

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 25 February at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs S James – Town Mayor  
Councillor D Stevens – Deputy Town Mayor

COUNCILLORS

Ms P S Angove	F. Morris
A Exelby	Mrs. S. Olds
C. McClary	A Smith
K. McFadden	M. Thomas
N. McFadden	

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Chris Goninan, Cornwall Council  
Chris Pearson, General Manager, Land's End Airport  
Tom Marks, Cormac Ltd.  
Mike Peters, Cormac Ltd.

TC.288 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Nicholls.

TC.289 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None received.

TC.290 DISPENSATIONS

None.

TC.291 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 11 February 2013 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

TC.292 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Mayor reported that she had attended the St Ives Feast and parade on 3 February 2013, meeting of the Centre of Pendeen on 5 February, annual "walkabout" with officers from Penwith Housing Association at Moorland Close, Pendeen on 6 February, Board meeting of the Community Land Trust on 12 February and a meeting of

the Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team on 15 February which had focussed on the temporary closure of Poltair Hospital which was at risk of drifting towards permanency and discussed possible action.

Councillor Ms Angove reported that she had attended a Board meeting of the Pengarth Day Centre.

TC.293 REPORT OF THE CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

**Flooding issues**

Councillor Goninan invited Mike Peters, Cormac Ltd to provide the Town Council with an update on the latest position at Tregeseal following the recent flooding.

Mr Peters explained that Cornwall Council had carried out some additional work to the drainage system at the rear of the gardens in the Turnpike, cameras had surveyed the pipes and jetting had been undertaken to clear blockages. There was some concern at the differing sizes of the pipes which had contributed to the problems. A new manhole cover was to be provided in one of the gardens and further clearance was to be undertaken to remove the blockages in the pipes. Cornwall Council's land drainage team had completed its works.

The main issue regarded available funding to complete the works on the culvert. Cornwall Council had £3m to spend on such works countywide and a decision was still awaited. The St Just Rugby Football Club had received a grant from the RFU which had been match funded by Cornwall Council to provide a new relief drainage system.

Councillor Goninan also reported that the pond in the field at the southern end of the Turnpike would be addressed as soon as the water table dropped.

**Trewellard Hill**

Work which was due to have begun on 18 February was now due to begin on March 18 by BT. The residents had been informed.

**Douglas Woolcock Transport**

The service was now up and running following the completion of Disclosure & Barring checks. The service had also been issued with parking passes for both West Cornwall and St Michael's Hospitals.

**Miner's Tea**

Twelve miners had attended a meeting at the comprehensive school with five youngsters and a member of staff. Councillor McClary had also attended the event.

**Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs)**

A new aids and adaptations service was due to start in April 2013 with three teams located throughout the county. The aim of the new system was to speed up the service, with one of the new teams based at St Clare, Penzance. Funding for this year's

programme was £5.5m, but there was considerable concern over the budget for 2014 / 15 with only £400k or £700K having been identified to date. The reason for this was, that in previous years borrowing had been required to deliver the service and this was now required to be paid back from the Government Grant in 2014 / 15. This meant that £2m of the £2.4 or 2.7m grant would not be available. Councillor Goninan reported that in a best case scenario a budget of £4.3M was required or worst case scenario £6.7m. The best case scenario assumed a 30% drop out rate and the cost of an adaptation at £5,500, at present it was just over £6k. The worst case scenario assumed 0% drop out and the cost of an adaptation of £5,500. The Town Council was asked to note that as a result of improvements to the service in Plymouth there had been a negligible dropout rate. If the same changes were implemented in Cornwall it was likely that the higher figure would be required in 2014 / 15.

The demand on DFGs had increased significantly from 620 in 2009 / 10 to around 800-850 in 2012 / 13. Monthly referrals had also increased. In 2011 / 12 they were in the region of 85 per month which during the calendar year of 2012 had risen to an average of 93 per month. 71% of people in Cornwall who had received DFGs were aged over 60 and it was likely that this figure would increase. As a statutory duty, Councillor Goninan said that he would continue to watch how with dwindling resources this budget was met in the future.

#### **Delayed Discharges**

An Inquiry Day was held on 19 February 2013 to look at the issue of Delayed Discharges.

#### **Cornwall Councillor – Final Report**

Councillor Goninan advised the Town Council that this would be his last written report in advance of the election 'purdah' period. However, he would continue to be happy to report back on any issues that he was involved in and on which the Town Council required additional information.

#### TC.294 **REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER**

The Town Council was advised that no Police report had been received.

#### TC.295 **LAND'S END AIRPORT**

The Town Council received a report from Chris Pearson, General Manager, Land's End Airport on the latest position regarding the recent airport runway closure and future proposals.

Mr Pearson explained that a new terminal and air traffic control were currently being built to improve facilities to customers and the general appearance of the airport, and that this work had been extended following the stoppage of the BIH helicopter service from Penzance to the Isles of Scilly.

Regarding the runway, Mr Pearson stated that the recent closure from 18 December 2012 to 18 February 2013 due to the adverse weather had severely affected the business and that new investment in the runway was required to avoid similar problems in the future. The airport was a lifeline service to the Isles of Scilly and it was important that

investment in the hardening of the runway surface was made.

A survey of the runway had been completed and the results were expected in the coming week. The aim was to have a hardened runway in place by winter 2013. Funding for the project was currently being considered. The runway on the Isles of Scilly also required resurfacing and a joint project was being considered to reduce costs. Works to the runway would take in the region of 30 – 40 days to complete.

In response to concerns raised about an increase in the size of aircraft, Mr Pearson commented that the runway length was the limiting factor, and that a tarmac surface would not in itself increase the size of aircraft capable of using the airport.

Councillor McClary referred to the increase in the throughput of passengers since the closure of BIH and asked if any highway concerns had been raised regarding the impact of increased traffic on the surrounding road network. Mr Pearson explained that Cornwall Council's Planning Department had been consulted and that no highway concerns had been raised in respect of the new development.

There were also plans to purchase slightly larger planes (max. 19 passengers) which would likely reduce the frequency of flight movements; however, a large increase in passenger throughput was not anticipated due to the proximity of other airports such as Newquay and Exeter. Improvements were also being made to instrumentation to enable flights to continue to operate at times of poor visibility.

The Town Council thanked Mr Pearson for attending the meeting.

TC.296 DITCH & DRAIN CLEARANCE

The Town Council received a presentation from Tom Marks and Mike Peters, Cormac Ltd regarding Cornwall Council's cyclical maintenance programme. The issue had been raised by Councillor McClary at the 17 December 2012 Council meeting (minute no. TC239/123 refers).

Mr Marks explained that there was a six weekly clearance regime in "hot spot" areas and that the local superintendent responded to problems as they occurred. However, there had been a reduction in mechanical highway works over the last year due to costs and a new cyclical regime was to be introduced from April this year which would be based on inspection and report. Cormac Ltd was currently waiting for the publication of the regime for next year but it was inevitable that there would be a reduction in the service due to budgetary pressures. Mechanical cleaning was also likely to become reactive. A plan of the current gully emptying routes for the St Just area was passed to the Town Council for information.

Councillor McClary referred to problems at Carn Bosavern by the graveyard, the B3066, turning for Crows-an-Wra and the stream at Nanquidno. The Town Council was advised to inform Cornwall Council of any areas where it was aware there were problems with ditches or gullies and they would be investigated. The Town Clerk reminded the Town Councillors that if they were aware of problems to advise the office and details would be forwarded to Cornwall Council.

TC.297 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)

The Town Council considered a proposal regarding the acquisition of two external AED's for the communities of St Just and Pendeen following the presentation made by to the last meeting by Paul Williams of the Ronnie Richards Trust.

The Deputy Mayor suggested that it was for the Town Council to take the lead on this initiative and proposed the purchase of two external cabinets and AED's for St Just and Pendeen and that a community meeting be arranged to discuss the siting of the units and to raise community awareness of the scheme and to seek volunteers willing to be trained to use the AED. It was also proposed that the Town Council set aside £350.00 to fund the training. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Morris.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the purchase of two 24 / 7 external cabinets and AED's by LED Locator at a cost of £2,250 per unit be approved;
- (2) £350.00 be set in the Council's budget to fund training up to a maximum of 10 people; and
- (3) The Town Clerk is requested to arrange a community meeting as soon as practicable to raise community awareness of the scheme and discuss possible locations for siting the units, in addition to seeking volunteers for training.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.298 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

Councillor Ms Angove referred to an article in the latest edition of Cornwall Council's Town & Parish Council Newsletter which was issued on 4 February 2013.

The Act enabled local people to submit proposals to Government regarding ideas on how to improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of their area and the article sought ideas from local residents. One suggestion was that Community Network Panels could be given the role of promoting and coordinating activities around the Sustainable Communities Act.

The Town Council agreed that the issue should be brought to the attention of the new Town Council in May 2013.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.299 FINANCE

(a) Grant Applications

The Town Council considered grant applications from the Friends of Pendeen School Association, Cornwall International Male Voice Choir and Arthritis Research UK.

RESOLVED That the following grants be awarded:-

- |     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| (a) | Friends of Pendeen School Association   | £800.00 |
| (b) | Cornwall International Male Voice Choir | £150.00 |
| (c) | Arthritis Research UK                   | £300.00 |

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

- (b) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £3,979.50 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

- (c) Letters of Thanks

None received.

TC.300 PLANNING

- (a) Pre-Planning Advice

The item was withdrawn from the agenda.

- (b) Applications

**PA13/00701** Erection of a dwelling and associated works (Revised siting of PA12/09799) on land opposite 6, St. John's Terrace, Pendeen. Applicants: Ms. L. Stevens and Mr. A. Harman. **(T Cl. No objection)**

**PA13/01009** Two storey extension to rear at 12, Bosorne Road, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Dean Gray. **(T Cl. No objection)**.

- (c) Decisions

**PA12/10701** Construction of new three bedroom detached house on land east of Trevenner, Tregeseal Hill, Tregeseal, St Just. Applicant: Mr. Michael Harvey. **Withdrawn** (T.Cl. Objection).

**PA12/10763** Conversion and alteration of B & B to include holiday use at Bosvargus Barn, New Road, Tregeseal, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. N. Christmas. **Approval.** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA13/00057** Erection of a small lean-to greenhouse at 2, Boswedden Terrace, St. Just. Applicant: Mrs. J. Fisher. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA12/10501** Proposed conversion of existing garage and outbuilding to form self-contained holiday accommodation on land at Crippas Hill, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Richard Wallis. **Withdrawn** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA12/11270** Renovation and extension of existing Victorian water tower to be used as a residential unit at Cape Cornwall Golf and Leisure Resort, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Gary Firmager. **Approval** (T. Cl. Support).

**PA12/11781** Extension of time for the erection of a dwelling (Decision Notice W1/09-1198-P) on land adjacent to Bostraze, 26, Chapel Street, St. Just. Applicant: Councillor P.S. Angove. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA13/00057** Erection of a small lean-to greenhouse at 2, Boswedden Terrace, St. Just. Applicant: Mrs. J. Fisher. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

TC.301 INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Town Council received the minutes of the Internal Audit Committee held on 15 February 2013 and considered the recommendations contained therein:-

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The Financial Regulations as presented to the Internal Audit Committee be endorsed as fit for purpose;
- (2) The Town Council's current risk management arrangements be endorsed as fit for purpose; and
- (3) The contents of the Asset Register for 2012 / 13 be approved (copy appended to the signed minutes).

TC.302 USE OF PLEN-AN-GWARRY

RESOLVED: That the use of the Plen-an-Gwarry by the Cornwall Arts Centre Trust for a production by the Miracle Theatre of "Waiting for Godot" on 28 August 2013 be approved.

TC.303 INFORMATION ITEMS

No information items were presented to the Council.

TC.304 MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Deputy Mayor reported that the box for the new electricity supply to the Plen-an-Gwarry had been installed and that the connection to the supply was to be completed soon.

TC.305 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED : That under Section (1) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

TC.306 PREMISES COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Premises Committee held on 11 February 2013 and considered the recommendation(s) in respect of the provision of public conveniences in St Just and Pendeen, in the light of Cornwall Council's decision to close some of the public conveniences across the county after 31 March 2013 due to budgetary pressures.

The Chairman of the Committee provided the Town Council with an update on discussions since the meeting on 11 February and following detailed consideration of the issues the Town Council:-

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The Town Council enters into a formal agreement with Cornwall Council to maintain the public conveniences at their current level of provision within St Just and Pendeen during 2013 / 14, based on a financial contribution from the Town Council of £3,977; and
- (2) Authority is delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Premises Committee, Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor to agree the final terms and conditions of the agreement between the Town Council and Cornwall Council.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Town Mayor