

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 16th MARCH 2016 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

15/189 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Berryman
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, G Asker, Cllr Mrs A Boosey, T Delves
Mrs L McCartney, D Willmore

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
1 member of the public

15/190 Apologies

Cllr Eardley (unwell), Cllr D Hughes (unwell)
PCSO Lloyd Paynter

15/191 Declaration of Interests

- α. Pecuniary – None
- β. Non Registerable – Cllr Willmore declared a non-registerable interest in any matters concerning the new Wainhomes development at Hillhay
- χ. Dispensations – The Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Delves to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey Wainhomes development. The Clerk had extended a dispensation to both Cllr Finlay and Cllr Eardley to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments.

15/192 Public Questions/Police Report

Public Questions

David Burdikin had attended the meeting in his capacity of Chairman of the Readymoney Allotment Association and he extended an invitation to the members to visit the allotments later in the year, possibly in July. He stated that the Association was going strong and he was delighted to have a good relationship with FTC.

Police Report – PCSO Paynter supplied the following report

As most of the Town will be aware, the end of February and into March saw Fowey hit by several crimes. There were two particular evenings whereby youths caused a significant amount of damage to property and also committed Burglary, As per the press reports, two young men, one 17 and another 15 were arrested in relation to the second spate of incidents. Our investigations are very much on-going and progress has been made as we try to bring them to justice. I totally understand the frustration and concern felt within the town, especially seeing the incidents surrounding the lifeboat. I would, however appeal for people to remain calm and be patient and let the justice system run its course. Please be re-assured that myself and PC Barnicoat are working flat out to try and get a positive outcome.

To show the extent and impact that these people have on our Neighbourhood I can advise you that there have been 22 recorded crimes in little over a month. This represents almost a quarter of the crime reported in this calendar year. The crimes are as follows;

3 x Theft from a Shop Two Detected/ Restorative Justice outcome, One on-going

8 x Criminal Damage to Property All on-going

4 x Theft from a vehicle All on-going

1 x Wound Inflict GBH without intent Filed as undetected

2 x Burglary Dwelling Both on-going

1 x Theft of a Pedal Cycle On-going

1 x Theft of a Conveyance other than a motor vehicle On-going - theft of a dinghy from Caffa Mill storage facility

1 x Theft (Other) This was a bilking from a local pub, enquiries are on-going

1 x Possess a Controlled Drug A cannabis offence which will result in a cannabis warning

I would like to point out that not all of these crimes are linked. However, it is very disappointing to see the impact a couple of people can have on what is usually an area of low crime.

On Wednesday 9th March I opened the new Police Surgery in the Town Hall. As I have previously reported, this office facility has been granted to me by Fowey Town Council and I cannot thank them enough for their help and support. The Surgery will be open on the second calendar Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall Police Office from 1430 to 1630 hours. Please feel free to pop along and see me to discuss any issues that you may have. If I can help within my remit and powers, I will do my level best for you. I would also like to express my thanks to Karl and Alison Smith at the Top Shop, Park Road who have agreed to supply me with some tea and coffee for use at the surgeries. Posters advertising the Surgeries are dotted around the town.

15/193 Minutes of the Meeting of 17th February 2016

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

15/194 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Allotments – Cllr Finlay reported that she had been contacted by the University of West England for the Readymoney Allotments to take part in a survey of water use on our allotments. The allotment holders had been recommended by Allen Cavell of the National Allotment Association as a group with a lot of ideas and willing to look at sustainable ways of saving water. UWE are looking at seven rivers nationally and the river Fowey will be one of them. There was a health and safety walk last Friday by the committee and Cllr. Eardley.

The following points recently were sent out by the secretary;

Estuary Cottages parking permits - if you need a parking permit so that you can park in the Estuary Cottages parking space during the evenings or at weekends please contact Carol Eardley on carol.eardley@btinternet.com

Water – I am looking into purchasing water troughs to create dipping ponds.

Insurance update from the Town Clerk - Fowey Town Council (FTC) has overall Public Liability on the site but that this does not extend to covering the plots themselves i.e. if plot holders trip over a spade on his/her plot then FTC would not be liable. Similarly if somebody else tripped over on his/her plot and it was within the confines of the plot FTC would not be

liable. In relation to the spaces outside the plots - paths, etc. - the FTC Public Liability is operational.

Invoices for the rent will be sent out shortly, please pay promptly. If you do not wish to continue to cultivate your plot please advise the Town Clerk as soon as possible sallyvincent957@btinternet.com

Thanks to everyone who helped recently spreading the wood chips over the pathways.

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had served notice on one allotment holder for non-cultivation of her plot. .

St Catherines Lights – Cllr Berryman reported that Chris Biggs had advised that he had done everything that English Heritage had asked and was just waiting for the go-ahead from them before completing the installation. Cllr Berryman then proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that Chris should be paid in full for his work to date.

15/195 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning - noted.

Town Hall – noted.

Environment – no report

Finance – noted.

15/196 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Forum. Cllr Willmore reported that the Forum meeting was due to be held the following week

15/197 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported

- I attended Fowey in Bloom meeting on 1st March; they thanked FTC for the grant of £500 towards the tubs they provide through from Easter to the end of the summer. There was discussion about how to engage with more business in Fowey and encourage more displays around the Town.
- I was asked into Fowey Primary school on March 2nd to face a panel of Community Champions asking questions about what role the Mayor has in the life of a town.
- On 9th March, along with other Councilors,, I attended the official opening of our PCSO's surgery which is to be held once a month on a Wednesday.
- On 12th March there was the NP workshop on future Housing in Fowey.
- On 15th March I attended the Fowey Festival of Arts and Literature meeting. The festival will run for an extra day this year, starting on Friday 6th May until 14th May. The programme will go live on the festival website this Friday and the festival brochures will be available from this week end.

15/198 To receive the Town Clerks Report

- The lady who had originally funded the 'Thorley' memorial seat at Whitehouse had agreed to fund its refurbishment.

15/199 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Hughes had submitted the following report

- As mentioned in an earlier Report, The Boundary Commissioners are requiring Cornwall Council to carry out a review of its divisional boundaries, although these will not now come into effect until the 2021 CC elections. The reason for the review is that "they" require that all divisions contain the same number of electors +/- 10%. Because of the geography of Cornwall,

this can lead to significant differences in the size of divisions, with some of the larger towns having several Cornwall Councillors, whilst, especially in the north and east, one councillor may cover 8 distinct parishes. As one of the largest local authorities in the country, both in area and electorate, this will involve a great deal of work, which has already started, with a tight deadline of this time next year. This will include several rounds of consultation with “stakeholders” and the general public, the first being with Town & Parish Councils on 30th March where Boundary Commissioners will be seeking their views on the shape of Cornwall Council for the future. As well as reviewing the boundaries, the Council will be considering the number of seats which a future council will have. Prior to the Unitary Council, between the County and six District Councils, the public had some 550 elected representatives, now there are 124. There are those who would like this to be reduced as low as 60. Whilst I acknowledge that there a minority of councillors who do not, in my opinion, “pull their weight”, I believe that most try very hard to represent the individual needs of their constituents whilst also playing their part in the strategic development of Cornwall and in holding the “executive” to account. With so many support services being cut or curtailed, it is ever more difficult for the “man in the street” to know where to turn for help and advice and, quite reasonably, they turn to their local councillor, even when the matter is not strictly Cornwall Council business. This is likely to increase, especially with “devolution” of more health and care matters to the local area. Whilst I might accept some minor “tinkering” with numbers, I believe that any significant reduction in the number of councillors would be a bad thing. Firstly, the general public would have less support and representation: secondly, the number of elected representatives with local knowledge would be diluted: thirdly, there is a serious risk that pressure of work on those remaining would be such that the level of scrutiny of decision-making would deteriorate, both of the executive, and also of un-elected officers, who are themselves under pressure due to staffing cuts and increasing interference from Westminster. Whilst I accept that this is a personal opinion, I do not consider that it represents self-interest as I do not expect to be a councillor when these changes are implemented. I would urge everyone to involve themselves at every level of consultation in order to help shape a workable, democratic Cornwall into the future.

- A group, led by Doug Scrafton, CC for Par, has been set up to make a “community” bid to take over Par Sports Facility in order to secure its long-term future as a community asset. Significant progress is being made and we are optimistic that we shall be able to take control. Although located in Par, the facility is of importance over a much wider area, both to schools and to individual sports-people. The group is currently seeking letters of support from all local parishes, schools and individuals to demonstrate the importance of the facility. Such letters would not imply any financial commitment. I would urge FTC to write such a letter and encourage others to do so. If we fail in our bid, there is a real risk that, at some point, this land will be lost to developers. It was proposed By Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED that FTC should write a letter of support scheme.
- Members may have heard of a proposal, again by a community interest company, to acquire St Blazey Roundhouse and turntable with a view to restoration and use for technical training, small business development and as a “heritage” centre. This is a Grade II* Listed Building, currently on the “Heritage at Risk” list, possibly unique in Britain of buildings of such nature. Work to achieve this end is advancing very fast, with a serious possibility of achieving European funding. As Directors, we are very conscious of the importance of the building to those small businesses currently operating there and will do everything possible to accommodate their needs.

- At last week's Cabinet Meeting it was agreed that Cornwall Council would offer up to £1.5 million of capital as match-funding to secure a very much larger sum of Government and European money towards the cost of one or two projects in Cornwall to demonstrate the feasibility of geothermal power. One of the two initial site may well be at Eden. This is a very exciting project to develop cheap, flexible, renewable, non-carbon energy which could generate huge economic benefits, both direct and indirect for Cornwall. It has been suggested that, if successful, Cornwall could be generating up to 20% of UK total requirements from geothermal in the future. It must be stressed that the money being committed is Capital, which could not otherwise be used to offset government cuts.

15/200 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £9,677.14 be approved.

Copies of the Budget Tracking Report had been circulated to members before the meeting.

15/201 Correspondence

The correspondence list had been circulated and was left 'on the table' for Cllrs attention

15/202 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

15/203 Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor reported that the steering committee had held a workshop on the future of housing in Fowey in the Yacht Club on Saturday 12th March. It was very well attended and was the first workshop based on the results of the questionnaire.

The second workshop would be in April and the theme will be the Social and Community aspect in Fowey. We hope to hold it in the new Community Centre.

15/204 Squires Field

The Clerk confirmed that the handover meeting was scheduled for 23rd March and Tasha was already following up the issue of the promised repairs to the roundabout. Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cormac should be contracted to continue with the maintenance of the site, including the play area. The licence for the recycling containers should be signed contemporaneously to completion.

15/205 Town Quay

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that given the imminent closing date for applications to the Community Grant Scheme, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor should be given delegated powers to submit a bid from FTC.

15/206 Election of Mayor Elect 2016/2017

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had received one nomination for Mayor Elect by the closing date, which was Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay, proposed by Cllr Willmore and seconded by Cllr Eardley. Cllr Willmore formally proposed, Cllr McCartney seconded and it was RESOLVED Cllr Finlay would be Mayor Elect for 2016/2017.

15/207 Election of Deputy Mayor Elect 2016/2017

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had received one nomination for Deputy Mayor Elect by the closing date, which was Cllr John Berryman, proposed by Cllr Alexander and seconded by

Cllr Asker. Cllr Alexander formally proposed, Cllr Asker seconded and it was RESOLVED Cllr Berryman would be Deputy Mayor Elect for 2016/2017.

15/208 Arrangements for the APM

The Mayor confirmed that the NP Group would provide refreshments, which would hopefully encourage people to attend and take part. Possible discussion topics could be Squires Field/public toilet provision/devolution of assets

15/209 Questions under Standing Order 21

Cllr Willmore reported that following the recent vandalism to the lifeboat businesses in the town were donating towards the installation of on-site cctv. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item in April.

Cllr Berryman reported that the PV panels (from the FREE initiative) had been installed on the shed roof at Penhale Farm and would hopefully generate a small income for the community.

Cllr McCartney asked that an agenda item for April should be possible control measures for the seagull problem on Town Quay.

Cllr Berryman agreed to ascertain if the Chamber was considering employing a traffic manager for summer 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr Delves, seconded Cllr Boosey and RESOLVED that the Press & Public should be excluded under Section 1(2) of the Press & Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the confidential nature of the business to be conducted under the agenda items Town Quay/Caffa Leases & Licenses