

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 30 November 2015 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor K. McFadden – Town Mayor
Councillor Mrs F Cock – Deputy Town Mayor

COUNCILLORS

Mrs M Blundy	F Morris
B Clemens	D Roberts
N McFadden	G Roberts
T McFadden	Mrs G Salmon
Mrs G McQueen	

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Mrs. James – Cornwall Councillor
Andrea Gilbert – Inclusion Cornwall Manager

Minutes Silence

The Town Council observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect following the recent tragic death of Steve Carroll, a former Town Council contractor.

TC197 PUBLIC ADDRESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

TC.198 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was an apology for absence from Cllr Stevens.

TC.199 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Town Mayor and Cllr T McFadden declared a registerable interest in min no. TC211/15 (a) (Applications) in respect of PA15/10047 as the applicant and the owner of the property, and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the application.

The Town Mayor & Cllr T McFadden also declared a non-registerable interest in min no. TC.215/15 (Pendeen Playing Field – Award of Maintenance & Play Inspection Contract) as they were related to the owner of one of the companies which had quoted for the contract, and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

Cllr N McFadden declared a registerable interest in min no.TC.215/15 (Pendeen Playing Field – Award of Maintenance & Play Equipment Contract) as the owner of Cornwall Garden Services which had quoted for the contract, and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

Cllr N McFadden also declared a non-registerable interest in min no. TC211/15 (a) (Applications) in respect of PA15/10047 as he was related to the applicant and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

Cllr Clemens declared a non-registerable interest in min. no TC.210/15(a) (Accounts for Payment) in respect of Pendeen Silver Band and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

Cllr G Roberts declared a non-registerable interest in min no. TC211/15 (a) (Applications) in respect of PA15/10047 as he had tendered for the supply of equipment and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item.

TC.200 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations granted.

TC.201 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 November 2015, as amended below, be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

Min No. 187 (Matters Arising) dates of Dementia Awareness Training to read 20 & 26 November, followed by presentation on 8 December 2015.

TC.202 MATTERS ARISING

On minute no. TC.190/15 (Paperless Planning), the Town Clerk reported that a new laptop and screen had been purchased and installed in the Council Chamber to enable councillors and members of the public to view planning applications.

TC.203 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Mayor reported that he had hosted the Feast Sunday celebrations on 1 November, attended Remembrance Sunday Service on 8 November, Remembrance Day commemoration on 11 November and opened the Yuletide Fete on 28 November 2015.

The Deputy Town Mayor reported that she had attended Feast Sunday and had represented the Town Council at the Remembrance Sunday Service in Pendeen. The Deputy Mayor had also attended the Yuletide Fete, paperless planning training, a meeting of the Twinning Association and assisted in the clearance at The Leat, Pendeen.

Cllr Clemens reported that he had also attended the Remembrance Sunday Service, Pendeen and helped with the clearance of The Leat.

Cllr Mrs Blundy reported that the Dementia Awareness Training had been well attended.

Cllr Mrs Salmon reported that she had attended the West Penwith Community Network meeting on 19 November 2015. A copy of her report had been circulated with the agenda.

TC.204 REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

In the absence of PCSO Andrew Tonkin, the Town Clerk presented the monthly Police report for the period covering the 19 October to 26 November 2015. During that period there had been 20 reported crimes which compared to 8 for the same period in the previous year.

The crimes reported comprised of:-

- 1 Theft;
- 8 Criminal Damages. (3 being damage to bus shelter at Boscaswell);
- 1 Harassment;
- 1 Possess a fighting dog;
- 5 Assaults;
- 2 Use of threatening/ abusive /insulting words;
- 1 Malicious Communication Offence (Facebook); and
- 1 Burglary.

TC.205 REPORT OF THE CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

Cllr Mrs James gave her monthly update on county matters as follows:-

As 2015 drew to a close Cllr James felt that it was an appropriate time to reflect on a number of issues as there were opportunities on the horizon in 2016 on which she and the Town Council could work together. A team of volunteers from the Friends of Portheras Cove, National Trust and Wild Penwith had assisted in the clearance of The Leat. Cllr Mrs James made a special thank you to the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Clemens who had joined the team when she was stuck at County Hall!

Cllr Mrs James was due to attend the installation of the new vicar for St Just and Pendeen this week, Rev Karston Wedgewood had indicated that early in the New Year a meeting should be held between the local church and community leaders to decide a way forward on the lack of burial spaces in Pendeen.

Councillors were already aware that a consortium, led by Cornwall Partnership Foundation Trust would likely take over community health services from 1 April 2016. Whilst it gave many comfort that the provision was moving back into the health service and might assist in the integration of health and social care, Cllr Mrs James would continue to challenge robustly over hand over arrangements.

The Council was advised that all the homes at Croft Mear, Pendeen were now sold: the last five would soon be occupied by local people from the Homechoices Register. Cllr Mrs James had attended the open viewing and fielded enquiries regarding the properties for rent. It was clear that people thought highly of the units and demand had exceeded the number of homes available.

A new Chief Executive had been appointed to Cornwall Council called Kate Kennally. This was her first Chief Executive post but she had significant senior management experience in both Health and Social Care.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission had decided to impose a review on Cornwall with a tight timetable with a view to implementing new boundaries by the elections in 2017. Cornwall Council was expected to agree the future number of Councillors to run the Council in the range of 28 and 107, by April 2016. The Boundary Commission would then produce provisional divisions by August 2016 which would go out for public consultation. The new divisions for the elections in May 2017 would be announced in January 2017.

Opportunities in 2016: Reference was made to the Heritage Lottery money awarded to the First and Last Our Living Working Landscape Project, the erection of the Miners' statue, the Tin Coast Project and an allocation of £44,487 to the community network to support devolution projects. Whilst some of these projects might have seemed unconnected, Cllr Mrs James felt that there was the potential to bring some common threads together in order to maximise the benefits to the people of St Just and Pendeen. There would be fierce competition of ideas and she would need the full engagement of this Council if the area was to maximise the investment and benefits locally.

The First and Last Project would see £3.5m invested in West Penwith where St Just would be the significant town as Penzance was excluded from the project. The vision of the project was *"... a resilient Penwith Landscape where farming prospers while protecting natural resources, restoring habitat connectivity and enhancing the archaeological heritage; a landscape that is loved, enjoyed and supported by local communities and visitors."* Thirteen interconnected projects had been identified for development ranging from increasing access to and the availability of information about our landscape and its heritage, to supporting farm business, the development of a visitors interpretation centre (within an existing building) and ensuring that historic derelict buildings, many on farms, were brought in to sustainable economic use whilst protecting the heritage asset.

Those passing the gate of Geevor Tin Mine would have noticed the granite plinth, symbolising a mine shaft that was being erected for the huge Miners' Statue to be mounted on. Cllr Mrs James had met with the sculptor, Colin Cafell and a landscaper who were optimistic that the memorial garden would be completed by next spring and the statue in place late spring/ early summer. The statue would face towards St Just and hopefully become an iconic feature of the area and a fitting memorial to mining heritage.

The Tin Coast Project was a National Trust project that Cllr Mrs James had been involved with, and which it was hoped would be progressed early next year. The purpose was to create a destination on the far west Coast of Cornwall calling it 'The Tin Coast'. It would represent all that was best about Cornwall's landscape, industrial history and World Heritage Site status. Working with partners, the National Trust wanted to create a 'brand' to market the area's heritage and natural history, with a focus on mining. It was **AGREED** that the National trust be invited to give a presentation to the full Council in the new year.

Finally, funding had been allocated to the Community Network to support devolution projects, with a priority to assist the devolution of libraries and One Stop Shops. The £44,487 would be revenue funding although small allocations to meet capital projects would be allowable. Whilst Cllr Mrs James felt there was a powerful case to make, in terms of the library in St Just, other Cornwall Councillors would understandably want to justify the funds for projects in their division. She would be seeking the Council's and other stakeholders support to make a solid case for funding to be allocated towards developing a sustainable library model for the Western tip of Cornwall. This would build on our current devolution discussions.

TC.206 NOTICE OF MOTION

The Town Council considered the following notice of motion (NoM) from Cllr Mrs Blundy:-

"Following widespread concerns in recent months that the contract for adult community health services could be outsourced to a private company, this Council welcomes the announcement on 17 November that a local NHS consortium comprising Cornwall Partnership Foundation Trust, Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust and Kernow Health Community Interest Company is NHS Kernow's preferred provider to deliver this contract from 1 April 2016, which will aid the desired integration of health services."

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Blundy and seconded by Cllr Mrs McQueen that the motion be now put.

After detailed consideration the Town Council MOVED to support the Notice of Motion.

TC.207 HELSON & LIZARD WORKS PROJECT

The Town Council received a presentation from Andrea Gilbert, Inclusion Cornwall Manager, on the Helston & Lizard Works Project.

Working with the Job Centre And Cornwall College to project aimed to provide bespoke volunteer work packages for unemployed individuals with a view to getting them back into work. Helston and the Lizard had been chosen for the initial project due to the areas rural nature and isolation. The project covered three areas individuals / business and community projects. Helston Town Council had taken the lead on community projects, such as footpath clearance, Christmas lights etc. The project had delivered a real sense of purpose to those on the scheme, as they felt valued in carrying out their tasks. The Job Centre was integral to the scheme and it was hoped to expand the scheme to other rural areas such as St Just. The key objective of the scheme was *"to keep people moving"*. Initially, the project had hoped to help 40 people back into employment. However, it had proved so successful, that 108 had been helped back into work in the first year. Additional funding was being applied for to extend the project. Helston Town Council had made a financial contribution of £2-3,000 with added assistance from the local Cornwall Councillors Community Chest. In response to a question, it was confirmed that there were currently 300 job ready individuals and 6,000 persons on sickness benefit within the Penzance area. The Town Council thanked Ms Gilbert for the presentation.

TC.208 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

At the request of Cllr Mrs Blundy, the Town Council considered what action to take on the possible development of a neighbourhood plan, following the presentation given by James Hardy at the last meeting (Min no. TC.188/15 refers).

Although the Town Council outlined its general support for the neighbourhood planning process and the added protection that could be provided through the development of a plan, it was concerned at the length of time and the amount of funding required to produce a plan in view of other competing priorities such as the ongoing devolution discussions and the next local council elections in 2017. As a consequence, it was **RESOLVED** to defer the matter for a further 12 months.

Cllr Mrs Blundy requested that her disappointment in the Council's decision be formally recorded in the minutes.

TC.209 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 SECTION 119 CORNWALL COUNCIL (FOOTPATHS NOS.186 (PART) AND AN UNRECORDED FOOTPATH, ST JUST-IN-PENWITH) (CHYROSE)) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2014.

The Town Council considered if it wished to make any comments on the statements that had been received from the Planning Inspectorate regarding footpath 186 at Chyrose. The Town Council AGREED that the Planning Inspectorate be advised that the Town Council supports Mr Matthew's statement.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.210 FINANCE

(a) Financial Assistance

No grant applications had been received.

(b) Accounts for Payment

In accordance with the disclosure of his interest Cllr Clemens withdrew from the meeting for consideration of the following item.

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £1,956.84 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

(c) Letters of Thanks

There were no letters of thanks.

TC.211 PLANNING

(a) Applications

In accordance with their declarations of interest the Town Mayor, Cllr N McFadden, Cllr T McFadden and Cllr G Roberts withdrew from the meeting for consideration of the following application.

In the absence of the Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor took the Chair of the following application.

PA15/10047 Construction of cutting plant with chiller, cold store and associated works at Gews Farm Barns, Bethany Place, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Tom McFadden, McFadden Butchers. **(T Cl No objection)**.

PA15/10221 Construction of bungalow and associated works (previously approved PA11/04138) at Benoni Villa, Boscawell Downs, Pendeen. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. Clarke. **(T Cl No objection. However, in respect of room 5 (Lounge facing the road) the Town Council would prefer the elevation to be granite faced rather than timber clad.)**.

PA15/10385 Single storey extension and demolition of existing garage at Andes, South Place, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jose. **(T Cl No objection)**.

PA15/10396 Construction of three dwellings on infill plot with attendant access, parking, garages and infrastructure – including upgrading access lane on land adjoining Queens Arms, Botallack, St. Just. Applicant: Tregothnan Estate. **(T Cl Objection on the grounds of inappropriate use of material. Units should be granite faced throughout to reflect the rural character of the area. On highway grounds no access on to the main road to Pendeen)**.

(b) Decisions

PA15/07259 Certificate of lawfulness for siting of a residential caravan at The Caravan, Balleswidden, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. Spenceley. **Refusal** (T. Cl. No comment, due to lack of evidence).

PA15/07336 Extensions and alterations to dwelling (part-completed) on land formerly known as The Old Forge, Crippas Hill, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. N. McFadden. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

PA15/08903 Proposed garden room replacing existing porch at Chy Vean, 12A Carrallack Terrace, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. E. Harris. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

PA15/09266 Rear first floor dormer extension and alterations at 10, The Square, Pendeen. Applicants: Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Noble. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

TC.212 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr Roberts stated that he was pleased to report that there were currently no major funding concerns at Pengarth Day Centre.

Cllr Mrs McQueen advised the Council of the Christmas Fayre being held at Bosavern Farm on 6 December 2015.

TC.213 INFORMATION ITEMS

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had been invited to re-opening of the Free Church St Just to be held on 16 January 2016. Anyone interested in attending to advise the Town Clerk before 9 January 2016.

TC.214 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, 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.215 PENDEEN PLAYING FIELD – AWARD OF MAINTENANCE & PLAY INSPECTION CONTRACT

In accordance with their disclosures of interest, the Town Mayor, Cllr N McFadden and Cllr T McFadden withdrew from the meeting for consideration of the following item.

In the absence of the Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor took the Chair for the following item.

The Town Council considered the award of the maintenance and play equipment inspection contract for Pendeen Playing Field in advance of the formal transfer of ownership to the Town Council. The Town Clerk reported that three quotations had been received from Cormac Ltd, Cornwall Garden Services and Far West Garden Services.

RESOLVED: That the contract be awarded to Cornwall Garden Services at a cost of £1,634.00 per annum (including one-off cost of £270.00) as part of an initial clearance of the site as it represented best value.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.216 ACTION TAKEN

The Town Council noted the action taken by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor in approving an ex-gratia payment to the Administrative Assistant for additional work undertaken during the recent absence of the Town Clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Town Mayor