

MINUTES of the MEETING of ST JUST-IN-PENWITH TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 1 Chapel Street, St Just on Monday 24 May 2010 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor D Stevens - Mayor

COUNCILLORS

B F Angwin
W F East
K McFadden

F Morris
M Nicholls
Mrs S Olds

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Chris Goninan – Cornwall Council

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms PS Angove, CS McClary, Mrs S James, TN McFadden and M Thomas.

TC.49 PUBLIC ADDRESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

TC.50 MINUTES

RESOLVED:-That the Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 26 April and the Annual General Meeting held on 10 May 2010 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

TC.51 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Goninan declared a prejudicial interest in minute no. TC.60 (a) (Applications for Financial Assistance) as Chairman of St Just in Bloom and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

TC.52 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR & TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Mayor reported that he and the Town Clerk had attended the Town & Parish Forum Meeting on 13 May 2010. The meeting had received a presentation from Armand Toms, Cabinet member for Adult Social Care, as well as Mark Eccles the local Police Inspector for Penzance.

Mark Eccles had reported that the Police were currently focussing their efforts on the trouble spots within Penzance and the Mayor suggested that it may be helpful to invite the Police to a future meeting of the Town Council to update the Council on operational demands.

The new planning procedure had been raised as some parish councils within the community network area were experiencing difficulties in meeting the 21 day consultation period deadline. However, the Mayor was pleased to report that St Just had not experienced similar problems and that, in fact, since reorganisation there had been a marked improvement in the process. The Clerk to Sennen and St Buryan Parish Councils also reported that they had seen a marked improvement in the process.

The Mayor urged other members of the Council to attend future meetings of the forum as they were open to all councillors to attend.

The Mayor and Mayoress had also attended the Annual Mayor Choosing at St Ives Town Council on 17 May and the reception in the evening.

TC.53 REPORT OF CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

Councillor Goninan reported that he was no longer Vice-Chairman of Cornwall Council's Health Adults Overview & Scrutiny Committee. He had decided not to stand as he felt that he could do more benefit to local people working outside of some of the constraints imposed on being the vice- chairman.

The Draft Management Agreement for Geevor Tin Mine should be with Bill Laiken and Mike Simpson shortly and Paul Brough, Cornwall Council had been in contact with them both to explain the situation.

With regard to Boswedden Lane, the land owner and his land agent were still in discussion with Cornwall Council.

A meeting was to be held on 28 May 2010 at the Town Council offices to discuss Balleswidden Chimney with representatives of Imerys who had now confirmed that the chimney was in their ownership.

The Environmental Day in St Just was to be held on 29 May 2010 in the Plen-an-Gwary and he hoped that everyone would support the event. Similar events were to be held in other areas across the county.

St Just-in-Bloom, together with local residents and the agreement of the National Trust, had provided a new picnic bench at Carn Gloose. Funding had been provided by a grant, some of which had been used to buy plants and sleepers for the plot by the Recreation Centre, which was now reaching completion. In response to a question, Councillor Goninan reported that St Just in Bloom would hopefully be receiving a grant from Cornwall Council towards the cost of plants and that the group received tremendous help and support from Phil Howell, Cornwall Council. The aim for this year was to achieve a gold award which would give the town entry into the national competition and hopefully attract additional funding.

Councillor Goninan's grant allocation for 2010 / 2011 was £2,195 which was the same as the previous year. At present £500 of the grant had been allocated towards specific projects and he urged any organisation in need of financial assistance to get in touch with him.

TC.54 REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

In the absence of PC Dan Care and PCSO Andrew Tonkin the Town Clerk gave the Police report for the period 26 April to 20 May 2010

Firstly the local Police thanked the former Mayor, Monty Nicholls for the work he had done for the local community and welcomed the incoming Mayor, Dave Stevens on his appointment. They looked forward to continuing the work between the Council and the Police.

Twelve crimes had been reported for this period compared to eight for the same period last year. These included five cases of criminal damage, three assaults, one theft related offence, one sexual offence, one burglary and one possession of a controlled substance.

The recent graffiti that had appeared at the Drill Hall, Carn Bosavern had been investigated and two males had been dealt with in relation to this offence and were currently in the process of cleaning the graffiti off the building.

The Council was informed that the next PACT meeting would be on 22 July 2010 at Cape Cornwall School at 7.15 pm.

Finally, the Police were appealing for the public to continue to be vigilant and to report to the Police any incidents on the 08452 777444 or emergency 999 numbers. The general public were reminded not to leave messages in relation to reporting crimes on the Penzance Station number as these were not always picked up at the time.

RESOLVED: That the Police be invited to attend a future meeting of the Town Council to discuss operational issues within the local area.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.55 DRAFT COMMUNITY NETWORK PROGRAMME

The Mayor drew the Council's attention to the new draft Community Network Programme which had been compiled by the Community Network Manager following consultation with the towns and parish council within the community network area.

The Council had been asked to make comments on the draft document by 11 June 2010 and it was suggested that in view of the importance of the document for the local area, that Councillors should be given additional time to consider the detail of the document.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: That the item be deferred for consideration until the next meeting of the Council on 7 June 2010.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.56 GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS – ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE PROVISION

The Council considered the detail of a letter from Cornwall Council's Cabinet member for Housing and Planning regarding its accommodation requirements and site provision strategy for the Gypsy and Traveller community within Cornwall.

Cornwall Council aimed to ensure that members of the travelling community had fair access to suitable accommodation and services by increasing the number of authorised sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in appropriate locations, so as to address the current under-provision within the county. The provision of new sites would also enable Cornwall Council to reduce the number of unauthorised encampments and developments.

To achieve this Cornwall Council was to carry out an assessment of the need for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation which formed part of its assessment of housing requirements for the rest of the population and to develop a strategy to address the identified need and to identify suitable sites.

The letter detailed the process to be undertaken and stated that the initial focus would be on existing Cornwall Council owned land, although acknowledging that future sites could be on public or private land.

Part of the assessment process included consultation with town and parish councils about schemes where sites had been identified and approval given to progress which was due to be carried out during the summer months. Cornwall Council had also established a working party to look at accommodation requirements which would welcome any suggestions / ideas on the location of possible sites.

RESOLVED: That the content of the letter be noted and that Cornwall Council be advised that the Town Council was not aware of any potential sites within the parish at the present time.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.57 A30 SENNEN TO PENZANCE SPEED REVIEW

Following a review of the speed limit on the A30 between Sennen and Penzance by Cornwall Council, the Council's comments were being sought on the proposed changes to the speed limit as set out below:-

1. Introduction of a 40mph speed limit at the southern end of Sennen including the settlement of Trevescan on the B3315;
2. Extension of the 30mph speed limit in a north easterly and south westerly direction at Sennen;
3. Introduction of a 50mph speed limit from Sennen to the southern end of Drift; and
4. Extension of the 50mph limit from Mount Misery Roundabout at Penzance to the northern end of Drift.

In addition, Traffic Regulation Orders and signing within the vicinity of these proposals would be upgraded where appropriate, to ensure that the existing limits were legally enforceable.

RESOLVED: That the changes to the speed limit on the A30 between Sennen and Penzance be noted.

TC.58 HIGHWAY PRIORITIES

Councillor Goninan reported that he had £8,000 to spend in the current financial year but that there were no guarantees that the same amount would be available in subsequent years. He referred to the list of the highway priorities which had been previously circulated at the meeting on 26 April, and drew attention to a further proposal for double yellow lining in Regent Terrace, Bosorne Road and at the top of Carnyorth, details of which had been tabled at the meeting.

He reported on the progress made in respect of each of the possible projects as follows:

- 20 mph speed restriction Cape Cornwall Road – radar to be deployed to monitor speed, particularly outside the school.
- St Just name plates – this would form part of the discussions on World Heritage Signage which would be an item to a future meeting of the Council.
- Speed limit review A3071 and B3306 – likely that funding would be available to implement some of the recommendations of the review – no further action at the present time.
- Carrallack Terrace – a solution identified to parking problems.
- Drainage Carnyorth – a decision on the bid for funding in the current financial year was awaited.
- Cape Cornwall Road, footway extension – problems with designation of land as highway, no further action to be taken at the present time.
- Land rear of Boswedden Place – channel to be cleared which it hoped would alleviate the drainage problems.
- Interactive speed sign, Botallack – might possibly be accommodated within the financial allocation this year.
- Yellow lining, Regent Terrace, Bosorne Road, South Place and Carnyorth – would require a Traffic Regulation Order.

Some members of the Town Council expressed concern that yellow lining only resulted in moving the problem to another area and that what was required was effective parking enforcement. The displacement of parked vehicles was already a major problem within the town which members felt could only be resolved by the provision of an additional car park.

Following detailed discussion of the issues raised it was

RESOLVED: That Andy James, Local Regional Engineer, Cornwall Council be invited to attend a future meeting of the Town Council to discuss highway priorities within the parish.

TC.59 MODEL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS

The Council was asked to approve the model code of practice for handling complaints which had been produced by the Cornwall Association of Local Councils. The code, if approved, would form part of the Council's new Standing Orders which were currently in the process of being updated.

RESOLVED: That the use of the model code of practice for handling complaints by the Town Council be approved.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.60 FINANCE

(a) Application for Financial Assistance

Councillor Goninan declared a prejudicial interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting for its consideration.

The Council considered a report by the Town Clerk requesting financial assistance under S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 from St Just in Bloom towards the purchase of peat and new flowers for the new three tier planters which had been purchased with grant money from the West Cornwall Local Action Group.

St Just in Bloom was also seeking assistance to purchase two additional hayricks to be placed on the Town Council building and to carry out general maintenance and replacement works in and around the town.

RESOLVED: That a S.137 grant of £1500 be awarded to St Just in Bloom.

(b) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £3,057.20 be approved for payment.

(c) Letters of Thanks

The Town Clerk reported receipt of two letters of thanks one from the Pendeen Pilot Gig Club and the other from Jade Williams and Laura Ellis, St Just Cricket Club.

TC.61 PLANNING

(a) Applications

10-0381-HP B/F from 10 May, 2010. Construction of conservatory at Long Barn, Kerrow, St. Buryan. Applicant Mr. B. McCann. **(T.CI. Support)**. The Town Council reaffirmed its support for the application and agreed to inform Cornwall Council that, if the planning officer was to recommend refusal, it wished to formally request that the application be called in for determination by the West Area Planning Committee.

10-0429-LBC Various internal alterations at 6 & 6A Market Square, St. Just. Applicant Proven Properties Ltd., London. **T.CI no objection.**

10-0448-LBC Re-roofing of dwelling, garage and shed using scantle slate at Lower Hailglower Farm, Tregeseal, St. Just. Applicant Mr. R. Plank. **T.CI no objection.**

PA10/03067 Crown reduction of one sycamore at 8, Cresswell Terrace, Botallack, St. Just. Applicant Mr. N. Reynolds. **T.CI no objection.**

PA10/03083 Felling of two sycamores and one cherry tree at Melyn Boswerghas, Tregeseal, St. Just. Applicant Mr. J. Green. **T CI no objection to the felling of the sycamores, but raised an objection to the felling of the cherry tree due to loss of amenity value.**

(b) Decisions

10-0206-HP Demolition of garage, construction of double garage on side elevation, conservatory on rear elevation and alterations to windows and doors at Sea Cry, Botallack Lane, Botallack, St. Just. Applicant Mr. & Mrs. A. Privett. **Approval** (T. Cl. Full support but would prefer timber framed windows instead of upvc).

10-0219-HP Construction of first floor extension and porch at 5, Botallack, Botallack, St. Just for Mr. Matthew Harradine. **Approval** (T. Cl. No objection).

10-0260-HP Retention and completion of re-roofing using cement fibre slate at Corner House, 1, Chapel Road, St. Just. Applicant Mr. P. Shapcott. **Approval** (T. Cl. No objection).

10-0038-P Change of use of ground floor to Cafe, demolition and rebuilding of boundary wall and gates at Blackbird Barn, Bank Square, St. Just. Applicant Ms. Alison Richer. **Refusal** (T. Cl. support).

10-0039-CAC Removal of gates and demolition of boundary wall at Blackbird Barn, Bank Square, St. Just. Applicant Ms. Alison Richer. **Refusal** (T. Cl. support).

10-0303-P Construction of dwelling and associated works adjacent to 24, Regent Terrace, St. Just. Applicant Mr. Mike Slinn. **Approval but to use render and not brick.** (T. Cl. Objection regarding use of materials, in particular brick).

(c) 14 Pleasant Terrace, St Just, Application No. 10-0241-HP

RESOLVED: That the attendance of the Mayor at the West Area Planning Committee on 25 May 2010 to speak in support of application 10-0241-HP 14 Pleasant Terrace, St Just be approved.

TC.62 INFORMATION ITEMS

(a) Code of Conduct Training

The Council noted that the training on the Members' Code of Conduct would take place at the beginning of the Town Council meeting on 21 June 2010.

(b) Standing Orders

The Mayor advised the Council that, as previously mentioned, the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were currently being updated and would be brought to future meetings of the Council for discussion and approval.

TC.63 ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE A MATTER OF URGENCY

Penwith Crime Prevention Group

The Mayor reported that an invitation had been received inviting the Council to send a representative to the next meeting of the Penwith Crime Prevention Group on 27 May 2010.

RESOLVED: That the attendance of Councillor Angwin at the Penwith Crime Prevention Group be approved.

TC.64 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the identified paragraphs of Part I, Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

TC.65 TOWN COUNCIL INSURANCE COVER (EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3)

In accordance with the Audit and Account Regulations the Council reviewed its existing insurance cover against two other quotations which was due for renewal on 1 June 2010.

RESOLVED: That the quotation from Zurich Insurance in respect of the Council's insurance cover with effect from 1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011 be accepted.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.66 UPSTAIRS FLAT, COUNCIL OFFICES, ST JUST (EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3)

The Mayor advised the Council on the detail of the response received from Cornwall Council to its letter of 13 April 2010 concerning the future use of the upstairs flat.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted.

Meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Town Mayor