extra Committee sessions tabled to accommodate this and the West Sub-Area Planning Committee had considered a number of contentious applications recently;
- He was meeting with the MP the following day when he would continue to push for fairer funding for Cornwall and ask the MP how he could represent the town to gain investment and support; and
- The consultations regarding the boundary review were continuing and he supported the Town Council's request to include HX1 within the town boundary.

The Town Clerk read a report on behalf of Cornwall Councillor Thomas who made the following points:

- The following Monday he would be meeting with a representative of GLL, an officer from Cornwall Council and the Portfolio Holder for Customers to lobby for improved facilities at Helston Sports Centre;
- Relevant division members had met to discuss planned improvements to the B3297 with Phase 1 aiming to raise driver awareness of settlements and consultation was due to take place in the near future;
- He had spoken with the utility company regarding their contractor's work at Falmouth Road to assist resident's difficulties;
- The third meeting had taken place regarding the Leats and Kennels during which flow level data was presented and a close inspection was planned during drier conditions. He had also met with staff from RNAS Culdrose's 700X Squadron to determine if it would be suitable to carry out a drone fly through for all or part of the Leats network;
- He had welcomed the Strategic Director for Economic Growth and Development to the town when he met with representatives from Helston CIC to hear their proposals and he had also met local officers from Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service at Helston Community Fire Station;
- He was at the Community Governance Review meeting in Penzance that evening with the Helston area meeting taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> March at Heartlands;
- He had attended several Central and West Sub-Area Planning Committee meetings and advised that the Member motion at Full Council regarding the Badger cull was not debated for technical reasons;
- The report from the future operations of Household Waste and Recycling Centres would go live on 26<sup>th</sup> February;
- The new local family partnership hubs were at an early stage and were designed to co-ordinate health work being done by various groups; and
- He continued to lobby for a cost assessment to reconnect Helston to Network Rail with a new government funding initiative currently available.

The Mayor confirmed that no report had been received from Cornwall Councillor Wallis.

### **308. Public Participation**

The Chair of Helston Athletic Football Club outlined the club's activities and advised that they wished to install a ball stop fence as they were concerned for the safety of residents and passing traffic when footballs left the pitch. He then outlined the cost of the project together with the funding raised and their Sports England grant application.

A representative of Helston Railway Preservation Society advised that the Council had previously granted them funding for a youth project which continued to go from strength to strength and they were now requesting funding for educational signage to improve the visitor experience.

A representative of the Helston Climate Action Group (HCAG) advised that when selecting a gas supplier the Amenities Committee had not chosen a green supplier but had instead chosen to offset their carbon emissions and queried which scheme they were intending to use. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Committee had agreed to plant trees to offset the carbon emissions but had not yet discussed the details, so he would ensure this was included for discussion in the near future.

The representative from HCAG then advised that Councillor Potter had previously encouraged Members to inform those present of the actions they were personally taking to reduce climate change but no one had responded and he was concerned that the Councillors did not feel that it was an emergency. He advised that HCAG was working hard against climate change and asked what action Councillors were taking personally. Councillor Williams expressed the opinion that tree planting had been carried out in the past and if the incorrect trees were planted they caused more damage so any planting should be professionally supervised. Councillor Potter advised that the Council had staff who were capable of looking after any trees they planted and advised that Pledge 1 - to switch to a green energy tariff, was relatively easy and could save money. Councillor Mrs Roberts advised that she had requested, and been given, fruit trees for Christmas, she had started to grow her own vegetables and had switched to a green energy tariff.

A representative of the Flora Day Association advised that the Association had no objection to commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day but had concerns with the viability of the assembly and dispersal areas for Culdrose personnel and the route of a parade. He also raised concern with crowd management as the Flora Day Association managed that for the dances but would not have capacity for a parade.

**309. Minutes**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 be approved and signed as a true record.

**Councillor R J L Boase abstained from the vote as he was not present at 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 meeting.**

**310. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Mrs Roberts advised that she had been approached by a number of people who had expressed their thanks for the Freeman Ceremony.

**311. Minutes of the Planning Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January and 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020, be received.

**312. Minutes of the Amenities Committee**

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, be received.

### **313. Announcements**

The Mayor thanked the Grounds Team, who had been carrying out a litter pick in the area, for their swift action when a member of the public had fallen over. The Mayor then advised that he had attended the St Ives Feast, had opened the Incredible Edible event and would be welcoming the Mayor of Sasso Marconi on Flora Day. He also expressed his congratulations to Helston Athletic Football Club who were top of their division and the current highest league goal scorers.

### **314. Review of Standing Order 1.11**

The Town Clerk outlined the proposed amendment to Standing Order 1.11 recommended by the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee which would give Members the option of standing or remaining seated when speaking at Full Council meetings. A detailed debate ensued during which Members shared their opinions and it was suggested that it was a tradition to stand as a mark of respect to the position of Mayor and the Chain of Office. At the conclusion of the debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, and

RESOLVED – that Standing Order 1.11 remain unchanged.

### **315. Report of the Helston Climate Action Group**

Councillor Potter updated Members on the activities of the Helston Climate Action Group (HCAG) and made the following points:

- The tree planting planned at Lowertown for the Forest for Helston had been rescheduled due to recent storms and would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020;
- The tree planting at Helston Community College would take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and involve 200 Year-7 students planting 420 native trees in a hedgerow, providing an important wildlife corridor;
- The launch of Incredible Edible Helston was very successful with more than 30 people in attendance who formed into working groups looking at planting, infrastructure and the creative aspect of this project. CAST & CAST Cafe was also keen to get involved and preliminary discussions had been held about edible planting on the CAST site;
- Preparatory work was ongoing for the pop-up energy advice surgeries and the Health & Wellbeing team had discussed the possibility of linking energy advice surgeries with groups run by Helston Medical Centre;
- There had been two more repair cafe sessions since the last meeting with 28 items repaired and the following session would take place on 15<sup>th</sup> March at CAST;
- The regular climate hub drop-in sessions continued to be held every Monday evening at the Guildhall with a formal meeting on the first Monday of each month;
- HCAG attended the 'Joining the Dots' climate / education / wellbeing meetings which were facilitated by Cornwall Council;
- Helston was now listed on the Earth Protector Communities website as one of the declared towns and HCAG was also registered as a supporting organisation;
- An article by HCAG containing tips for visitors had been included in the upcoming edition of Discover Helston magazine;
- HCAG members had recently assisted the Feock Climate Cafe, Wembury Parish Council and Sustainable Hayfield (Peak District) and would be supporting CPIR Climate Change Information & Workshop day in Redruth on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2020; and
- A bid application was being generated for the Rural Community Energy Fund with the aim to submit the application before 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that he was still awaiting utility information from some providers to allow the tree planting on Meneage Green by the Helston Downsland Trust to proceed and would chase them up.

### **316. Additional CCTV Coverage**

Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that Councillor Thomas had discussed the issue with him and requested that he speak on his behalf. Councillor Grattan-Kane reminded Members of the anti-social behaviour issues in the Sunken Garden which had been raised by a member of the public at the previous Full Council meeting. He advised that Councillor Thomas had spoken to SSE who had indicated that they could carry out a site visit to confirm if it was viable to install a camera connected to the existing CCTV system and if so, a detailed quotation could be provided at a cost of £300. Councillor Grattan-Kane recommended that delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk to request the quotation if the initial site visit was favourable. The Town Clerk advised that the £300 charge would be deducted from the bill if the Council decided to proceed with the camera installation. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to investigate the provision of CCTV in the Sunken Garden including a detailed assessment at a cost of £300 and be requested to ensure that the planting in the area was not providing a place of seclusion.

### **317. Memorial Book for the Town of Helston**

Councillor Reverend Reed advised that this idea had been mentioned when discussing a fitting tribute to the late Mr Angove and suggested that a digital memorial book be maintained as part of the duties of the Mayor's Chaplain. He expressed the opinion that there should be a means of commemorating all residents whose family wished to have recognised. He suggested that a simple form could be included in the information point at the Guildhall for people to complete with dates of birth and death and the book could be created in a digital form to be printed and displayed at specific occasions and be available via the Council website.

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council create a Memorial Book for Helston which was maintained by the Mayor's Chaplain.

### **318. Annual Gravity Games Event**

Councillor Grattan-Kane reminded Members that the Council had received an e-mail suggesting the provision of a gravity games within the town. He advised that the event had been risk assessed and the provision of insurance had been clarified but the problem preventing the event had been securing hay bales for protective barriers. Councillor Grattan-Kane asked Members to recognise this event and support it with initial funding of £2,000 to enable the purchase of bales with income for future years raised through the entry ticket price. Councillor Grattan-Kane confirmed that there were several groups which wished to be involved in the event but expressed the opinion that it should be led by the Town Council who could provide support with road closures and crowd barriers.

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council supported the creation of a Gravity Games and set aside a budget of £2,000 towards the event.

**319. Public Access Defibrillators**

Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that the Andrew Oliver Big Heart Fund had been created following his death from a heart attack as a tribute to his memory. He advised that there was no doubt that defibrillators saved lives and the defibrillator by the Monument had been used on at least four occasions. The fund was previously supported by Mrs Hines with charitable activities and donations but she was no longer in a position to maintain this support. Councillor Grattan-Kane expressed the opinion that the defibrillators were a community asset and for a small investment every year the Council could provide a scheme of rolling maintenance and replacement. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council take over the responsibility for the ownership and management of the public access defibrillators installed by the Andrew Oliver Big Heart Fund.

**320. Port Augusta**

Councillor Grattan-Kane advised that Helston was twinned with Port Augusta in Australia and a local member of the public had raised funds to help the Port Augusta community following the recent bush fires. He expressed the opinion that it would be appropriate for Helston Town Council to send a letter of support to Port Augusta in their time of need. On the proposition of Councillor Grattan-Kane, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that a letter of support be sent to Port Augusta in South Australia.

**321. Commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day**

The Town Clerk advised that in addition to the concerns raised by the Flora Day Association (circulated prior to the meeting) a response had been received from the Captain of RNAS Culdrose confirming that they could not participate in a parade due to operational commitments and the personnel being given the day off for Flora Day. It was then proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council did not hold a parade and/ or fly-past on Flora Day to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day.

Councillor Kenchington expressed his disappointment that a parade had not been possible.

Councillor Reverend Reed requested clarification of what the Town Council intended to do to commemorate the anniversary of VE Day. The Town Clerk advised that the Council was placing flags around the Guildhall, was inviting people who had danced on Flora Day 75 years ago to the Mayor's Luncheon and was potentially having a bugler or piper for the Battles Over on the steps of the Guildhall. Councillor Reverend Reed expressed the opinion that the Town Council should do more. Following a brief debate it was agreed that a Working Party consisting of the Mayor and Councillors R J L Boase, Mrs Boase and Reverend Reed be formed to consider ways to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. It was suggested that the Working Party should meet as soon as possible, preferably the following week, and a representative of the Flora Day Association be invited to attend to ensure the proposals did not impinge on the Flora Dances.

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

The Projects Officer updated Members on his report (circulated prior to the meeting) to advise that the meeting regarding the Kennels and Leats had been very positive and Cornwall Council was willing to assist with estimated costs and scoping of the repairs for the Kennels but may not be able to provide this assistance until April.

Members then considered the Monument Walk markets for 2020 and following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Reverend Reed, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, and

RESOLVED – that the Council approved monthly trading for the outdoor market at Monument Walk for the 2020 season with markets generally taking place on the second Thursday each month from April to October.

### **323. 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) Epworth Hall – Central
- iii) Hellys International Guitar Festival
- iv) Helston Athletic Football Club
- v) Helston Bowling Club
- vi) Helston Harvest Fair
- vii) Helston Makes It!
- viii) Helston Memory Community Café
- ix) Helston Phoenix Mentoring Project
- x) Helston Railway Preservation Society
- xi) Helston RFC
- xii) Helston Town Band
- xiii) Re-vamp the Ramps
- xiv) South Kerrier Alliance CIC
- xv) The Fishermen's Mission

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

RESOLVED – that a budget of £500 for Plastic Free Helston be created from the Carbon Footprint Reduction budget.

- b) Determination of amount of grant funding awarded

- i) Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £100.00 be awarded to Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust for air ambulance pilots, paramedics and night flying equipment.

- ii) Helston Harvest Fair

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £300.00 be awarded to Helston Harvest Fair to facilitate the organisation and running of the event.

**Councillors RJL Boase and Mrs Boase requested their abstention from the vote be recorded.**

- iii) Helston Makes It!

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to Helston Makes It to facilitate the organisation and running of the event.

- iv) Re-vamp the Ramps

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to Re-vamp the Ramps towards setting up 'Park Guardians'.

- v) South Kerrier Alliance CIC

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £500.00 be pledged to South Kerrier Alliance CIC for the refurbishment of the Waterwheel in Coronation Park.

- vi) Helston Bowling Club

It was proposed by Councillor Potter, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, that a grant of £1,000.00 be awarded to Helston Bowling Club for the refurbishment and decoration of the Bowling Club facilities.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to Helston Bowling Club for the refurbishment and decoration of the Bowling Club facilities. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that a grant of £500.00 be awarded to Helston Bowling Club for the refurbishment and decoration of the Bowling Club facilities.

- vii) Helston Memory Community Café

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £740.00 be awarded to Helston Memory Community Café to facilitate the organisation and running of their events.

- viii) Helston Railway Preservation Society

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £850.00 be awarded to Helston Railway Preservation Society for improved signage and education material.

ix) Helston Town Band

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Williams, that a grant of £1,500.00 be awarded to Helston Town Band for the band's Flora Day uniform fund.

An Amendment was proposed by Councillor Potter, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, that a grant of £2,000.00 be awarded to Helston Town Band for the band's Flora Day uniform fund. The Amendment was carried and became the Substantive Motion and it was

RESOLVED – that a grant of £2,000.00 be pledged to Helston Town Band for the band's Flora Day uniform fund.

**Councillor Reverend Reed requested his abstention from the vote be recorded.**

x) Hellys International Guitar Festival

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Roberts, seconded by Councillor Reverend Reed, and

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,080.00 be awarded to Hellys International Guitar Festival for free guitar lessons to children and young people.

**Councillor Grattan-Kane requested his abstention from the vote be recorded.**

xi) Helston Phoenix Mentoring Project

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £1,000.00 be awarded to Helston Phoenix Mentoring Project for the project's 18<sup>th</sup> year celebratory treat for young people and family members.

xii) Helston RFC

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £2,000.00 be pledged to Helston RFC for repairs to the fence and relocation of pitches.

**The Mayor requested his abstention from the vote be recorded.**

xiii) Helston Athletic Football Club

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £3,000.00 be pledged to Helston Athletic Football Club for ball stop netting.

**The Mayor requested his abstention from the vote be recorded.**

xiv) The Fishermen's Mission

It was proposed by Councillor Potter, seconded by Councillor Kenchington, and

RESOLVED – that a grant of £2,000.00 be pledged to The Fishermen's Mission for the decoration and furnishing of the new Welfare Centre.

**Councillor Reverend Reed requested his abstention from the vote be recorded.**

xv) Epworth Hall – Central

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

RESOLVED – that a grant of £4,258.00 be pledged to Epworth Hall – Central for tiered seating.

**Councillors Mrs Roberts and Reverend Reed requested their abstention from the vote be recorded.**

**(2) Community Governance Review**

This item was noted.

**(3) Cornwall Council 2020 Off-Street Parking Order**

This item was noted.

**(4) Solar Panels on Listed Buildings**

Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, and

RESOLVED – that an application for Listed Building Consent be submitted for solar panels on the Guildhall using the original plans.

**(5) Freedom Parade**

This item was noted.

**(6) Discover Helston Website**

This item was noted.

**(7) Police Liaison Group Meeting**

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

RESOLVED – that Councillor Grattan-Kane be appointed as the Town Council's representative on the Parish and Town Council Police Liaison Group.

**324. Schedule of Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 660-727 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £48,525.78.

**325. Attendance at Meetings**

The reports on attendance at meetings submitted by the Mayor and Councillors Thomas and Grattan-Kane were accepted. Councillor Mrs Boase advised Members that the councillors Relay for Life fund-raising event was being held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February with a Pancake Race and Pancake Coffee Morning.

**326. 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.

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

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, 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 item of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**328. Proceeds of Sale of 3 Penrose Road**

The Town Clerk updated Members on the discussions regarding the proceeds from the sale of 3 Penrose Road.

**Meeting closed at 10.00pm**

**Confirmed**

**Town Mayor**