

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 15th FEBRUARY 2017 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

16/138 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Berryman
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, Mrs A Boosey, D Hughes, P Hughes, Mrs
L McCartney, C Stansfield, D Willmore

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
PCSO Lloyd Paynter (part)
4 members of the public

16/139 Apologies Cllr G Asker

16/140 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.

16/141 Public Participation & Questions/Police Report

Public Participation & Questions

Julie Talbot queried the position in respect of a replacement Town Crier. The Mayor confirmed that FTC had been actively trying to find somebody but to date had been unsuccessful.

However, she intended to advertise the vacancy in the Fowey News once again.

Julie Talbot raised the issue of motorists leaving their engines running when queueing in the town, causing unnecessary pollution. Cllr D Hughes responded that there was no legal obligation for people to switch off their engines – he would investigate the possibility of some signage but there would be no means of enforcement.

Julie Talbot stated that many public car parks do not follow the recommended procedure in respect of disabled spaces, with Albert Quay in Fowey particularly at fault. The Town Clerk responded that she was satisfied that FTC was complying with any legal obligation on Town Quay and, although Albert Quay was clearly the responsibility of Cornwall Council, her understanding was that it also complied. Julie considered, however, that there should be a minimum of 3 spaces available on Albert Quay.

Police Report – PCSO Paynter gave the following report

Things have been a little quieter in the past month. I have researched the Police computer and found three recorded crimes in the period since 13/01/17, they are as follows;

2 x Assault/ABH. One was an incident between two college students after college and was filed as undetected. The second was again an incident between two students, this time in the college. On this occasion the perpetrator was given stern advice regarding her actions and the crime was filed as undetected.

1 x Theft inc by finding. This involved the alleged theft of a bag of clothing and possessions in the Fowey Sports Hall. The bag was later returned to its owner as it had been picked in error. This will subsequently be no-crimes.

I hope many of you saw the Spotlight television report on myself working in Fowey. During the film, the film crew visited the Harbour Office, David Willmore's Bookshop and The Legion. The essence of the report was to highlight the potential impact of the Police Forces decision to cut approximately 189 PCSO posts in the next four years. I would like to thank all of the people who contributed for their support and their kind words. This would reduce the number from the current 399 to 150.

Things have been rather quiet at the Fowey Police Surgeries throughout the winter months. With that in mind, and the fact that I feel I can spend the two hours I allocate to the surgeries on other work, I have decided to cancel the March and April afternoons and will review the situation in May. I would still like to offer this facility throughout the busier summer months.

16/142 Minutes of the Meeting of 18th January 2017

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

16/143 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Allotments – The Mayor reported

- Readymoney Allotment association was investigating the possibility of creating a disabled-friendly plot and was actively seeking grant funding.

St Catherines Lights

- Cllr Berryman reported that one turbine was broken and that Chris Biggs had undertaken to repair it as soon as the weather permitted.

TQ & Caffa Public Conveniences – the Town Clerk reported

- A new validator had been fitted to the coin pay system on the gents on Town Quay. . There had also been some minor vandalism to a toilet seat. Cllr Berryman had obtained some prices for metal units for the gents and it was agreed that the Finance Committee should research the cost of fitting them.

16/144 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning - noted.

Town Hall – no report

Environment –no report

Finance – no report.

16/145 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Forum. Cllr Willmore reported that the Forum was due to meet the following Monday.

Par Running Track. Cllr D Hughes reported that the transfer of the facility had been agreed for 12 months ahead when the Community Interest Company had been set up.

16/146 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported

- She had attended a meeting at the Russell Inn in Polruan in respect of the building of the schooner, Jane Slade. This was a very exciting project and the meeting had been well attended. .

16/147 To receive the Town Clerks Report

Town Clerk confirmed that the Energy Ombudsman was still considering her complaint about British Gas.

16/148 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr D Hughes gave the following report.

Traffic Control – Passage Lane

I am still awaiting a formal response to my submissions to the Cabinet Members for Highways and Emergency Services, although initial replies have been positive. I have written again asking for urgent action in order to have powers of enforcement in place before the tourist season starts.

I have been told by the Highways Officer that we may be able to tack other sites in Fowey to the Traffic Order Application and have been working with the Mayor/Deputy Mayor to identify priority sites. This will be discussed at this meeting.

Governance Review & Local Government Boundary Review.

I have attended several meetings of the Review Panel since our last meeting, at which I have stressed the importance of maintaining Division sizes at a manageable level if the Cornwall Councillors are to be able to provide an effective link with towns and parishes.

It has been argued by proponents of a small council that, with devolution of services to local level, the workload of Cornwall Councillors will be diminished. I have argued that, whilst for the larger town councils, with significant numbers of employees, this might be the case, However, I consider that for smaller town and parish councils, the workload on clerks and part-time councillors is becoming oppressive and could lead to second-class status for such parishes relative to the towns.

CALC originally supported a number of councillors between 85 & 95, with a preference for the higher end; they have subsequently indicated support for the figure of 99 which the Panel is recommending to Council.

A minority submission has been made to the Inspectors by some members of the Conservative Group advocating a figure of 85 but this is not supported even by some members of that group.

Readymoney Toilets

As this matter will be dealt with as an agenda item, I do not intend to elaborate here. However, I would comment that, as a result of meetings which I and representatives of FTC had with officers, there seems to be a strong possibility that toilets will be available in Main Car Park this summer and that there appeared to be a willingness to “think outside the box” to find a permanent solution.

16/149 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £9,299.51. be approved.

Copies of the Budget Tracking Report to 31st January 2017 had been circulated before the meeting.

16/150 Correspondence

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

16/151 Resolutions from Councillors

The Mayor moved her resolution ‘*FTC shall review and amend Standing Orders to reflect the CALC Model Document, including the recommended amendments to the section on the Code of Conduct and Dispensations*’ and it was seconded by Cllr D Hughes.

16/152 Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor reported that the Steering Group was still waiting for the Landscape Architect to write the Landscape Survey. This was likely to cost in excess of £2K.

16/153 Squires Field

Cllr Berryman reported that he had met with Colin Richards, the new chair of the Community Bus Committee, at Squires Field and discussed the Committee's request for a dedicated space for the bus. The Committee would appreciate a space next to Garth's house as the key is kept there and it would need to be secured to prevent parking when the bus was not there. If this position was used for the bus it would then allow FTC to provide reserved parking from the back of the space to the corner, possibly for 10 cars. The surface would have to be improved, white lines painted and anti-parking bollards provided. Cllr Berryman confirmed that he was investigating prices for tarmac and/or concrete and would report back to either the Finance Committee or full council in due course.

16/154 Town Quay

SW Water had begun the major work on the foreshore to erect a coffer dam to allow essential work to be done to the sewerage pipework. The Town Clerk had received several complaints the previous day about the amount of machinery/fencing/vehicles on the quay, some of which was blocking vehicular access to the Galleon. However, Simon Rickarby had been extremely pro-active and had arranged for everything to be tidied up and essential gear relocated to the top of the quay steps, which was a big improvement. The Town Clerk had requested a copy of the company's RA and clearly the situation would need to be carefully monitored

16/155 Main Car Park & Readymoney Toilets

The Mayor noted that the proposal to use the money generated from the Readymoney site to keep the MPC toilets open for the 2017 summer season was very pleasing. However, the Town Clerk recorded that she was extremely disappointed that, following the successful meeting with Cornwall Council (recorded in the January minutes), FTC had not been included in any negotiations with the proposed tenant. It was unacceptable to expect FTC to accept the assignment of the tenancy without having any say in the content and she had written a strong letter to CC stating FTC's disquiet; this behavior was hardly in the spirit of devolution.

16/156 Traffic Regulation Orders

Cllr Berryman reported that, together with the Mayor and Cllr Hughes, he had driven around the parish checking on any parking restrictions FTC might like to add to the proposed Traffic Order relating to Passage Lane. The following possibilities had been identified.

- (a) Squires Field, double yellow lines (on the highway) along the front of the parking area, to join with the lines coming up from Polvillion Road and stopping at the commencement of the pavement.
- (b) The road to Menabilly, from the exiting yellow lines to the church and the commencement of the 'No Parking' sign, possibly a limited No Parking Order to cover 1st. May to 30th September.
- (c) The double yellow lines along Passage Lane to continue from the Caffa Car Park end until the road widens sufficiently for a central white line (approximately at the electricity sub-station) on both sides of the road
- (d) Cllr Hughes to ask Highways to investigate the possibility or redesigning the parking outside Barclays Bank to accommodate two legally-enforceable disabled bays.

Members were broadly in favour of these proposals but it was agreed that final approval should be deferred until the March meeting (unless timescales disallowed) to allow for any feedback from the public.

16/137 Questions under Standing Order 21

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should take place on 19th April and, at the suggestion of Cllr P Hughes, the Community Land Trust would be invited to attend and give a 15 minute presentation.

The Town Clerk reminded Committee Chairmen to submit their annual reports to her as soon as possible.

Date of Next Meeting 15th March 2017

Meeting Closed 8.30pm