

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF ST JUST-IN-PENWITH TOWN COUNCIL held on Line, Zoom on Monday 6 July 2020 at 7.15pm

**THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS
(CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE
AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS
2020 No. 392**

Present

Marna Blundy Town Mayor
Sue James Deputy Mayor

Councillors

Farmer Morris Grenville Prowse
Chris Denley Daisy Gibbs
Debbie Shephard Constance Moore
Jonathan Manser

TC.399 Public Address at Council Meetings

One public speaker, Tim Wooton spoke on The Neighbourhood Plan and one other both attended the early part of the meeting.

TC.400 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received on behalf of Brian Clemens, Zoe Baxter, Louise Paine
Debbie Shephard left during the meeting. Chris Denley left the meeting before
the final items.

TC.401 Declarations of Interest

None.

TC.402 Dispensations

None.

TC.403 Minutes

RESOLVED: That, the Town Mayor signs as a true and accurate record the
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 22nd June 2020.

TC.404 Matters Arising

TC397 Correction to word only “signs” rather than cameras.

TC.405 Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: To approve the accounts **£5529.51** for payment as set out
on the attached schedule.

(b) Financial Assistance. Grant applications from St Just RFC and Wheal
Buzzy .

RESOLVED: St Just RFC awarded £1000 on the understanding if the Fireworks Event is cancelled the money would be rolled over to the following year for use then. Wheal Buzzy were awarded £1500 .

(c) Letter of thanks (None).

TC.406 Planning

Sue James read the following statement:

As both a Cornwall Councillor and Town Councillor for the St Just-in-Penwith Division, I wish to make clear that any views and opinions expressed today will not affect my decision-making at a later stage of the planning process when I might have different information and be in a different role.

a) **Applications**

1. Application PA20/04709 Proposal: Alterations, renovation and first floor extension of existing two-bedroom cottage, including partial demolition and re-construction of north-east elevation and single storey adjoining single storey lean-to, repairs to outbuildings and boundary walls, re-roofing and replacement windows and external doors.

Location 12, Boscaswell Village, Pendeen **No Objection**

2. Application PA20/03991 Proposal Conversion of former count house to dwelling.

Location The Old Count House Pendeen Lighthouse Pendeen **Objection** it should be Granite faced on the side facing the sea, The application must address the use of different materials. Further reports are also still awaited.

3. Application PA20/04790 Proposal Conversion of existing workshop to dwellinghouse.

Location Workshop West of 1, Trewellard Road, Trewellard, Pendeen. **No Objection**

b) **Decisions**

Application PA20/02850 Proposal: Alteration to terraced cottage to include internal reordering, construction of external utility/store range and forming sun terrace over existing dining room extension.

Location: 7, Boswedden Terrace, St. Just.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection)

Application PA20/03389 Proposal: Construction of timber shed.

Location: 24, South Place, St. Just.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection)

Application PA20/03478 Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow and garage and construction of a pair of semi-detached bungalows with integral garages and formation of vehicle access.

Location: The Bungalow, Boswedden Road, St. Just.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection)

Application PA20/03489 Proposal: Retrospective permission for external roof terrace.

Location: Willow Cottage, Lower Bostraze, Newbridge.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection).

Application PA20/00878 Proposal: Outline application for a dwelling with some matters reserved.

Location: Land to North West of East Levant Engine House, Trewellard, St. Just.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection).

Application PA20/04340 Proposal: Proposed granite faced porch.

Location: Wesleys Barn, Bosavern Farm, St. Just.

APPROVED (T. Cl. No Objection).

c) Appeals

None

TC.407 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Debbie Shephard's email and attachments on The Neighbourhood Plan were circulated before the meeting. The subjects of Principle Residence Policy and Second Homes were discussed. The possible use of CIL Money was also discussed. Farmer Morris pointed out that some of the comments mentioned by the public speaker on Parking, Affordable Housing and the Natural Environment were important issues to residents and should be included in the Plan. It was pointed out that the drafting of the Plan and its policies have taken in consideration the household survey conducted last year, with exceptionally high return rate of 39% which gives very strong guidance for the scope of the Plan. The Chair thanked all those working on the Neighbourhood Plan for their continuing hard work to move the Plan forward. Once Cornwall Council have responded back to the submission, the Town Council will have a joint meeting with the Neighbourhood Planning Team.

TC.408 Library

The Clerk updated the Council on preparations for staff providing an extended opening hour with its new restricted Foyer Service Model; agreed by Cornwall LIS. The running of this new service with new hours will now start from Tuesday 14 July 20 rather than the planned 21 July 20 depending on external factors. Councillors, Cornwall Council LIS and the Council website will be given the new days/hours tomorrow.

RESOLVED: That, the Clerk takes steps to provide a Library service from 14 July 20.

I continue with weekly West Penwith Network Cornwall Councillors meetings and All Member Briefings to ensure I keep up to date with information that might benefit our communities.

The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Major Incident, under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, has now been stood down but multi-agency actions can still be taken if there are mass unauthorised gatherings or if one particular agency, say the NHS or the Council, became overwhelmed. The Local Resilience Forum is still active, involving all emergency services, co-ordinating activities and sharing intelligence.

Cornwall Council has moved to the recovery phase but are working closely with Public Health England and the local NHS to ensure we can manage quickly any areas and/or settings where infection rates appear to be rising or spiking. There are concerns about the effectiveness of the National Test and Trace System, with some believing this could be managed better locally as location based information is slow to reach local staff that need it to respond.

National messages are not getting out effectively and I hope you will work with me in sharing that, those with symptoms, say a new persistent cough, high temperature and/ or the loss of taste and smell should not only isolate for 14 days but also request a test, because only then can contacts be identified and traced quickly, if people do have the virus. Sadly, the message has stuck with self-isolate, do not visit your GP or hospital, including at our local GP practice.

The other message that I want to share, that again is not being given clearly nationally, is that mask wearing/face coverings **will assist** in reducing the spread of the virus. They should be used when going to shops and other places where there is a risk of the 2metre distancing being compromised or your contact will involve anything more than quickly passing by others, in the open air. This is important as people are going out and mixing more, when holiday makers are arriving and, those that have been shielding are starting to leave their homes. The virus has not gone away so at this delicate time, we must do what we can to ensure it cannot start to circulate freely again. Washing hands regularly and always before preparing or eating food, after being outside your home, or after putting away shopping, is crucial.

Some in our community are nervous about visitors arriving and our emergency services are very aware of the risk of tensions, anti-social behaviour and conflict, possibly fuelled by alcohol as the pubs re-open. The police are going to have an Officer working within Cornwall's CCTV room at Tolvaddon, to be able to respond quickly and effectively in Towns signed up; luckily most major Towns.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY – CHANCE TO BUILD BACK BETTER

Cornwall Council is using the massive changes to how the Council and society has been operating to look to accelerate efforts to address the Climate Emergency. Cabinet recognises we need to put as much effort into reducing emissions and living more sustainably, as to keeping residents safe during the pandemic. Also, staff are achieving a more place based focus, with office buildings at arbitrary locations or historical departmental silos being less important to delivering what residents need.

Local Health and Social Care teams have taken steps towards integration that has been needed but seemed unachievable, and the merger of RCHT and CFT has made sense to me for years and now seems to be going forward.

Our emergency services have been collaborating with fire service drivers driving ambulances and supporting the Police in educating and informing residents about social distancing and with other safety messages. This extended to busy beaches before the RNLI was ready to work.

A big consultation is taking place with residents and staff to discover the *Cornwall We Want* and the *Council We Need*. I would urge you, your families and friends to visit the Cornwall Council website and search for *The Cornwall We Want* conversation. Staff and Councillors are focussing more on *The Council We Need*, to be more focused on our communities and enabling them to continue operating good neighbour type schemes, if they can, supported through Volunteer Cornwall.

TOILETS

There are porta loos in St Just so that work can commence, meeting the wishes of the Town Council. The location of them was not without its problems but hopefully their current position will work out, although they can be moved if there is real evidence of problems. I am pushing for a date the refurbishment will commence and will share this as soon as I receive it.

Pendeen toilets are open.

FULL COUNCIL MEETING (CORNWALL COUNCIL)

We have the first virtual Full Council meeting for Cornwall Council tomorrow. This will be a very different experience to 123 Councillors in the room, and the rules of engagement have had to change.

I will be supporting 2 motions being debated, the first to seek the ability to reduce the voting age to 16, at least as a pilot in Cornwall for local elections in May, and the second to ask the Government to increase support to save the coach tour industry, which will in turn support Cornish Hotels.

I can take questions if the Chair feels that is appropriate.

TC.410 Coronavirus Report

The Clerk is continuing to send emails from various bodies to the Council on advice and services being offered by the organisations, the latest one from Cornwall Council was sent to them today.

TC.411 Mayor's Report

Devolution meeting 25th June

We finally had chance to speak with officers about progressing the purchase of the toilets and car parks. The Town Clerk will update us in matters for report, but we are expecting the Memorandum of Understanding and amended Heads

of Terms very soon. Meanwhile there are issues to resolve over the boundary of the car park and the Car Parks Order. And we had a very complicated couple of days last week over the siting of the temporary toilets, which caused much local concern. Finally, after many emails and conversations, a location was authorised. I trust the remedial works will start very soon.

Mayors' Zoom 26th June

This was a very interesting meeting, which covered a number of pertinent issues, including Safe Social Distancing in towns, grass cutting and recycling banks. We are all facing similar issues in our towns.

Safe Social Distancing in St Just – update

The Town Clerk will update us about the traffic signage to be provided. I hope this will be sufficient to slow the traffic and enable safe social distancing with increased numbers in the town.

The Coop was very keen to relocate temporarily to enable the building works to be completed more speedily, and a venue was suggested to them. I don't yet know whether that will be taken up or not.

Pendeen Play Park

Again, the Town Clerk will update us about this. The laminated signs, replaced several times, were systematically removed. We hope the new signage, once the park is reopened, will remain intact.

Grass cutting

It is understood that Highways are returning to work after COVID. At the Mayors' Meeting concerns were expressed about a lack of verge cutting in particular.

Some Councils are calling on voluntary groups to assist, and Newquay is supporting Cornwall College's Newquay Campus where research is taking place into verges. The review has mixed findings – there is not a 'one size fits all' solution to verge cutting or not cutting.

Others pointed out that you can't simply 'rewild' areas – to do this properly needs managing, not just leaving to nature; and overgrown verges are affecting the ability to maintain correct social distancing in some places. Concerned Councils were recommended to speak to their Community Link Officer.

My own observations locally are that, as we're now in July, it is increasingly clear to me that many of our verges are seriously overgrown and causing danger for pedestrians trying to walk along roads without pavements, and for driver visibility.

Recycling meeting 30th June

The Town Clerk will report on this. At the Mayors' Meeting several other towns were as concerned as we are about the loss of recycling facilities, and have found that to take on recycling themselves is too costly to contemplate.

Covid-19 and the Planning Reform Bill

I attended a Teams meeting on Friday, hosted by CALC. However, they ended up discussing the Outdoor Seating Law instead, deferring the Planning reforms to another meeting. Full details about these new regulations should be coming to us via the Town Clerk.

Climate Action Group meeting 1st July

I attended this meeting on 1st July, and Constance as Chair has given her report.

As the holidaymakers start to arrive, businesses reopen and communities get busier, so do our lives, it seems. It has been a very intense couple of weeks....

TC.412 Committee Reports

The Climate Committee heard from Lyla Byrne, who rents two acres in Cot Valley and has planted more than 1,000 trees. She has formed a community interest company, and hopes to use the site for educational purposes and workshops, and to work with St Just in Bloom and Wheal Buzzy.

We are still hoping to put out a leaflet in the autumn, looking at how we can plan for a sustainable future post-Covid, and have even made a start on repairing the noticeboard!

TC.413 Correspondence

Despite exchanges of correspondence with Cormac there is no confirmation on who cut the grass verges at the entrance to the town or around the Library.

Post Meeting Note: It was confirmed that it wasn't Cormac.

Plain an Gwarry the Council have been informed an application for Scheduled Monument Consent has been received by Historic England from The Co-operative Food Group Ltd for works at the scheduled monument.

The Council had been advised of the planned merger between Alverton and Cape Cornwall Surgery.

TC.414 Pendeen Playpark

The Government guidance now allows councils to open Playparks. The Council discussed the matter and agreed the Park could be opened.

RESOLVED: To open the park to the public and display new signage with the current safety messages.

TC.415 Daisy Gibbs report back on the Daisy Chain

Daisy updated the Council that it was intended to carry the work of the group on in some form yet to be decided.

TC.416 Annual Meeting

The Council debated the advantages of holding its annual meeting in September.

RESOLVED: Council will hold its annual meeting on 1 September 2020.

TC.417 Information Items and Matters to Report

Car Parks and Toilets. The Clerk informed Councillors that a meeting with Cornwall Council on the devolution of the Toilets took place on 25 June 20. It was well attended by Cornwall Council Officers and several Town Councillors (Mayor's report gives more details). The discussions asked about the opening of Toilets asap to ease problems caused by the closure. Cornwall Council explained it would supply porta loos, rather than open the toilets while the essential work to the toilets is carried out ahead of devolution of them to the Town Council.

On the subject of the devolution, Cornwall Council stated it would like a Memorandum of Understanding agreed between the Councils for the devolution plans to begin.

A Meeting was held with Head of Waste at Cornwall Council on 30 June to discuss the pending withdrawal of Recycling Centres. It was mentioned that Cornwall Council had already announced the Cabinet decision to remove the 67 Recycling Centres across Cornwall. 35 towns have already agreed to have them removed. Although the Town Council tried to demonstrate the need for them to remain, the officer said they were not "cost effective" and it is planned to remove them by October 2020. Posters will be displayed warning of this at the centres. Cornwall Council plan to do some targeted approach to some households.

A stock of St Just Town Guides can be available to any business which would like them within the Parish.

The meeting closed at 9.23pm.

