

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 REMOTE EXTRAORDINARY FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st MAY 2020 AT 10.00am VIA ZOOM MEETING ID: 722 6847 5865 PASSWORD 0ATDSn

20/01 Present

The Mayor Cllr Mrs R Finlay,
The Deputy Mayor Cllr J Berryman,
Councillors Mrs R Cooke, Mrs F Day, S Griffin,
P Hughes, Mrs L Simms, Mrs C Woodside

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
Cornwall Cllr A Virr (part)

20/02 Apologies

Cllr Fassam

20/03 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.

20/04 Public Participation & Questions

None

20/05 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th March 2020

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

20/06 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None

20/07 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning – list of remote decisions noted.

Town Hall – none

Environment – none

Finance – none

20/08 To receive Reports from Representatives on other bodies

Port User Group – Minutes of remote meeting noted

20/09 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor gave the following report

COVID 19 Response: Responding to this crisis is the Fowey Isolation Support set up by Roy Newport; This group have created an online group of volunteers of 709 local people who have pledged support from putting contact leaflets through doors to offering help and support to locals in Fowey, Polruan, Polkerris, Milltown and Penventinue and Passage Lane. The group have set up a data base to handle the requests for help and the growing numbers of volunteers, they have been able to put together a very strong and enthusiastic group, in a matter of days, offering help to anyone who asks for extra support for the ‘self-isolators’ by picking up shopping or prescriptions, dog walking, there’s also a group of drivers available – basically if you are in need of help ring 01726 337472.

There has also been a huge response from our Fowey Business Community; numerous offers of free deliveries around the parish from local shops. Making meals for the vulnerable in our community is the Safe Harbour offering 30 meals on a Thursday; Fitzroys Restaurant is making 120 meals a week.

Fowey Scrubs set up by Heather Hunt is making scrubs for local surgeries and care homes; to date they have made 51 sets.

Fowey Emergency Response Group This group set up in response to this crisis and includes Cornwall Councillor, Dr. Andy Virr who is also working hard in A&E at Treliste, Roy Newport of Fowey Isolation Support, Rev. Ian Gulland who in his previous work was a Health Commissioner for Cornwall, and myself representing Fowey Town Council. This group will be in regular contact with each other and will respond to any help, advice and support which is needed within the parish; also Roy Newport contacts me every week to update me with events in Fowey.

Fowey Ferry service There was some concern locally about the Polruan and Bodinnick ferry services being reduced, so it is great news that Cornwall Council will be supporting essential ferry services in Cornwall. Can I thank CC Andy Virr who asked the Council to look at these very important ferry services, which provide vital transport links for key workers and emergency services. Cornwall Council, Cabinet portfolio holder for transport Geoff Brown said: “We have responded to requests from the ferry companies to step in and safeguard these important services.”

Fowey Festival trustees have written to Fowey Town Council asking for support as they have real concerns about the future viability of this local festival which has changed its usual date in May to end of September, and will go ahead if lockdown arrangements allow. Most of the Festival’s income is through ticket sales however COVID 19, which is affecting small businesses and events such as Regatta Week and possibly the Christmas Market as well as the Festival, need the support of our local community to pull together both financially and with volunteer support. Our small independent businesses are vital at the moment to locals and I hope residents continue this level of support when we get back into ‘normal times’.

20/10 To receive the Town Clerks report

The Town Clerk reported

- You will have seen from an email exchange between Cllr Hughes and I that Cormac have contacted me to say that they will be resuming grass cutting contracts as they are satisfied that this can be done whilst maintaining social distancing.
- Stephens & Scown have been instructed to deal with the Youth Football Club’s wish to vacate their tenancy of the Squires Field Pavilion.
- Situ8 have to date been unable to attend a site visit at the Pavilion due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

- Stephens & Scown are acting on behalf of FTC with regard to the devolution of the Readymoney Lime Kilns from Cornwall Council to FTC.
- The Mayor has asked me to draw your attention to the clause in the Town Council Risk Assessment that you review and adopt annually that specifies that David Stephens, Treverbyn Parish Clerk, will cover for me if I am unable to fulfill my role as Town Clerk.
- We have received the £6,300.00 CIL money due for the 2nd phase of the Wainhomes development at Hilhay. This can be used for community projects – maybe the proposed MUGA of the redevelopment of the Squires Field Pavilion?
- I have been notified that no election has been called and we are now free to co-opt a new Councillor to replace Cllr Corcoran.
- Just a few details about remote meetings. Now that it is legal for us to meet remotely we should be doing so and not relying on the delegated powers you gave me at the March meeting, although it is still permissible for you to delegate to me between meetings if you choose to do so. We do not have to meet every month unless we want to, in fact legally we only have to meet twice more between now and May 2021, although I'm sure we will want to do so. The rules for remote meetings are exactly the same as for normal meetings in respect of how they must be advertised, how we conduct the business and the right of the public to participate. An IT failure that prevents public access to the meeting renders the whole of the meeting incapable of proceeding. These rules apply to Committees as well so Committee Chairmen need to start thinking about calling Committee meetings, particularly if any decisions need to be made. Declarations of Interest and Code of Conduct rulings apply as usual and the Chairman of a remote meeting must ensure that a Councillor declaring an interest has left the meeting before conducting any relevant business. Interestingly the legislation will mean that while it is in force we will have to cater for remote access to meetings even if we get to the stage where we are meeting face to face as normal.

20/11 To receive the Cornwall Councillors Report

Covid Response Please can I pass on my thanks to the whole community for their response to the Covid pandemic. Social distancing has been observed. The streets have been quiet. But the community spirit has not been dampened. Many have volunteered to deliver food to the isolated. Prescriptions have been collected. Particular thanks should go to Roy Newport for his tireless work in leading the Fowey Isolation Group. Thanks also to all the key workers who have kept the town running – from shop keepers, postmen, delivery drivers, ferrymen, carers and our wonderful local NHS. Thanks to our Mayor, Roy and our Vicar Ian Gulland for having regular meetings with myself to ensure the whole town is being supported and kept safe during this challenging time.

New Road Hill The many pot holes have been reported and Cornwall Council have agreed to repair.

Lostwithial Gardens Thanks to the gardeners who have been tidying up areas around Fowey (whilst keeping to appropriate social distancing), especially the very overgrown gardens at the top of Lostwithial Street. I have arranged for Cornwall Council to collect the garden waste.

Fowey Hospital I have discussed the stalled progress with the Chair of CPFT, Barbara Vann. She has kindly offered to chase up the CEO to respond to my suggestions of looking at the space available in Caffa Mill Car Park to the rear of the Library.

Ferry I lobbied on behalf of the Toms family to secure funding for the vital local ferry service. Both the passenger and car ferry service are vital for transporting our key workers across the

waters. I am pleased to report that Cornwall Council have agreed to provide emergency funding to the Ferry service to keep it operational. Good news.

Caffa Mill Ferry Slip I have been contacted by a local Fisherman raising concern that the public slip maybe being used for leisure craft. This is not supported by the Harbour Commission, rightly wanting to reduce river craft to essential users only. The slip remains under Cornwall Council's supervision, but is due to be devolved to the Harbour Commissioners. I have written to CC requesting they urgently expedite the devolution to ensure proper supervision and safety of the slip.

Local NHS I continue to work on the frontline of the NHS's response to the Covid pandemic. I can confirm that your local hospital is coping well with the assessment and treatment of Coronavirus patients. The staff are in good cheer, have sufficient PPE, and currently there is enough bed and ventilator capacity. I have spoken out in the media to encourage 'regular' A&E attenders to keep presenting with possible strokes and heart attacks. I am keen to reassure patients that we can keep them safe.

20/12 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Simms and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £21,038.68 be approved.

20/13 Correspondence

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

20/14 Resolutions from Councillors

The Mayor tabled her resolution that FTC adopts supplementary Standing Orders to meet the statutory requirements for the holding of remote meetings, to last until 7th May 2021 or the repeal of legislation, whichever is the sooner. This was seconded by Cllr Griffin and RESOLVED

20/15 Adoption of the Annual Governance Statement to 31st March 2020

Having responded to the questions in the affirmative, the Mayor proposed, Cllr Woodside seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement to 31st March 2020 be approved.

20/16 Adoption of the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2020

Cllr Berryman confirmed that he had reviewed the accounts prepared by the Town Clerk/RFO without noting any errors or cause for concern. The Mayor then proposed, Cllr Berryman seconded and it was RESOLVED that they be adopted.

20/17 Questions/Reports from Members (taken at the discretion of the Mayor)

Cllr Woodside queried the position with regard to refilling the TQ planters. The Clerk advised that a decision should be deferred until after the promised government announcement on 7th May.

Cllr Woodside queried if any statistics were known about child food insecurity in Fowey. The Mayor responded that to the best of her knowledge 30 pupils at Fowey Primary School were on Pupil Premium but no figures were available from Fowey River Academy.

Date of Next Meetings

Planning	to be confirmed
Council	to be confirmed

Meeting Closed 10.40pm

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