

## **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 THE ANNUAL MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025 IN PAVILION HOUSE AT 5.30pm**

### **Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr C Gibbon, Cllr Ms K Longman and Cllr Mrs L Simms made their Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

#### **25/01 Present**

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms  
Councillors: Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr A Dellow, Cllr C Gibbon,  
Cllr Ms K Longman

#### **In Attendance**

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent  
Cornwall Cllr I Wilson  
1 member of the public

#### **25/02 Election of the Mayor of Fowey 2025/2026**

It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that Cllr Simms should serve as Mayor for the 2025/2026 Civic Year

#### **25/03 Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Simms made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office

#### **25/04 Apologies**

None

#### **25/05 Declaration of Interests**

- α. Pecuniary – None.
- β. Non Registerable – None
- χ. Dispensations – None

#### **25/06 Co-option**

It was proposed by Cllr Gibbon, seconded the Mayor and RESOLVED that Cllr Dellow should be co-opted to fill one of the vacant seats on the Council.

#### **25/07 Public Participation & Questions**

None

#### **25/08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (for accuracy)**

16<sup>th</sup> April 2025. It was proposed by Cllr Gibbon, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Annual Parish Meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Gibbon, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed for accuracy.

**25/09 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

None.

**25/10 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

**25/11 Resolutions from Councillors**

None

**25/12 Accounts for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Longman and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £31, 602.88 be approved.

**25/13 Correspondence**

Correspondence was left ‘on the table’ for Councillors attention.

**25/14 To Receive the Mayors Report**

I am pleased to say that since the library opened at the Pavilion on March 22<sup>nd</sup> it has been running with the support of our volunteers, who have successfully undertaken a series of training sessions. Cllr Day’s help has been invaluable in providing ongoing guidance to volunteers and ensuring that the venue is available and secured after use. The new location has drawn people to join the library, many of them families with children.

The dilapidation schedule for the OGSG is in its final stage. Next week LGS will tidy up the garden and remove the Rachel Sculpture. I have been in touch with Richard Ryan who commissioned the Sculpture and gifted it to the people of Fowey to let him know. We still hope that there will be a more positive resolution to this situation.

Fowey’s VE Day80 celebration on 8<sup>th</sup> May was a very enjoyable community event. It began with church bell ringing at 6.30 followed by a reflective and joyful service led by Rev Carol Edleston. Mount Charles Band entertained and engaged the audience with a 1940’s set and Lankelly Shout brought people together with their powerful and accomplished performance. The Town Crier opened the beacon lighting ceremony with the Proclamation, Veterans Graham Champion and John Adams lit the beacon, a member of the Mount Charles Band played the Last Post and the Reveille, Rev Carol read the Tribute and Lankelly Shout led the singing of I Vow to Thee My Country.

My thanks go to everyone involved and particularly to Cllr John Berryman who set up the Beacon, Nigel Canning and members of Lankelly Shout who moved the chairs and Richard Day who designed the poster.

The Town Clerk recorded thanks to the Mayor for organizing an excellent event that was enjoyed by all present.

**25/15 To Receive the Town Clerks Report**

- I have received a message saying that cars are failing to turn right as they exit Webb Street onto Fore Street and are therefore going straight on towards the Church. It has been suggested that this is down to poor signage so I have notified Highways and Cllr Wilson

- Cornwall Council has been in contact suggesting that FTC takes over the running of the Main Car Park toilets under a licence until freehold transfer can be accomplished. I responded that this is not an option as it would inevitably result in the devolution being delayed given it would no longer be a priority for Cornwall Council. CC legal then sent some draft HOT's for consideration but I would suggest that at least one of the Terms is unacceptable (the vendor reserved the right to charge the purchaser a reasonable proportion of the costs of maintenance of the access route). Cllr Day expressed concern that the toilets had now been closed by Cornwall Council and unless FTC assumed responsibility they would not re-open for the summer. Discussion then followed about the best way forward given the facilities were in a poor state and require refurbishment as otherwise complaints would be inevitable. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the June meeting and in the meantime Cllr Dellow would try to get a quote to convert the building into an open space which could be leased out with the lessee obliged to maintain public toilet facilities at the site in a similar way that is in place at Caffa Mill and Readymoney. The Mayor would also include details in her Mayors Column in the Fowey News of the possibility of a lease and ask for expressions of interest to be sent to the Town Clerk.
- As the Mayor has already reported, work at the OGS Garden is continuing to meet conditions of the dilapidations schedule served by the OGS Trustees. The outside wall has now been repaired and repainted and the steps rubbed down and repainted. I have been contacted by residents who attended the recent meeting called by the Trustees at the Community College to say that the meeting was told that the Rachael Statue would not be removed. However, this is incorrect; the dilapidations schedule specifies its removal, together with the plinth, so FTC has no choice but to comply.

#### **25/16 To Receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor**

Cllr Wilson gave the following report

Fowey Community Hospital I have had discussions with ICB regarding Fowey Community Hospital. Unfortunately, it looks like we are out of options. The Hospital Building has been designated as unsuitable for reopening as a Community Hospital, and this isn't now going to change. I have no power or influence to change this. This is an NHS/ICB decision, and Cornwall Council also have no say in this. I am extremely disappointed. The existing Hospital Building is considered too small for a community Hospital with only 6 Beds. The current baseline is a minimum of 16 Beds. There are also refurbishment issues. I am told, Community Funds raised for the Hospital whilst it was still open will be made available for Community Projects. The exact amount available and when this might be released, is yet to be disclosed. I am led to believe, but this will need to be confirmed, that any Fowey Community Groups that express an Interest in taking over the building for Community use or Projects, will be given first refusal. I would suggest maybe Fowey Town Council seek local ideas on repurposing the Building, but this would not be cheap, so outside funding would be essential I would think.

Readymoney Beach Bins Only other issue to report on is the Readymoney Beach Litter Bin situation. I have reopened this with Cornwall Council and have visited the location. I understand the problem and will report back when I get an update.

#### **25/17 Election of Committees 2025/2026**

It was proposed by Cllr Dellow, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that Committee membership should be as follows.

1. Planning – Cllrs Day, Dellow, Gibbon, The Mayor (*ex officio*)
2. Environment – Cllrs Day, Cllr Longman, Cllr Simms

- 3. Finance – Cllrs Dellow, Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Simms
- 4. Town Hall/Town Quay – Deferred

**25/18 Fowey Royal British Legion**

It was proposed by Cllr Dellow, seconded Cllr Longman and RESOLVED that a donation of £1,500.00 should be made to the Royal British Legion, Fowey branch.

**25/19 Questions/Reports from Members**

None.

*It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that that the Press and Public be excluded in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, during consideration of the following business on the grounds that it would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the following description – staffing*

**Date of Next Meeting**            18<sup>th</sup> June 2025