

## **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 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015 AT FOWEY TOWN HALL**

#### **15/30 Present**

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs R Finlay  
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Berryman  
Councillors Mrs K Alexander, Mrs A Boosey, D Hughes, Mrs L  
McCartney, D Willmore

#### **In Attendance**

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent  
Stephen Jenkin (Peninsula Community Health)(part)  
PCSO Lloyd Paynter (part)  
7 members of public (part)

#### **15/31 Apologies**

Cllr T Delves (LOA). Mrs C Eardley (unwell). PCSO Lloyd Paynter

#### **15/32 Declaration of Interests**

- α. Pecuniary – None
- β. Non Registerable – Cllr Willmore declared a non registerable interest in any matters concerning the new Wainhomes development at Hillhay
- χ. Dispensations – The Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Delves to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey Wainhomes development. The Clerk had extended a dispensation to both Cllr Finlay and Cllr Eardley to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments.

#### **15/33 Stephen Jenkin (Peninsula Community Health)**

Stephen Jenkin had attended the meeting as he was conscious of the unrest surrounding the closure of the Minor Injuries Unit at Fowey Hospital. He explained that, following a recent review, questions had been asked about the level of competency of the staff there as the hospital had only dealt with 212 cases over the last full year. This was in no way the fault of the staff, it was simply that to maintain their competence they needed to see significantly more patients. Mr Jenkin pointed out that there was a first class and very busy MUI facility just 6 ½ miles away in St Austell, which was fully equipped and staffed with dedicated personnel; while he appreciated that Fowey residents did not want to lose their own unit he considered that patient safety was better met in St Austell.

Neil Hartwell noted that it was a very sad decision for Fowey and it had been made with no public consultation – Fowey was a tourist destination and needed a MIU.

In response to a question from Cllr Hughes, Mr Jenkin assured that meeting that there were no plans to close the hospital itself.

Cllr Boosey stated that whatever opinions were on the closure of the unit, it would be helpful if PCH removed the signage throughout the town directing people to the MIU at Fowey Hospital.

### **15/33 Public Questions/Police Report**

#### **Public Questions**

**Graham Jane** asked the council to consider opening the Town Quay toilets until 11.30pm during Regatta Week. He confirmed that the Committee would have security on the outside of the quay throughout the week, which would incorporate the area around the toilets. Graham confirmed that the Committee would be prepared to make a contribution towards the additional cleaning costs incurred. Melissa Hartwell suggested that FTC should waive the 20p charge during Regatta Week, which might help to reduce vandalism. The Mayor responded that the people of Fowey were paying for the facilities, which were extremely expensive to maintain and she doubted that FTC would be prepared to ask them to subsidise them further by waiving the charge. In her opinion it was essential to charge and to continue to charge.

**Dan Gummow** asked members to consider his application for a licence to operate fishing trips from Town Quay. He would not be in competition with the River Trip boats or the self-drives as he would only offer pre-booked excursions and would leave the quay before 9am, returning after 5pm. Dan later qualified these timings, saying that he would work in conjunction with Dan Hicks (an existing Licence holder) and may also want to do trips of 3 or 4 hours duration.

**Mr Fisher** addressed the meeting and stated that he wanted a licence to run river trips from the town quay and he had been on the waiting list since 2007. His boat, the Barbara Mary, had previously operated from the quay when it was owned by Colin Tabb. Mr Fisher stated that he and his solicitor had written to the Town Clerk on several occasions and had been advised that his application had been refused. He did not accept that he should still be waiting as he considered he should have been given a Licence following the death of Nigel Crowle, the owner of Bonita, which was currently operating from the quay. Mr Fisher then referred to a letter from Sproulls solicitors, a firm he knew did not work for FTC and that he had received in 2014, advising him that FTC would take legal action if he continued to operate and tout for trade from the quay. Mr Fisher stated that the letter did not come from FTC, although it was sent in the councils name. At this point the Town Clerk advised Mr Fisher to have regard to the law on libel. Mr Fisher stated that he was sure of his facts as he had been told by both Cllr Berryman and Cllr Alexander that FTC had not authorised the letter. Mr Fisher was advised by the Mayor that FTC did in fact use Sproulls as well as Stephens & Scown as legal advisors and he was also told that the letter was fully authorised by FTC.

**Police Report** – PCSO Lloyd Paynter had submitted a full report and advised that there had been 7 reported crimes in the parish between 16<sup>th</sup> June and 11<sup>th</sup> July- 3 x theft (including theft by finding), 1 x owner of a dog dangerously out of control 1 x criminal damage to property, 1 x criminal damage to vehicle, 1 x burglary dwelling

PCSO Paynter thanked the council very much for their support following the announcement of the closure of St Blazey police station. He also reported that there would be a significant police presence in Fowey during Regatta Week, with officers based at the school.

### **15/34 Minutes of the Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

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

### **15/35 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)**

- Allotments – The Mayor reported that a very successful barbeque evening had been held at the allotments on 19<sup>th</sup> June.
- St Catherines Lights – Cllr Berryman reported that Chris Biggs had inspected the existing system and found that it would not operate without considerable investment. He

had suggested that it would be better to revert to the original system box system containing LED lights and he would discuss this with English Heritage/Historic Britain. A new application to Historic Britain would be required but as the EH field officer was on-side and this approach would not involve any digging it was hoped it would be approved.

- Wainhomes – Cllr Willmore noted that the 4-bedroom property, which was built without consent purportedly to meet market demand, was still unsold.

**15/36 To receive and note the minutes, if any, of FTC Committees**

**Planning** - minutes noted. The Mayor noted that there were 17 Mayors at the Mayors Meeting in Truro earlier in the day – all were complaining about the announcement that CC would stop providing paper plans to towns and parishes on 1<sup>st</sup> September

**Town Hall** – minutes noted.

**Environment** – minutes noted.

**Finance** – minutes noted.

**15/37 To receive and consider reports from representatives of the Town Council on other bodies**

None..

**15/38 To receive the Mayors Report**

The Mayor reported

- *I was invited to the Fowey River Academy on the 1<sup>st</sup> July for their “Fowey’s got talent” competition to judge the final round with Tim Renwick a talented musician who has toured with Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton and many others. The standard of the competition was very high and diverse from vocals, to dance and animation. It was a lovely evening.*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> of July I was invited to the presentation of the Trelawny Plate Award at Pelynt Church, to Mike Shepherd for his outstanding contribution and achievement in the field of arts in Cornwall. In a packed church with Sir John Trelawny, Cornwall Councillors, the Lord Lieutenant, it was a fascinating service with many stirring Cornish hymns.*
- *I asked to be included in a meeting Mayor’s from Cornwall today 15 July in Truro. It was a useful meeting with topics such as car parking, leisure centres, Libraries, N Plan’s, Planning issues, Police etc. While sharing issues and good practice is positive, the objective of the group is to see how we as a body can make representations on some of these issues.*
- *I have written to ALAT asking when they will have completed their safeguarding changes to the Sports Hub at Fowey River Academy.*

**15/39 To receive the Town Clerks Report**

The Town Clerk reported

- John Vincent, the cartoonist operating on Town Quay had presented FTC with a cartoon that he felt might help to illustrate the seagull problem on the quay. John had wondered if it might be reproduced and fixed to the waste bins, subject to FTC’s approval. Members appreciated the gesture very much but felt that simple stickers just stating ‘Do Not Feed the Seagulls’ would be a more effective deterrent, although clearly less attractive. The Clerk was asked to express FTC’s gratitude to John Vincent and advise him of the decision .

**15/40 Accounts for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Alexander and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £15,125.62 be approved.

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

**15/41 Correspondence**

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

**15/42 Resolutions from Councillors**

None.

**15/43 Neighbourhood Plan**

The Mayor reported that the Steering Group had written the second Questionnaire, which would go out in September/October. The draft had been sent for comments to the following stakeholders - The Chamber, Sarah Arden (senior Planner, CC), CRCC, Fowey Harbour Commissioners, Fowey Town Council

**15/44 Squires Field**

The Clerk reported that the final documents had been received earlier in the day and were ready for signature. Cllr Willmore proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should authorise completion as soon as the FTC solicitor contacted her to advise that everything was in order. It was noted that meetings with potential tenants of the Bowling Club and the Pavilion needed to be set up as soon as possible and it was agreed that, although she already had a working list, the Town Clerk should liaise with the Cornish Guardian to ask anybody interested to contact her before the end of July to ensure the process was fair and transparent. Applicants would then be scrutinized by the Finance Committee and a recommendation made to full council. It was noted that organisations would need to be properly constituted with a bank account and would need to produce a proper business plan.

**15/45 Fowey Public Conveniences**

There had been some issues with vandalism and blocked drains at the town quay toilets. Routleys had been on site earlier in the day to free the manhole cover in the ladies facility and Cormac had then arranged for the system to be rodded. As soon as the Town Clerk could organize cleaning the facility could reopen. The Caffa Mill transfer was still ongoing but appeared – at last – to be nearing completion. Cllr Alexander proposed, Cllr McCartney seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should authorize completion as soon as the FTC solicitor advised that everything was in order. Cllr Berryman then proposed, Cllr Hughes seconded and it was RESOLVED that delegated power should be given to the Finance Committee to make decisions on the request from the Regatta Committee for extended opening during Regatta Week and also for letting the open space in the Caffa Mill building.

**15/46 Town Quay**

Christmas Market 2015. No update.

General Update The Mayor noted that the planters were now in place on the quay and were looking good.

**15/47 Town Quay Vehicular Access**

Councillors and the Town Clerk had met with Rachael Tatlow (Highways) on site to discuss improvements to signage. Rachael had advised that CC did not have money for capital projects, only for maintenance, but it had been agreed that an additional 'No Entry apart from Access'

sign should be erected in Trafalgar Square and the faded paint markings on the roads in the area should be redone.

**15/48 Roles & Responsibilities of FTC Committees**

Deferred.

**15/49 Town Hall Office**

It was proposed by Cllr Boosey, seconded Cllr McCartney and RESOLVED that the Police should be given permission to use the Town Hall office as a base free of charge but on the understanding that FTC be allowed to use it as and when needed for meetings and any other official business.

**15/50 Questions under Standing Order 21**

None..

*It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Willmore 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 & Licenses*

**Date of Next Meetings**

Planning	to be confirmed
Council	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2015