

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 11th DECEMBER 2013 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL

13/148 Present

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

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
I member of the press

13/149 Apologies

Cllr Mrs S Gudmunsen (personal commitment)

13/150 Declaration of Interests

- a. Pecuniary – Cllr Delves declared a pecuniary interest in matters pertaining to Wainhomes
- b. Non Registerable – None
- c. Dispensations – None.

13/151 Public Questions/Police Report

Public Questions - None

Police Report - No report.

13/152 Minutes of Meetings of 20th November 2013.

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

13/153 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

13/137. The Town Clerk had received an email from Arthur Baker in respect of Hydrangea Row, which the Mayor directed should be recorded in full in the minutes.

Re Minute 13/137 Town Council meeting of November 20th 2013

I would like to put on record my recollections of the Hydrangea Row work.

About 9 years ago the Environmental Working Group agreed that it was worth trying to improve the Hanson Drive border from Piggy Lane Triangle to Lostwithiel Street. I therefore asked CCC for permission to plant hydrangeas there. They offered no objection but said I had to get clearance from all the Utilities who had services buried there. This I did and we went ahead with the planting. The agreement was simply for planting of hydrangeas. I cannot recall signing an agreement nor was I empowered to do so. I would certainly not have recommended taking responsibility for the whole border including the trees. Such an important licence if it does exist would be in FTC minutes. CC made no payment for maintenance of the border. Since planting the hydrangeas CC removed one of the large trunks of a tree at the bottom and on several occasions they have cut out vegetation on the border on their own initiative. This shows that they accept responsibility for trees and border.

I would be happy to meet Teresa and FTC at any time.

13/154 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees

Planning - minutes noted.

Town Hall – minutes noted.

Environment – minutes noted.

Finance – minutes noted.

13/155 To receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor reported that

- He and his wife had attended two festive functions at the invitation of the Mayor of Lostwithiel
- He had been invited to read the lesson at the Town Carol Service the following Sunday
- He would be on holiday between the 2nd and 23rd January 2014 and apologized that he would be away for the 15th January council meeting.

13/156 To receive the Report from the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Hughes reported that

- Cornwall Council had resolved to impose a 1.97% increase in council tax
- The Cabinet had approved a recommendation to full council that either 42,500 or 47,500 new homes should be built in Cornwall by 2030.
- At a recent meeting Wainhomes had agreed that they would be accessing their new site from the main road before Christmas for phases 1 and 2 of the new development. As soon as a good access was established the sales suite would be relocated to the new site and the green space where it was currently sited would be offered to FTC. The company would also be canvassing Fowey residents on the future of the Tristan Stone.

13/157 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies

Fowey Estuary Partnership – no report.

Forum – Cllr Boosey reported that a recent meeting had been cancelled because it was inquorate.

Community Network Panel – no report.

Chamber of Commerce – Cllr Willmore reported on a successful Christmas Market on the quay. The Mayor raised concerns that financial information about the Market was unavailable and it was agreed that this should be investigated, given that FTC was losing parking revenue for 5 days.

13/158 To receive the Town Clerks Report

No report

13/159 Accounts for Approval

Cllr Hughes proposed, Cllr Boosey seconded and it was RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £5,779.00 be approved.

Copies of the Current Assets Report and the Budget Tracking Report had been circulated to members before the meeting.

13/160 Correspondence

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

13/161 Resolutions from Councillors

None.

13/162 Public Conveniences/Squires Field/Caffa Mill Car Park

The Town Clerk reported that, despite several reminders, Cornwall Council had still not supplied the promised figures associated with the properties. Cllrs were aware that, if the public conveniences were to be safeguarded, transfers would have to be completed before 1st April 2014. Following a suggestion from Cllr Hughes, it was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Delves and RESOLVED that Cllr Hughes should arrange a meeting in the new year with the new Cornwall Council Chief Executive and the relevant portfolio holders, attended by himself, the Mayor and the Town Clerk, to promote a rapid escalation of the issue.

13/163 Allotments

The Town Clerk reported that the land was now registered with the Land Registry in the name of FTC. Cllr Finlay reported on a successful meeting in the Town Hall on 5th December attended by 25 people interested in the future of the allotments, 4 of whom had indicated that they wanted a plot. The Mayor was also holding a waiting list; a copy of the CC waiting list was still awaited. New tenancy agreements would be required for both new and existing allotment holders. It had been a very positive meeting and a new Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for the Allotment Association had been identified on the night.

13/164 Town Hall/Town Quay Complex

The Clerk reported that a donation had been received, which would enable the new public seat on the quay to be purchased. It was noted that the landlord of the King of Prussia had utilized the FTC planters for Christmas trees, as they had not been removed into storage by Coast2Coast as arranged. The Town Clerk was asked to chase Coast2Coast about this and the Town Hall guttering again..

13/165 St Catherines Castle Lights

The Mayor reported that English Heritage had cancelled the planned 27th November meeting and he was waiting for Chris Biggs to get back to him with a quote for the suggested alterations to the system.

13/166 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Alexander, Willmore and Hughes reported on a useful meeting on 25th November. Attendees had been a bit thin on the ground but the Lanlivery representatives had been very positive. The next meeting was scheduled for 7pm on 13th January at the New Inn, Tywardreath. Cllr Hughes had attended an excellent presentation from the Chairman of the Roseland Neighbourhood Plan Group, who were halfway through the process and he was hopeful that he would be able to attend the 13th January meeting.

13/167 Risk Assessments

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED that the Town Hall/Town Quay Risk Assessments should be noted and the Town Hall Maintenance Record, the Environment Committee Risk Assessment and the FTC General Risk should be signed off.

13/168 Budget 2014/2015

1. Following the withdrawal of the 2014/2015 Cornwall Council Agency Agreement funding for weedkilling it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED that it was essential to maintain the current practice of spraying main routes 3 times per annum and that provision should be made for this in the budget.
2. Cllr Willmore explained the process behind the Finance Committee's budget proposals and noted that a rise in the precept was unavoidable if services formally undertaken by Cornwall Council were to be maintained and the future of Squires Field secured. However, he pointed out that to budget for the transfer of the public conveniences would mean a precept increase of over 100%, which the Finance Committee considered unacceptable. Cllr Willmore then proposed, Cllr Delves seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should notify Cornwall Council of a precept requirement for 2014/2015 of £58,089.00.

13/169 Questions under Standing Order 21

The Mayor reported that he had been involved in a very difficult grievance/disciplinary dispute between a parish council and their Parish Clerk. He stated that FTC was extremely fortunate to have an outstanding Town Clerk but reminded members of the importance of transparency and working together as a team.

The Mayor raised the issue of the cuts in funding from Cornwall Council for local bus services. He noted that the Fowey Town Bus was not the only service faced with these budget cuts and that FTC had not been approached by the operator about the matter. He understood that Lynn Goold was coordinating a response on behalf of the people of Fowey.

The Mayor wished all present a Merry Christmas and Happy New and invited everybody to join him for light refreshments.

Date of Next Meetings

Planning – 15th January 2014

Council – 15th January 2014

Meeting Closed 9.15pm