

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 16th OCTOBER 2013 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

13/102 Present

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A Boosey
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, T Delves, Mrs C Eardley, Cllr Mrs R
Finlay, Cllr Mrs S Gudmunsen, D Hughes, D Willmore

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
PCSO Linda Thomas (part)
3 members of the public

In the absence of the Mayor the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Boosey, took the Chair for this meeting.

13/103 Apologies

The Mayor, Cllr John Berryman (holiday)

13/104 Declaration of Interests

- a. Pecuniary - None
- b. Non Registerable - None
- c. Dispensations – None.

13/105 Public Questions/Police Report

Public Questions

A resident of Hillhay reported that Wainhomes had decimated the green area on the estate; areas had been excavated to site a sales office, a parking area had been created and steel fencing had been erected. Earlier in the day the police had been involved because workmen had been parking on the pavement causing an obstruction. It was hoped that FTC would have some influence to ensure that the company treated existing residents with respect and built their new development with sensitivity. Cllr Hughes advised that he would update the meeting on the current situation in his report.

Jenny Marchant queried if Cornwall Council was going to allow FTC to take control of Caffa Mill car park. Cllr Boosey responded that it was early days but that FTC needed an income stream if it was going to assume responsibility for the public toilets and Squires Field; Caffa Mill car park had been identified as a possible source.

Police Report

PCSO Thomas reported 4 crimes in the parish during September; 1 x assault, 1 x marine theft, 1 x other theft 1 x miscellaneous crime. Both Golant and Fowey boat watchers had been awarded money from the Proceeds of Crime Police Fund - £500 for Golant and £1000 for Fowey. Dog fouling continued to be a problem and she would put an article in the Fowey News on the subject. PCSO Thomas added that local tensions were running high regarding the Wainhomes development at Hillhay

13/106 Minutes of Meetings of 18th September 2013.

Public. It was proposed by Cllr Willmore seconded Cllr Eardley and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Council. It was proposed by Cllr Delves seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

13/107 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

Public. Cllr Willmore queried if there had been any response to the Mayor's email to FREE in respect of the recording of the public meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the Mayor had received a reply, which he had asked her to respond to and she had done so. As the previous correspondence had been between the Mayor and FREE with only the Deputy Mayor and herself copied in she had not copied in the remaining members of FTC without authority. Cllr Boosey considered that members were entitled to the details and authorised the Clerk to forward the emails.

PCSO Thomas advised that 3 ladies had been verbally abused when they had left the meeting. Cllr Boosey recorded the apologies of FTC to the ladies for this unacceptable behavior.

Council. None

13/108 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning - minutes noted.

Town Hall – no report.

Environment – no report.

Finance – minutes noted.

13/109 To receive the Mayors Report

No report

13/110 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Hughes gave the following report

- You will not be surprised to hear that recently much time has been spent on Wainhomes activities at Hill Hay.
- Unfortunately, since the Informal Play Area by the mini-roundabout remains in the ownership of Wainhomes and the siting of the “sales suite” is deemed to be a “temporary” compound ancillary to the development of the new estate, a sub-clause of national legislation makes this immune to the need for Planning Permission provided that the site is restored to its original condition on or before completion. Whilst this is wholly unsatisfactory, there is little that we or Cornwall Council can do to prevent it. There is, however, some doubt about the siting of the parking bays on the mini-roundabout and in particular the modifying of the kerb. The head of Highways has promised to investigate this.
- Since not all of the pre-construction conditions have yet been signed off they should not have started any construction work on site. However this would not preclude digging of trial pits etc in connection with satisfying these conditions. I am still waiting for a meeting with Claire Broughton to discuss the pre-conditions, I am particularly concerned at mention of significant increases in base-heights for some properties and also details of site access for construction vehicles.
- It seems unlikely that the Council will agree to a Public Meeting on the Penhale wind turbine but I have requested that, if officers are minded to recommend approval, since

this was contrary to the recommendations of this Council, I would wish determination to be by the Planning Committee.

- I have received notification of the proposed development south of Lankelly Lane from the developer and of the suggestion that this might be by “Community Right to Build”, sponsored by the Town Council. I discussed this yesterday with Sarah Arden, the Council’s specialist officer covering such matters. Her advice was that FTC would not be advised to enter into any such scheme without careful consideration of the practicalities of doing so. She and her team are willing to provide guidance.
- Last week I attended the training session for Parish Councils on Neighbourhood Planning, on Monday we had a parallel course for the Planning Committees and yesterday I attended the Environment Policy Advisory Committee where we were considering the Local Plan. The over-riding message from all of these was that Neighbourhood Plans are a key element in the hierarchy of planning policy. Whilst they must be compliant with national policy and the Local Plan, they can significantly influence the local application of these, in particular in identifying acceptable and unacceptable locations, scale and type of development and matters of design.
- The principal object of the Environment Committee meeting was to agree a recommendation to Cabinet and Council on the Draft Local Plan to be submitted for inspection by the Government. It is vital that a Local Plan is adopted as soon as possible as, until this is done, planning decisions are judged against national policies, which means “open season” for developers.
- Total new-build housing numbers for the County to 2020 are a key element of this policy. When this was discussed in Council in July, a majority of Members voted to support a total of 42,500 homes. This figure was then split into sub-totals by Network Areas. For the Fowey, Lostwithiel, St Blazey, Tywardreath Area, after deducting completions since 2010 and planning permissions granted but not yet built, we would be expected to accommodate approximately 360 new homes in the next 17 years.
- At yesterday’s meeting, officers advised that the Inspectorate had informed them that a figure lower than 47,500 was extremely unlikely to be accepted. Should a Local Plan based on the lower number be rejected, a new Plan would have to be prepared and consulted on, delaying the time when we could assess applications on our own criteria by at least 18 months. The meeting was asked to recommend approval of a Plan based on the higher figure. After much debate it was agreed to put both options to the Cabinet with the reasons for doing so. In my opinion, the final decision will have to be to accept the higher number.
- In the supporting documentation a new breakdown of the allocations was given. In this, the figure for our Network was increased by 200, one of the highest proportional increases. I argued strongly against this for a number of reasons and, fortunately my case was accepted so, should we eventually go for 47,500, our figure will remain unchanged.

13/111 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Fowey Estuary Partnership – no report.

Forum – Cllr Boosey reported that at the recent meeting there had been a proposal that the Forum amalgamated with the Chamber of Commerce due to the lack of support for both organisations. This would be further discussed at the next meeting.

Community Network Panel – no report.

Chamber of Commerce – no report

13/112 To receive the Town Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that

- She had ordered a subscription to the Scribe 2000 accounting system on the authority of the Finance Committee.
- A cheque had been received from the Fowey Festival of Words & Music in respect of the use of the Town Hall for the 2013 Festival. The organisers had asked FTC to consider supporting the 2014 Festival by offering free use of the Hall. It was agreed that this request would be considered as part of the budget setting exercise for 2014/2015.

13/113 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Hughes proposed, Cllr Eardley seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £3,932.33 be approved.

Copies of the Current Assets Report and the Budget Tracking Report would be circulated to members after the meeting.

13/114 Correspondence

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

13/115 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

13/116 Squires Field Polling Station

Following a complaint from the polling officers at the recent election that the pavilion at Squires Field was not fit for purpose, it had been suggested that the polling station be moved to the Bowling Club. Whilst it was recognized that such a move would mean the loss of the only source of revenue on the Squires Field complex, following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that FTC should agree to the proposal but on the basis that the polling station would return to the pavilion if it was refurbished in the future.

13/117 Public Conveniences in Fowey Parish

Some amended expenditure figures had been received from Cornwall Council and, following a decision made at the recent Finance Committee meeting, Cllr Delves and the Clerk were working up an income and expenditure spreadsheet incorporating the toilets, Squires Field and Caffa Mill car park. This could then be used at the meeting with Cornwall Council portfolio holders and officers scheduled for 5th November to hopefully make a case for the return of the car park to cover the cost of FTC running the other local assets.

13/118 Squires Field

Covered at 13/117 above. Cllr Delves added that the running costs for the facility were in the region of 12K/15K pa.

Cllr Hughes reported that he had received complaints about the mess around the skips; he had raised the matter with Cory.

13/119 Allotments

Cllr Finlay reported that with the finalization of the transfer imminent the Environment Committee had discussed the way forward in order to ensure that the new allotments were available for spring planting. A meeting was planned for December involving existing allotment

holders and those on the waiting list to discuss management issues, access tracks, provision of water etc. Cllr Hughes noted that all existing allotment holders had been served formal notice of rent increases by Cornwall Council and suggested that FTC may need to do likewise.

13/120 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex

The Clerk reported that

- The Pay & Display parking on the quay was now operational
- Some large stones had been washed out of the steps to the beach; she had asked Coast to Coast to carry out repairs as a matter of urgency
- Somebody had fixed the flower tubs outside the King of Prussia to the surface of the quay, which was obstructing the winter motorcycle parking bays; she would ask Coast to Coast to remove them for storage at Penhale

It was noted that the guttering above the Trafalgar Square entrance of the hall was still leaking and soaking the wall. The Clerk was instructed to get a price for repair from Coast to Coast as Cornwall Council was clearly not going to fulfill its obligation to put the matter right within 6 months of transfer.

Cllr Finlay queried if Coast to Coast would quote for refurbishment of the seat at the top of Pikes Hill.

Cllr Alexander noted that it would be useful to have one point of contact for all necessary maintenance work, including public seat refurbishment; this could possibly be Coast to Coast but FTC should investigate all options..

13/121 St Catherines Castle Lights

The lights were still not operational. The Clerk was asked to contact Chris Biggs to ascertain the problem.

13/122 Neighbourhood Plan

Covered in Cllr Hughes' report - 13/110 above.

13/123 Community Network Panel

Whilst it was agreed that Fowey was extremely fortunate to have Martin Eddy and Lisa Grigg heading up its Community Network Panel, it was accepted that in general the Panels were not really fulfilling their intended purpose. Cllr Hughes urged members to respond individually to the current consultation as it would be the one opportunity to have some influence in the future.

13/124 Wainhomes, Hillhay

Covered in Cllr Hughes' report – 13/110 above. Cllr Hughes added that a significant increase in the height of any of the proposed properties could be a material change, which could require a further planning application. Cllr Delves asked Cllr Hughes to urge Claire Broughton to respond to his email, written on behalf of the residents of Hillhay, when he met with her. Cllr Boosey proposed, Cllr Willmore seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Delves should accompany Cllr Hughes at this meeting to represent FTC.

13/125 Proposed New Skatepark in Par

It was proposed by Cllr Alexander, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that a letter of support should be sent to SK8.

It was proposed by Cllr Eardley, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that Cllr Gudmunsen should be the FTC representative on the SK8 Steering Group.

13/126 Questions under Standing Order 21

None.

Date of Next Meetings

Planning – 20th November 2013

Council – 20th November 2013

Meeting Closed 8.54pm