

## **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 MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025 AT 7.00pm IN PAVILION HOUSE, FOWEY**

### **25/21 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  
2 members of the public (1 part)

### **25/22 Apologies**

None

### **25/23 Declaration of Interests**

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

### **25/24 Public Participation & Questions**

A representative of Fowey Forum reported that people, and particularly coach companies, were saying that they would not continue coming to Fowey because of the closed public toilet facilities in the Hanson Drive car park. This was clearly bad for tourism and businesses in the town. Additionally people were using the adjacent bushes to relieve themselves, which was completely unacceptable. The Town Clerk confirmed that FTC had agreed to the devolution of the toilets and this was now being dealt with by the FTC solicitor. The lady considered that Cornwall Council had a duty to keep the facilities open until the transfer of ownership was completed. Cllr Wilson apologized for the situation and agreed to try to convince CC to open up the toilets but he admitted that, realistically, he didn't hold out much hope as the provision of public toilets was not a statutory function for CC.

### **25/25 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

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

### **25/26 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

None.

### **25/27 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees**

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

#### **25/28 Accounts for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr Dellow, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £14,732.96 be approved.

#### **25/29 Correspondence**

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

#### **25/30 Resolutions from Councillors**

None.

#### **25/31 To Receive the Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported:

I am pleased to say that Myriam Stirling, our new member of staff, started work at Pavilion House on 10<sup>th</sup> June. In addition to her administrative duties for Fowey Town Council she will be managing the library. This will mean that in September the library will be open on Tuesday afternoons, 2-4pm, and Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm. Judith Taylor, the volunteer coordinator, will ask existing volunteers if they are willing to do a Wednesday or Thursday session from September onwards. Dawn Hope is going to run a children's storytelling session for under-fives on Thursday mornings.

As part of the library provision I have signed up for and completed the Community Digital Champion training. This will allow us to provide support for members of the community who lack basic digital skills to get online. I have arranged for some laptops and tablets to be available for this purpose at the library from September.

On 13<sup>th</sup> June I attended a Port Users Group meeting held at Fowey Harbour Office for a discussion about the future use of Caffa Mill. Following the FHC's renovation of Whitehouse Pool there were plans drawn up for the redesign of Caffa Mill to include the construction of a pontoon. Unfortunately due to devolution delays, this funding opportunity was missed and more opportunities now need to be sourced. There is still a plan to encourage more people to enjoy the area by creating a community space for festivals and markets. A number of people requested the provision of more boat storage while still keeping the sea views.

Yesterday evening 17<sup>th</sup> June Cllr Day and I represented Fowey Town Council at a meeting held by the NHS Foundation Trust. This meeting was set up to explore if and how £261,000 from The Hospital Charitable Fund, originating from a bequest to Fowey Hospital, could be used to benefit the health of the local community should the hospital be permanently closed. Attendees included members of the Foundation Trust, the secretaries of MPs Noah Law and Anna Gelderd, Cornwall Councillor Ian Wilson, Hilda Marshal-Johnson, a former trustee of Fowey Hospital, and Chris Wills from the campaign to Reopen Fowey Hospital. Given the strength of feeling from the community to reopen the hospital, and the progress of the campaign, it became clear that any funding discussion needed to be postponed pending the outcome.

We have some events on the Town Quay during the summer. Trigg Morris will be dancing at 8pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Tywardreath Morris at 7.30pm on 6<sup>th</sup> August and the Champagne Chorus will be performing on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

#### **25/32 To Receive the Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk reported

- As the Mayor has already said the new FTC Administration Assistant, Myriam Stirling, is now in post and based at Pavilion House. The library is proving popular and is beginning to operate smoothly thanks to the Mayor and Cllr Day. The Library Service had suggested that a notice should be displayed outside listing library opening times but

members may feel that a notice board would be a better option for displaying the times as it could be used for other relevant information as well. It was proposed by Cllr Simms, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should source a suitable notice board.

- Kirsty Worden is continuing to deal with the OGS Trustees regarding the Dilapidations Schedule for the OGS Garden.
- The Trustees of the OGS Garden have advised the Garden is not for sale at the present time.
- Cllr Dellow has noted that the old telephone boxes in Market Street are in need of attention. Cllr Longman suggested that there could be organisations in the town that would like to use the boxes e.g. for tourist information. The Town Clerk confirmed that a similar approach had been used in Tywardreath for the 'Artbox,' the kiosk there had been leased under a Tenancy at Will on a peppercorn and this had worked very well. Cllr Longman agreed to investigate this option. In the meantime members agreed that the boxes needed to be painted and the Town Clerk was instructed to organize this.
- I have received some complaints about the condition and cleanliness of the TQ toilets. The cleaners have replaced the vandalized locking system.
- The Forum has been in touch questioning FTC's decision to allow the Christmas Market to take place in November. I explained the reasons for this and suggested that if another organization (i.e. Chamber/businesses) was prepared to take over the organization of the event FTC was open to expressions of interest. It was agreed that this approach should be followed up.

#### **25/33 To Receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor – Cllr I Wilson**

Cllr Wilson gave the following report

I have had several meetings with the "Save Fowey Community Hospital Group" who plan to challenge the ICB/NHS decision of permanent closure of Fowey Hospital. I also attended the Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Stakeholders Meeting on the evening of 17<sup>th</sup> June, which was very lively at times and reached no conclusion.

The Battle over the Readymoney Cove litter bins continues, with CC not being overly co-operative. I am now having to trawl through Government Legislation to make a case for reinstatement. I plan to start a Petition, with the aim of getting 1000 signature from Beach Patrons to support the case.

I have had meetings with CC Highways to discuss various issues.

I have visited the following locations and have been dealing with the reported issues:

- Land South of 21, Lostwithiel Street, PL23 1BL.Planning enforcement.
- Reported issue with fence gap at the main Fowey Car Park. Whilst at the Fowey Main Car Park reviewing the fence Gap, I took the opportunity to talk to visitors about the closed toilets. We must get a Temporary solution to this problem!

The following locations I haven't visited yet.

- I have received a request to place a Memorial Bench on Hanson Drive. I have referred this to CC Highways.
- I have yet to review a parking complaint at Readymoney Cove. Pending visit.

#### **25/34 Squires Field Working Group/MUGA**

There was no report from the Working Group.

The Mayor reported that on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May FTC she was told that overnight on Sunday some teenagers had broken into the unfinished MUGA, stolen some PVA glue and poured it over the

dips in the pump track. This is very disappointing considering the large amount of funding that CC, FTC and public has raised to provide these facilities for the children and young people of Fowey. Gary and I spent some time that afternoon washing away the PVA glue, which luckily is water based and shouldn't damage the drainage system. I have reported this to the police and been given a crime number. It is very unlikely that the police will be able to identify the culprits because there is no CCTV at the playground. In the July Fowey News I will include the crime number in the Mayor's Column and encourage young people to take responsibility for looking after this valuable play area and report any who damage it.

The Town Clerk reported that she had spoken to Jasper about completing the MUGA and clearing the site. He had been very apologetic for the delay but had undertaken to complete the work before the end of June. In the meantime he would start clearing away any rubbish such as pallets left on site.

#### **25/35 Squires Field Car Park**

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had arranged for the yellow hatching marking the entrances/exits to the car park to be relined.

Cllr Dellow reported that he was continuing to investigate the feasibility of installing solar panels on the site to fund drainage work and resurfacing.

#### **25/36 Town Quay**

Cllr Gibbon requested that he had been promised a report on options for the repair of 'Steve's Steps' within a fortnight.

The Town Clerk reported that, together with Cllr Day, she had met with representatives from Cormac to discuss the resurfacing of the quay. Responsibility for the maintenance of different areas had been agreed and a quote for the FTC contribution was awaited. Cormac had also advised that all the roads in the town were due to be resurfaced. This would involve extensive road closures but dates had yet to be agreed.

#### **25/37 Binic Exchange Visit**

The Mayor shared the programme for the Civic element of the visit as follows.

12.00 Breton and Cornish group leave the Town Quay led by the Town Crier and Lostwithiel Town Band for the short walk to the church. All are welcome in the Church for the Twinning Ceremony.

Sweet Touch play to welcome people as they enter the church for the signing ceremony.

Short welcome from Rev Carol Edleston

Church organ plays Brightly Beams. This is a traditional sailor's hymn and is very well known in Cornwall

Short talk from Tamsin Harris about friendship, the importance of the shared history between Brittany and Cornwall and her family's lifetime links with Brittany and the sea

Music from Sweet Touch

Short talk by Armele Rioual on behalf of Michel Leger, Chair of Binic's Comite de Jumelage  
Church organ plays Cornwall My Home

Introduction to the twinning agreement and what it means to Fowey – Ken Wittamore

Short speech from the Mayor and a response from the Binic Mayor, Philippe Chauvin, followed by signing the twinning agreement

Music from Sweet Touch

Sweet Touch sing a Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

Parting Blessing by Rev Carol Edleston

Church organ plays us out and Lostwithiel Town Band leads invited guests to the Town Hall for the civic reception

**25/38 Co-option Policy**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that the draft Policy circulated by the Town Clerk should be adopted.

**25/39 Dispensations**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the power to grant dispensations under the power resting with the relevant authority under section 33(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and the basis set out under section 33(2) should be renewed.

**25/40 Main Car Park Toilets**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the devolution was being dealt with by the FTC solicitors. Cllr Dellow reported that had been talking with Neil Hoddinott about a basic plan to refurbish and develop the toilets after devolution and would get options/prices in due course.

**25/41 Reports from Councillors** – *at the discretion of the Mayor*

None

**Date of Next Meeting** 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025 @ Pavilion House (Note amended date)

**Meeting Closed** 8.29pm