

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 AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9th AUGUST 2021 at 10am IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

21/63 Present The Mayor Cllr Mrs L Simms
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr P Hughes
Councillors: Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr A Dellow,
Cllr Mrs R Finlay, Cllr Mrs Y Patterson

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

21/64 Apologies Cllr Mrs R Cooke, Cllr S Griffin, Cllr Mrs C Woodside

Mrs Yvette Patterson made and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed on to the Council by the Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms

21/65 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 until 2025.

21/66 Public Participation & Questions

No public questions.

21/67 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 21st July 2021

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

21/68 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

The Town Clerk confirmed that the renewal of the lease of the Caffa Mill toilet block had completed on 2nd August and she had arranged for the supply of the utilities and the cleaning of the toilets to transfer to the tenant.

21/69 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

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

21/70 To receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Main Car Park Coaches Concerns had been raised about the ability of Coaches to enter and exit the Main Car Park. I have contacted four coach companies, but have not received any specific concerns back. I have also spoken with coach drivers on site and no issues were encountered. I am happy to look at this further if any new problems are raised.

Scaffolding on North Street There was an issue with the safety of scaffolding on North Street. I can confirm the scaffolding is correctly erected under license. The minimum width is 2.5 metres, which is compliant. The Fire Brigade worked with Cornwall Council Streetworks to ensure safety for emergency vehicles. Unfortunately, it is not possible to limit scaffolding to out of season only. I have spoken with the owner of the property and insisted that the painting work is carried out with haste.

21/71 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Berryman and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £10,534.02 be approved.

21/72 Correspondence

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

21/73 Resolutions from Councillors

None

21/74 Fowey Christmas Market

The Mayor confirmed that, together with the Town Clerk, Cllr Hughes and Cllr Berryman she had met with the potential new co-Chairs of the Chamber and Andrew Weaver (LESW) and she outlined the current position as she understood it. The Town Clerk had also circulated relevant information prior to the meeting. The current co-Chairs of the Chamber had signed a 5 year contract with LESW for the Market without securing a Licence from FTC for the use of the quay. There are 2 years left to run on it. Both Chairs now want to step down from the Chamber but the people taking it forward (Nick from Fowey Hall and Lucy Daniel) have decided not to continue with the 'old' Chamber structure but to start a 'new' Chamber as a limited company and they are not prepared to take on the contract with LESW. Going forwards Nick and Lucy have said that they will not be co-ordinating the 2021 Market and their future intentions in relation to the Market are unclear. LESW now want to deal directly with FTC and cut out the Chamber completely. FTC has previously resolved not to take over the existing contract so, if it was decided to accommodate it, there would need to be a new agreement of some kind. Andrew (LESW) does not support the existing arrangement with Webb Street being used by local traders at a discounted price, although he would come to some sort of agreement with FTC guaranteeing local traders a certain number of stalls. An 'old' Chamber Chair had advised that, even if they were to continue to facilitate the Market, the cost of a stall in Webb Street would have had to increase significantly as currently it was unsustainable to run it. Webb Street is vacated for the duration of the Market by the permit holders on a voluntary basis. LESW want a 3 year licence to use the quay to host the event in a similar way as was in place between FTC and the Chamber and consider the complex contract that was in place between LESW and the Chamber is unnecessary. LESW would undertake to facilitate the following,

- Highways permissions would be applied for by LESW 12 weeks prior to the event date
- LESW would book Albert Quay direct with Cornwall Council.
- Event Risk Assessments were normal for the company and they would supply.
- Event plans were normal for the company and they would supply.
- LESW own all branding and IP associated to the event, including website and social media
- Tidying of the site can be enhanced, LESW would continue to remove anything to do with traders and contractors. Colin has previously been booked for bins
- Chamber has traditionally organised the benches bit with instruction LESW would undertake.

The Mayor noted that some regional events have already been cancelled during November and December. St Austell's Torchlight Carnival was cancelled on July 1st because of lack of planning time and uncertainty surrounding the pandemic. Padstow's Christmas Festival has been cancelled because of they were advised that autumn and winter could see new pressures on the NHS caused by ongoing Covid and the resurgence of flu and other winter respiratory illness. They also want to protect their community and volunteers from the stress and health risks involved in bringing thousands of visitors to the town under these circumstances. Members then discussed the future of the Market at some length and noted, *inter alia*, that

- Businesses in Fowey were not supporting the Chamber but were still complaining on social media about the potential loss of the Market. This was unfortunate and hopefully the 'new' Chamber would be able to secure more support.
- Could the 'old' Chamber be offered a licence for the quay for 2021 to enable them to meet the initial terms of their contract with LESW?
- Regardless of how the Market was facilitated, was it sensible to encourage 17,000 people into the town over the Market weekend, given the current pandemic? Cllr Virr noted that most people would have been double-jabbed by December and currently there were no legal restrictions in running the event. If considered appropriate, a licence condition could be included requiring LESW to run the Market in a Covid secure environment, backed up with a Security Plan approved by the Cornwall Council Health Team. This had recently been done for the Boardmasters event in Newquay and meant that Cornwall Council had statutory powers to cancel an event if considered necessary.
- The loss of Webb Street for local traders would be a great loss.
- The Torchlight Parade, Christmas lights, Father Christmas, Carol singing etc. etc. were a big part of the Market weekend. If the Chamber was not involved who would organize these things?
- Could LESW be offered a licence for 2021 and 2022, which would mean the 'old' Chamber contract would be met?

After further debate Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that LESW should be offered the following

1. A 2-year licence to use the quay and Webb Street, but on the basis that the permit holders agree to vacate their spaces in Webb Street and it can be secured
2. The terms of the licence would be on the basis of that previously granted to the Chamber, but with additional conditions requiring LESW to deliver the agreed actions (above) and, also, to provide a Security Plan approved by the Cornwall Council Health Team.
3. The cost would be £1,500 pa to include Webb Street but this would be reduced if Webb Street was not available.
4. LESW to undertake to accommodate a minimum number of genuine local traders at the reduced rate of £170, either in the main tent or in Webb Street, but on the basis that if these pitches were not sold by a cut-off date agreed between LESW and FTC, LESW could fill them with traders paying the full price. This minimum number to be agreed between LESW and FTC.

Cllr Virr left the meeting

21/75 Squires Field Pavilion

The Town Clerk confirmed that the planning application had been submitted and registered with Cornwall Council.

21/76 Town Vitality Funding

Cllr Finlay reported that she had submitted a draft Project Plan (Deliverables) and draft Terms of Reference to Cornwall Council.

21/77 Community Network Highways Fund

In the absence of Cllr Virr, it was agreed that this item should be deferred to the September meeting

21/78 Questions/Reports from Members

None

Date of Next Meeting 15th September 2021

Meeting Closed 11.17am