

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 MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19th OCTOBER 2011 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

Kate Sutherland recited and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed by the Mayor as a member of Fowey Town Council

11/91 Present

The Mayor, Cllr John Berryman
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A Boosey
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, A Baker, Mrs R Finlay, Mrs S
Gudmunsen, N Mason, Miss K Sutherland, Mrs J Vincent, T Vincent

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
1 member of the press
1 member of the public

11/92 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs S Bain

11/93 Declaration of Interests

- a. In items on the agenda.
Cllr Mason declared a personal interest in agenda item 11/102, replacement of the OGS steps.
- b. Of gifts to a value in excess of £25.00.
None

11/94 Public Questions/Police Report/ Cllr Participation/ Police Report

Police Report - No report

Public Questions – None

Paul Martin (Cornwall Council) confirmed that the CC Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee had made a recommendation to the Cabinet that a significant number of public conveniences in Cornwall should be closed because of budget constraints. The budget for 2012 had been reduced from 2.85 million to 1.49million and the recommendation was that out of 247 toilets currently operational, 114 would be closed. A decision would be made by Cabinet on 16th November. For Fowey this would mean that 3 toilets - Town Quay, Caffa Mill and Whitehouse - would no longer receive funding and were earmarked for closure. Town and parish councils would be given the opportunity to take over the responsibility for toilet provision and grants would be available of 50% of the current fixed running costs of the remaining ones, although this would only be guaranteed until 2014. For Fowey this would amount to £24,658 pa based on the fixed costs of the toilets at Main Car Park, Polkerris and Readymoney. Paul indicated, however, that it might be possible for councils to have some input on which toilets were closed in their area, although he also confirmed that further closures – possibly up to 40 - were possible if town and parish councils were unable to work with Cornwall Council and take over the facilities. If toilets were closed the likelihood was that the

buildings would be sold on the open market as the CC Property section was looking to realize assets as their department had similar budgetary problems.

11/95 Minutes of Meetings of 22nd September 2011

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

11/96 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

11/71. The Mayor reported that he had still been unable to arrange a meeting with Ocean Housing about Windmill House.

11/77. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Oceans Club and requested further detail but that she had yet to receive any clarification.

11/78. Cllr Boosey reported that Steve Bayley (Highways) had agreed to implement yellow lines on one side of both upper and lower Vicarage Meadow and on the corner by the hospital.

11/78. The Clerk reported that Cllr Bain had confirmed that Highways had not removed the 'Scenic Route' signage; she had advised Mrs Hindley accordingly. Cllr Baker requested that the Environment Committee look into the matter and also ascertain the whereabouts of the waste bin that had disappeared from the entrance of Main Car Park. Cllr Mrs Vincent undertook to follow up on both matters.

11/97 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Finance – no report.

Planning - minutes noted

FAC – a meeting was scheduled for 24th October.

Town Hall – no report. The minutes for 12th March 2010 were still outstanding.

Environment – minutes noted. Cllr Boosey requested some clarification.

1. She was concerned about the lack of weedkilling that was being undertaken throughout the town. Cllr Mrs Vincent responded that the Environment Committee had tried to contact the contractor repeatedly about this but with no success. Cllr Alexander added that she had emailed him giving him until 20th October to do the work and warning him that other arrangements would be made if he failed to do so.
2. The minutes had referred to the planting of bulbs on Hydrangea Row. Had this been done? Cllr Mrs Vincent responded that she had priced the bulbs with Duchy Nursery but had not implemented the work because she was unsure if there was enough money in the EC budget.

11/98 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported that a car had reversed into a lady in a wheelchair on the quay but fortunately it had been a very minor incident and no injury or damage had been caused. Although there had been suggestions that vehicular access to the quay should be prohibited, he pointed out that the area was classed as public highway so this would be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve even if FTC wished to do so.

11/99 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

No report.

11/100 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Fowey Estuary Partnership – no report.

Forum – No report

Community Network Panel – no report.

Cornwall Towns Association – no report

Chamber of Commerce – The Mayor reported that the Chamber was keen to have discussions with FTC about the implementation of a Traffic Manager scheme for summer 2012. There were also plans to stage a Musselfest in June 2012.

Tree Warden – Cllr Gudmunsen reported that Farmer Stephens had been told that he could only trim 2 oak trees on his land and not fell them.

11/101 To receive the Town Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that

- She had made a successful application for £500 from Cllr Bains Community Chest. This funding would offset FTC's contribution for the 2011 Traffic Manager

11/102 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Vincent proposed, Cllr Alexander seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £3775.70 be approved. In respect of the payment to Tim Rhodes it was agreed that an accompanying letter should be sent advising him that he must not carry out any further work for FTC unless he contacted the council beforehand. Copies of the Budget Tracking Report and the Current Assets Report had been circulated before the meeting.

- a. It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Mrs Vincent and RESOLVED that FTC should not purchase the distribution board in the Town Hall from Alan Dibb
- b. Cllr Mrs Vincent advised that she had obtained 3 quotes for the repair/renewal of the OGS steps and advised that the Environment Committee recommendation was that the quote from Chris Biggs should be accepted. Cllr Baker proposed, Cllr Boosey seconded and it was RESOLVED that the EC's recommendation should be acted upon provided that the quotation price was held. Cllr Mason abstained from voting.

11/103 Correspondence

The correspondence file was left 'on the table.'

Item 10. It was agreed that Cllr Baker would discuss the organisation of HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations with the Mayor

11/104 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

11/105 Provision of Public Toilets

Cllrs expressed dismay about the closure of public toilets in the town and there was a short discussion on the possibility of FTC taking over responsibility for the facilities. Cllr Mason suggested that charging could be implemented with the cost of the installation of this met from the grant available from Cornwall Council. Cllr Boosey warned that the provision of toilets was an expensive and time-consuming occupation and urged members to think very carefully before taking on such a task. Cllr Baker considered that FTC would be able to undertake cleaning more efficiently than SERCO and also considered that Cornwall Council should be challenged about its intention to sell property freehold on the open market but only offer it to town and parish councils on a leasehold basis. The Mayor suggested that a working group, which he offered to lead, should be set up to look into the matter and to report back to full council. Cllrs Alexander, Baker and Gudmunsen volunteered their services to the group.

11/106 Allotments

No report.

11/107 St Catherines Castle Lights

Cllr Baker reported that the 2 trial lights had been tested and the defective one now installed and working. A Licence for the work had now been finalised and will be signed by Town Clerk and EH, which would cost £50 pa. 2 further lights and holders have been ordered at a cost of £56 and Cllr Baker was now waiting for the archaeologist to confirm a suitable date for him to be on site to supervise the digging of some small holes needed to complete the installation. EH require a new hatch in the flagpole, at a cost of approximately £500. Cllr Baker confirmed that there would be some running costs associated with the installation and he requested that the Finance Committee take this into account when setting the budget, perhaps by reinstating the Western Power money

11/108 Rosehill Store

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Mrs Vincent and RESOLVED that FAC should investigate the option of utilising the store for community use and report back to full council. Cllr Baker stated that the timescales – FTC had been told to submit a business case by December – were unacceptable. Cllr Boosey agreed to take this message to the Community Network meeting when Cllr Ray Tovey (Devolution) would be present.

11/109 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex

The Mayor and the Town Clerk had added more detail to the document ‘Thoughts for Management’ and retitled the document ‘Management Plan for the Town Hall & Town Quay’. Copies had been circulated to all members. The transfer process was now nearing completion and it was hoped that the process could be finalized as quickly as possible in order to minimise any further legal costs.

11/110 Questions under Standing Order 21

Cllr Mrs Vincent queried whether FTC was responsible for the maintenance of the public seats in the town. The Clerk confirmed that, apart from the ones on the OGS Garden, Cornwall Council was responsible.

Cllr Mrs Vincent queried why Cllrs no longer received invitations to receptions on visiting naval ships. The Clerk responded that invitations were now coordinated at HMS Flying Fox and FTC had no influence on the guest list. The Mayor added that with the dwindling number of ships available invitations were sent to people living outside of Fowey.

It was agreed that the November meeting would be put back to 30th November as the Mayor would be on holiday on 23rd November.

Date of Next Meetings

Council – 30th November 2011
Planning – 16th November 2011

Meeting Closed 9.10pm