

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 30th NOVEMBER 2011 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

11/111 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
Cornwall Cllr Mrs S Bain (part)
2 members of the public (part)

11/112 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs S Bain, PCSO Linda Thomas

11/113 Declaration of Interests

- a. In items on the agenda.
None
- b. Of gifts to a value in excess of £25.00.
None

11/114 Public Questions/Police Report/ Cllr Participation/ Police Report

Police Report

There had been 11 crimes recorded in October - 1 assault, 2 burglary, 1 vehicle crime, 4 theft, 2 drink/drugs/misc, 1 criminal damage.

Public Questions

Revd Philip de Grey Warter asked for FTC's support for the Jubilee Celebrations planned by the Church. On 3rd June 2012 there would be an open air celebration followed by a street party on Town Quay, which the Church would host. Cllrs expressed their support in principle and it was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded Cllr Mrs Vincent and RESOLVED that a small group should be set up to coordinate Fowey's celebrations, which would initially comprise of Cllr Boosey representing FTC, Lesley McCartney representing the Chamber of Commerce and Revd Philip de Grey Warter representing the Church.

Michael Keep drew Cllrs attention to the proposal contained in the current car parking consultation to restrict parking at Squires Field to a maximum of 24 hours. He pointed out that many residents without parking facilities left their vehicles there on a regular basis and that if this was stopped they would be forced to park on the streets.

11/115 Minutes of Meetings of 19th October 2011

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

11/116 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

11/96. The Mayor reported that he had spoken to Ocean Housing and he would report fully in his Mayor's report.

11/96. The Clerk reported that she had heard nothing further from the Oceans Club.

11/117 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Finance – no report.

Planning - minutes noted

FAC – minutes noted.

Town Hall – The minutes for 12th March 2010 were still outstanding. Cllr Gudmunsen reported on a meeting held the previous week. The Committee had agreed to concentrate on the most serious defects to the building and wished to record their disappointment that Cornwall Council had still to carry out remedial work as promised. The Committee considered that a heater was needed on the top landing. Cllr Baker suggested that FTC should arrange to have the gutter above the Trafalgar Square door repaired and cleaned to prevent any further damage being done to the wall. Cllr Boosey pointed out that CC had already agreed to undertake the work and suggested that Cllr Bain should be asked to chase this up. She also queried if 3 quotes would need to be obtained before FTC could commission repairs. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had the authority under the FTC's Financial Regulations to spend up to £200 for urgent items. After further discussion Cllr Baker proposed, Cllr Mrs Vincent seconded that FTC should employ a local builder to carry out the necessary the clearing/repair of the gutter. The Mayor proposed an amendment that he would ensure that the contractor had the necessary insurance cover and ask the Town Clerk to commission the work. The amendment was seconded by Cllr Mason. Voting on the amendment was 10 in favour, none against. Voting on the original proposal was 10 against none in favour and it was therefore RESOLVED that the gutter should be cleaned/repaired and the Mayor would oversee the procedure.

11/118 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported that

- Al Trenary had contacted him and confirmed that the town bus would run the same service in 2012. The understanding was that Julie would not cease the service without consultation with FTC.
- Frances Turner (Manager of Ocean Housing) had called a meeting with residents of Windmill House to confirm the future arrangements. There was no immediate plan to change anything but there was a need to make some decisions in due course because of the age of the building and the size of the units. There were currently 28 flats and 12 bedsits of which 11 were empty because no tenants had been identified.

11/119 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Full Report attached at appendix 1.

In response to a query from Cllr Baker, Cllr Bain confirmed that the document 'Community Asset Transfer – working draft' was currently before the Localism Board for discussion and would not go to Cabinet/Council until at least April 2012.

11/120 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 – no report

11/121 To receive the Town Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that

- The Civic Service had been booked for 20th May, which was a date convenient for the vicar. Philip had also offered the use of the Church for Mayor Making on 16th May. Otherwise the Town Hall was free on 23rd May, which was after the Du Maurier Festival
- A letter had been received from the St John Ambulance Management Group stating that the group was storing a number of chairs but was now looking for an alternate site for them as they no longer had room for them. The chairs were used for various events by, among others, the Regatta Committee and the Du Maurier Committee. Cllrs asked the Town Clerk to acknowledge the letter.

11/122 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Baker raised a query on the invoice submitted by Chris Biggs. Cllr Vincent proposed, Cllr Alexander seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £4537.90 be approved and cheque 007 be held over until the December meeting. Copies of the Budget Tracking Report and the Current Assets Report had been circulated before the meeting.

11/123 Correspondence

The correspondence file was left 'on the table.'

11/124 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

11/125 To receive a statement from Cllr Baker in respect of possible restrictions on vehicles manoeuvring on the Town Quay

Cllrs Baker submitted the following statement for Cllrs attention.

'A few weeks ago on Fowey Town Quay a vehicle reversed into a wheelchair in which a lady was sitting. This was on the part of the Quay classified as a pedestrianised area in the summer season. I am not sure of the details but that is not important for this note.

What is important is that it highlights the dangers of cars manoeuvring in an area supposedly reserved for pedestrians. A driver in a car or in most vehicles without a rear view camera cannot possibly see in the mirrors a small object such as a child sitting on the ground or in a small wheelchair and this can have potentially disastrous results when reversing. The shape of the Quay is such that reversing is almost inevitable. A parent in a pedestrianised area is entitled to assume that there are no vehicles and so does not need to exercise the same care over their children as on a street.

There may be issues of access for deliveries to some premises but these should be in restricted hours when the likelihood of a child being there unattended is less or the vehicles should be confined to the perimeter of the pedestrianised area and the goods moved by hand truck. This would mean moving the goods by hand a distance of say 25m rather than 3 or 4m.

I believe some action should be taken before there is a serious accident and this note should be brought to the attention of the owner of the property and the Cornwall Council Road Safety Unit, Scorrier, Redruth. TR16 5AZ'.

In response Cllr Mrs Vincent noted that the 2 pubs and the restaurant on the quay would need access for delivery vehicles, possibly several times a day at busy times. Cllr Mason noted that if Cllrs wanted a car park on the quay vehicles needed to manouvre.

11/126 Car Parking Consultation

Cllrs noted the proposals in the consultation and noted that Fowey would have one of the highest sets of charges for similar towns in the county, which they considered to be grossly unfair. Cllr Sutherland highlighted the fact that time was not carried over the 18.00hr cut off point. For example if she were to turn up at any Fowey car park at 17.59hrs then she would have to pay £2.00 to take her up to 18.00hrs and then an additional £2.10 from then on. Therefore, if a person wanted to park for half an hour it would cost £4.10, which was not acceptable. Cllrs also noted an excellent response to the consultation submitted by Ian Owers and agreed his points were well made. Cllr Boosey proposed, Cllr Mrs Vincent seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should respond to Cornwall Council on behalf of FTC and include the points made by both Cllr Sutherland and Ian Owers.

11/127 St Catherines Castle Lights

Cllr Baker reported that the last two lights were in position and the archaeologist had made his final visit to the site the previous day.

11/128 Provision of Public Conveniences

It was noted that Cornwall Council had deferred the closure of public conveniences for 12 months following a public outcry. However it was proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED that the working group set up at the October meeting should coopt 2 members of the Chamber of Commerce and continue investigating the possibility of FTC taking over responsibility for toilet provision.

11/129 To receive a report from the Chairman of FAC

Rosehill Store

Cllr Baker referred Cllrs to the business case that he had circulated and requested approval for it to be submitted to Cornwall Council. He also explained that he was trying to get some costings for clearance of the building, which was quite large enough for both a store and an office. Cllr Alexander noted that the cost of business rates needed to be factored in.

The Mayor requested that references to historical ownership be omitted as he considered them unhelpful to the case. The Town Clerk confirmed that details of any covenants had still not been received from Cornwall Council. Cllr Baker proposed, Cllr Mrs Vincent seconded and it was RESOLVED that FTC should adopt the business case with the amendments requested by the Mayor and it should be sent to Cornwall Council.

Alldays Fields

Cllr Baker referred Cllrs to the business case that he had circulated and requested approval for it to be submitted to Cornwall Council. Cllrs expressed some misgivings about overloading Cornwall Council with too many requests, particularly as Martin Eddy had indicated that Cornwall Council would not consider any further transfers until TH/TQ had been finalised. However, Cllr Finlays pointed out that if FTC did not register an interest then the Rosehill situation could arise with other properties. The Mayor requested that references to historical ownership be omitted as he considered them unhelpful to the case. Cllr Baker proposed, Cllr Mrs Vincent seconded and it was RESOLVED that FTC should adopt the business case with the amendments requested by the Mayor and it should be sent to Cornwall Council. Cllr Boosey and Cllr Mason voted against the proposal.

Squires Field

Cllr Baker referred Cllrs to the business case that he had circulated and requested approval for it to be submitted to Cornwall Council. Cllr Mason queried why FTC would want an asset returned which generated no income and would involve significant costs, which might mean that charging would have to be introduced. The Mayor requested that references to historical ownership be omitted as he considered them unhelpful to the case. Cllr Baker proposed that FTC should adopt the business case with the amendments requested by the Mayor and it should be sent to Cornwall Council but the proposal failed to find a seconder. Cllr Mrs Vincent proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that a decision should be deferred until the New Year. Cllr Baker voted against the proposal and Cllr Boosey and Cllr Mason abstained from voting.

Allotments

The Mayor confirmed that documentation for this item had already been submitted to the property section at County Hall

11/129 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex

The Mayor and the Town Clerk would be meeting with Cornwall Council Legal representatives on Tuesday 6th December..

11/130 Questions under Standing Order 21

None.

Date of Next Meetings

Council – 14th December 2011
Planning – 14th December 2011

Meeting Closed 9.15pm

Appendix 1

Cornwall Councillor's Report

to Fowey Town Council

Meeting on 30th November 2011

180 schools were either partially or fully closed (out of 274 schools). All One Stop Shops and libraries which were due to be open today operated with skeleton staff. Contact centres – operated with reduced numbers of staff. Waste collection operated as normal.

The Budget was agreed yesterday (instead of February). This gives the Officers of the Council the chance to set things in motion 6 months ahead of time instead of 3 for any savings agreed for next year in the original budget set last November. The Council was further minded to agree a nil increase in council tax. This allows CC to benefit from the £6m grant to those councils who do agree no council tax increase. CC's decision to make the majority of our efficiencies and savings last year means we are likely to be the only authority in the country which is investing in key projects to deliver jobs and economic growth rather than making cuts. The success of our budget strategy and our strong financial position has led to the Council being awarded a Triple A credit rating by Moody's, one of the world's biggest rating agencies.

An extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on Monday 31st October to approve the new contract awarded for waste collection. I forward a copy of the report to councillors on Monday.

There is huge concern over the future provision of public toilets in Cornwall, and because of this the Cabinet has recommended giving an additional £1million to the budget for public toilets next year to allow time for further consultation to take place with Town and Parish Councils and other partners. It is, however, the case that local Parish and Town Councils will have to decide how to provide this facility after 2013.

As the Government is stopping the nationwide Education Maintenance Allowance, Cornwall Council is proposing to set up a Cornish Bursary of £700,000 per year from 2012/13 to support young people into learning post 16. The funding is for 16 – 19 year olds, so that more young people from a range of backgrounds could be better enabled to participate in learning and further education. The support proposed is for those young people facing the greatest financial barriers to learning and is not exclusive to young people from out of work benefit households despite what has been misleadingly reported to the press.

The Council is proposing to put together a case asking the Government to look at the possibility of detrunking the A30 and A38. This would enable our Council to take over responsibility for all the roads in Cornwall so we can progress plans to improve road safety and reduce traffic congestion. This idea is at a very early stage and all partners will be consulted throughout the process.

In order to improve communications of important issues the Leader of the Council has decided to circulate weekly messages and briefings to all Town and Parish Councils that would like them. Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service are keen to hear from people who are interested in becoming on call firefighters. On call firefighters are on stand by and ready to respond to fire, road traffic collisions, flooding or any other emergency situations. CFRS are keen to receive applications from people in the Fowey area who are able to respond to emergencies, especially during the day. Anyone interested can visit the website www.cornwall.gov.uk/firerecruitment; or call Human Resources on 01872 323500; or drop in to Fowey Fire Station on their drill night on Tuesday evenings.

Once again, a reminder that I still have money in the pot for any minor road improvements. We have to have any schemes designed by the end of this year, otherwise I lose the money. My community chest fund is all gone for this year, and I already have a couple of projects lined up for funding from next year's fund.

Sally Bain