

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 FINANCE COMMITTEE **HELD ON 2nd DECEMBER 2014 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL**

Present Cllr D Willmore (Chairman), Cllr R Finlay (co-opted by the Clerk to ensure the meeting was quorate), Cllr T Delves

In attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
Cllr Mrs L McCartney

14/33 Apologies

Cllr J Berryman (holiday), Cllr Mrs A Boosey (personal)

14/34 Declaration of Interests

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

14/35 Public Questions

None

14/36 Minutes of Meeting of 22nd October 2014

Proposed Cllr Delves, seconded Cllr Willmore and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

14/37 Matters Arising (for report only)

14/27. The transfer of the grass areas at Hillhay was progressing well.

14/38 Asset Transfer

Public Conveniences

There was a still a great deal of uncertainty surrounding these transfers as Cornwall Council had failed to collect/itemize the monies promised from the 50p surcharge on the first hour of parking at Caffa Mill and Main Car Park, although it was noted that CC had put forward the suggestion of a lump sum payment in lieu of this. Refurbishment work at Caffa Mill was nearly complete but a definite offer was now awaited from CC before any further progress could be made.

Squires Field & Car Park

The Clerk advised that the transfer was progressing well and was hopefully close to completion.

14/39 Clerks Honorarium/Gratuity

Cllr Willmore reported that he had yet to calculate a final figure to include in the earmarked reserves.

14/40 St Catherines Lights

Given the recent developments at the site with the broken turbine and the vandalism, together with the less than helpful attitude of English Heritage, members discussed whether FTC should pull out of this project altogether. However, it was noted that a very generous donation towards it had been made by a member of the public and also that the lighting of the Castle was very popular with both local people and visitors to Fowey. It was agreed that a decision should be deferred until the full council meeting on 10th December and that in the meantime the Clerk would prepare a financial breakdown of project to date.

14/41 Scribe Accounting System

Cllr Delves reported that he and the Clerk had spent several more hours inputting information on the system. The laptop had been purchased but problems had been encountered with sharing the information between it and the Clerk's desktop, where the data was currently stored. Hopefully this would be resolved in the near future and the Clerk would be able to bring the laptop to the 10th December council meeting for members to have access the figures. He was happy to report that it had not been necessary to invest in another Scribe licence.

14/42 Budget 2015/2016

The Clerk had supplied budget tracking figures to the end of November and budgets had been submitted by both the Town Hall Committee and the Environment Committee. The Environment Committee had included a figure for grass cutting at Squires Field but it was agreed that, whilst it would probably be sensible for the EC to supervise this work and for the regular grass cutting contractor to be used, this expenditure should be shown as part of the Squires Field budget. Members approved the remaining figures but considered that provision for the maintenance the seating at Piggy Lane Triangle and OGS Garden should be included resulting in a total budget requirement for the EC of £9,500.00. The Town Hall budget request of £14000.00 was increased to £16,000.00 to allow for some structural repairs to be carried out on the building as it had been noted that there was a significant crack in the building above and below the window facing the quay. A non-recurring budget of £2,500.00 was also approved as it was likely that it would be necessary to purchase a projector and screen for the hall following Cornwall Council's decision to stop issuing paper copies of planning applications. It was agreed that grants should be awarded as follows - Regatta Committee £300.00, Christmas lights £150.00, FIB £500.00, RBL £50.00, Community Bus £250.00. The uncertainty surrounding the transfer of the toilets was discussed at some length and it was agreed they should be budgeted as cost neutral as if Cornwall Council failed to fulfill its promises FTC would need to reevaluate the situation entirely. After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Delves, seconded Cllr Finlay and **RESOLVED** that a precept figure of £84,900.00 should be recommended to full council. Members appreciated that this was a significant rise on 2014/2015 but considered that the devolution of services from Cornwall Council left them with little option..

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded Cllr Delves and RESOLVED that the Press & Public should be excluded under Section 1(2) of the Press & Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the confidential nature of the business to be conducted under the agenda item Town Quay Leases & Licences