

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

Before the meeting began everybody present sat quietly in memory of the Chairman of Lanlivery  
Parish Council, Howard Roberts

Mrs Carol Eardley and Cllr David Hughes recited and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of  
Office

**13/32 Present** The Mayor, Cllr John Berryman  
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A Boosey  
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, T Delves, Mrs C Eardley,  
D Hughes, D Willmore

**In Attendance** The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent  
3 members of the public

**13/33 Apologies**  
Cllr Mrs R Finlay (work commitments)

**13/34 Declaration of Interests**  
a. Pecuniary - None  
b. Non Registerable - None  
c. Dispensations – None

#### **13/35 Public Questions/Police Report**

Police Report – No report

Public Questions

Bryan Boothby queried whether FTC had an opinion on the pre planning application for holiday units at Newtown. The Mayor responded that, at this stage, the council was unable to comment as he did not want to disqualify FTC for predetermination.

Bryan Boothby asked the council to consider erecting ‘Do Not Feed the Seagulls’ signs on the quay as the birds were becoming a nuisance.

Tony Vincent stated that he was very upset about the way the owner of Food For Thought was littering the quay with assorted rubbish. He also considered that he wasn’t using his leased area in accordance with the terms of his lease.

Jenny Marchant reported that people were putting black rubbish bags out for collection uncovered and they were being attacked by seagulls, spilling assorted waste over the streets and pavements. The problem was particularly bad at the bottom of Bull Hill. Jenny asked whether FTC could speak to the letting agents in the town and ask them to give appropriate advice to their clients.

Jenny Marchant queried if the Parade was the responsibility of FTC and, if so, whether dog waste bins could be provided as the path was in a terrible state. The Clerk responded that the

Parade was the responsibility of Cornwall Council but the authority would be reluctant to provide dog bins because of the cost of emptying them. Cllr Hughes confirmed that the contents of dog bins were classified as hazardous waste, which was very expensive to deal with. He accepted that he could not justify this but sadly this was the situation. One solution would be to ask the Dog Warden to target the Parade when he was in the area.

Jenny Marchant expressed the hope that when FTC took over the allotments they would be managed more effectively; currently some allotments were left unused.

### **13/36 Minutes of Meetings of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013.**

It was proposed by Cllr Willmore seconded Cllr Boosey and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Hughes and Cllr Eardley abstained from voting.

### **13/37 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

13/29. Cllr Alexander noted that she had not agreed to singlehandedly formalise the arrangements for the ongoing funding of the Castledore Plan.

### **13/38 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees**

**Planning** - minutes noted.

**Town Hall** – no report.

**Environment** – minutes noted.

**Finance** – minutes noted.

#### **To consider the adoption of the recommendations contained in the minutes of the Finance Committee, dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

Cllr Hughes noted that the Finance Committee had suggested that the future management of the allotments should be carried out by the Environment Committee but suggested that it would work more effectively if an Allotment Holders Committee was formed. The Mayor confirmed that there was already an Allotments Holders Committee in place and that the intention was that the Environment Committee would work with it.

With this clarification, Cllr Wilmore proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the minutes of the Finance Committee dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013 should be adopted by FTC.

### **13/39 To receive the Mayors Report**

The Mayor reported

- He had received a response to the letter that he had written to Royal Mail in respect of the closure of the Fowey sorting office. He had been assured that there would be minimal disruption to services and no staff redundancies.
- He and the Mayoress had been invited to the Hospital Fete on 27<sup>th</sup> July
- St John had agreed to hand the Fowey minibus over to a suitable charitable organization, possibly Age Concern, so there would be no need for any intervention from FTC.
- An employee of a restaurant on the town quay had been seen emptying a plate of leftover food on to the quay the previous Sunday evening, which had immediately attracted the seagulls. He had spoken to the restaurant concerned.

### **13/40 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor**

Cllr Hughes reported

- That he considered that it was a great advantage for him to be a member of FTC as it meant that he did not have to preempt the agenda and give a lengthy report but could take part in the discussions throughout the meeting.
- To his knowledge 15 people had already formally objected to the proposed development at Newtown. As the Ward Member he would be happy to give general advice to both objectors and supporters
- He had been asked to consider having surgeries but was not convinced that they would serve any useful purpose and be the best use of his time. He would much prefer it if people contacted him and he could then make arrangements to meet them if necessary.
- The first full council meeting had been held at Cornwall Council. Everybody had been very constructive and things were looking promising for the future.
- The portfolio holder for Finance had publicly said he would be very unwilling to see the closure of any libraries
- Cllr Alexander stated that the general standard of cleanliness in Bull Hill was unacceptable. A resident was trying to engage with Cornwall Council about it but was getting no feedback whatsoever. Cllr Hughes agreed to do his best to remedy the situation.
- Cllr Delves stated that he thought that the Localism Act had done away with the issue of predetermination in planning matters. Cllr Hughes agreed that this was the case but that as this had yet to be tested in a court of law and Standards Committee advice was that members should adhere to the old guidance until this had been done -i.e. do not make an absolute statement/take a rigid position.

#### **13/41 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies**

**Fowey Estuary Partnership** – no report.

**Forum** – Cllr Boosey reported that the Forum meeting had not taken place as it had been inquorate.

**Community Network Panel** – no report.

**Chamber of Commerce** – no report

#### **13/42 To receive the Town Clerks Report**

The Clerk reported that

- She had had no telephone service or internet access since 13<sup>th</sup> July.
- She had made some enquiries about getting a case for the model yacht presented to the town council by the Mayor of Pornichet and had been quoted £740.00 plus vat with collection required from Coventry; she was seeking other quotes but was not hopeful of identifying anything significantly cheaper as the model was so large. Cllr Boosey suggested that the boat could be offered to the Yacht Club on permanent loan. The Mayor agreed that this could be an ideal solution as the Club had indicated that it would be pleased to have it at the presentation ceremony but that he felt that Gallants Sailing Club should also be given the opportunity to register an interest before a final decision was made. It was agreed that the Mayor would approach both organisations and if one, or both, of them were interested in displaying the model a plaque should be attached stating that the yacht was on loan from FTC.

#### **13/43 Accounts for Approval**

Cllr Boosey proposed, Cllr Eardley seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £10,560.31 be approved.

Copies of the Current Assets Report and the Budget Tracking Report had been circulated to members before the meeting. Cllr Hughes noted that there was no Earmarked Reserve for an honorarium for the Clerk when she left the employment of FTC. He cautioned that this had caused major issues on the CC Standards Board as Clerks were entitled to receive such a payment. Cllr Willmore confirmed that this would be an agenda item at the next Finance Meeting.

**13/44 Correspondence**

The correspondence file was left 'on the table' for Cllrs attention.

**13/45 Resolutions from Councillors**

None.

**13/46 Public Conveniences in Fowey Parish**

The Clerk reported that the promised financial information on the proposed refurbishments nor the amended Overage Schedule wording had not been received from Cornwall Council. Cllr Delves stated that any refurbishment costs must be met by Cornwall Council and not FTC. Cllr Alexander reported that the Polkerris toilets were being successfully run by the local businesses and the Rashleigh Estate, which was very pleasing, but that she felt that FTC must recognise its commitment to this facility if things broke down in the future.

**13/47 Squires Field and Car Park**

Cllr Delves had agreed to work up the basic business plan produced by the Mayor and would present it to the next Finance Meeting.

**13/48 Allotments**

It was noted that in ratifying the Finance minutes the Clerk was now authorised to instruct a solicitor to progress the transfer, subject to the receipt of an amended Overage Schedule

**13/49 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex**

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED that the Clerk should purchase some 'Do Not Feed the Seagulls' signage.

Members requested that the Mayor and Clerk speak to the agent representing the owner of Food for Thought about the rubbish on the quay and the terms of the lease

**13/50 St Catherines Castle Lights**

The Mayor reported that he had met 3 representatives from English Heritage on site at St Catherines' Castle and it had been agreed that the turbine could be relocated to the top of the flagpole, which would stop the flag getting tangled up in it. Chris Biggs had checked the batteries which power the lights; they were fine although some modification was needed to the system to shut it down before they ran down again because the turbine could not repower them once they were flat. It was a possibility that there were too many lights working off the system which could be problematical but if this was the case some could be isolated. The Mayor noted that the reserves in the General Contingency Fund had originally been earmarked for St Catherines' lights and he proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded, and it was RESOLVED that the estimate received from Chris Biggs to get the system up and running should be accepted on the basis that the final cost would be within 5% of the estimate.

**13/51 Election of Committees**

- a. Town Hall Committee. It was proposed by Cllr Alexander, seconded Cllr Boosey and RESOLVED that Cllrs Gudmunsen, Eardley and Willmore should serve on this committee.
- b. Webmaster - deferred
- c. Environment Committee. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Delves and RESOLVED that the Mayor and Cllr Eardley should join this committee.

### **13/52 Neighbourhood Plan.**

Cllr Hughes reported that final arrangements had yet to be made for events to be staged to involve the public; he felt that August was probably inappropriate so the Core Group would meet in the next 2 weeks and arrange some dates in September.

### **13/53 Questions under Standing Order 21**

The Mayor reported that Arthur Baker had suggested that FTC run public surgeries. However, this had been tried in the past and it had been unsuccessful as the public had not made use of the opportunity to engage with Cllrs. Like Cllr Hughes, he confirmed that he was always available to speak to or meet with parishioners if they contacted him.

Cllr Willmore noted that Barclays Bank was extending its opening hours during Regatta Week and would be open between 9am and 5pm

The Clerk queried what FTC wished to do about the planned Japanese visit on 4<sup>th</sup> September given that there were no scheduled meetings on that day and she herself would be on holiday. It was agreed that the Mayor and Cllr Hughes would meet with the students, together with any other Cllrs available. Cllr Hughes would also try to arrange for Cornwall Council colleague, who was fluent in Japanese, to be present.

### **Date of Next Meetings**

Planning – to be confirmed

Council – to be confirmed

**Meeting Closed**      8.50pm