

A Meeting of the Town Council was duly convened and held in the Council Chamber at 1 Chapel Street St Just on Monday 20th November 2006 at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor B Rees (Deputy Town Mayor) Chairman
Councillor Mrs B Strick, B F Angwin, K Casley, R Lee,
C Williams, H Bennett, D Stevens together with the
Town Clerk (Mrs E George).

Press
Police Officer S Humphreys (part)
County Councillor S Angove.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Town Mayor – Councillor Mrs S Smith (official duties) Councillor Nicholls (Nancherrow AGM) M Thomas (family commitment) and A Trezise (work commitment).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT (read by Town Clerk)

The Town Mayor's official appointments since the last full meeting of the Town Council were as follows:

- 17th October – Police Liaison Meeting at Cape Cornwall School
- 18th October – Public Meeting at St Just W.I. re Closure of Lloyds Bank (report attached)
- 19th October – CAP meeting re: off road bikes. (report attached)
- 22nd October – Thanksgiving and Nelson Memorial Service at Madron
- 26th October – Meeting of Action Group formed from the public meeting re: Lloyds Bank closure.
- 29th October – Feast weekend
- 7th November – Legal service at Truro Cathedral
- 7th November – Meeting of the Action Group re Lloyds Bank
- 10th November – Penwith District Council – Civic Dinner
- 11th November – Pendeen Councillors Surgery and Memorial Service at 11 a.m.
- 12th November – Armistice Sunday
- 13th November – Age Concern Meeting
- 13th November – Meeting with Action Group re Lloyds Bank
- 14th November – Penzance Coastwatch luncheon at Gulval
- 14th November – Meeting with committee of Hospital Initiative for Cornwall (HIC) (report attached)

16th November – Awards Evening at Cape Cornwall Comprehensive School

4. DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Town Mayor gave details of his appointments since the last full meeting of the Council as follows:

- 18th October – Public meeting re Lloyds Bank closure
- 26th October – meeting of Group formed re Lloyds Bank
- 29th October – Feast Parade and Service
- 7th November – CALC meeting at Truro (with Councillor Angwin)
- 11th November – Town Councillors Surgery (with Councillor Bennett)
- 13th November – meeting of action Group re Lloyds Bank

5. REPORTS OF TOWN COUNCILLORS

- a)Councillor Mrs Strick stated that she had attended the Feast Parade and the function at Geevor in the afternoon. She had also taken part in the Councillors Surgery at Pendeen on 11th November and the Remembrance Service at Pendeen on the 12th.
- b)Councillor Bennett stated that he had attended the Feast Service and the Remembrance Service, also Councillors Surgery at St Just and a meeting of Age Concern.
- c)Councillor Lee stated that he had attended a meeting of Healthwatch, also the Public meeting re the Lloyds Bank closure and the Feast and Remembrance Services.

6. REPORTS OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor S Angove referred to an informal meeting at Penwith regarding the White Paper. The bid by the various Councils would need to be submitted by 27th January so there was very little time. She spoke of the forthcoming CALC meeting to be scheduled to be held in Penryn for all interested parties. Although no date had yet been confirmed she believed it was the 13th December. There was concern among local Councils at the lack of time given for a considered response.

7.REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Angove stated that Scott Sharples at County Council was currently dealing with the subject of off-road bikers and looking into the availability of a site. It was a difficult task as the site needed to be exactly right , funding would need to be available and transporting the bikes to any site would be a problem.

An appraisal of the Library Service was taking place and also the Reorganisation of the Registration Service throughout the County which involved the closure of the sub-office at St Just.

8. REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

The Clerk read a letter from P.C. Linscott.

P.C. Simon Humphreys gave a verbal report to the Council (copy to the Clerk for the record) of reported crime since the last full meeting of the Town Council.

There were 23 crimes compared to 33 for the same period last year.

Feast Celebrations passed with only one breach of the peace. No problems at Halloween or Guy Fawkes.

Some problems being experienced with youths in the Pendeen area and the parents were being very supportive.

There had been an arrest of 2 youths today (20th Nov) in relation to drugs.

9. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 16th October 2006 and 6th November 2006 were confirmed and signed.

10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) CCC A3071 at Carn Bosavern

The Clerk read a letter from the County regarding the narrow highway fronting Carn Bosavern. The obstruction of the highway should be reported direct to the Police as it was felt that parking restrictions were not appropriate for that location as the problem was being caused by local residents.

County Councillor Angove stated that it may be possible to install a folding bollard and that she would enquire direct from the County.

Regarding the parking along the A3071 at that location – County Councillor Angove stated that the subject appeared to be going around in circles with no satisfactory solution on the horizon.

b) CCTV – update

It is hoped that completion of this project will be in the very near future.

c)Land at Boscaswell Corner Pendeen

The Clerk reported that she was waiting for the Lease document from the County Council.

d)Proposed closure of Lloyds Bank – update

The Mayor had given the Clerk a report which was read to the meeting as follows: “From the public meeting an action group has been formed. It was decided to start a petition in the town and invite Andrew George, other Town and Parish Councils affected in Devon and Cornwall to ‘come on board.’

It has been confirmed that the Bank of Ireland will install free of charge a 24 hour ATM at the Post Office subject to planning permission. There may be a delay in installing the ATM by the Bank of Ireland as they have committed themselves to many other premises in the country. They have guaranteed that it will be in place by Easter but the Post Office Manager is going to ask if we can jump the queue because of the urgency if Lloyds closes in St Just at the end of the month.

Derek Johnson and I are travelling to London on 22nd November to present the petition of over 800 signatures to the Group Chief Executive at their Head Office. The Mail on Sunday is covering the event.”

e)Christmas Window Display Competition

The Clerk reported that she had purchased three presentation cups as instructed by the Town Council to be awarded for the winners of this competition. She now invited the Council’s instructions on the date of the judging and who they wished to invite to undertake the judging.

It was agreed that the Clerk invite the Chairman of the District Council (Councillor Miss Irene Bailey)and guest to undertake the judging if possible and to suggest a date around the 15th of December . The Mayor and Deputy Mayor to accompany the judges on the day.

11.FINANCE

a)Applications for financial assistance – Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

1. Pendeen Silver Band (2005 £250)
2. Amateur Boxing Club (2005 £500)

The Council resolved to award £250 to Pendeen Silver Band and to ask for the latest audited accounts for the Boxing Club.

b)Letters of thanks

Nil.

c)Accounts for payment

The Council resolved that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Totalling	£2883.30
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d)Financial Statement from 1/4/06 to 6/11/06 previously circulated

The Clerk issued a copy of the above Statement for information prior to consideration of budgets in the forthcoming weeks. Copies to be retained if at all possible.

12.PLANNING

List as previously circulated

The Council observed that they had no objection to any of the above 5 applications.

b)Decisions:

As previously circulated

c)Notification of Appeal:

As previously circulated.

13.AREA GUIDE (Canvass) EG

The Clerk reported that the Publishers had begun their canvass in the area for the new Guide Book to be published in the Spring of 2007. The Clerk asked the Council to consider amendments and additions for the pages of text that would be required for the guide and to bring any comments to the next full meeting prior to a Tourism Committee meeting in January. Noted.

14.LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER

The Clerk circulated to all Councillors detailed information of the Government White Paper in relation to the future structure of Local Government. There was a very limited period of time for the subject to be considered in any detail. A meeting arranged by CALC is scheduled to take place at Penryn (although no exact date is available it is believed to be 12th or 13th December) when all Councillors are encouraged to attend. Invitations and details will be available shortly.

15. COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE (Post Offices)

The Clerk reported receipt of this communication regarding support for the Post Offices. The Council instructed the Clerk to write to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment Relations and Postal Services and express the Council concern for the future of the service particularly in rural areas. Also to request further copies of the poster "Love your Post Office" for distribution locally.

16.PROTECTION AND CONSERVING WAR MEMORIALS HERITAGE PDC

The Clerk read this letter to the Council informing them that funding was available for projects relating to War Memorials. Councillors Casley and Williams agreed to inspect the St Just and Pendeen Memorials and report back to the Council on their condition and to determine if any conservation works were appropriate.

17. FRIDGE AND HEATER – possible supply of (EG)

The Clerk reported that the subject of a heater for the storeroom to keep the records and CCTV monitoring equipment safe and dry could be delayed at the moment as she was negotiating with the District Council Property Department on the possibility of an air vent in the internal door.

The Clerk requested the Council consider the provision of a small fridge for the kitchen. The kitchen was used not only by the Council but by the Police and the Credit Union on occasions.

Three options were put to the Council and it was agreed that a small fridge for the kitchen be acquired at the cost of approx. £89 from Vikings as per their catalogue.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

a)Parish Council Elections – Notification from Penwith District Council

The Clerk informed the Council that advanced notification of estimated costs of an election in May 2007 is as follows:

Contested Election – Town Council share (50%) - £1878. 30

Uncontested Election – Town Council share (50%) - £46.50

The above to be taken into account when setting the Precept for 2007/8. Noted.

b)Card from Emma Field

The Clerk reported receipt of a Thank You card from Emma Field for her recent award of Junior Citizen of the Year.

c) Guide Dogs Treasure Hunt

The Clerk read this letter that informed the Council of a fund raising/recycling project to raise monies for the above Charity. The Clerk stated that she would like to have one in the office and then advertise the project locally. The Council agreed to this request.

d)PDC – Small Grants – Community Planning

The above application form had been received but the time scale was not realistic as the deadline is 6th December. Noted.

e)Cornwall County Council – Registration Service – reorganisation

This matter was at first brought to the attention of the Clerk by the Chief Executive of Penwith District Council on the 3rd November. At that time no communication had been received from the County Council although they had approved the recommendations to modernise the service on 31st October. A letter and a consultation questionnaire has now been received outlining the proposals and asking for choices of comment varying from “Be very beneficial.... To be of great concern”. The Clerk informed the Council that according to the statistics the capacity unused at St Just was 98% and based on that fact alone it was obviously not a well utilized service. However she pointed out that it operated on an appointment only system and their had been occasions when local residents had telephoned for an appointment and

had been discouraged from using the St Just office being informed that the facilities were not sufficient to operate an efficient service. This was not the case as only some 6 months ago a Health and Safety and Disabled audit had been undertaken and facilities were considered adequate.

The Council expressed objection to the withdrawal of this service and instructed the Clerk to write an appropriate letter of concern to the County Council.

f) CCC Highways Act Sect 278

This notification related to works on the highway at Lafrowda Close St Just. Noted.

19. PUBLICATIONS

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

- a) Local Council Review
- b) PAROW – minutes and Agenda
- c) Outreach
- d) Sure Start
- e) Cornwall AONB Partnership Review
- f) Shorelines PDC
- g) Clerks and Councils Direct

20. MATTERS OF REPORT

a) The Clerk informed the Council of the invitation to Sennen Feast on 3rd December.

b) Councillor Rees brought the maquette of the miners statue for the Council to view. It was agreed that it could be placed on display in the window for a short period of time. The Clerk to ensure that the Councils insurance covered such a display.

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

CONFIRMED THIS 18TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2006.

Town Mayor.....