

DRAFT MINUTES

At a future meeting the council will consider the accuracy of these minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes to that meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd MAY 2019 AT 9.40 am IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

18/208 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay
Councillors Mrs R Cooke, Mrs F Day, P Fassam, S Griffin,
P Hughes, Mrs L Simms, Mrs C Woodside

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent

18/209 Apologies

The Deputy Mayor Cllr J Berryman
Cornwall Cllr A Virr

18/210 Declaration of Interests

α. Pecuniary – None.

β. Non Registerable – None

χ. Dispensations – The Town Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Finlay to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments. The Town Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Fassam to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments.

18/211 Public Participation & Questions

None

18/212 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th April 2019

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke, seconded Cllr Woodside and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

18/213 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None

18/214 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning – noted.

Town Hall – no report

Environment – no report

Finance – no report.

18/215 To receive the Town Clerks report

The Town Clerk reported

- Some minor remedial work was required to the emergency lighting/alarm system in the town hall. It was agreed that this should be done.
- The fendering on the Town Quay slipway was in a poor state and complaints had been received from the boatmen. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should arrange repair work

18/216 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes seconded Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £4,816.70 be approved.

18/217 Correspondence

Emails had been circulated and correspondence was left ‘on the table’ for Cllrs attention.

18/218 Anthony Hewish

Cllr Woodside reported that Anthony Hewish, a respected physicist who had won the Nobel Prize, had been born in the Cottage Hospital in Fowey. His family had possibly lived in Daglands Road and Cllr Woodside queried if it would be possible to honour him in some way, perhaps with a Blue Plaque. The Mayor responded that, whilst Mr Hewish was clearly of some importance, she understood that he had claimed Newquay as his home so maybe FTC should concentrate on Quiller Couch and Daphne du Maurier in the first instance.

18/219 Former Barclays Bank Building

Members discussed the possible acquisition of the former Barclays Bank premises at some length. The Mayor had received an offer from a local resident, who was a Quantity Surveyor, to inspect the building, together with a builder. The surveyor had also offered to project manage the development if FTC decided to purchase the property to use as a community hub/café/micro library/IT hub. The Town Clerk reported that an anonymous donor had offered a substantial amount of money towards the purchase/renovation if it went ahead. Cllr Simms reported that she had made some initial enquiries and had identified several potential grant opportunities for community buildings. Cllr Fassam strongly objected to FTC utilising both reserves and generous donations in what he saw as a speculative development by the Council. He also felt that the structural survey had identified significant problems in the building which made an accurate assessment of the refurbishment costs extremely difficult and hence the total cost of the development unknown. Cllr Woodside considered that there could be cheaper options for providing a micro library and this view was shared by Cllr Griffin, who suggested using one of FTC’s other buildings. Cllr Hughes did not consider that the acquisition of the building would be a massive risk and that this was a one-off opportunity to secure a community building in the centre of the town. He accepted that it was a big project but felt that the town was beginning to thrive again and it was important to attract local people into the centre. Cllr Cooke agreed that it would be a missed opportunity if FTC did not submit a bid; she had received negative feedback about the loss of the library and the building could become an important community asset. The Mayor agreed that there was a good argument for providing some community space in the town centre and suggested that the building could also be used as an administration centre for FTC, which was becoming more and more necessary as the council’s responsibilities increased. Cllr Hughes then proposed, Cllr Simms seconded and it was RESOLVED that FTC should submit an offer for the property. Cllr Fassam and Cllr Griffin voted against the proposal.

Cllr Day proposed, Cllr Simms seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Press and Public should be excluded in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following business on the grounds that it would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the following description – personal and/or commercial sensitivity

