

A Meeting of the Town Council was duly convened and held in the Council Chamber at 1 Chapel Street St Just on Monday 1st October 2007 at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor M Nicholls – Town Mayor
Councillor C McClary – Deputy Town Mayor
Councillors Mrs S Smith, Mrs S Olds, Ms S Angove,
B F Angwin, B Rees, K McFadden, N McFadden, M Thomas
D Stevens together with the Town Clerk (Mrs George).

P.C.S.O Andrew Tonkin

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Press.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

a)Councillor Stevens declared an interest in planning application 07/P/0749/F.

b)Councillor M Nicholls declared an interest in the application for financial assistance from Pendeen School FSA.

3. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor gave a verbal report of his official appointments since the last full meeting of the Town Council as follows:

Sep. 4th – Mayors Parlour Meeting

Sep.7th - St Just in Bloom at Commercial

Sep. 11th – meeting with Toby Lowe

Sep.12th – St Just in Bloom informal meeting with Brian Hosken

Sep. 14th – Mayors Parlour Meeting

Sep. 16th – Mayors Sunday

Sep.17th – Policy Meeting

Sep. 20th – Britain in Bloom presentations at Tregenna St Ives

Sep. 27th – Town and Parish Forum.

4. DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Mayor stated that he had attended a meeting of the Geevor Partnership in November concerning an appraisal of the current partnership.

5. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCILLORS

12th Sep. - Councillor Mrs Smith reported that she had attended the meeting with St Just in Bloom and the Town Council with Brian Hosken and offered support with publicity to find more volunteers for the group, a meeting of C.A.P. on 13th Sep.

15th Sep. Opening of the refurbished Royal British Legion Club new bar, 16th Sep. Mayor's Sunday, 17th Steering Group of St Just and Pendeen Childrens Centre who

are looking at the provision of a building at the Cape Cornwall School site. 24th Sep. Age Concern – the new kitchen/food provision arrangements are working well. 27th Sep. Age Concern – meeting with Social Inclusion Officer of PDC . 28th Sep – meeting and photo shoot with members of St Just in Bloom.

Councillors Rees and Angwin attended a meeting of the Town and Parish Forum.

Councillors Stevens and Thomas attended a “One Cornwall” presentation at Penzance. Councillor Stevens stated that this was an ongoing process and subjects discussed included the devolving of services and the functions and funding that could be involved. The new Council should be in place by April 2009 with 82 Councillors proposed for the Transitional Authority. No firm decisions had been taken at this point in time. There should be a postal survey to all Councils within the next two weeks and this should be an Agenda item for the full Council.

6. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Nil.

7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR (SA)

County Councillor Angove stated that the County Council were undertaking an in depth look at mental health issues within the County.

8. REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

(P.C.S.O. Andrew Tonkin)

The Neighbourhood Beat Manager had been called away and PCSO Tonkin gave the reported crime figures since the last full meeting of the Town Council. (copy to the Clerk)

Reported crimes 13 compared to 29 for the same period last year.

Following the feedback from the PACT survey illegal parking in St Just has been targeted. This has not been popular, though in each case efforts were made to find offending drivers before issuing tickets. Antisocial behavior by youths has also been targeted with alcohol being confiscated and parents contacted. Several youths have been warned about the use of unlit cycles on the roads, further action will be taken if necessary.

9. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 3rd September 2007 and 17th September 2007 were confirmed and signed.

10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Land at Boscaswell Downs – update

The Clerk informed the Council that the transfer of the land was still in the hands of the appointed solicitors.

The Council instructed the Clerk to write to the solicitors stating that the County Council be informed that all the legal costs involved in the transfer of this land be borne by the County as per the original verbal agreement.

b) Casual Vacancy – public notice of election

The Clerk informed the Council that the notice of election had been published in the local press and on public notice boards etc. within the Parish.

c) Local Government Reorganisation – information

The Clerk supplied Councillors with further updates on the above proposals. Information had been forwarded from the M.P. Andrew George and from the District Council. Updates would be available as and when identified. It was suggested that groups of local Parish and Town Councils could meet with the M.P. in due course to discuss various issues of local concern. The Council noted the above.

d) Police and Licensing meeting – report by the Town Clerk

The Clerk reported her attendance at the above meeting held at Penwith District Council on 21st September.

The meeting highlighted some of the issues that had arisen as a result of the implementation of the Licensing Act 2003, mainly involving extra demands on the Police. It was suggested that liaison between the relevant responsible authorities prior to the Licensing Committee considering an application could be a useful source of relevant areas of concern. This suggestion to be looked into and attendees informed in due course.

e) Visit to local groups/organizations etc. – response to Town Mayor's letter

The St Just W.I. had responded to say that a visitor to any of their forthcoming meetings would be welcomed. Noted.

11. FINANCE

a) Applications for financial assistance

Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act

1. R.N.L.I.
2. St Just Association Football Club
3. Pendeen School FSA
4. St Just R.F.C. – awaiting receipt of accounts

Councillor Nicholls declared an interest in application 3. (Pendeen School) and the Deputy Mayor (Councillor C McClary) assumed the Chair for this one item of business.

The Council resolved to make the following donations:

1. R.N.L.I. - £100.
2. St Just AFC - £500
3. Pendeen School FSA - £300
4. St Just RFC – reconsider when audited accounts received.

b)Letters of thanks.

Letters of thanks for the receipt of recent donations had been received from:

1. Victim Support
2. Children’s Hospice South West
3. Pendeen Brownies

c)Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Totalling

£ 7507.80

d)Completion of Audit for 2006/7 – Audit Commission Report:

The Report above stated that there were no items to bring to the attention of the Council.

e)Financial Statement:

The Clerk circulated a financial statement of total income and expenditure from 1st April 2007 to 19th September 2007 and balances on the Council’s bank accounts.

The Council noted the above information.

12. PLANNING

Councillor Thomas made the following statement:

“I would like to make it clear that on commenting on this application that my comments are based on the information currently available and do not commit me to taking the same position when the matter is discussed at the District Planning Committee and full information is available.”

a) Applications:

07/P/0749/F

Alterations and conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary accommodation at 8 Tregeseal Terrace, Tregeseal, for Ms P M Packer.

Tcl No Objection

07/P/0924/F

Construction of extension and alterations as Chy Cornish, Botallack for Mr & Mrs Fletcher.

Tcl No Objection

b) Decisions:

07/P/0666/F

Retention and completion of extension on rear elevation and installation of Solar Panels at Waverly, Cape Cornwall Road, St Just for Mr & Mrs Snodin. Tcl: No Objections. P.D.C

APPROVED

07/P/0744/F

Demolition of existing single storey kitchen and construction of two storey extension on rear elevation at Laikin Cottage, 9 North Row, St Just for Wendy Jones. Tcl: No Objection P.D.C

APPROVED

07/P/0821/F

Replacement single storey extension and renovations to cottage at Higher Numphra, Numphra, for Mr and Mrs Fletcher. Tcl: No Objections P.D.C APPROVED

07/P/0832/F

Construction of two storey extension at Mariners Cottage, Botallack for Mr W Keillor. Tcl: Objection P.D.C REFUSED

07/P/0890/F

Change of use of Bed & Breakfast to Tea Room, Bed & Breakfast & residential accommodation for Noreen Lees & Tim Hichens.

Tcl: No Objection P.D.C APPROVED

c) Copies of 106 Agreements

Land off Lafrowda Close

7 Hillside Cottages

Gews Farm Barns

10 Cape Cornwall Street

The Town Council noted receipt of the above 106 Agreements.

13. AFFORDABLE HOUSING (NMc)

Councillor Neil McFadden raised this subject.

Councillors Thomas and Angove spoke on the subject and stated that they believed there were difficult choices in discussing suitable and acceptable sites in this area. Councillor Stevens stated that he believed that employment for this area was a real issue as the alternative is having to drive 10 to 20 miles per day to find work. The traffic using the A3071 had already increased considerably in the past 10 years and this was a further consideration. Councillor Thomas said he believed that affordable business space was also a further concern for this area. Councillor Angwin stated that history states that the area surrounding St Just developed from the mining and associated industries requiring local labour – hence the building of many of the miners cottages.

14. MINERS STATUE (BR)

Councillor Bernard Rees brought this subject to the attention of the Town Council to decide on the way forward. The initial proposal had been a Town Council one seven years ago and it was felt that the St Just and District Trust would be more successful in attracting grant funding than the Council (as a precepting authority). The Trust had taken on the project but was disappointed with the lack of support from the Town Council and the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund had not received support. Councillor Rees now asked the Council how they wished to proceed. Did they want to continue with the Miner's Statue project by seeking other ways forward. It had to be a Council decision.

Councillors Angove and K McFadden were very much against the project, and Councillor McClary expressed support for it. Councillors Olds and Thomas believed the money would be better allocated to the schools to keep the mining history alive. After a considerable discussion and strong views in both directions Councillor M Thomas proposed that the project does not continue. Councillor NMcFadden seconded the proposal. Voting for the proposal – Councillors Thomas, KMcFadden, N McFadden, D Stevens, S Angove, S Olds.

Voting against the above proposal – Councillors Nicholls, Rees, Smith, CMcClary, B F Angwin.

15. DRESS CODE (Standing Order 1(c) (CM))

Councillor McClary raised this item identified in Standing Orders as he felt that the type of clothing worn at Council meetings was not important or relevant. Councillor Angove agreed and said that she believed it was discriminatory. After considerable discussion it was proposed by Councillor McClary seconded by Councillor N McFadden to amend the above Standing Order from “Dress- Smart casual (i.e. jackets and ties)” to “smart casual”.

9 voting in favour of the above proposal, 1 against, 1 abstention.

16. REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Report of the Policy Committee having been previously circulated was approved and accepted. (attached page (8) 2688).

17. REPORT OF MEETING WITH PDC AND ST JUST IN BLOOM – copies circulated

A Meeting was held on 12th September 2007 with the above to discuss the way forward with this initiative. The group were anxious to recruit more volunteers to help with the project and to ensure its continuance. The Council stated that they would assist in any way they could.

The above report was approved and accepted.

18. REPORT OF THE FOOTPATH COMMITTEE -- copies circulated

A report of the footpath committee was held on 11th September 2007 with the contractor (Scottworthy Estate Services) and Mr Toby Lowe (Field Ranger with the Cornwall County Council to discuss the ongoing arrangements of the existing contract.

The above report was approved and accepted.

19. IN COMMITTEE –

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION

On consideration of the above matter the Council resolved from the date of this meeting –

That all employees of the Town Council shall be members of the Local Government Pension Scheme if, in any particular case, the individual makes written request to the Council and the Council agrees to that request.

20. CHEMICAL SPRAYING OF WEEDS ON HIGHWAYS IN TOWN AND VILLAGES (referred from meeting 3/9/07)

The Council resolved to leave further consideration of the above subject for the time being.

21. CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS. Nominations 1)Senior 2)Junior

The Council resolved unanimously to make the senior award to Mr Philip Wilkins for his voluntary work in St Just in providing the now much appreciated Christmas Lights.

With regard to the Junior award – the Clerk was instructed to contact the schools and youth groups for nominations before the next planning meeting in 2 weeks.

22. CORRESPONDENCE

a) PDC – letter re order for Christmas trees in St Just and Pendeen

The Clerk was instructed to order the trees with Penwith – details as per previous years.

b)CCC – Public Path Agreement – re land at Peace and Plenty Sennen

The Clerk reported that she had made enquiries from the County on the outcome of the upgrading of this footpath. The County had confirmed that a Public Path Agreement Order had been made with the owner and the matter had been successfully resolved.

23. PUBLICATIONS;

The following publications had been received and were available to Councillors on request:

- Childrens Hospice South West
- PAROW – agenda and minutes
- Interlink
- Performance hub magazine
- Outreach magazine
- Housing, Health and Community Safety – newsletter
- Local Council Review – magazine of NALC

24. MATTERS OF REPORT

Councillor Rees stated that he was concerned at the number of signs and posters that were appearing on service poles.

There being no further items of business the Town Mayor closed the meeting, thanking the Members for their attendance.

CONFIRMED THIS 29TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2007

Town Mayor.....