

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING of ST JUST-IN-PENWITH TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 1 Chapel Street, St Just on Monday 17 November 2014 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor K McFadden - Town Mayor
Councillor N McFadden - Deputy Town Mayor

COUNCILLORS

Mrs M Blundy	F Morris
B Clemens	D Roberts
Mrs Cock	G Roberts
	Mrs G Salmon

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

ClIr Sue James – Cornwall Council
Diane O’Brien – Head Teacher, St Just Primary School
Ken Hall – Chair of Governors, St Just Primary School
Richard Marsden – Laurence Associates on behalf of Golowji Ltd.
John Tobin – Local resident
Rob Evans – Local Resident

PUBLIC ADDRESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

TC.185 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from ClIr Mrs McQueen, ClIr T McFadden and ClIr Nicholls.

TC.186 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Deputy Mayor declared a discloseable interest in minute no. TC.194(b) / 14 (Accounts for Payment) as the owner of Cornwall Garden Services, a payee on the schedule of payments and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

TC.187 DISPENSATIONS

None received.

TC.188 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 4 November 2014 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

TC.189 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

TC.190 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR / DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR / TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Mayor reported that he, together with members of the Town Council had attended the annual Feast Sunday Service and the annual awards ceremony on 3 November 2014. He had also represented the Town Council at Remembrance Sunday on 9 November and Armistice Day on 11 November.

The Deputy Mayor reported that he had attended the annual Remembrance Sunday Service at Pendeen on 9 November 2014.

Cllr Mrs Blundy reported on her attendance at the Poltair Next Steps Stakeholder Event held on 5 November 2014 (copy appended to the signed minutes) which confirmed that Poltair clinics would not be relocated to West Cornwall Hospital as anticipated, but moved to GP surgeries and staff offices to Bellair Hospital.

Cllr Mrs Salmon reported that she, together with Cllr Mrs Blundy and ~~Cllr Mrs Salmon~~ Cllr Mrs McQueen had attended the recent community / business event at St Just Primary School. (*minute amended @ TCI meeting on 1 December 2014*).

TC.191 REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

In the absence of PCSO Andrew Tonkin the Town Clerk gave the Police report for the period covering 20 October to 17 November 2014. During that period there had been four reported crimes which compared to twelve for the same period last year.

The reported crimes were as follows:

- 1 Assault (ABH)
- 1 Harassment (put in fear of violence)
- 1 Theft (of wheelie bin)
- 1 Criminal Damage (wheel valves of vehicle damaged)

TC.192 REPORT OF THE CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

Cllr Sue James gave her monthly report on county matters as follows:

The draft budget for 2015/16 through to 2018/19 had been approved by Cornwall Council's Cabinet on 5 November and would be considered by the Full Council on 25 November. A number of changes had been made, based on public consultations and work done by committees, the main headlines of which were as follows:-

- Adult Social Care not being required to repay £3.8m overspend, thus giving some protection to those services;
- Instead of scrapping the Discretionary Business Rate relief scheme to not-for-profit organisations with buildings, in 2017/18, the budget for the subsidy to be halved. Details of how this would be allocated were not yet clear;
- Funding to the rural bus network protected; and
- The RNLI contract had been renegotiated to deliver the same beach cover for a reduced cost to the Council

Full details of the revised budget could be accessed via Cornwall Council or Cllr Mrs James's website.

It was anticipated that a number of budget amendments would be proposed at the Full Council meeting but there was no suggestion that there would be an alternative budget to consider. Cllr Mrs James was working with other Councillors to propose an amendment to delay and phase the cut to Youth Services, in the hope that the voluntary sector and local communities could look to plug any essential gaps when funding to open access youth services was withdrawn. They were also looking to do the same in respect of funding for anti-bullying support to schools. Subject to Finance Officer approval, they were seeking to fund these amendments by giving slightly less protection to the roads maintenance budget in the year 2015 / 2016. Cllr Mrs James commented that she did not know if these small amendments would be supported by the Full Council but she assured the Council that she would consider all other amendments carefully, supporting any she felt would protect more people and services without moving the pain unreasonably to other groups of residents.

In addition, Cllr Mrs James reported that she had arranged a visit to Nancherrow Youth Centre on 19 November 2014, to get a view from the ground of how the proposed cut would impact the centre and how the amendment might help.

Cornwall Council's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee was due to meet on 18 November and would be considering the following matters:-

- The potential merger between Cornwall Partnership Trust and Peninsula Community Health;
- Plans to re-open Longreach House, an in-patient mental health facility;
- The follow-up appointments backlog and cancelled operations, affecting patients from Cornwall receiving treatment from Northern Devon Health Trust, Plymouth Hospital Trusts and Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust;
- NHS 111 Health line;
- The Better Care Fund bid;
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services strategy; and
- The Commissioning of Children's Community Health Services.

Finally, Cllr Mrs James stated that she had posters available regarding the housing for sale in Moorland close, and asked that if any Councillor would like a copy to get in contact with her. The houses were currently available to people living in St Just and Pendeen but next month, applicants from neighbouring parishes would also be able to apply.

TC.193 ST JUST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Diane O'Brien, Head Teacher and Ken Hall, Chair of Governors, St Just Primary School attended the meeting to outline to the Town Council future plans at the school in the light of the retirement of the Head Teacher.

Mr Hall stated that the overriding focus of the school was the education of its pupils and outlined a number of recent achievements, including the staging of the school's "Lost Letters of WW1" an original piece developed by the school children from individual research and performed at the Minack Theatre and an emphasis on physical education, particularly swimming.

The teaching staff and Board of Governors wished to maintain the high standards which had been achieved and to do this it was essential that they had a strong Head Teacher specialising in primary school education.

Financial stability had also been a significant factor, and measures had been taken to increase the schools levels of reserves due to concerns about a reduction in education funding. Fortunately the level of funding had been maintained and the school had been able to use some of its reserves to make improvements to the school such as the newly installed solar panels / P.E. Equipment, replacement of two minibuses and to improve the environment for school learning.

A recruitment process was now ongoing to find a suitable candidate to replace Mrs O'Brien and it was hoped that an appointment would be made before Christmas.

Mr Hall commented on the continuation of positive discussions with other local schools and education trusts regarding new education models such as federations / collaborations but the overriding factor was what was best for St Just Primary School.

Mrs O'Brien gave a brief overview of her achievements and outlined the importance of collaboration.

The Town Council thanked Mrs O'Brien and Mr Hall for attending the meeting and for the informative presentation, and passed on their best wishes to Mrs O'Brien in her retirement.

TC.194 FINANCE

(a) Financial Assistance

The Town Council considered a report by the Town Clerk which gave details on an application for grant funding from the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust to support operational costs.

RESOLVED : That the following grant is awarded:-

Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust	£1,000.00
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(b) Accounts for Payment

In accordance with his declaration of interest the Deputy Mayor withdrew from the meeting for consideration of the following item.

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £4,260.49 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

(c) Letters of Thanks

None received.

TC.195 PLANNING

(a) Pre-Application Advice

- (i) Richard Marsden, Laurence Associates attended the meeting to seek the Council's informal views on a proposed housing development at land off Leat Road, Pendeen by Golowji Ltd. The site had been the subject of a recent planning application PA14/03835 for five units to which the Town Council had raised a strong objection on the grounds of over development of the site and design not in keeping with adjoining properties

Mr Marsden outlined the history to the site and produced further drawings showing granite elevations of the units, a small quality development.

The Town Council stated that it was not against the principle of development on the site, rather it was a concern over the density. The Council's preference would be for a smaller quality development, with the use of materials reflecting the character of the area within the World Heritage Site.

- (ii) John Tobin attended the meeting to seek the Council's informal views on a proposed planning application for an industrial unit at land to the r/o Semmens Coal Yard, Leswidden Common, St Just.

The proposed building would be in the region 1,000sqft, with the units made available for rent. The Town Council expressed some potential concern at the proposed location and access to the site, and felt that before it could make any useful comments an inspection of the site was required. Mt Tobin took on board the comments and agreed to consider his next steps.

(b) Applications

PA14/02910 Conversion of redundant barn and installation of septic tank. (Re-design of planning approval W1/90/0653/F) at Trevegean Veor, Trevegean, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. J. Tregear. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA14/09999 Proposed extension and internal alterations at 4, Carrallack Mews, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. J. Curnow. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA14/09897 Refurbishment, extension and alterations at 9, Carrallack Terrace, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. G. Nicholls. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA14/10440 Ground floor extension, renew roof covering and rebuild chimney at 25, Bosorne Road, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Timothy Baker. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA14/10270 Replacing of upvc doors and windows, installation of external insulation with a render finish. Construction of detached garage and connecting footpath with demolition of existing garage. Installation of Juliet balconies at first floor level at 14A, Carrallack Terrace, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. R. Baker. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA14/10288 Construction of first floor extension (amendment to approved plan 96/P/0788/F) at 22, Carnyorth, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. S. Flinders. **(T Cl no objection)**

(c) Decisions

PA14/01377 Erection of a wind turbine 18.5m to tip and associated access at Cocks Roost, St. Just. Applicants: Ms. L and S Chenery and Watt. **Refusal** (T. Cl. Strong Objection – within AONB and intrusive in the countryside).

PA14/06645 Replacement of front windows and door at Wesley Cottage, 12, North Row, St. Just. Applicant: Mrs. Jennifer Dunn. **Approval** (T. Cl. Strong support).

PA14/06887 Renovation and extension of derelict farmhouse and conversion of former agricultural buildings to create a single residential dwelling at Lower Bostraze Farmhouse, Newbridge, Penzance. Applicant: Ms. Mary-Ann Wilkins. **Approval** (T. Cl. Strong support).

PA14/07154 Retention and completion of conversion and extension of existing outbuildings to form one staff accommodation unit and one family annexe unit not in accordance with approved scheme PA11/01463 at Joppa Kennels, Joppa, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. D. Cotton. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

(d) Enforcement

The Town Clerk provided the Town Council with an update on the following enforcement matters:-

- South Bosvargus Farm – Alleged extension to existing barn without prior agricultural notification. The case had now been referred to a Development Officer for investigation.
- R/O former Miner’s Arms, St Just – Agreement reached with property owner to remove approximately half of the existing wall attached to the house and rebuild at an angle that increases the current width of the road. Works to be completed by 23 December 2014.

TC.196 INTERNAL AUDIT

The Town Council received the report of the Internal Auditor following the recent interim audit.

RESOLVED: That

- (a) the report be noted and the recommendations regarding payments and member internal audit checking be actioned to ensure compliance with the new financial regulations, and
- (b) Cllr Mrs Cock be appointed as the member responsible for internal audit verification in accordance with financial regulations.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.197 EXTENSION TO PHOTOCOPIER CONTRACT WITH CONCORDE COPIERS

RESOLVED: That the action taken by the Town Clerk to extend the current photocopier rental agreement with Concorde Copier for a further three years, at a cost of £125.00 plus VAT per quarter be endorsed as it represents best value.

TC.198 INFORMATION ITEMS

The Town Clerk informed the Town Council of the receipt of letter from “Seatricity” advising of a potential project between themselves, Cornwall Council and Geevor Tin Mine on the development of wave energy farm off the coast of Pendeen, with a shore side generation plant located at Geevor Mine which would be the subject of Pre-planning application to Cornwall Council. The Town Clerk agreed to keep the Town Council advised on the progress of the project.

TC.199 MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Town Clerk advised the Town Council on the following:-

- Invitation to AGM Bosavern Community Farm on 1 December 2014
- Cornwall Council Homelessness Strategy Review – Consultation
- St John’s Terrace, Pendeen – update on removal of granite stile

Cllr G Roberts reported that he would be attending a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Pengarth Day Centre and that he would report back to the Town Council on the current financial position in the light of further reductions in grant funding.

Cllr Mrs Cock reported that she had been approached by a number of young people who had expressed their appreciation to the Town Council for supplying the new goalposts at the St Just Recreation Ground.

TC.200 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the business specified in the following item.

TC.201 ST JUST LIBRARY – CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSIONS WITH CORNWALL COUNCIL

The Town Council considered a confidential email from Scott Sharples, Devolution Specialist, Cornwall Council (a copy of which had been circulated to all Town Councillors) which summarised preliminary discussions to date and set out a number of ideas on the future management of the library in St Just.

RESOLVED : That

- (a) The content of the email dated 30 October 2014 from Cornwall Council be approved as the basis for continuing discussions on the future management of the library in St Just; and
- (b) Former Town Councillor, Dave Stevens be engaged by the Town Council in a consultancy capacity (in kind contribution) to assist the Town Clerk in the discussions and formulation of recommendations to the Town Council at the appropriate stage.

Meeting closed at 9.03 p.m.

Town Mayor