

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 28 May 2012 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

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

COUNCILLORS

Ms P S Angove	N McFadden – arrived at 7.20 p.m.
B F Angwin	F Morris
W F East	M Nicholls
C S McClary	Mrs S Olds
K McFadden	Mr M Thomas

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Chris Goninan, Cornwall Council
Mike Court, Project Manager, South West Water
Dominic Lovell, Hyder Consulting
Oliver Denne, Estates Surveyor, South West Water
Liz Cox, Cornwall Wildlife Trust
Lisa Guy, Higher Keigwin Farm
Roger Petty, Nancherrow Barn

PUBLIC ADDRESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

TC.17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

TC.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Morris declared a prejudicial interest in minute no. TC 31(a) (Financial Assistance) as a committee member of the St Just & District Community Sports Association and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

Councillor Stevens declared a prejudicial interest in minute no. TC 31(a) (Financial Assistance) as the former Secretary of the St Just & District Community Sports Association. He agreed not to take part in the vote on the application.

Councillor Goninan declared a prejudicial interest in minute no. TC 31(a) (Financial Assistance) as a committee member of the St Just & District Community Sports Association and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

TC.19 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 14 May 2012 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

TC.20 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

TC.21 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Mayor reported that on 10 May 2012 she had attended the Mayor Choosing Ceremony at Hayle Town Council, the Olympic Torch Relay celebrations at St John's Hall, Penzance on 19 May and the Community Land Trust Conference in London on 22 May. A report of the conference would be made to the Council at its next meeting on 11 June.

The Deputy Mayor reported that at a meeting of the St Just & District Community Sports Association on 24 May he had stood down from his position as Secretary.

Councillor Ms Angove reported that she had attended the first meeting of the Review of Rural Services which was being carried out by Cornwall Council.

TC.22 REPORT OF CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

Councillor Goninan gave his monthly report on the following issues:-

West Cornwall Hospital Forum—Update

The Urgent Care Centre to open on 6 June 2012.

Memory Cafe

The cafe was now open and two meetings had been held on 4 and 18 May 2012. The next meeting was to be held on 1 June 2012.

St Just in Bloom

On behalf of the group, Councillor Goninan thanked the Town Council for its continued support. Tubs, amborels and three tier planters were in the process of being planted. Any help would be greatly appreciated as the new contract and job reductions would make it much more difficult for the volunteers. Judging was to take place on Monday 9 July at 10.30am with the tour expected to start in the car park. It was hoped that the Town Mayor would be able to attend.

Penwith Community Radio Station

The Town Council was informed that after seven years the Ofcom Licence to broadcast on FM had been granted, with the offer to be taken up within two years. It was envisaged that the radio would go live on St Piran's Day 2013. St Just & Pendeen would be part of the broadcasting area.

Fire Station

Councillor Goninan had recently presented The Queen's Jubilee Medals to all members of the St Just crew.

Disabled Facility Grants.

Councillor Goninan reported that he had been an observer on Cornwall Council's Disabled Facility Grants Single Issue Panel which had been looking into improving the service and ensuring its financial sustainability. It was likely that in the future grants would be delivered through an Arms Length Management Organisation, possibly Cornwall Housing Limited. A further meeting was due to take place later this week.

TC.23 **REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER**

In the absence of PCSO Andrew Tonkin, the Town Clerk gave the Police report for the period covering 19 April to 26 May 2012.

During that period there had been reported 18 crimes which compared to 12 for the same period last year, these included:-

- 1 Common Assault
- 1 Aggravated Vehicle Taking (Damage Only)
- 3 Theft
- 3 Burglary
- 1 Assault ABH
- 1 Vehicle Interference
- 1 Criminal Damage to Property
- 2 Criminal Damage to Building
- 4 Criminal Damage to Vehicle
- 1 Buy/ Attempt Liquor to Underage Person

TC.24 **BOSWEDDEN & PORTHLEDDEN SEWAGE TREATMENT SCHEME**

Mike Court, Dominic Lovell and Oliver Denne attended the meeting to outline South West Water's proposals in respect of a new sewage treatment scheme for Boswedden and Porthledden. The National Environment Programme was the driver for the project to improve sewage discharge at Boswedden, as well as delivering an improvement at Porthledden. The Town Council was advised that with the exception of three properties all sewage flows would go into a new pumping station which would be pumped to the Tregeseal works and then discharged at Geavor.

Due to difficulties in the topography of the land, sewage from the lower three properties would be collected in a local tank and discharged via the existing Porthledden outfall. The proposed scheme comprised of a new gravity sewer and pumping station opposite Lower Praze, which would also pick up the golf course pumping station and connect into the gravity sewer from Cot Valley.

A section of lower sewer below Praze and Porthledden Hotel would be abandoned with sewerage diverted into a septic tank adjacent to the coastal path; access would be via existing tracks with the tank desludged every six months.

To comply with EU regulations, crude discharge had to be removed from the Boswedden Mine Shaft by December 2012, and the proposed works would also improve the amount of discharge via the Porthledden outfall.

Councillor McClary commented on the cost of constructing a new septic tank, opposed to providing new individual treatment systems at the remaining three properties which was a less expensive option.

Councillor Morris commented on the viability of pumping effluent from the septic tank. Dominic Lovell stated that this option had been considered but that the cost was too prohibitive. He also commented that the Porthledden outfall had to remain as an emergency facility.

Councillor Thomas asked if there were any plans to repair the outfall as it was not in a good condition. Dominic Lovell confirmed that the last 10m of the pipe was not in a good condition but that there were no planned improvement works as storm damage was a constant problem. In response, Councillor Thomas asked if in the future there would be zero tolerance to pumping raw sewage into the sea. In response, it was confirmed that the use of septic tanks and discharge via the Porthledden outfall had been deemed as acceptable practice by the Environment Agency.

The Town Council was advised that the next stage of the process was to submit a formal planning application to Cornwall Council for the new septic tank and pumping station kiosk, all other works came within permitted development rights. The Environment Agency would be consulted on the proposal as part of the consultation process. It was hoped to submit the application in the next two / three weeks with a view to construction works starting in September to meet the December deadline. The Town Council and the public would have the opportunity to comment on the proposal as part of the formal application process. It was also confirmed that landowners had been consulted on the proposal.

The Mayor thanked Mike Court, Dominic Lovell and Oliver Denne for attending the meeting and confirmed that the Town Council would formally respond to the proposal as a consultee in the planning process.

TC.25 PROPOSED MOORLAND GRAZING AT HIGHER KEIGWIN FARM

Liz Cox, Cornwall Wildlife Trust attended the meeting to outline proposals for moorland grazing at Higher Keigwin Farm under a Higher Level Stewardship Agreement, following a recent site visit attended by Councillor Morris and Councillor Thomas: she also gave a brief summary of the work of the Trust.

Two options were proposed to graze two areas of common land at Tor Noon and Higher Downs. Option 1: graze each moorland area in small compartments, option 2: grazing both areas as a whole using existing gates and Cornish hedges with an area of temporary electric fencing, to be used when cattle were grazing. Option 2 would require consent from the Secretary of State.

The Town Council was advised that as Tor Noon and Higher Downs were scheduled ancient monuments English Heritage had been consulted and that Schedule Ancient Monument Consent had been received. Various other organisations had also been consulted including Save Penwith Moors, PAROW, British Horse Society and the Ramblers, as well as AONB and Cornwall Council's Historic Environment Service.

The overriding objective of the scheme was to introduce sensitive management of the farmland, whilst preserving public access to, and enjoyment of, the moorland.

An initial step would be to implement Option 1, with a view to progressing to Option 2 at a later stage.

The Chairman thanked Liz Cox and Lisa Guy for attending the meeting.

The Town Council noted the proposals under Option 1, and the possibility of its views being sought on Option 2 as part of a formal consultation process, at a later stage.

TC.26 BOSAVERN FARM ALLOTMENTS - UPDATE

The Deputy Town Mayor gave an update on progress in respect of the funding applications for the proposed new allotments at Bosavern Farm.

The funding application to the West Cornwall LAG had been submitted and would be considered by the Board on 14 June. A further funding application would be submitted to the "Awards for All" for £10,000 later this week.

Following a site meeting with an officer from Cornwall Council's highways team regarding the access, a revised estimate of £16,250 had been received for the ground works which was within budget.

RESOLVED: That Town Council noted the progress made in respect of the project.

TC.27 ARRANGEMENTS FOR LAFROWDA DAY

The Town Council discussed the arrangements for this year's annual Lafrowda Day reception on 21 July 2012.

RESOLVED: That a formal reception be held on 21 July 2012 in the Council Chamber, hosted by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.28 DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Town Council considered the detail of a draft new code of conduct which had been considered by Cornwall Council's Standards Committee in February 2012 which would form part of the new ethical standards regime due to come in to force on 1 July 2012. The Town Council agreed to defer making any comment until the regulations had been published and the draft code amended accordingly.

The Town Council also noted the contents of a letter from the Cornwall Association of Local Councils regarding the proposed new arrangements, together with an update on the introduction of the new code.

TC.29 ST JUST TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE (TIC)

The Town Council considered a proposal from Cornwall Council's Library Service on how it proposed to use the financial support ring fenced in the 2012 / 2013 budget to provide extended opening hours at the TIC in St Just during a nine week period from 2 July to 31 August 2012. The proposed opening hours were:

Monday 9.30 – 13.30
Tuesday 9.30 – 13.30
Wednesday 9.30 – 17.00
Thursday 9.30 – 13.30
Friday 9.30 – 18.30
Saturday 10.00 – 13.00

An existing permanent member of the Library Service staff would be employed for 26 hours per week which would be funded from the £2,500.00 grant from the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the payment of the £2,500.00 to Cornwall Council's Library Service to provide extended TIC opening hours during the summer period be approved.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.30 INSURANCE

The Town Council considered the renewal of its current insurance which was due to expire on 30 May 2012, and which included an increase in Fidelity Guarantee in line with the Internal Auditor's recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the insurance renewal quotation received from Zurich Municipal for 2012 / 2013 at a cost of £1,499.92 be accepted.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.31 FINANCE

(a) Financial Assistance

Councillor Morris and Councillor Goninan declared a prejudicial interest in the following item as committee members of the St Just & District Community Sports Association and withdrew from the meeting for consideration of the item.

The Town Council considered a report by the Town Clerk which gave details on a number of requests for financial assistance from an organisation called "Sundance", St Just & District Community Sports Association and Contact the Elderly – Penwith.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The following grants be approved:-

Sundance	£300.00
St Just & District Community Sports Association	£2,500.00

- (2) The application from Contact the Elderly – Penwith be deferred until the next meeting pending receipt of additional information.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

(b) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £3,749.36 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

(c) Letters of Thanks

The Town Clerk reported that letters of thanks had been received from Cape Cornwall School in respect of the Phoenix Project, the Cornwall Blind Association and St Just in Bloom in connection with the grants which had been recently awarded.

TC.32 PLANNING

(a) Applications

PA12/03485 Construction of single storey Eco house in rear garden at Nancherrow Barn, Kenidjack, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Roger Petty. **(T Cl split decision on the vote – no formal comment made. Determination to be left to Cornwall Council)**

PA12/04545 Demolition of existing porch and construction of larger porch at 1, Boswedden Terrace, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. & Mrs. B. Henley. **(T Cl no objection)**

PA12/03974 Extension to rear of property to form new dining room and alteration to existing approved dormer at Lyndhurst, Pendeen. Applicant: Ms. C. Belsham. **(T Cl no objection)**

(b) Decisions

PA12/01291 Erection of extension at Cocks Roost, St. Just. Applicant: Mrs. Sarah Watt. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection subject to the exposed stone being retained and no external rendering).

TC.33 INFORMATION ITEM

(a) Training

The Town Council noted the arrangements for the training on effective Council meetings, which was to be held on 25 June 2012.

(b) Caravan and Camp Site – Cornwall Council Proposed Harmonised Licence Conditions Consultation

The Town Council noted the detail of the above consultation which was due to end on 11 June 2012.

TC.34 MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Town Mayor reported that the planning application in respect of the development of affordable homes at Moorland Close, Pendeen was to be considered by the West Area Planning Committee on 6 June 2012. The Town Mayor would be attending the meeting to speak in support of the application.

The Town Clerk advised the Town Council that in view of the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend, the agenda for the meeting on 11 June would be despatched on 31 May 2012.

Councillor McClary requested that an item on improving the Town Council's communications be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.35 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.36 PREMISES COMMITTEE

Councillor K McFadden, as Chairman of the Premises Committee updated the Town Council on the progress which had been made in the discussions with Cornwall Council on purchasing the freehold of the public car parks in St Just and Pendeen, together with the future operation and maintenance of the public toilets. The Town Council was advised that an extraordinary meeting of the Committee would be held when confirmation on the valuation of the Lafrowda Car Park was available.

Meeting closed at 9.01 p.m.

Town Mayor