

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 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2023 @ 7.00pm.**

Minutes taken by Cllr Mrs Frances Day

Present: The Mayor Cllr Mrs Lynn Simms, (*Chair*) Cllr Mrs Frances Day, Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay, Cllr Scott Griffin and Cllr Patrick Hughes.

In attendance:

Cornwall Councillor Dr Andrew Virr

Ms Gemma Hall: Integrated Network & Partnership Manager, Transport Co-ordination Services, Cornwall Council

Lee Quinney: Transport Assets & Systems Manager, Transport Co-ordination Services, Cornwall Council

Mel Williams: Operations Manager, Go Cornwall Bus

7 members of the public

1} **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Sally Vincent (*Town Clerk*), Cllr John Berryman, Cllr Mrs Rhianna Cooke, Cllr Andrew Dellow, Cllr Colin Gibbon, Cllr Alan Harris-Guerrero and Cllr Mrs Yvette Patterson

2} **Declarations of interest**

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|------|
| (a) | Pecuniary: | None |
| (b) | Non pecuniary: | None |
| (c) | Dispensations: | None |

3} **Public Participation/Questions**

Deferred pending the anticipated arrival of another member of the public,

4} **Minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2023**

It was proposed by Cllr Day seconded by Cllr Finlay and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

5} **Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda:** There were no matters arising.

6} **To receive and note the minutes, if any of FTC Committees**

Cllr Hughes informed the meeting that at a recent meeting of the Town Hall and Town Quay Committee, the chairmanship had passed from him to Cllr Mrs Yvette Patterson.

7} **To receive reports from FTC Representatives on Other Bodies**

There were none.

8} **To receive the Mayor's Report**

Cllr Simms reported:

- I am delighted to report that the Rachel Statue was installed on 25th September and officially unveiled on 4th October. In attendance were Richard Ryan who commissioned the sculpture for the Town, John Doubleday the Sculptor, representatives from FTC, the FGF and Friends and family of Richard Ryan. It looks fantastic in situ, perfect for a contemplative and quiet garden. I would like to thank Richard Ryan our

- benefactor, John Doubleday the sculptor and not least Tom Chapman from Lanhydrock Garden Services for making the plinth at very short notice.
- On Saturday 21st of October the Environment Committee will be running an environmental awareness day from 11am to 4:00pm at the Town Hall. We have organised representation from a number of local environmental organisations and the screening of two films, *Plenty More Fish* and *Hungry for Change*. Cllr Patterson has kindly agreed to provide tea, coffee and flapjacks.
- On September 29th I met with the Mayors of Cornwall at County Hall. Johnnie Wells the Mayor of St Ives raised the matter of exploring the viability of having a voluntary tourist tax. I said that FTC was interested in finding out more, but could not contribute to the viability study fund. We can still be involved in the discussions.
- On Monday 16th October I attended a presentation about Cornwall's clean air strategy. I feel that it's important for us to share the information about impact of air pollution on our community and to explore ways to mitigate against it. We have provided for a hard copy of the strategy to be available at our environmental awareness day and will put an item about Air Quality on the agenda of our next Environment Committee meeting.
- I have a reminder from Cllr Berryman to the Committee Chairs that you will need to submit your budgets by early/mid-November.
- Lastly, I was sad to hear the Elaine Elliot who has contributed greatly to the community of Fowey over her lifetime, died at the beginning of October and send my condolences on behalf of the Council to her family.

9} **To receive the report of the Cornwall Councillor**

Cllr Virr reported:

- *Highways Improvements:* A number of roads in our area have undergone significant improvements: A) B3269 has undergone patch repairs on the approach to Tremanor Farm and drainage works have been completed. B) Waterlane in Golant has been completely resurfaced. C) St Andrew's Road has now been completed. Passage Lane is due to be patch repaired before the end of the financial year. New Road Hill rock face repair is also scheduled in before the end of year.
- *Bus Stop:* I am aware of the concerns and frustrations regarding the moving of the bus stop outside the Safe Harbour. I have arranged for a site visit with the Managing Director of Go Cornwall, Cornwall Transport Department and a representative of the action group.
- *Adult Social Care:* I serve on Cornwall Council's Cabinet as Portfolio Holder for Adults. Cornwall Council's Adult Social Care have made significant improvements over the past years. Waits for packages of care are falling; hospital discharge delays have been reduced, there is a new leadership team and this is following the significant financial investment of 45 million pounds into Adult Social Care. I also welcome the announcement from the Government regarding the proposed smoking ban for 14 year olds.
- *Whitehouse:* It has been wonderful to see the repairs to the small pool at Whitehouse which has been funded by Cornwall Council. This is part of the devolution package for the water edge to the Harbour Commissioners. Further improvements will be forthcoming including Caffa Mill boat storage and the waterside area.
- *Rachel Statue:* It is delightful to see the statue finally in situ in Grammar School Gardens. Well done to Fowey Town Council for their persistence in making this happen and overcoming the location challenges.

10} **Correspondence list**

None.

11} **Resolutions from Councillors**

None.

12} **Squires Field Pavilion**

Cllr Dellow had submitted a report updating the current situation: The contract had been signed with DJW for works to be undertaken as discussed previously. Further to discussion on site with the Town Clerk, the Mayor and the construction company, DJW has provided a cost to upgrade the main front door to a more robust construction and to provide push button opening suitable for wheelchair or disabled access. The omission is circa £3,000 - an overall uplift of £5,500. A decision on this was deferred to the next Council meeting.

13} **Squires Field Working Group**

Cllr Cooke had submitted a report updating the current situation: There had been a really productive meeting on 28th September where we worked through the CIL funding application and drew out a schematic of the plans for Squires Field. A video would be produced in due course which will communicate the different phases of the project; this will be circulated on social media and the schematic placed in strategic locations around the town for people to see. Cllrs Cooke and Harris had a good meeting on site with Jasper Flashman to discuss a quote for a pump track and improved walkways around Squires Field. His quote is expected shortly. Cllr Cooke has a site meeting with the new Cornwall Council Community Link Officer Sarah Scoltock on 9th November to discuss the project in detail. The group is hoping to meet Paul Finlay on site in the near future to look at where to site the new trees from the Woodland Trust. They have also been exploring other funding options and will start making applications for those once the CIL funding application is submitted this Friday. Cllr Cooke sent thanks to all the members of SFWG for their hard work getting to this point.

14} **Town Gateway Project**

Cllr Finlay reported:

- *Speed Monitoring Report 20/9/23:* A unit was deployed on New Road Hill on 31st August and was retrieved on 7th September, to determine whether there is a speed problem in this area. The timing of the monitoring from the end of August to first week in September, while still busy, is certainly not the busiest; however the fact that there is a single lane priority route on New Road Hill has the effect of slowing traffic anyway, so this is not representative of speed on New Road Hill. Highways have been asked if they can hold a new speed monitor session when the stone face has been repaired.
- *The Town Gateway project:* whose objective is to dissuade unnecessary vehicles from entering Fowey Town Centre from Lostwithiel Street by installing visual junction treatment on New Road Hill/junction with Lostwithiel Street to help draw attention to the 'except for access'; and to highlight the courtesy crossing point for buggies on Hanson Drive. Work will begin on 8th November and is scheduled to be completed before the Christmas Market weekend (8th-10th December).

15} **Public questions**

Ms Hall and Mr Quinney from Cornwall Council's Transport Co-ordination Services and Mr Williams from Go Bus had accepted an invitation to join the meeting to discuss the local concerns about the proposal to move the 24 green bus from its terminus outside the Safe Harbour to Readymoney carpark. The 25 red bus had already been relocated, and local residents were most concerned about the difficulties the move of the 24 would create, particularly for elderly and infirm people who would have to climb a steep hill to catch the bus either from Hanson Drive or New Road Hill. It had been proposed that a new bus shelter should be provided in New Road Hill, where both buses had a stop as at present there was no shelter and poor lighting. A petition deploring the move had attracted around 900 signatures, showing the strength of local feeling. The move had been proposed on safety grounds as the bus company and Cornwall Council were concerned about a number of dangerous incidents caused by the buses reversing by the pub. Bollards in Lostwithiel Street made the manoeuvre more difficult. Ms Hall emphasised that the decision to relocate the buses had not been taken lightly. She stated that the Council and bus company were not obliged to consult residents about the move, particularly as it had been proposed on safety grounds. It was pointed out by residents that the Safe Harbour had been a terminus for over 100 years. A lengthy discussion took place, with neither side convinced about the other's point of view.

It was decided that a site meeting at the Safe Harbour should take place in November, date to be confirmed, to try to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of all concerned. Present would be the Chair of Go Bus, Richard Stevens, Cornwall Councillor Dr Virr and any other interested parties.

16} **Questions/reports from Members** (at the discretion of the Mayor)

There were none.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15th November.

There being no further business, the meeting closed @ 8.15 pm.

FLD/10.10.23