

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 18th OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.00pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

17/124 Present The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Berryman
Councillors G Asker, Mrs F Day, P Fassam, P Hughes, Mrs L Simms,
D Willmore, Mrs C Woodside

In Attendance The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
Cornwall Cllr A Virr
2 members of the public (part)

17/125 Apologies Cllr C Stansfield
PCSO Lloyd Paynter

17/126 Declaration of Interests

- α. Pecuniary – None.
- β. Non Registerable – Cllr Woodside declared a non registerable interest in the grant application from Squires Field Community Centre. Cllr Asker declared a non registerable interest in the grant application from Squires Field Community Centre
- 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 allotments.

17/127 Public Participation & Questions/Police Report

Public Participation & Questions

Julie Yeo reported that the traffic in the old town during the summer had been horrendous and suggested that many of the vehicles may well be in the town by mistake, due to inadequate signage. Julie considered that a particularly bad example was at the junction of New Road Hill and Hanson Drive where there was no indication to outbound traffic on how to exit the town or find Bodinnick Ferry.

Julie Yeo asked FTC to consider allocating her three of the new permit spaces at Squires Field. She confirmed that one of her drivers lived in Fowey and this would be particularly advantageous to him.

Tony Vincent noted that the Toll Bar was looking very untidy and queried if FTC could do anything to persuade the owners to improve its appearance. The Mayor noted that there was a similar situation at the old Midland Bank – she was unsure what, if anything, could be done but she would investigate.

Police Report

No report.

17/128 Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd August 2017

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

17/129 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Allotments

- The Mayor reported that the Town Clerk was currently engaged in issuing some new tenancy agreements in relation to vacated plots and that the RAS was investigating funding for the creation of a disabled plot. The RAS AGM would be held in the Town Hall on 14th November.

St Catherines Lights

- Cllr Berryman reported that English Heritage had written to say that as the contractor had not contacted them with an update they would be terminating FTC's tenancy. Cllr Berryman had contacted Chris Biggs and he had undertaken to contact EH immediately and explain the current position – new batteries were required as the original 24 volt system was draining the batteries too quickly. Chris had now undertaken to EH to get the lights up and running successfully by 31st October 2017.

17/130 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning – noted.

Town Hall – noted

Environment –noted

Finance – noted.

17/131 To receive Reports from Representatives on other bodies

Forum. Cllr Willmore reported that the Committee had met the previous Monday; the restoration of the benches was nearly complete and thanks was recorded to Cllr Virr for his grant from his Community Chest

17/ 134 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported

- I attended a Community Network meeting which is a meeting of all our local parish and town councils who meet to discuss issues within our local communities of Par, Tywardreath, St Blazey, Golant, Lerryn, St Veep, Luxulyan and Lostwithiel. There were 3 presentations; one from Edwina Hannaford CC (Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods) about strengthening Community Networks after the Electoral review – with larger electoral divisions for County Councillors our Networks must become 'empowered' and improve our working together on local projects.
Cllr Berryman noted that this sounded very reminiscent of the old District Council system.
- Helen Toms, Anti-Social Behaviour caseworker who is employed by Cornwall Council but works directly with the police explained her role to the meeting and how members of the public can contact the police if they have experienced anti-social behaviour. She explained about the 101 number and the online www.devoncornwall.police.uk According to the Police there are increasing numbers of people who would rather discuss crime on Facebook than reporting the crime to the Police.
- Inspector Gard from St Austell Police Station had spoken about supporting communities with his decreasing pool of PCSO's. PCSO Lloyd Paynter has been away due to illness

and will remain off work until at least the New Year. I passed on best wishes to Lloyd from the Town Council and hope he has a speedy recovery.

17/135 To receive the Town Clerks report

The Town Clerk reported

- She had been contacted earlier in the day by the Environment Agency to advise that the flood barriers on town quay would be erected at midday on 19th October and left in place until Sunday, due to the forecasted adverse weather conditions.
- She had received a request to site a collection bin for the Bosom Buddies Charity by the recycling bins at Squires Field car park. The organization had confirmed that it had the necessary licenses and insurance in place. Members agreed to look at a similar bin sited at The Range on Par Moor and to contact the Town Clerk with their thoughts. Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be authorized to act on the majority decision.
- She had received a complaint that the Main Car Park toilets were closed and, additionally, that there was no notice there indicating the location of the nearest available facilities. She had explained to the complainant that the facilities were owned and maintained by Cornwall Council and that FTC was responsible for the Town Quay and Caffa Mill facilities, both of which were open 365 day a year.

17/136 To receive the Cornwall Councillors report

Cllr Virr reported

Network Warden

Local Councillors from Par, St Blazey, Lostwithial and Fowey are working together to write a business case for a multi-function worker who could clean toilets, clear drains, clear weeds and issue parking tickets. This would address particular local needs and demonstrates how devolution might benefit the local area.

Bull Hill

I am pleased to report that the litter and weeds situation has improved.

Webb Street Flooding

Thanks to Cormac for attending Fowey as an emergency to operate camera work investigation to the drains. Thanks to the Mayor and Councillor Willmore for their teamwork in making this happen.

Fowey Hospital

CPFT have stalled in their repairs to the hospital whilst awaiting funding from NHS Prop Co. This was also dependent on NHS Kernow completing the STP review. Other hospitals have been given notice of funding, but Fowey Hospital has not. This would suggest Fowey Hospital is not an ongoing concern for NHS Kernow. This indicates we need to work proactively to look at alternative uses such a nursing home, day services, physiotherapy, other clinics.

Parking

Please can Fowey Council make time in their agenda to review parking within Fowey and devise a strategy going forward to balance the needs of affordable parking with preventing the town being overrun by cars.

Planning Applications

With the likely forthcoming large housing development applications, please can I ask councillors to pass on their views and the views of residents they receive, to help me in making an informed decision.

O2 Signal

Good news for O2 customers – they now have a 4G signal. I will enquire whether or not O2 still intend to install a new mast in the area.

Remembrance Concert

On Saturday 11th November I am organising a community Remembrance Concert involving local choirs, schools, musicians. This will include choral music, 1st World War Poetry and an act of remembrance. Please can the council support in spreading the word.

17/137 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Willmore, seconded Cllr Berryman and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £40,045.64 be approved.

17/138 Correspondence

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

17/139 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

17/140 Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor reported

On 6th September Kath Statham met with members of FTC and the NP steering group to present the draft Local Landscape Character Assessment for Fowey. She explained the process of assessing the landscape and the values which she has apportioned to the landscape on the settlement boundary. She has taken comments from the group and will amend her the copy and we are awaiting its official publication. This will be an important piece of evidence for the NP as well as an invaluable tool for the planning Committee for years to come.

The NP steering group held an open workshop in the Town Hall for local businesses on Saturday 9th September and there was a very good turnout. This was also the launch of the NP survey of local businesses which ran to the 2nd October.

There was also a Housing Needs Survey carried out in conjunction with Cornwall Council and Fowey parish NP which ran from 11th September until 16th October. There will be a report written by CC on the Housing Need in Fowey, based on the information from the survey.

Cllr Berryman noted that it would be very helpful to have this report before the FTC Planning Committee met to consider the major planning applications likely to be registered in the near future. The Mayor responded that she was hopeful that it would be available before the November Council meeting.

17/141 Election to Committees

It was proposed by Cllr Willmore, seconded Cllr Fassam and RESOLVED that Cllr Woodside should be elected to fill the vacant seat on the Town Hall Committee.

17/142 Town Quay

It was proposed by Cllr Willmore, seconded Cllr Asker and RESOLVED that a Working Group should be set up to investigate how the appearance of the quay, as the focal point of the town, could be improved. Cllr Fassam agreed to take the lead on the project. It was further proposed by Cllr Willmore, seconded Cllr Asker and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should accept the offer from SW Water of £600 towards FTC’s legal costs and progress the leasing of the surface area of the outer part of the quay to FTC.

17/143. Squires Field

1. Cllr Berryman updated members on the decisions of the Finance Committee in respect of allocation and cost of the new permit parking spaces at Squires Field. There was discussion about the proposed charges, with some members pointing out that the proposed £1 per day was extremely cheap compared to the charges in other parts of the town. Cllr Berryman explained that the Committee had considered that, whilst clearly a charge must be made to offset the significant annual cost of running the Squires Field complex, charges should be kept as low as possible to support the local community and businesses, who would have priority for the spaces. Cllr Berryman then proposed, Cllr Simms seconded and it was RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Finance Committee should be ratified.
2. Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Finance Committee in respect of the provision of a disabled swing should be ratified. The Town Clerk confirmed that the £500 grant awarded from Cllr Virr's Community Chest had been received.

Cllr Asker and Cllr Woodside left the meeting

3. Cllr Berryman explained that the Finance Committee had given careful thought to the grant application from SFCC in respect of their refurbishments. However, they had concluded that SFCC already enjoyed rent-free use of their building and there had been an inevitable but significant loss of town hall rental income since SFCC had opened. The general feeling had been that FTC must invest in improvements to its own building – the Town Hall – rather than further subsidizing SFCC. Cllr Berryman then proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Finance Committee to refuse the application should be ratified.

Cllr Asker and Cllr Woodside rejoined the meeting.

17/144 Electoral Review of Cornwall: Division Arrangements

The Mayor explained that last year the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) had announced it was carrying out a review of electoral divisions in Cornwall. One of the objectives of the review was to ensure that all Councillors represent, so far as practicably possible, the same number of voters. Any changes would not come into effect until the 2021 Cornwall Council elections. A reduction in the number of Councillors was inevitable and Cornwall Council and many local council's wanted to reduce the number of Councillors to 99. However, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) had confirmed their decision that the Council size for Cornwall from 2021 will be 87 Councillors. This is a reduction of 36 from the current 123. The second part of this process will be to look at the boundaries of our local divisions which will have to be redrawn.

Currently, in this CNP, we have 5 Councillors. Cllr Saunders from the Bugle Division, Cllr Martin from Lostwithiel, Cllr Virr from Fowey and Tywardreath, Cllr Giles from St Blazey and Tywardreath Highway and Cllr Rowse from Par and St Blazey Gate. From the first drafts of maps that have been released, this CNP is having its number of councillors reduced from 5 to 3. Under the initial proposals there would be a 'Four L's seat' (Lerryn, Lostwithiel, Lanlivery and Luxulyan), a St Blazey and Biscovey seat and a Fowey, Golant, Tywardreath and Par seat.. It was projected that the average electors per Councillor by 2023 is to be 5,163. Just to put this in to perspective, Cllr Rowse currently has 3,200 electors. The mould for the new boundaries would be focused on current parishes and CNP's and it was hoped that new boundaries can be formed within these already existing boundaries.

There would be a series of meetings throughout the county where our new local boundaries will be discussed; the closest meeting would be in St Austell (Council Chamber) on 6th November starting at 6pm.

Under these circumstances it was agreed that any consultation response from FTC should be deferred until the November meeting to give members the opportunity to attend the 6th November meeting before making any decisions

17/145 Questions/Reports from Members (taken at the discretion of the Mayor)

Cllr Day queried if any new information was available following the notification from the landowner of his intention to fence the verge at the top of the Parade. Cllr Berryman responded that he had inspected the site and it appeared that the landowner may well be within his rights to do so but that he would speak to the family for clarification. The Mayor noted that Cornwall Council had confirmed that the authority's ownership was confined simply to the track and not the verges.

Date of Next Meeting 15th November 2017

Meeting Closed 8.40pm