

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 WEDNESDAY 11th DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.00pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

19/129 Present

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

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
Cornwall Cllr A Virr

19/130 Apologies

The Deputy Mayor Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke

19/131 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.

19//132 Public Participation & Questions

None

19/133 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th November 2019

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

19/134 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None

19/135 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning – noted.

Town Hall – no report

Environment – no report

Finance – noted.

19/136 To receive Reports from Representatives on other bodies

None

19/137 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor explained the reason for the resolution she had submitted for members to consider later in the meeting.

- The Environment Committee was hoping to submit an application for Pocket Parks funding for the Squires Field play area. Match funding of a minimum of 30% on a grant of £25,000 is £7,500 and would allow us to complete the application for the Pocket Parks by the deadline of 31st December (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government). The money would be spent improving the under used top playground with the installation of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). This would be a sustainable alternative to the aging play equipment and which will give the Town Council two options 1. To replace the play equipment (a very expensive option) or 2. Take out the play equipment and replace with a multi sport games court targeting local teenagers, families and adults. The CC Open Spaces assessment of Fowey 2016 stated there was no equipped play area for teenagers in Fowey and a MUGA would allow 5 a-side football and other games to be played and, also, the opportunity to explore the possibility of a Pump Track within the top playground area. This would be an ambitious programme of development for a small council.

19/138 To receive the Town Clerks report

The Town Clerk reported

- The Christmas Market had resulted in a significant amount of vandalism/misuse of the TQ toilets.
- An email had been received from the owner of Porcelain House updating the town council on possible future options for the use of the building

19/139 To receive the Cornwall Councillors report

Cllr Virr reported

Christmas Market Congratulations to the organisers and participants of the Fowey Christmas Market. It was fantastic to see Fowey bustling with visitors. I, personally, enjoyed leading the singing of the crowd who greeted the arrival of Father Christmas.

Statue I am awaiting a response from the Portfolio Holder for Communities following my request for a review of the decision not to support the siting of the Rachel Statue.

Town Carol Service Please can I encourage Councillors to support the Fowey Town Carol Service. It would be great to see the community come together to sing carols, especially following the church split this year.

Woody's Bike Park I was pleased to visit Woody's Bike Park recently. The facility looks excellent and is attracting much interest amongst the local mountain bike community.

Fowey Hospital Due to purdah I am still awaiting a response on whether there is sufficient space on the Fowey Library Site for an NHS Nursing Home.

Thanks Lastly can I thank all the Councillors for their tireless work in serving the community. I wish you a very happy Christmas.

19/140 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded Cllr Corcoran and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £15,311.79 be approved.

19/141 Correspondence

Emails had been circulated and correspondence was left 'on the table' for Cllrs attention. The Mayor reported that she had received a complaint from a resident of Bull Hill that parts of the area were not being cleaned by Biffa. She had explained that Cllr Virr had arranged for a special clean the previous year but it appeared that only part of Bull Hill was included on the CC cleaning schedule. Cllr Virr agreed to try to arrange a similar clean to be carried out again.

19/142 Resolutions from Councillors

The Mayor tabled her resolution ‘Fowey Town Council to commit to obtaining match-funding of a minimum of 30% on a grant of £25,000 in order to support an application by 31st December 2019 for the Pocket Parks Scheme run by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.’ This was seconded by Cllr Fassam and RESOLVED.

19/143 VE Day Celebrations

Cllr Woodside reported that she had contacted a lot of people/organisations and so far had secured an offer for two guided walks as part of the event. It was agreed that a meeting of the Working Group would be held after the FTC meeting on 15th January. Cllr Woodside reminded the meeting that the theme for the day was ‘Peace.’

19/144 Town Quay

The Town Clerk reported that SW Water would be working on the quay for about a week during January and she was still liaising with the company in respect of the lease and the telescopes.

19/145 CALC AGM

It was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded Cllr Fassam and RESOLVED that Cllr Corcoran should be authorised to vote on behalf of FTC at the CALC AGM in January.

19/146 Rachael Sculpture

No update

19/147 Terms of Reference

Cllr Simms proposed, Cllr Corcoran seconded and it was RESOLVED that the amended Terms of Reference recommended by the Town Hall & Quay Committee should be approved.

19/148 Budget 2020/2021

On behalf of Cllr Berryman, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Mayor reported

- I think it is important to state that assets/services devolved from CC continue to have a significant impact on FTC’s finances and also on the Town Clerks responsibilities. A business plan in respect of future staffing will be an essential aspect of future planning for the Town Council.

Toilets devolved in 2014: an important facility in a town dependent on tourism – costs about £25,000 per year with income of about £11,000.

Town Hall: a grade 11 listed building which needs investment to improve the facilities such as disabled access and improvements to what is the only theatre space in the town. We are also looking to start building repairs to the outside wall early next year.

Town Quay: improvements made in the last two years have greatly improved this important central space in the Town provided by FTC. There is damage to essential wooden fenders from the weather and the heavy use of this area during the summer months and repairs will be needed before next season.

Squires Field complex: with the field, playground and car park has Business Rates of nearly £3,000 per year; FTC has a maintenance contract with Cormac of £4,300 and a waste management contract, again with Cormac, for £3,500.

Landscaping: FTC pays for cutting and maintaining green areas around the town as well as Grammar School Garden, Readymoney allotments etc.

The Mayor then proposed Cllr Fassam seconded and it was RESOLVED that the budget recommendations of the Finance Committee should be approved and a precept requirement for 2020/2021 of £131,970.00 should be requested from Cornwall Council.

19/149 Questions/Reports from Members (taken at the discretion of the Mayor)

Cllr Griffin queried the position of Councillors if questioned by members of the public in respect of the content of Closed Session minutes. The Town Clerk confirmed that any disclosure of confidential minutes would be a breach of the Code of Conduct, a matter that would be dealt with by the CC Monitoring Officer.

Cllr Woodside apologised that for various reasons she had yet to plant up the TQ planters. Cllr Fassam offered his assistance when Cllr Woodside was ready to undertake the task.

Cllr Day queried if FTC should be investigating alternate buildings for a library as the mobile service was far from adequate. The Mayor confirmed that SFCC had met with SFCC and plans were underway to house a library on their premises, hopefully opening in April. FTC had resolved to support this initiative in the short to medium term, although it was hoped that a larger venue could be identified in due course. The Town Clerk confirmed that this could be an agenda item in the New Year.

The Mayor thanked all present for their dedication and hard work throughout the year wished everybody a Happy Christmas.

Date of Next Meetings

Planning 15th January 2020

Council 15th January 2020

Meeting Closed 7.42pm