

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 18th JULY 2012 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

12/49 Present

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

In Attendance

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

12/28 Apologies

Cllr Mrs S Bain

12/29 Declaration of Interests

- a. Pecuniary.
None
- b. Non Pecuniary.
None

12/30 Public Questions/Police Report/ Cllr Participation/ Police Report

Public Questions

Steve Perrin asked members to consider his request for the positioning of an advertising sign on the quay.

Arthur Baker stated that, in his opinion, FTC was failing in its duty to keep the public informed of council business and repeated the concerns he raised at the APM on 23rd May about the usage of the Town Quay . He also queried the ownership of the Town Quay toilets and whether the profit sharing agreement with Cornwall Council had formed part of the transfer agreement. The Town Clerk offered to clarify the situation but Mr Baker stated that he preferred to wait for the response to a letter that he had sent to FTC.

Some red lines had appeared on the road in the Vicarage Meadow, Green Lane area. Cllr Finlay responded that she was aware of this and would report later in the meeting.

Police Report – No report. Cllr Mason reported that members of the public had raised concern that they had been unable to contact PCSO Thomas on her mobile number.

12/31 Minutes of Meetings of 13th June 2012,

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

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

12/32 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Cllr Vincent reported that he and his wife had not yet attended the County Records Office in Truro to investigate the ownership of the shelter on Passage Slip

12/33 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Finance – no report.

Planning - minutes noted.

FAC – no report.

Town Hall – minutes awaited. The minutes for 12th March 2010 were still outstanding.

Environment – minutes awaited.

12/34 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported that he and the Mayoress had been invited to attend the Church Garden Fete and that he had received the usual invites for Regatta Week.

12/35 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

On behalf of Cllr Bain the Mayor reported

- The Fowey Grammar School Foundation had been offered the foreshore in front of the OGS Garden at a reasonable cost
- The litter bin would be relocated in Tower Park in the position it was moved from some months ago
- She had called in the wind turbine applications and asked for a site meeting and a public meeting to include all neighbouring parishes on either side of the river. Cllr Alexander noted that FREE was not prepared to put on another consultation day, as had been suggested
- The Albert Quay parking bay alterations would be carried out after October

12/36 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Cllr Boosey reported that she had attended an interesting Liaison Meeting at Imery's in Par.

Fowey Estuary Partnership – no report.

Forum – no report

Community Network Panel – no report.

Cornwall Towns Association – no report

Chamber of Commerce – Cllr Alexander reported that the last Chamber meeting had concentrated on the success of the Mussel Fest and the possibility of another Festival on the quay in October. The Town Clerk advised that if the Chamber wanted to progress this idea it would need to make a formal application to her so the matter could be put on the agenda for decision.

The Chamber had also offered to join any working group set up to explore the future provision of public toilets in Fowey.

12/37 To receive the Town Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that

- She had issued licenses for the use of the town quay for Lifeboat Day and Regatta.
- She had instructed solicitors with regard to the KOP use of the Buttermarket.
- She had received a FOI request for a copy of the plan of the possible development of the island fields, Lankelly Lane, which was provided to FTC at the 16th July planning meeting.

- Rowlands Fair had contacted her wishing to bring the fair to Fowey during Regatta Week and site it at Squires Field. She had contacted the Chairman of the Regatta Committee to get his views but he had confirmed that, unfortunately, the field was not large enough to accommodate both the fair and the Carnival.
 - Cllr Hughes had advised that the owner of Food for Thought had applied for a variation to his premises license and it would be heard by the Licensing Sub Committee on 25th July. The Clerk had queried the situation with Cornwall Council and had been told that this information was correct but that it was too late for FTC to make representations as the required advertising had been done, including displaying notices on the quay, As the variation included the use of glasses, rather than plastic, during Regatta Week and also license to sell alcohol for consumption on and off the premises the granting of such a variation would obviously have a huge impact. The Clerk had written a strong letter to Cllr Lance Kennedy (Portfolio holder) stating that FTC as owners of the quay had not been consulted and were unaware of the application as notices had certainly not been displayed. She had asked for a decision to be deferred to allow the proper consultation to take place and for FTC to make representations. A reply was awaited but Cllr Hughes had also sent a forceful email to Cllr Kennedy giving his full support to FTC's request. Cllr Boosey asked for FTC's grateful thanks to Cllr Hughes be recorded in the minutes.
 - A random Fire Assessment had been undertaken of the Town Hall by the Devon & Cornwall Fire Brigade; the hall being one of only 10 in Cornwall to be selected. It had been an extremely useful exercise with some very helpful advice being given by the inspecting officer. The Hall had been assessed as being broadly compliant, which was the highest ranking under the criteria applied. The Clerk advised that she was now in a position to produce a full fire risk assessment for the hall.
 - She had received a letter from Arthur Baker asking a number of questions and questioning the actions of FTC. The letter included some of the points raised by Mr Baker in Public Questions earlier in the evening. Mr Baker's letter had been acknowledged but due to the Clerks current workload and the significant time it would take her to consider all the issues raised, he had been advised that he would receive a reply as soon as practicable. Cllr Mason recorded his disappointment that the Clerk was being asked to use the limited time available to FTC, and at the Fowey taxpayers expense, to respond to repeated correspondence and emails from Mr Baker.
 - Cornwall Council had completed most of the promised repairs to the Hall and the quay agreed as part of the transfer. Three of the repairs, the cupboard under the stairs, the window on the landing and art of the guttering were not up to the standard expected and Cornwall Council had agreed to look at these again.
 - FHC had completed half of the work to replace fendering on the slipway.
 - The Children's Hospice South West would be holding a Family Fun Day at Porthpean on Sunday 22nd July.
- a. It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded the Mayor and RESOLVED that the September council/planning meetings should take place on 5th September.

12/38 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Booseyn proposed, Cllr Alexander seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £4675.45 be approved

Copies of the Budget Tracking Report and the Current Assets Report would be circulated.

12/39 Correspondence

The correspondence file was left 'on the table.'

Item 7. Cllr Alexander queried the content of the letter from Chris Biggs raising concern about the working arrangements on the St Catherines' Castle lighting project. The Clerk explained that Chris Biggs had written to say that he was reluctant to carry out any more work on the project as his advice had been continuously ignored by Mr Baker who had insisted that the wiring must be altered to his design, which both Mr Biggs and a 12-24 volt systems engineer considered defective. Chris Biggs had advised that he was not prepared to take responsibility for any ongoing problems with the system.

12/40 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

12/41 Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor confirmed that he had attended the Tywardreath & Par parish council meeting, when it had been unanimously decided to progress the production of a Neighbourhood Plan, hopefully in partnership with Fowey and St Sampson. Since the meeting Lanlivery had also asked to be included in the process. Cllr Boosey noted that she was concerned about the conflicting advice being given about the procedure but she proposed, Cllr Alexander seconded and it was RESOLVED that FTC should progress the production of a Plan in partnership with the other parishes. The Mayor advised that he thought that Cllr Hughes would be willing to head up the process. Offers of help from both the Forum and FFFP were noted.

12/42 Fowey Public Conveniences

The Mayor reported that he and the Town Clerk had met with Cllr Doble, Jonny Alford and a representative from Cormac to discuss the future of the public toilets in Fowey. Cornwall Council wanted to hand over responsibility to FTC and would be closing at least three, if not more, of the toilets if agreement could not be reached. Grant aid of £26,616.00 pa would be available until March 2014 but nothing could be guaranteed after that. The current cost of running the facilities was £78,660.00 but CC considered that FTC could reduce this by closing three of the sites and employing local cleaners. There was also some capital money available, which could be used to bring the facilities up to standard and, possibly, install equipment for charging. The Clerk had advised that there were less than 2000 electors in Fowey and FTC operated on a precept of £42,000 pa so it was difficult to see how the council could afford to take on the responsibility. It was agreed, however, that the CC officers would investigate the possibility of funding charging machinery and FTC would explore cleaning costs before a further meeting in early September.

12/47 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex

1. Cllr Mrs Vincent proposed, Cllr Gudmunsen seconded and it was RESOLVED that Mr Perrin should be granted a license to display a board on the quay on the same terms as Mr Hicks
2. Cllr Boosey expressed concern about the proliferation of advertising boards on the quay if the TIC were to be permitted to site a board advertising guided walks. It was agreed that the Mayor and Town Clerk should further investigate the situation and report back.
3. The Mayor explained that the RBL had offered to fund some additional seating on the quay on the condition that a discrete plaque could be displayed saying the seats were provided by the RBL for public use. Concern was raised that if picnic tables were provided they could be misused but members considered that some additional benches would be very welcome.

Hopefully, in time, it would be possible to achieve some uniformity in the furniture on the quay. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate some appropriate designs.

12/48 Questions under Standing Order 21

Cllr Finlay reported that, the previous week, red markings had appeared in the roads at Park Road, Vicarage Meadow and Green Lane to mark the beginning of a 3 week consultation period for the introduction and extension of double yellow lines at these locations. It appeared that Cllr Bain was funding the scheme from her Community Chest (The Town Clerk referred members to the minutes of 18th April on the subject). However, Cllr Finlay advised that people were unhappy about the impact this would have on local residents. It was agreed that Cllr Bain should be asked to comment on the proposals.

Cllr Mrs Vincent reported that similar red lines had been painted on the access road to the Bodinnick ferry but, in her opinion, yellow lines were not needed at this location because people did not park there anyway.

Cllr Willmore noted that yellow lines were needed from the corner of South Street to Fore Street.

Cllr Sutherland stated that the Safe Harbour bus shelter was in a disgusting state and was very dark. Local sponsorship was available to bring it up to standard at no cost to Cornwall Council if Cllr Bain would organize it.

Cllr Sutherland reported that she had received complaints from upset mourners and relatives that the grass in the cemetery was being cut in such a manner as to cover the graves and headstones in wet grass. Cllr Bain to be asked to investigate this.

Cllr Mason expressed concern about the proposed 30% cut in the direct rail link between Cornwall and London. It was agreed that a letter objecting to this should be sent to Theresa Villiers.

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Date of Next Meeting Council – 5th September 2012
Planning – 8th August 2012

Meeting Closed 9.09pm

