

## **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 30<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025 AT 7.00pm IN PAVILION HOUSE, FOWEY**

#### **25/42 Present**

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

#### **In Attendance**

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent  
Cornwall Cllr I Wilson  
6 members of the public (4 part)

#### **25/43 Apologies**

None

#### **25/44 Declaration of Interests**

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

#### **25/45 Public Participation & Questions**

Members of the public highlighted the lack of disabled access/parking in the town, there used to be 4 disabled spaces outside Barclays and now there were none available due to the tables in Trafalgar Square belonging to the Ship. Additionally, the disabled space on the quay was being used by the KOP and Albert Quay was unavailable when cruise ships were in port. The Town Clerk responded that she would clarify the situation as she understood it.

- The disabled space on the quay would be unavailable even if KOP was not using it; there was no parking permitted on the quay, disabled or otherwise, between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> September. This had been the case for many years; the pay and display car parking facility was available October – May only.
- In relation to the parking spaces outside Barclays, there had historically been three disabled spaces and one 30-minute maximum stay general space. These spaces had been removed by CC Highways because the disabled spaces were not large enough and therefore legally unenforceable, resulting in them being regularly misused. They had all been replaced by the two legally proportioned disabled spaces now in place. Clearly these spaces were unavailable during the summer road closures. These closures had been supported by FTC to prevent people driving on to the quay and straight off again when they found there was nowhere else to go. The Councillors had debated this decision at some length at previous meetings as they were fully aware of potential impacts, but had concluded that it was justified to promote pedestrian safety during the very busy summer months. FTC had then worked with Cornwall Council to identify alternative disabled parking in the town. As a result an additional disabled space had been created on Albert Quay. FTC had tried to encourage CC to create a further one there but CC had confirmed that this was not possible for operational reasons. However,

another new disabled space had been created opposite Boots and this was now operational.

- A member of the public queried the origin of the Pavement Licenses issued to the Ship and Brown Sugar and if FTC received the income from them, which she considered should be the case. The Town Clerk responded that they had initially been granted by Cornwall Council under the Government's Covid legislation to support businesses by enabling them to operate in the open air during the pandemic. This legislation had ended in late 2024 but businesses were still able to obtain a Pavement Licence by applying to Cornwall Council; FTC received no income from them. Cllr Wilson confirmed that Cornwall Council policies would not permit this; all such income was used throughout the county and not in the parishes it was generated.

All present accepted that the town presented difficulties for disabled people and the Town Clerk confirmed that discussions to try to address this were already taking place, albeit they were at a very early stage. Members recognized that a very limited number of designated disabled spaces in the town was not acceptable and that a sustainable solution was needed. Alternative options needed to be explored that would work in a medieval town. Some preliminary ideas were to ensure that the new operator of the Town Bus uses disabled friendly vehicles and to investigate the possibility of a pick-up/drop-off facility at Squires Field incorporating disabled parking. Members of the public present were encouraged to contribute to this process.

**25/46 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

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

**25/47 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

None.

**25/48 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

**25/49 Accounts for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr Dellow, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £49,361.21 be approved.

**25/50 Correspondence**

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

**25/51 Resolutions from Councillors**

None.

**25/52 To Receive the Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported:

I am pleased to report that the Twinning Ceremony to mark the signing of the Binic Accord on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and the celebrations that followed made for a very joyful weekend for residents of Fowey and our visitors from Binic-Etables sur Mer. This event took a year to plan by Ken and Ali Wittamore and a group of residents from Fowey who visited Binic-Etables sur Mer last

year. Events and entertainment were organised, accomodation agreed, and the signing ceremony and Civic Reception were arranged. In Brittany Maire Paul Chauvin and the Binic-Etables sur Mer Twinning Committee prepared the Twinning Convention and in April they organised la Semaine Anglaise to promote the visit to Fowey to its citizens. Thank you to everyone involved in organising and participating in this event. Plans are already underway for a return visit. On the evening July 26th I had the pleasure of attending the opening ceremony of the Kernow 2025 Jamboree, which this year was a national event held at Stithians Show Ground. The site was transformed into a highly organised camp by Cornwall Scout and Guide Leaders to give Scouts and Guides the opportunity to mix with people from across the UK and to take part in an exciting activities programme. Volunteers gave up a week of their time to support the camp by leading the activities, cooking and ensuring the safety of the young people. I and group of dignitaries including the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall watched as a brass band led a procession of a thousand young people towards the main stage for the evening entertainment. It was great to recognise some of our local scouts in the parade. Subsequently, the Mayors and Sir Edward Bolitho were introduced to the enthusiastic audience. The aim was to showcase the work of the Scouts, but also to encourage a dialogue with local councils.

### **25/53 To Receive the Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk reported

- The Mayor and I met with Kirsty Worden regarding the OGS Trustees Dilapidations Schedule for the OGS Garden.
- FTC needs to follow up on future Christmas Markets following feedback about the 2024 November Market dates. Cllr Longman suggested that FTC needed to consider what the town wanted future Markets to look like, did people want the ultra-commercial setup currently happening or something different? Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Longman would canvass people in the town and, if appropriate, request an agenda item in September for members to consider setting up a Working Group to put together a business case for future alternative Markets. Cllr Longman confirmed that she would be prepared to Chair such a Group.
- Both the Mayor and I have been chasing Jasper Flashman to finish the installation of the MUGA. Hopefully it will be completed very soon.
- I authorized repairs to the fendering on the Town Quay steps following complaints from Polruan Ferry Company and the licenses boatmen.
- A meeting has been scheduled with SW Water to discuss their increased presence on the Town Quay, which is impacting on both the businesses and the public. We have been assured in the past that because the quay is such a sensitive location SW Water will schedule regular maintenance at quiet times and not during the summer months except in an emergency. They have previously also assured us that they will keep a spare pump installed on site should the main one fail to ensure that their presence on the quay is kept to a minimum. Previously there has been an agreement that they will leave most of their vehicles away from the quay and travel together to lessen their impact but increasingly I am being asked to register 4/5 vehicles at a time.
- There have been some issues with the water pressure in the Town Quay toilets and this is being investigated by APS Construction.

### **25/54 To Receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor – Cllr I Wilson**

Cllr Wilson gave the following report

Cornwall Council Motions

The “Abandoned Boats” Motion passed pretty much unanimously in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at County Hall. Although this doesn’t solve the problem of abandoned boats in the short term, it at least means that the consultation process to discuss the best way forward on removing these vessels is now officially recognised by Cornwall Council. This issue had been raised by Golant residents, but is likely to be relevant to Fowey also.

The “Voluntary Banning of Flying Rings” Motion was unanimously passed at the Full Council meeting on Tuesday. As Fowey is a coastal Town this motion could potentially help reduce the risks associated with marine mammals and discarded or lost plastic flying rings in the future. Cornwall Council will now seek to encourage retailers not to sell these toys, and potentially ban their use on Cornish beaches.

#### Twinning

As all here will know, Fowey was officially twinned with Binic (in Britany) in a ceremony held in St Fimbarrus Church in Fowey on the 28<sup>th</sup> June. Congratulations to all those involved with organising this event, which was quite frankly amazing.

#### Fowey Community Hospital

I have attended another Health and Adult Social Care Committee meeting in which the ICB were also in attendance. The ICB were also present at my area CAP AGM. On both occasions, I listened again to the ICB publicity speech extolling the virtues of community Health services and the general importance of care services being needed close to where they are needed. Once again, I pulled them up on their speech, citing that their actions don’t match their words and reminding them of Newquay MIU, Fowey MIU and now Launceston MIU. The “Save Fowey Hospital Group” now have the legal backing to take the Fowey Community Hospital closure to Judicial Review. A letter of action has been sent and the ICB now have 28 days to respond.

#### Readymoney Beach

I have requested information from Cornwall Council that has not been forthcoming. I raised the request again. If the information is not forthcoming again, I will add a second FOI to the Readymoney mix. I have started a petition as part of my campaign to get the bins re-instated.

#### Fowey Main Car Park Toilets

I have made a FOI request regarding the toilets, or more specifically, the Car Park. FOI’s can take 6 weeks to get an answer.

#### Other Business

I’m currently dealing with an Adult Social Care issue in Fowey and various normal issues such as verges and grass cutting.

There have been some reports of Covid in Fowey.

### **25/55 Pavilion House**

The Mayor reported that she had received a request from a gentleman wanting to start a Lego Club in Pavilion House. Cllr Day queried how this could work; it could not be run during library opening hours so access would be a problem. Myriam’s working hours would not accommodate it and, whilst she herself was happy to be a key holder to facilitate the library opening when Myriam was not on site, she was unable to commit further. The Mayor stated that she would be able to commit to some dates but could not really undertake to commit all the time. The Town Clerk cautioned that the Mayor was already carrying a big workload and she advised that this additional commitment was asking too much of her. Cllr Longman suggested that the gentleman could be directed to SFCC as she understood that similar Clubs were already being run there. Members agreed that unless or until the expense of a caretaker with responsibility to open/close the building and operate the alarm system could be justified usage of the building would have to be restricted to when Myriam was working or there was

Councillor/Town Clerk availability to manage access. Cllr Longman then proposed, Cllr Day seconded and it was RESOLVED that the request to run a Lego Club should be refused on the basis that currently FTC does not have the capacity to accommodate it.

**25/56 Squires Field Car Park**

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

**25/57 Town Quay**

Cllr Gibbon requested that he was hoping to meet with a Structural Engineer on site on the next low spring tide to discuss the repairs to ‘Steve’s Steps.’

**25/58 Main Car Park Toilets**

The Town Clerk confirmed that the devolution was now being dealt with by the FTC/Cornwall Council solicitors. Cllr Dellow had circulated some draft plans for creating an open space suitable for letting out and a reconfigured public toilet facility. Members agreed that the proposals were very promising and Cllr Dellow undertook to obtain some costings.

**25/59 Licence to Occupy**

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that the Licence to Occupy the phone boxes in Market Street (circulated by the Town Clerk in draft form) should be approved and issued to the Fowey Chamber of Commerce.

**25/60 Town Quay**

It was proposed by Cllr Dellow, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that the quote from Cormac for the resurfacing of Town Quay should be accepted and that Standing Orders should be suspended to allow one quote to be approved as responsibility for the resurfacing is shared by FTC and CC Highways meaning no other contractor can undertake the work

**25/61 Reports from Councillors – *at the discretion of the Mayor***

None

**Date of Next Meeting** 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025. This date was amended by agreement as Cllr Dellow was unable to attend on 17<sup>th</sup> September and given the low number of elected Councillors it was accepted that a date must be identified when all could attend.

**Meeting Closed** 8.45pm