

## **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 FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 10.15am VIA ZOOM**

**Meeting ID: 892 7031 3874**

**Password: 219794**

### **20/187 Present**

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

### **In Attendance**

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent

Before the meeting began the Mayor asked all present to observe a few moments silence in memory of Michael Penprase. *It is with great sadness that I heard of the death of Mike Penprase last week. His family asked for any stories of Mike to be shared on Facebook, and lots of people got in touch with their memories of Mike. In November 2015 Fowey Town Council recognised the work of Mike Penprase as Town Crier after 37 years of service to the Council and the town of Fowey and to mark this significant contribution with the honour of the Freedom of Fowey. There was a reception in the Town hall, held in his honour where I remember there were many memories shared and much laughter as Mike told some of his stories from the thirty seven years he had been Town Crier. Mike loved Fowey and was also very committed to supporting the work of charities in the town. Our thoughts are with his wife Celia and their family at this sad time.*

### **20/188 Apologies**

Cornwall Cllr A Virr

### **20/189 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.

### **20/190 Public Participation & Questions**

No public questions.

### **20/191 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

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

### **20/192 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

None

**20/193 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees**

Planning – minutes noted  
Town Hall & Quay – no report  
Finance – no report  
Environment – minutes noted

**20/194 To receive Reports from FTC representatives on other bodies**

Forum. Cllr Woodside reported that the Forum had queried if there would be Covid measures in place in the town again in summer 2021. Cllr Griffin noted that premises would not open until 12<sup>th</sup> April and restrictions were set to be lifted fairly soon afterwards. The Mayor confirmed that notices etc. would remain in the public toilets, playground and Town Hall.

**20/195 To receive the Mayors Report**

The Mayor reported

- It was with great pleasure that I officially welcomed the High Sheriff to Fowey last Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> March. Last November Philip de Grey Water contacted the High Sheriff, Kate Holborrow and nominated Pat Jane for an ‘Unsung Hero’ Award. Three years ago Pat, who works in the local school kitchens, noticed that some of the children were going hungry in the summer holidays. She established the Lunch in a Bag scheme, providing meals five days a week for 30 children. Kate said: “Pat initiated the idea and then, working with another Fowey resident Julie Day, she raised the funds from local groups and businesses, recruited teams of volunteers and established an assembly point in the local community centre. In her own very unassuming way she has made a significant difference to vulnerable families in Fowey over the last three years. Thank you and congratulations to Pat - a very deserving recipient.”
- I was rung up yesterday by a lady who lives in St Fimbarrus who was very distressed by the problems of last summer with the number of people in town which made her disabled companion a prisoner in the house. She has asked me if there is the possibility of signage which identifies to the public that they are entering a residential area, apparently she has seen signs like this in Cornwall. Members discussed this request and, although sympathetic, concluded that signage such as this would not be appropriate as the whole of Fowey is basically a residential area. Cllr Woodside suggested that it might help if pubs were encouraged to display notices reminding people to be considerate when leaving their premises late in the evening.

**20/196 To receive the Town Clerk’s Report**

The Town Clerk reported

- We need to hold our Annual Parish Meeting in April and, having spoken to the Mayor, we have decided to hold it on the same day as the April Council meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> April. Usually at this meeting you entertain the public with refreshments but clearly this year the meeting has to be held remotely. Committee Chairmen and the Mayor will need to give their Annual Reports and these need to be sent to me prior to the meeting to enable me to compile the Annual Report for inclusion in Fowey News.
- I have received a request from a street vendor looking for sites in Fowey. Members agreed that the vendor should be advised that there are no suitable sites as it was important that local businesses were supported, particularly at this difficult time.

- I have instructed Smiths of Derby to carry out the maintenance and full repair of the Church clock following the receipt of a very generous donation from a member of the public. Work will begin in May.

#### **20/197 To receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor**

Town Vitality Grant Proposal I have been delighted to join the Mayor, the Chamber of Commerce and other councillors to draw up a grant proposal to see new funding brought into Fowey. The proposal centres around the goal to see some re-imagining of our public spaces within Fowey that for too long have prioritised cars and parking. It is my vision to see outdoor-dining, fewer cars and green planting throughout our town as part of seeing our town revitalised.

Saffron Close I have had further conversations with highways regarding the traffic restrictions on Saffron Close. I have requested that the yellow lines are repainted as I think that this will make the traffic restrictions on that road as clear as possible to ensure there is no illegal parking and enforcement evasion.

Devolution Cornwall Council Assets I was delighted to hear that the Lime Kiln at Readmoney Cove has finally been devolved to Fowey Town Council. I hope this now enables the Rachel Statue to be erected. This would be a wonderful addition to Readymoney. I also visited White House beach paddling pool recently and I was very disappointed to see the state of the pool. I am frustrated that Cornwall Council have been so slow at realising the devolution with the Harbour Commissioners. This has led to further decay of Cornwall Council assets which will be more expensive to put right now.

Lostwithiel Street Gardens I am delighted that the Fowey Town Forum have taken over the ownership of the gardens. It has been wonderful to see the efforts of many volunteer residents who have been cultivating their green fingers in the space. I have been pleased to support it with £1000 of my community chest money.

Ocean Housing I have recently been contacted by residents who live in properties owned by Ocean Housing. These residents have been in dispute with Ocean Housing and I have intervened to ensure that repairs are carried out in a timely and effective manner. I'm happy to act for any other Ocean Housing resident who has concerns about their properties. I have met with the Chief Executive to raise my concerns and offer a reconciliatory role.

Outdoor Dining & Road Closures this Summer I have been working with Fowey Town Council to try and resolve the impasse with Cornwall Council's highway division regarding the request to close Trafalgar Square and Market Street again this summer to facilitate outdoor dining. I have written to the cabinet member for highways, Geoff Brown to request that he intervenes. I note that the Secretary of State for local government has expressed his permission for last years relaxed road closure laws to be extended this summer to support businesses during the covid recovery. I will work hard to ensure that we can repeat last year's very successful road closures once again.

#### **20/198 Accounts for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke, seconded Cllr Simms and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £13,265.19 be approved.

#### **20/199 Correspondence**

Correspondence was left 'on the table' for Councillors attention.

#### **20/200 Resolutions from Councillors**

None

### **20/201 Lime Kilns Complex**

The Town Clerk confirmed that completion had taken place the previous Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Simms reported that the preferred place for the seat in memory of Will Sumner was on the grass area on the top of the lime kiln and not in the shelter; a possible option would be to replace the existing long seat with two smaller ones and move the long one to Squires Field. Cllr Griffin did not think this would be appropriate as the plinth of the long seat was designed to fit it and would not accommodate two shorter benches. An additional seat was also not an option as the Rachael Statue would take up the remaining space. A request to simply put a memorial plaque on the existing bench was not considered appropriate as the Town Clerk received many such requests and it would be difficult to justify allowing one over another. Following further discussion Cllr Griffin proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Cllr Simms should offer the original location in the shelter or the alternative of Squires Field as possible sites.

### **20/202 Pedestrianisation of Trafalgar Square, Town Quay, Market Street and Webb Street**

The Town Clerk had been in regular contact with Rachael Tatlow (Highways) who was maintaining that there was no mechanism in place to close the roads as had happened in 2020. This had also been confirmed by Events Cornwall and Streetworks. To cover all bases the Town Clerk had asked for costings for a feasibility study for a permanent seasonal TRO but these were still awaited. The Mayor reported that the previous Friday, together with the Town Clerk and Cllr Berryman, she had met with the landlord of the Ship, James Gitchen, the owners of Brown Sugar, Brett and Tanya Daniels, the new landlord of the King of Prussia, Kristian Gourlay and Kelley Nangle, as well as representatives from the Royal British Legion. Rather than send multiple emails it was thought it best to meet up (socially distanced) and explain the problems we have had with CC Highways trying to get a road closure for this summer. The latest information from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP supporting the reopening of outdoor hospitality had been discussed. This letter explains how Council's should be supporting the safe reopening of the hospitality businesses stating - 'don't let red tape get in the way of a great British summer. Government are extending pavement licenses for a further 12 months.'

Also discussed was the possibility of creating 'al fresco' dining on the Town Quay parking area and how this could be fairly shared out between the nearby businesses and Kristian had undertaken to produce a layout of how this could be achieved for FTC to consider.

### **20/203 Fowey Cemetery**

Following the response from Cornwall Council to Cllr Virr about cemetery space and the suggestion that Fowey parishioners would have to use Rosehill or Tywardreath cemetery for burials when space runs out in Fowey, Rev Philip de Grey-Warter had asked for FTC's response to this news. Members agreed that Fowey people would want to rest in Fowey but felt that as Cornwall Council was responsible for the provision of cemeteries they had little choice but to reluctantly accept the decision not to purchase additional land, even if a site could be identified, which would be difficult. The Town Clerk suggested that the Mayor could highlight the issue in the Fowey News to ascertain public opinion and to see if anybody could suggest suitable land that could be purchased, after which a further approach could be made to CC if appropriate. This was agreed.

#### **20/204 Town Vitality Funding**

The Mayor reported

- Last month I explained that the creation of a Town Team was necessary to be able to apply for this funding and the first meeting of this Team met 25<sup>th</sup> February. The Team includes Fowey Harbour Commissioners with Harbourmaster Capt Paul Thomas, the Chamber of Commerce, Fowey Town Forum our ward member Cornwall Councillor Andy Virr and two members of Cornwall Council, Tasha Davis our Community link Officer and Caitlin Lord also attended to assist us. We had a very useful meeting where we shared our respective thoughts and then I spent a couple of weeks writing up the bid and shared this with the Team when we met again on 10<sup>th</sup> March. With some revisions from Andy and Victoria I sent this redrafted, unfinished bid to CC for their initial thoughts. The timescales for submitting the bid are extremely short and I would like to ask members to give their support to its submission when I have completed it. Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Cooke seconded and it was RESOLVED that the final version of the bid should be submitted before the deadline, with FTC's support in principle.

#### **20/205 Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Dellow seconded and it was RESOLVED that amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations should be adopted by FTC.

#### **20/206 Water Refill Station**

Cllr Simms explained that the Environment Committee wished to recommend that a water refill station be sited in Fowey if practicable, preferably in the vicinity of the Town Quay. Various locations were discussed - by The Rook, on the top quay, further along the wall from the Rook, by the telephone kiosks in Market Street. Taking members various views into consideration Cllr Simms then proposed, Cllr Woodside seconded and it was RESOLVED that the station should be sited in Market Street. The Mayor agreed to raise the subject of the kiosks in the Fowey News to see if anybody would be interested in using them, perhaps in a similar way to The Artbox in Tywardreath.

#### **20/207 Questions/Reports from Members**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the elections were still scheduled for May and she would shortly have paper copies of election packs to distribute.

**Date of Next Meeting**                      21<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Meeting Closed                              11.48am