

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 HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.00pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

Before the meeting began the Mayor called for a minutes silence in remembrance of Tony Bartlett who had sadly passed away the previous Sunday and who had contributed so much to Fowey over many years

23/68 Present

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

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
7 members of the public

23/69 Apologies

Cllr C Gibbon, Cllr S Griffin, Cllr A Harris-Guerrero
Cornwall Cllr Dr A Virr

23/70 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.

23/71 Public Participation & Questions

A member of the public explained that he had attended the meeting to respond to any questions members may have about his proposal to site a sauna at Readymoney Cove. He explained that he had been invited by the leaseholder of the café to explore this idea; he and his partner worked in wellbeing and he reported that saunas had health benefits, including mental health. He considered that the installation of a sauna would complement the benefits derived from cold water swimming, which was already very popular at Readymoney. The proposed sauna would be sited on the grass area above the café/lime kiln and would be 2.2 metres high.

A member of the public asked if FTC would be assisting with the Town's Christmas lights this year following the sad death of Tony Bartlett, who had previously organized them on behalf of the Lions. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to a member of the Lions and she had indicated that Martyn Crowle would be taking over from Tony to lead on the project. However, she had told her to speak to FTC if they ran into any problems. It was noted that members of Gallants Sailing Club and staff from Sams had helped in 2022.

A member of the public noted that Councillor attendance at the October FTC meeting had been very poor and he queried whether under these circumstances any decisions made were valid. The Town Clerk checked the attendance record of the meeting and confirmed that five

Councillors were present, which meant that the meeting was quorate, although it was unfortunate that several members were unable to attend due to holidays, business meetings and illness.

23/72 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th October 2023

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

23/73 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None

23/74 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Town Hall & Quay – minutes noted

Finance – no report

Environment – minutes noted

23/75 To receive reports from FTC Representatives on Other Bodies

None.

23/76 To Receive the Mayors Report

On Saturday 21st October the Environment Committee presented an Environmental Awareness Day at the Town Hall. It was good to learn about ways that local organisations are working to protect our environment. We screened two films made by Cornwall Climate Care, ‘Hungry for Change’ and ‘Plenty More Fish?’ and these initiated some lively debate.

The event was also attended by a number of children who took part in the Ceramic fish making and drawing, linking with displays by Fowey Harbour Commission, Friends of Fowey Estuary and the ‘Our Only World’ Marine diversity project. I am in the process of contacting the local school to ask them to take part in an exciting project called SeaAlive Tiles created by Cornish Charity Our Only World.

Thanks go to Cllr Finlay, Cllr Day, Mayor’s Consort Gary Craddock, Paul Finlay from the Orchard, Claire Hoddinott, Environment Officer Fowey Harbour Commission, and Tina and Mark Robinson from Our Only World. Thanks also to Daniel Meier, Ebony Doney, Poppy Gill, Sonja Hensby and Mae Peirce from Fowey River Academy for preparing a poster and sculpture for the event.

On Tuesday 21st November at 7.30 in the Parish Church there will be a Mayor’s Fundraising Concert in aid of the Squires Field Community Larder. It would be great to see you there.

I am saddened to hear about the death of Tony Bartlett. He gave so much to the community of Fowey and he will be greatly missed. I have send the condolences of the Town Council to Lynn and Family.

23/77 To Receive the Town Clerks Report

The Town Clerk reported

- The new bus shelter at the bottom of New Road Hill would be erected with the agreed 2m gap at the pinch point to allow space for buggies and wheelchairs to access
- The National Grid had requested a wayleave to upgrade one of the underground cables at Squires Field. The cable connects pole 431464-3, which is within the land leased to SFCC and crosses the field to the footpath. The work will necessitate a 10m trench to be excavated.

- Some large potholes were starting to appear in Squires Field car park. It was agreed that quotes should be obtained to fill them. People were also parking on the hatched areas providing access/egress and the FTC handyman had been instructed to renew the markings.
- The disabled parking space on the quay should soon be relined by St Austell Brewery.
- PFC had recently undertaken repairs to the fendering on the quay steps that had apparently been damaged in the recent storm without authorisation from FTC and had subsequently presented their invoice for the work. Cllr Cooke queried if any contact at all had been made with FTC about this prior to the invoice being presented. The Town Clerk responded that there had been no contact at all. Cllr Berryman noted that if PFC had considered that it was dangerous to land on the quay without the repairs being carried out then their ferries should have landed at Whitehouse until authorisation had been obtained; it was unacceptable to simply assume that FTC would pay an unknown amount for the work. Following discussion, members agreed that the invoice should be paid on this occasion but that PFC should be told that FTC was not legally able to incur expenditure without authorisation and this must be obtained in the future before any work was carried out.

23/78 To Receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had supplied his report following the meeting.

Hanson Drive Parking Restrictions I am pleased to see that the all year round parking restrictions have been installed in Hanson Drive. This will be welcomed by the residents in that area who experienced dangerous driving with cars mounting the pavements and damaging property.

New Road Hill Land Slip The works to the landslip are scheduled for 22nd January 2024 to 16th February 2024.

New Waste and Recycling Facilities Cornwall Council have started to deliver the new bins for the forthcoming new waste and recycling scheme. More information can be found on Cornwall Council's website. Please do not put any rubbish in the new bins (as clearly labelled) until the start of the new collection regime in mid-January.

Bus Stop I have arranged for a site visit with Cornwall Council Transport Service, Go Cornwall, representatives from the users' group, FTC and myself in late November to discuss the moving of the Safe Harbour terminus stop for the 25 service. We will ensure the decision has been made carefully, that users with poor mobility are considered and whether measures could be put in place to mitigate the risks described

23/79 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £38,353.36 be approved.

23/80 Correspondence

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

23/81 Resolutions from Councillors

The Mayor proposed her resolution '*FTC supports the proposed exchange to be organised by Ken Wittamore between Fowey and the Breton town of Binic and, should the exchange take place, looks forward to welcoming members of Binic Council to Fowey.*' This was seconded by Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED.

23/82 Squires Field Pavilion

Cllr Dellow reported that a few small issues would be discussed at the Finance Meeting but would slightly reduce the top line price. Against this he proposed an uplift of £5,500 to upgrade the main front door to a more robust construction and also provide a button opening suitable for disabled and wheelchair users. This expenditure was seconded by Cllr Berryman and RESOLVED. Cllr Dellow confirmed that he would shortly need to submit a minor planning amendment in relation to the solar roof panels and he suggested that at some point in the future FTC may wish to consider a porch of some sort to conserve heat.

23/83 Squires Field Working Group

Cllr Cooke gave the following report.

The application for funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund was submitted on the 20th October. I would like to extend my thanks to the working group for all their hard work towards the application. We should hopefully hear the outcome around Christmas time. If successful, the money will be put towards the installation of a pump track in half of the top part of the play area and then improvements to the walkways running around the entirety of Squires Field.

We are currently applying for a Football Foundation grant to replace the senior football goals at Squires Field; we should get a decision on this within a couple of weeks. Andy Inglefield has provided a quote for their installation.

We will also shortly be applying for a Lottery Awards for All grant and a Community Chest grant from Cornwall Council; if successful these will be put towards the replacement of the aging play equipment in the play area. We will also apply for a Football Foundation grant to renovate the disused hut at the top of Squires Field into a set of changing rooms in the hope that we can bring grassroots football back to Fowey.

I had a really productive meeting with our Community Link Officer Sarah Scoltock on-site on the 9th November; she was very supportive of the project and has put me in touch with two different funding teams at Cornwall Council - the Levelling Up Fund and Community Capacity Fund which we are keen to explore further.

I am due to meet with Paul Finley on site to discuss siting of the new saplings at Squires Field - this will hopefully take place with the help of the Brownies over the winter and spring.

Please keep an eye out as we will be putting out a video on social media shortly and also information around the town showing the proposals for Squires Field and how the project will be phased.

Our next meeting will be the end of November/early December.

23/84 Alldays Fields

The Town Clerk confirmed that a response from CC was still awaited.

23/85 Fowey Christmas Market

Andrew Weaver (LESW) had supplied the following report

LESW was supplying a tree but need it decorated. *The Town Clerk confirmed that Melissa Hartwell had kindly agreed that the Forum would do this.*

Tony from the Lions was organising lights in town and the switching on at 7pm. *The Town Clerk reported that Martin Crowle had undertaken to take over this work on behalf of the Lions.*

He was liaising with Adam Luck from the Church regarding light switch on and carols in the Churchyard. Adam was new to the post and still finding his feet on the matter but was happy to support, so a few loose ends to tie up.

The toilets were being sorted with Cormac regarding additional cleans and with Cornwall Council regarding opening the facilities in main Car Park.

The normal road closure was in place.

The marquee would go up on Thursday 7th December, 8am, down again by 5pm on Monday 11th December.

Cllr Hughes confirmed that 15 stalls had been booked for the Town Hall ‘Fowey Artists, Designers and Makers Christmas Fair.’

23/86 Town Quay Benches

The Town Clerk reported that the ‘summer’ benches on the quay had historically been stored in the hut at Squires Field but new arrangements needed to be made as the Squires Field Working Group were looking to refurbish the hut to provide a football changing room. The obvious place for them to be stored was in one of the storerooms under the Town Hall, which were currently let to St Austell Brewery. However, the Brewery were not keen to lose a storeroom and for winter 2023 they had offered the use of the Buttermarket under the KOP. Unfortunately, the Landlord of the KOP had contacted her asking for them to be removed as he needed the space for the Christmas Market. She had confirmed to him that the arrangement had been that the benches remained in the Buttermarket until May 2024 but that if they needed to be removed she would consult with the Council to see if they wanted her to serve notice on one of the storerooms to enable the benches to be stored there. The landlord had indicated that he had misunderstood the arrangement and that he would move the benches for the duration of the Market and then put them back again. Cllr Finlay stated that FTC needed to safely store the benches and know that a suitable space was available going forward and that the obvious place was one of the Town Hall storerooms. Members agreed with this view and the Town Clerk was instructed to investigate this with the Brewery.

23/87 Town Gateway Project

Cllr Finlay reported

Gateway works will include a new uncontrolled crossing point with high friction surfacing, footway widening and resurfacing including new granite kerbing, installation of seating area, drainage works, new road markings, and resurfacing of the junction at Place Road including installation of a Resin Imprint Gateway Feature. The works will be carried out under 3 way traffic light control with a proposed commencement date of 27th November 2023. Cormac have requested a PO to the value of £66,135.17, although no allowances have been made for the following:

- Any works in connection with existing services/utilities
- Disposal of non-inert materials other than existing macadam material
- Night work or work outside of normal hours, i.e. Monday to Friday 07.30 to 17.30hrs.
- The quotation does not include for any other unscheduled repairs.
- The works are subject to utilities checks

Cllr Finlay then proposed, Cllr Berryman seconded and it was RESOLVED that the PO should be issued.

Cllr Finlay confirmed that the works were nothing to do with the installation of the proposed bus stop on New Road Hill; this was a separate project.

23/88 Questions/Reports from Members

Cllr Finlay noted that it was good to see members of the public taking an interest and attending FTC meetings, she hoped that people would put themselves forward for the vacant seat on the

Council. FTC was currently come forward undertaking some big projects in the town – Squires Field Pavilion, Squires Field play area refurbishment and the Gateway – and this was a lot of work for a small group of volunteer Councillors.

Cllr Berryman reported that Roy from Pegasus Printers was retiring and the company's work would be taken over by Palace Printers.

Date of Next Meeting 13th December 2023

Meeting Closed 8.05pm