

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 FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19th OCTOBER 2022 AT 7pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

In the absence of the Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms, and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr P Hughes, it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Day, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs R Finlay should take the Chair for this meeting

22/64 Present

Councillors: Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr A Dellow, Cllr Mrs R Finlay,
Cllr S Griffin, Cllr A Harris-Guerrero, Cllr Mrs Y Patterson

In Attendance

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

22/65 Apologies

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr P Hughes
Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke

22/66 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.

22/67 Public Participation & Questions

Tony Bartlett, on behalf of Fowey River Lions, explained the history of the custody of the Fowey Christmas lights over the past 4 years and confirmed that the Lions had now assumed responsibility for them. Unfortunately, the lights required some maintenance and the Lions were raising funds for this separately from their charity fundraising. To date £1700 had been raised, which was £300 short of the required amount. Tony asked if it would be possible to have a table in the Town Hall Christmas Market to try to raise the additional money. The Town Clerk responded that she would need to check with the Town Hall Committee but that she was fairly sure that this would be possible. Cllr Finlay recorded thanks to Tony and the Lions for all their efforts for the town.

A member of the public, who had attended the Masterplan meeting at SFCC, said that the tone of the meeting suggested that FTC was a closed shop and that people did not understand or appreciate the work the members did. For instance, some people were asking what FTC did with the 20p charge money from the public toilets, which they appeared to think was considerable. The lady suggested that it might be helpful if FTC included an article in the Fowey News each month explaining the valuable work that the council does for Fowey and setting the record straight. An example may be to explain one month exactly how the toilets are managed, together with financial information. Cllr Finlay responded that FTC would look into this suggestion.

The gentleman who had organized the event at SFCC as he had been very concerned about the Masterplan thanked FTC for clarifying the process; he considered that FTC does a wonderful job, he fully supports the Town Council and appreciates that being a Councillor is often a thankless task. He did think, however, that publicity should be targeted in a different way in the future as not everybody uses the internet or smartphones.

The gentleman also stated that the Town (Hanson Drive) car park was a disgrace. The toilets should be open and clean all year round, litter and debris should be picked up and the design altered to allow easy access for coaches. Cllr Virr responded that he had arranged for the barrier to be set back when he had heard about the problems coach drivers were having so he was hopeful that this issue had been resolved. In respect of the toilets, CC only maintained three sites in Cornwall given budgetary constraints as they were not a statutory responsibility. He confirmed that he could arrange for the facility to be devolved to FTC, with a levy on the parking charge paid to FTC in respect of running costs. The Town Clerk pointed out that when this had been suggested in the past she had been advised that any levy would only be guaranteed until the next election, which would mean that the entire cost of running the facilities, which would be substantial, would fall on Fowey residents. Cllr Virr, nevertheless, asked FTC to consider the offer.

An adjacent property owner to Webb Street car park noted that the Masterplan consultation had highlighted the issue of commercial waste bins in the car park and asked if he could help to solve the problem. The Fitzroy bin, in particular, was sited in breach of their planning permission, which stated that inside facilities must be provided for waste storage and this could be reported to Cornwall Council enforcement. Cllr Virr agreed to look into this. The Town Clerk confirmed that the bins were not sited there with the permission of FTC, indeed the owners had been told to remove them. FTC had also passed a resolution to put a barrier alongside the right of way on the left hand side of the car park, which would hopefully prevent access for bins. This had yet to be done but if the gentleman would be happy to work with FTC on this it could be progressed. It was agreed that a meeting would be set up when Cllr Berryman returned from holiday as he had been leading on the project.

22/68 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20th July 2022

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

22/69 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None

22/70 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Town Hall & Quay – The Town Clerk read the following report supplied by Cllr Hughes, Chairman of the TH & Q Committee.

Christmas Market arrangements in the Town Hall. For the Fowey Artists fair/market in the TH at the Fowey Christmas market we have 9 places booked so far out of a possible 15. These are from invitations sent to 5 local art groups last week. The idea is to have high quality, hand-made products of artistic merit, made by the people themselves rather than traders. It is not for people who would be able to rent a main stall or for home crafts. We hope to also have tea/coffee and cakes for donations run by a local group to raise money for local causes.

Finance – no report

Environment – minutes noted.

22/71 To receive Reports from FTC representatives on other bodies

No reports

22/72 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported;

Following the presentation of the Masterplan Proposals on the evening of Tuesday 18th October, I would like to thank Consultant David Orr and his team for their professional, creative and engaging work in this consultation, the Town Council for hosting the presentation and most importantly the members of the Town team for their vision and tenacity in successfully bidding for the Town vitality fund, which has given the whole community the opportunity to think about its future.

Whilst out walking a few weeks ago I came upon volunteers from the Fowey Forum who were renovating the gates on St Catherine's Parade. They had already removed the rust from the gates and were about to paint them. When I returned from my walk they were done. They now look fabulous. Many thanks go to Kevin and Jenny Marchant, Chris and Andrew Gardener, David Wilmore, Mandy Hanson, Sally Earee and Neil and Melissa Hartwell.

22/73 To receive the Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reported:

- There had been a suggestion from the Trustees of the OGS Garden that permission was required to site the Rachel sculpture. However, she had checked the lease and this was incorrect; an apology had been received from the Trustees.
- SW Water had served a statutory Notice on FTC stating that they intended to submit an application for a drought permit under Section 79A of the Water Resources Act 1991 to make temporary amendments their abstraction licence to abstract water from the river Fowey. This was to replenish water storage levels at Colliford Reservoir.
- A complaint had been received regarding noise levels when events are taking place at Fowey Hall. She understood that Environmental Health had been contacted about it.
- A lady had complained people were sleeping overnight in camper vans on Hanson Drive and recently she had been walking her dog along the road when they had been pumping their waste water onto the grass/highway. The lady had informed highways and had been told that people should not park overnight on the highway and certainly they should not be pumping waste water out. She had been promised a follow up call to advise what action could be taken to stop this happening but was yet to receive it. The lady had suggested that signage 'No Overnight Camper Van Parking in Fowey' should be introduced and had also asked that Cllr Virr be appraised of the situation.
- Clearflow would be undertaking sewer cleansing works on the Town Quay between 6pm and midnight on 17th & 18th November.
- Sadly a significant number of the Regatta Committee, including the Chairman, will be standing down in January 2023. There will be an article in the Fowey News asking new people to come forward and join the Committee to safeguard the future of the Regatta.

22/74 To receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr gave the following report

Queen's Death Commemoration It was a privilege to lead the Town's commemoration following the death of HM the Queen at Fowey Church. I was grateful for Fowey Town Council joining the event. Thanks also to the Mayor for ensuring the Proclamation of the Accession went ahead in Fowey.

New Road Hill I welcome the installation of the Pedestrian Safety Improvements to New Road Hill. The clearer road markings and improved LED overhead lighting should make a difference.

Church Railings The damaged railing at the top of Church Avenue has been replaced. Other damaged sections have been reported also and a request has been made to Highways to cut the grass.

Streetworks Issue This week a utility company attempted to close the road to carry out works to the Highway through town. The road closure was not undertaken in a safe manner. This was reported to Streetworks and I spoke to the Utility Company to ensure the subsequent visit was carried out in a safe manner.

Waterleak back of church I have assisted a number of organisations and residents in reporting water leaks to South West Water. It is important in these drought conditions that leaks are reported acted upon.

Parade gates Huge thanks should go to Fowey Forum for their hard work in rubbing down and repainting the gates.

22/75 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Harris-Guerrero, seconded Cllr Patterson and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £27,173.34 be approved.

22/76 Correspondence

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

22/77 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

22/78 Squires Field Pavilion

Cllr Dellow reported that Nick Bailey had been on site to do the measurements and a meeting was planned the following week to progress the project, which would also include designs for parking provision. He had also arranged a meeting with a solar power/heat pump company. Cllr Finlay drew his attention to the Shared Prosperity Funding available and explained that she had submitted an application for the creation of a digital hub on the site, which had been rejected as it was only for £35,000 and bids had to be for at least £150,000. Cllr Finlay suggested that Cllr Dellow may be able to include projects to top her bid up, although she warned that the window of opportunity for applications was very short. Cllr Harris-Guerrero stated that he considered that other facilities were also needed at Squires Field for the local community, such as a café at the playground end. It was agreed that these ideas could be discussed at the forthcoming Working Group meeting.

22/79 Funding Applications

The Mayor had supplied the following report in respect of this application.

Over the past months myself and Tri service Officer Yasmin Mathews have been meeting with representatives of the Rashleigh Inn Polkerris, Sam's Restaurant and the Polkerris Beach Company to discuss fund raising to install a defibrillator in the village. Each of the businesses in the Square have agreed to make a donation of £50. Polkerris Holidays and the Penhale Caravan and Camping site are doing the same. In addition Cllr Andy Virr has donated £300 from his Community Chest. The cost of the Defibrillator is approximately £1800. There is going to be a Polkerris fundraising and information event at the start of next season. The details are still to be decided. I have been asked to request a donation from the Town Council. Cllr

Harris-Guerrero proposed, Cllr Dellow seconded and it was RESOLVED that a donation of £300 should be awarded.

The Mayor had been contacted by Gill Histon from the Community Larder about the Community Centre's intention to open for three hours a week, to give people in the community an affordable hot meal and the opportunity to get together in a warm place during the winter months. Gill had asked FTC to support the project. Members were supportive, in principle, but agreed that the Mayor should get more information e.g. what kind of meal/cost etc. before making any decisions.

22/80 Additional Parking Provision at Squires Field

The Town Council has received two letters, one on behalf of the Memory Cafe and the other from the Croquet Club asking if there were had any plans to improve access to the Community Centre, including parking, as a number of people attending the centre have mobility issues and on-road parking close by was difficult. Following discussion, it was agreed that parking would be looked-at as part of the development of the pavilion and it would be inappropriate to consider this separately.

22/81 Safe Harbour Wall Art Project

The Mayor had supplied the following report
I have recently spoken to Claire Hoddinott who is a Governor at Fowey River Academy and has been working with the Art Department and Artist Gretchen Viehmann on the Safe Harbour Wall Art Project. I am pleased to say that after a hold up over the summer the project is going ahead as planned.

22/82 Water Refill Station

The Mayor had supplied the following report.
On 7th October I met with Angus Borthwick from South West Water, who was checking the safety and security of the water source for the proposed Water Refill Station. He was happy with this, depending on a change to one tap in the toilets that he was happy for Russell to do. I asked him about the safety of the Water Refill Station and he said as long as it is cleaned regularly and the water is run off it would be ok because it was close the water source. We will have to pay for the water usage. We initially decided on having the Water Refill Station for environmental reasons, so that people would be able to refill their water bottles rather than have to purchase single use plastic water bottles. This also highlights the council's commitment to climate action. I would like this to go ahead. Cllr Griffin proposed, Cllr Dellow seconded and it was RESOLVED that the installation should go ahead and if there was a choice of designs a dolphin was preferred.

22/83 Questions/Reports from Members

None.

Date of Next Meeting 16th November 2022

Meeting Closed 8.30pm