

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON TUESDAY 8th APRIL 2008 AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: Councillor R.Williams (Town Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors:

J.H.M. Keay

P. Phillips

Mrs V.J. Matthew

Mrs S.M.E. Swift

N.J.C. Devenish

Mrs F.N.E. Boase

N.C. Martin

K. Reynolds

R.R. Pryor

In Attendance: Mr C. Dawson (Town Clerk)

466. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors R.J.L. Boase and D.C. Swift who were both working.

On the proposition of Councillor Reynolds, seconded by Councillor Pryor it was

RESOLVED – that the Apologies be received and accepted.

467. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present declared a personal interest as members of the Town Council.

468. CORNWALL ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Town Clerk advised that at a Briefing Meeting the previous Friday it was suggested that Town and Parish Councils answer the following questions:

1. Should an attempt be made to separate rural and urban parishes?
2. How many Members in total should there be?
3. How many Councillors should Helston have?
4. Should there be Multi or Single Member Wards?

Councillor Mrs Swift gave Members a detailed account of the Review process including calculations of the total number of Councillors, predicted electorate in Helston in 2012 and the resulting number of Helston Ward Members. Councillor Mrs Swift further advised that the One Cornwall Implementation Executive would be meeting the following Friday to debate the issue and again on 18th April to agree its final recommendation to the Boundary Committee.

A debate then ensued and the following points made:-

- Helston was a large enough town to deserve its own dedicated Members;
- Should not mix rural and urban parishes;
- Helston should be served by Members that live in the town;
- A large total number of Councillors, for example 130, would be difficult to work and may result in three areas being created with all Councillors only meeting together for key decisions such as the budget;
- The One Cornwall Implementation Executive appeared divided on the total number of Councillors;
- The town's boundary was very clear but some rural parishes would have to combine.

At the conclusion of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Reynolds, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk respond to the Cornwall Electoral Review consultation stating that:-

- (a) The town of Helston wished to be autonomous;
- (b) Helston's preference was to have three single-Member Wards; and
- (c) As a second choice, to have two single-Member Wards.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor