

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2015 AT 7.15 PM

Councillors: M H Thomas (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams
R J L Boase

Mrs F N E Boase
J P Radford-Gaby

Mrs G A Geer
M Knight

Officers: Mr C Dawson (Town Clerk)
Miss P J Lavelle (Assistant to the Town Clerk)
Mr M Searle (Town Centre Regeneration Officer)

526. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Miss Hornsby, Martin, Upton, Mrs Roberts and Harrison.

527. Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations

a) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

b) Requests from Members for Dispensations

The Town Clerk advised that a dispensation request had been received from Councillor Knight to allow her to speak and vote on matters relating to the Helston WWI Heritage Project.

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor Knight a dispensation for the term of the current Council to remain in meetings, speak and vote on matters relating to the Helston WWI Heritage Project.

528. Police Matters

The Town Clerk advised that apologies had been received from the Police.

529. Reports from Local Cornwall Councillors and the Community Network Manager

a) Local Cornwall Councillors

Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that she had been involved in a number of planning issues and offered to answer Members' questions.

Councillor R J L Boase queried whether a survey was being carried out to monitor whether charging to dispose of certain types of rubbish at the recycling centre was causing an increase in fly-tipping. Cornwall Councillor Mrs Haycock advised that a small charge had been introduced several months previously for car tyres, plasterboard and rubble to cover the cost of disposal. She advised that Cornwall Council had contacted other Councils with similar schemes and were monitoring the situation. Councillor Mrs Haycock further advised that there *had* been an increase in fly-tipping of items that could be disposed of free of charge.

The Town Clerk confirmed that apologies had been received from Cornwall Councillor Wallis.

b) Community Network Manager

The Town Clerk advised that the Community Network Manager had not provided a report as she had nothing to include relating to Helston.

530. Public Participation

Mrs Ferguson from the Helston Packet advised that it was her last meeting before going on maternity leave but confirmed that a representative would be attending in her absence. Mrs Ferguson then thanked Members for their support. The Mayor expressed his best wishes.

531. Report from the Helston Business Improvement Partnership

Members considered the report from the Helston Business Improvement Partnership (circulated prior to the meeting) and Mrs Moralee, HBIP BID Development Officer, responded to Members' questions. Mrs Moralee advised that, as a limited number of Councillors had been able to attend the Business Improvement District (BID) presentation, the HBIP wished to hold a separate presentation for Town Councillors. The Mayor advised that he was willing to circulate suitable dates. Mrs Moralee further advised that the HBIP report on the financial position was updated quarterly and suggested that she attend the Full Council meeting on a quarterly basis unless there was a specific item that Members wished to discuss. The Mayor expressed the hope that a representative of the HBIP would attend each monthly meeting if able.

532. Minutes

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 19th February 2015 be approved and signed as a true record.

Councillor Mrs Geer abstained from the vote as she had not been present.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 26th February 2015 be approved and signed as a true record.

Councillor Mrs Geer abstained from the vote as she had not been present.

533. Minutes of the Planning Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 19th February 2015, be received.

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 5th March 2015, be received.

534. Minutes of the Play & Young People Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Knight, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Play & Young People Committee meeting held on the 26th February 2015, be received.

535. Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee meeting held on the 10th March 2015, be received.

536. Announcements

The Mayor informed Members that he had attended the following events during the past month:

- The opening of a coffee shop;
- Mr Stike's Guy Gibson Film Evening;
- HBIP Business Improvement District Presentation;
- A Public Realm Board meeting to hear information on the Traffic Study;
- The St Nazaire Commemorations held at Falmouth;
- Two assemblies at Helston Community College;
- The opening of the refurbished Table Table restaurant;
- The 58th birthday of Helston Friendship Club.

The Mayor announced that Councillor Knight had been the winner of his crossword competition. The Mayor then advised that work had commenced on the WWI Quilt in honour of the fallen and informed those present that they should contact Councillor Knight if they wished to contribute with the production of a small piece.

537. Superfast Broadband

Councillor R J L Boase advised that he had investigated the possibility of superfast broadband but had discovered that it was not currently available for Market Place, Helston. He expressed the opinion that if Members were to express an interest the Town Council could obtain superfast broadband as soon as it was available. Councillor R J L Boase advised that there was a small increase in price for superfast broadband but it would be beneficial for the office with a quicker upload speed assisting in the updating of the website and it would make the building more attractive to hirers. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by the Mayor, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council move to Superfast broadband when available.

538. 2015/16 Calendar of Meetings

Members considered a report by the Town Clerk regarding the calendar of meetings which included six options for the format of the calendar (circulated prior to the meeting). A detailed debate ensued during which Member's expressed their opinions on the options.

Councillor Knight requested that the vote be recorded.

At the conclusion of the debate voting was carried out by a show of hands and it was RESOLVED – that Calendar of Meetings Option 5 be adopted.

Option 5 reduced the Policy, Finance & Resources Committee to six meetings and abolished the Play & Young People Committee.

The Mayor and Councillors R J L Boase, Mrs Boase and Radford-Gaby voted for the Motion. Councillors Williams, Knight and Mrs Geer voted against.

539. Report of the Town Centre Regeneration Officer

Members considered the report by the Town Centre Regeneration Officer (circulated prior to the meeting). The Town Centre Regeneration Officer updated Members on the consultation process for the proposal to modify the preferred route for visitors from the Falmouth Road Roundabout. A brief debate ensued at the conclusion of which it was proposed by Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, and

RESOLVED – that the preferred route for town centre-bound traffic (first time visitors) from the Falmouth direction should be via the A394 (by-pass), Clodgey Lane and Trengrouse Way and that action should be taken to ensure that new or adapted directional and car park signage maximised the usage of this routes.

The Town Centre Regeneration Officer then updated Members regarding solar lighting of 'Peacocks Lane' and responded to Members' questions. The Town Centre Regeneration Officer advised that the owners of Peacocks premises were willing to grant a licence to attach lights to the premises but were not willing to allow connection to their electrical supply. Councillor Mrs Geer expressed the opinion that the lane should be given a name in keeping with the town and not referred to as 'Peacocks Lane'. Following a brief debate it was agreed that the lighting would be considered further once the Town Centre Regeneration Officer had revisited the power supply issue and the Mayor expressed the opinion that a name could be considered at the same time.

The Town Centre Regeneration Officer confirmed that the installation of the two electrical sockets was on schedule and he hoped to have more information regarding the removal of the bin and relocation of the parking restriction sign at the Parade in the near future. He further advised that he was obtaining prices for the cabling to stalls which he hoped to bring to the April meeting but expressed concern that the decision may need to be expedited. Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that delegated authority be given to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk in consultation with the Town Centre Regeneration Officer to:

- a) purchase cable and rubber matting;
- b) repair existing leads; and
- c) to employ a stand-by electrician for Flora Day.

The Town Centre Regeneration Officer updated Members on the map boards project to advise that the map proof would be on display in the Museum for several days during the following week. He further advised that a licence was required from Cornwall Council for the map boards due to be sited on its property. He then provided further details of the proposal to locate a board on the cobbled area adjacent to the Guildhall confirming that he was seeking quotations for the work required. The Town Centre Regeneration Officer then updated Members on the Monument Public Realm Scheme to advise that he had met with representatives of the Helston Bowling Club together with Meiloci and it was hoped to include a new public toilet in their proposed extension.

The Mayor thanked the Town Centre Regeneration Officer for his report.

At the discretion of the Mayor Agenda item 23 was brought forward.

540. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, 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.

541. Confidential Report of the Town Centre Regeneration Officer

i) Map Boards in car parks and at other key locations

Members considered the confidential report of the Town Centre Regeneration Officer (circulated prior to the meeting). Following a brief debate it was proposed by Councillor Knight, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that up to £2,000 be approved from the Section 106 Public Realm funds towards the total project costs.

It was further proposed by Councillor Knight, seconded by the Mayor, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council let a contract for the proposed map boards based on the costings from Parc Signs with the Town Centre Regeneration Officer seeking additional quotations for the installation of the Guildhall map board.

542. Resumption of Public Session

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

RESOLVED – that public session be resumed.

543. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Local Council Award Scheme

Referring to his report, the Town Clerk advised that the Quality Council Scheme had been abolished and the Town Council had been awarded Foundation level of the new Local Council Award Scheme. He then explained the tiered award approach. Following a detailed debate it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Williams, and

RESOLVED – that the Town Council apply for the Local Council Award Scheme – Quality level, during the following twelve months.

The Mayor requested that his vote in favour of the Motion be recorded.

Councillors Radford-Gaby, Knight and Mrs Geer requested that their vote against the Motion be recorded.

(2) Introduction to Local Council Administration

The Town Clerk expressed his congratulations to Mrs Chambers for completing the Introduction to Local Council Administration course. On the proposition of Councillor Knight, seconded by the Mayor, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Council formally write to congratulate Mrs Chambers.

(3) World War One Working Party

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

RESOLVED – that the World War One Working Party be disbanded.

(4) Cornwall Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order

This item was noted.

544. Schedule of Accounts for Payment

On the proposition of Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 1131-1180 inclusive as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, be certified for payment in the total sum of £56,858.41.

It was agreed that the cheques would be signed by the Mayor and Councillor Mrs Boase the following day.

545. Attendance at Meetings

The minutes of the CCTV Management Group meeting submitted by the Mayor was received.

546. 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.

547. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Radford-Gaby, 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.

548. Confidential Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Honorary Freemen

On the proposition of Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Freemen Ceremony be held on Tuesday 28th July 2015 at 11am.

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

RESOLVED – that quality scrolls be presented.

On the proposition of Councillor Radford-Gaby, seconded by Councillor Knight, it was

RESOLVED – that the refreshments be held at the Royal British Legion Club and an outside caterer be used.

Councillors R J L Boase and Mrs Boase requested that their abstention from the vote be recorded.

(2) Personnel and Health & Safety Services

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Knight, it was

RESOLVED – that the contract with Ellis Whittam for personnel and health & safety services be renewed for a 5-year term at a cost of £2,090 per year.

Meeting closed at 10.03pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor