

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 21st SEPTEMBER 2016 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

16/54 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay
Councillors G Asker, Mrs K Alexander, Mrs A Boosey,
D Hughes, Mrs L McCartney, D Willmore

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
2 members of the public (1 part)

16/55 Apologies

Cllr J Berryman (hospital appointment)
PCSO Lloyd Paynter

16/56 Declaration of Interests

- α. Pecuniary – None
- β. Non Registerable – None
- χ. Dispensations – The Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Finlay to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments.

16/57 Public Participation & Questions/Police Report

Public Participation & Questions

Jenny Marchant queried if FTC had assumed ownership of the grass areas in the original Hillhay estate. It was confirmed that this was the case and that the environment committee had arranged for them to be cut 9 times pa.

Jenny Marchant highlighted the parking problems at Passage Lane. The Mayor confirmed that both FTC and the police were aware of the issue and were doing all they could to resolve it. A meeting of stakeholders had been arranged by PCSO Lloyd Paynter for 5th October.

Jenny Marchant reported inconsiderate parking adjacent to the Squires Field car park. Again, the Mayor confirmed that FTC and PCSO Paynter were aware of the problem. However, a TPO costing £4.5K would be required before double yellow lines could be introduced at the site, although it was possible that this could be added to a TPO for Passage Lane if Cornwall Council could be persuaded to apply for one.

Bryan Boothby referred members to his letter of objection to the proposed telecommunications mast at Squires Field and also queried the status of the request for a garage for the Community Bus in the Squires Field car park. The Mayor confirmed that this would be discussed as an agenda item later in the meeting.

Police Report – PCSO Lloyd Paynter had supplied the following report.

We are still without computers at our new, compact office in St Blazey so I find myself in St Austell typing up this report. As I did not have the time to include the crime in the last report I have gone back to include figures to the middle of July this time. The figures are for an eight week period at the peak of the summer so please don't be alarmed by what appears to be an unusually large number.

Two	Theft/Theft by finding	A boat cover was taken from Caffa Mill/Undetected. Theft of a Car Park Machine
One	Make off without payment	Someone left Fourturnings Garage without paying/Ongoing
One	Production of a Class B Drug	Investigations are on-going
One	Aggravated Vehicle Taking	Undetected
One	Burglary to a Dwelling	On-going
One	Theft from a Meter	Undetected
One	Assault/ABH	On-going
One	Driving under the Influence of Alcohol	The person has been charged
One	Possess a Sharp Bladed/Pointed Article	Related to the above offence/ Police Caution Issued
One	Theft in a Dwelling other than to a Machine	Undetected
Two	Criminal Damage to a Vehicle	One filed as undetected the other is on-going
One	Send Letter/Communication/Threatening Message	On-going
One	Theft Other	Undetected
One	Theft from a Vehicle	Undetected

So, an interesting array of different crimes!

As previously mentioned, parking is proving to be a really hot potato. I can only re-emphasise the fact that on and off street parking is the remit of Cornwall Council. During Regatta Week I received many complaints about inconsiderate parking, especially at Passage Lane and Squires' Field. As stated, it is not a Police issue but I have been trying to liaise with Cornwall County Highways with a view to looking at potential improvements. Although I am unable to enforce myself I believe that something needs to be able to done for the benefit of the community. At the time of writing I have arranged a meeting with several others who have a vested interest in trying/wishing to improve the situation. I hope people can appreciate that without the necessary power to enforce parking the Police are unable to oblige. I am aware that Cornwall County Enforcement Officers are very thin on the ground. As previously stated I hope to be able to speak with representatives of the Regatta Committee about the lack of cones on both Polviliion and Park Road during the Regatta.

The well-publicised theft of the Car Park Machine from Old Station Yard car park appears to be one of several both in Cornwall and Devon. It would seem that isolated car parks were targeted overnight after the busy Bank Holiday. The one from Fowey has since been located in a river several miles from the town. A disc cutter appears to be the equipment used to steal the machine from its mounting post. Given that the car park is in a valley and noise would travel in the quiet of the night I am appealing for information. Did anyone see or hear anything going on in the car park between 0300 and 0400hrs on 1st September?

And, finally. I was very disappointed to find that the children's equipment in the park has fallen victim to vandalism. There have been several lots of rather offensive graffiti added to the underside of the wooden galleon. It would also seem that someone has used a lighter to cause scorch marks to the wood on the structure. I will be carrying out patrols in the area to try and catch the offenders, who judging by the content of the graffiti, are juveniles. I have spoken to the Town Council who are arranging for the offensive remarks to be removed. Sadly this all "costs" the taxpayer.

16/58 Minutes of the Meeting of 20th July 2016

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

16/59 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Allotments – The Mayor reported that a Health & Safety walkaround had been undertaken the previous Friday. The Town Clerk reported that she was still chasing Cornwall Council to deal with the water meter.

St Catherines Lights – Chris Biggs had confirmed that he had completed the installation; the lights were on but it was noted that the overall effect was very poor..

16/60 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning - noted.

Town Hall – none.

Environment –none

Finance – none.

16/61 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Forum Cllr Willmore reported that the Forum had been due to meet the previous Monday but due to the number of apologies received the meeting had been abandoned and some issues had been discussed via email.

16/62 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported

August 17th I met with Terry Housden, Development manager for Fields in Trust (I also emailed council members with details on 24/8/16) to discuss a possible protection of Squires Field.

August 25th I was invited to Dartmouth Regatta to watch the Castle Dore Rowing Club take part in their racing. I was also able to talk to the Chair of the Dartmouth Regatta, about how they were coping with the lack of a display by the Red Arrows. Dartmouth has an alternative display which I will share with the Regatta committee at their ‘wash up’ meeting on Monday 26th.

August 31st I was invited to a Keel Laying ceremony at Tom’s Boat Yard of a second boat for the charity Sea Change Sailing Trust to be built in Tom’s Boat Yard. This will be a River Thames Boat Project aimed at young people many from deprived communities as well as those who have specific disadvantages, learning, physical etc. It was a great privilege to be part of this ceremony for such a good cause as well as providing work for local boat builders.

September 6th I attended the Mayor’s Meeting at St Columb Major. There is usually a speaker at these meetings and the Bishop of Truro was there to talk about the Church in the wider community. Bishop Tim spoke about various initiatives the Church is involved in throughout Cornwall; there were concerns from some Mayors about the selling off of Vicarages and what this means for local communities. Under Current Issues – there were concerns about parking and enforcement; Communications with our parishes and Towns, issues about social media, Meet the Council and Mayor’s Page were discussed; return of assets such as toilets and libraries – interestingly a couple of mayor’s recommended using local people as cleaners “any model is better than Cormac”.

16/63 To receive the Town Clerks Report

The Clerk reported

- Haverners had removed the tables and chairs from outside their leased area on the quay. Cllr Asker noted that the new bi-fold doors opened outwards onto FTC land.

16/64 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Hughes reported

- Parking in Passage Lane

We are all aware that parking in Passage Lane has become a serious problem of late but finding a solution has proved difficult. Without double-yellow lines, Enforcement Officers can do nothing, whilst the police will only get involved if the road is actually blocked by parking. Unfortunately, placing lines requires a Traffic Order, which incurs a cost of £4,500 for “consultation” (essentially, placing adverts in several “local” papers inviting public comment, assessing replies and assuming that it is justified, a further series of adverts announcing the decision). This is a national requirement, not a whim of Cornwall Council. Without such an order, enforcement is impossible. Because of budget limitations, the list of sites recommended for traffic orders is very long and, under normal circumstances, it could take us years to get to the top of the pile.

I believe that Passage Lane is a “special case” for both safety and economic reasons and have written to the Portfolio Holders responsible both for Public Safety and Transport, arguing for emergency treatment. Our PCSO, Lloyd Paynter has been following a parallel route through the police and emergency services. Lloyd and I have a meeting with “stakeholders” scheduled for 5th October to coordinate pressure. I have also been in contact directly with Cormac, by several routes. Although it would be foolhardy to be too optimistic, I have received some mildly positive feedback.

- Cornwall Local Plan

At its resumed Inspection in May, the inspector accepted the revised figure of 52,500 new homes by 2030 as a realistic figure and, in general, accepted the allocation between Network Areas. The allocation for our Network area remains as in the original submission. He did require some adjustments in St Austell and also some changes to reflect changes in Government regulations since the plan was submitted.

To comply with the bureaucratic procedures, these changes had to be “consulted” and the inspection re-convened to consider any responses. The inspection has now been concluded and, although no formal response has been received, it is understood that the inspector is “minded” to recommend adoption of the plan in the next few weeks. At present, it is hoped that the Plan can be brought to the Council for adoption in November. Once adopted, we can apply the policies in the Plan rather than having to fall back on the National Planning Policy Framework, which, as we are all aware, is heavily slanted in favour of the developer. It will also mean that Neighbourhood Plans, which re related to the Local Plan, will have a little more “weight” with inspectors at Planning Appeals.

16/65 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £16,318.21 be approved.

Copies of the Budget Tracking Report to 31st August 2016 had been circulated before the meeting.

16/66 Correspondence

The correspondence list had been circulated and was left 'on the table' for Cllrs attention. Cllr Hughes noted that the application to Cornwall Council for Par Running Track to be treated as a separate entity from other CC leisure/sports sites was moving ahead, with the facility hopefully on track to be transferred to the local group headed up by Cllr Doug Scrafton.

16/67 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

16/68 Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor reported that

- I met with CRCC (Cornwall Rural Community charity) Claire Hurley and a Planner James Evans on 2nd September in Truro to discuss moving forward with Fowey's NP. With the remaining money from our Awards For All grant they will start to put together our Evidence Report which is a large report on the local community and is the evidence to underpin the NP itself. It is a legal requirement and has to be submitted along with the NP.
- CRCC will also hold a workshop in November and work with the steering group and other locals to help us start to draft our proposals for Housing and the Environment draft policies. Coleen O'Sullivan, a CC NP officer will be involved as well as a CC planner.
- On 13th September I met with Kath Statham, a CC landscape architect who will be helping Fowey to produce a Local Landscape Character Assessment. At the moment she is producing one for Looe and I have asked her to work with Fowey steering group to produce a LLCA. This will involve a training workshop where the process of assessing the local landscape is taught followed up with an onsite assessment of one parcel of land. Local involvement is seen as very important as residents understand the issues of their town. Kath will then complete her assessment of the land and then write a report which will be part of the evidence base for Fowey NP

16/69 Squires Field

Community Bus Garage.

Cllr Asker reported that an accurate survey of the site was ideally required before proceeding further with this request but that at this stage in his opinion the best site for a garage would be at the right hand end near the recycling facility. If the garage was sited close to the rear boundary it would then allow a clear line of sight for access and egress.

Telecommunications Mast

The Mayor noted that the majority of the people present at the information event staged by Shared Access had been against the proposal and that their anger had been fueled by the fact that the company had only written to some households in Park Road and Tavern Barn to consult on its proposal.

There was some discussion as to whether FTC should call a public meeting or if it would be preferable to rely on written representations. Clearly a public meeting would be ineffective if Shared Access was not present to answer queries, particularly in connection with possible health risks. Eventually it was agreed that the Town Clerk should write to Shared Access and request that the company undertake a mail shot to all the households in Fowey explaining its proposals and asking people to give their views in writing, either by post or email, to the Town Clerk. Additionally, the company should be asked what alternative sites they were investigating within Fowey. It was re-emphasised that FTC would respect the wishes of the community as to whether a mast was appropriate at this, or any other, site.

Fields in Trust

It was agreed that this should be an agenda item at the October meeting, when, hopefully, the portfolio holder, Cllr Berryman, would be able to attend

16/70 Town Quay

The Town Clerk confirmed that the white lining on the quay would be carried out on the morning of 1st October, in conjunction with the removal of the benches and flower displays. The Mayor reported that she had once again asked the Mevagissey Bay Fish man to cease trading illegally from the quay.

16/71 Vacant Seat of the Town Council

Having previously interviewed several candidates for co-option, members noted that those applying were of a high standard and should make excellent Councillors. It was also noted that it was likely that another vacancy would shortly need to be filled and that the elections would be held early in 2017. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Asker, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that Sinead Hanks should be offered the current vacant seat on FTC. Cllr Boosey abstained from voting as she had been unable to attend the interviews.

16/72 Main Car Park & Readymoney Toilets

The Mayor reported that the outcome of the grant application had been delayed but she had been told earlier in the day that she should hear shortly. It was proposed by Cllr Alexander, seconded Cllr McCartney and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should send FTC's £2,000 donation towards the summer opening of the facilities to the Forum.

16/73 Proposed Closure of Park Road Telephone Box

Given the very low usage of this facility it was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED to raise no objection to the closure.

16/74 Questions under Standing Order 21

None

Date of Next Meeting 19th October 2016

Meeting Closed 8.21pm