

MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING OF ST JUST-IN-PENWITH TOWN COUNCIL
held on Line, Zoom on Monday 22 February 2021 at 7.00pm

**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	Chris Denley
Jonathan Manser	Brian Clemens
Daisy Gibbs	
Constance Moore	Zoe Baxter
Louise Paine	Debbie Shephard

TC.190 Public Address at Council Meetings

Pre-Planning presentation Richard Marsden on behalf of Andy and Leanne Cleary, who own the Cape Cornwall Club.

TC.191 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received on behalf of Grenville Prowse.

TC.192 Declarations of Interest

None.

TC.193 Dispensations

None.

TC.194 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 8th February 2021 with one minor amendment.

TC.195 Matters Arising

None.

TC.196 Finance

- (a) Accounts for Payment of £7096.95 and N Plan £88.87 were presented for approval.

RESOLVED: To approve the payments **£7096.95 and £88.87.**

- (b) Financial Assistance

None.

- (c) Letters of thanks:

None.

TC.197 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

21/21 Application: PA21/00350

Proposal: Demolition of existing rear garden lean-to extension and replacement with new extended lean-to extension. Replace existing side lean-to corrugated roof with new corrugated roof panels.

Location: 2, Bosorne Terrace, St Just **(T. Cl. No Objection).**

22/21 Application: PA21/00356

Proposal: Proposed porch to existing cottage

Location: 4, Bethany Place, St. Just **(T. Cl. No Objection).**

23/21 Application: PA20/11240

Proposal: Provision of 3 yurts and associated facilities for the purposes of tourist accommodation.

Location: Mena Gwins, Road from Dowran Commons to Dowran, St. Just. **(T. Cl. No Objection).**

b) Decisions

Application: PA20/10393

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use for storage and distribution of Scott May Stunt Show U.K.

Location: Stunts UK Storage Unit, Dowran, St. Just. **CAADs, PIPs and LU's only** (T. Cl. No Comment)

Application: PA19/08543

Proposal: Construction of single dwelling and associated works.

Location: Land rear of 6, Carnyorth Terrace, Carnyorth, St. Just **Refusal** (T. Cl. Strong Objection – Inappropriate development, dangerous access, wrong use of materials and overlooking other properties. Site access in a dangerous spot on to the road with blind spots. Development not in keeping with the settlement).

Application: PA20/08831

Proposal: Conversion, extension and change of use of buildings to a house and a domestic annexe.

Location: Nanjulian Farm, Road from Newtown to Nanjulian, Nanquidno, St. Just. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection)

Application: PA20/10430

Proposal: Extend redundant composite shower block and change the use into a dwelling.

Location: Bosavern House, Bosavern, St. Just. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

Application: PA20/10449

Proposal: Change of use and conversion of 2 barns to 2 residential dwellings and associated works with non-compliance with Condition 2 in relation to Decision Notice PA15/01830 dated 24/04/2015.

Location: Hailglower Farm House, Access to Hailglower Farm, St. Just.

Approval (T. Cl. No Objection).

- c) **Appeals** *None*
- d) **Appeal Decisions** *None*
- e) **Enforcements** *None*

TC.198 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

The Neighbourhood Plan is now with Cornwall Council going through the next stage. Sue James mentioned that the earliest the Plan could reach the key stage was likely to be July 2021 from what she has learnt lately.

TC.199 Library

The Town Council is providing the public with a restricted Library Foyer Service which is still allowed under the National Lockdown. The Council will monitor the developing situation from today's announcement and take action when necessary about the next step.

TC.200 Coronavirus Report

The Clerk is continuing to send emails from the various bodies such as CALC and Cornwall Council to Councillors, the latest one was sent today; these give advice/actions the Town Council could take during the crisis.

TC.201 Committee Reports

Chair of the Property & Amenities Committee gave an overview of the last committee meeting.

Pendeen Playground

The Chair mentioned she had visited the site and it seemed satisfactory to the pre work discussions at the site meeting. The Clerk obtained three costings to repair the damaged wall with a dry lean stone concrete. The 3 costings for the work were shared before the meeting by email.

Resolved: The Committee selected the contractor with the lowest costing to complete the work within 28 days.

The Committee discussed the matter to continue with the Annual Inspection of the playpark and its equipment due in May/June 2021, and to recommend to Full Council to book the annual inspection by ROSPA Ltd.

Resolved: The Full Council agreed to book the annual inspection with ROSPA Ltd.

Library Building

Cornwall Council Contractors had now installed new panes of glass at no cost to the Town Council. A report had been requested on the structure which was shared by email stating the structure was not defected. The external area around the library needed the Climate Change Committee to come up with plans to present to the Full Council on its long-term proposals, showing what should happen in each area such as planting and grass control. In April the grass may need another one off cut but this will be considered at the next P & A meeting.

The Library has never had a flag pole so selecting one and then obtaining it and having it correctly erected for the 5 March 21 is not an option this year. It may be possible to reuse the flag pole, but it was previously stated at a meeting that it is not in a fit state. The Chair mentioned that once this is confirmed, the Committee could recommend to Full Council to obtain full costings on the design positioning, purchase and erecting of a new Flagpole outside the Library. In the meantime, the Chair mentioned the Council has a St Piran Flag and this could be used by the Library staff to create an internal St Piran's window presentation this year.

Signage

The Clerk asked three contractors for costings for the sign "Town Council and Library". Two had submitted costings but the third had phoned to say he would not submit a costing given that he is more of a traditional sign maker and his costs would be much higher compared to others for this simple work.

The Committee discussed the merits of both submitted costings. The lower costing was from Plus Print however the Font style still needs to be agreed. Debbie is trying to establish the name of the font that that would be most suitable. Once the Clerk has this information, he will ask for a sample mock-up of the sign from the contractor for the Committee to select.

Car Parks and Toilets

The last devolution meeting was held at the end of January. At that meeting the issues of the confirmation of toilets, underground pipes and their cleaner were still issues that had to be investigated by Cornwall Council before the devolution could be progressed further.

Plain an Gwarry

The Committee had received paper work on the cost of a hand rail but the Clerk had to check further to make sure all other items were presented. This was likely to be completed later in the week by email. The handrail will be fixed to the walling adjacent to the steps utilising the joints between its stonework wherever possible, avoiding any drilling into the historic stonework.

Adam updated the Committee at the previous meeting on the current situation of the outstanding work at the Plain, Adam was asked to submit his costings for providing this service to get the Impact Assessment completed and the project moving again with a plan of work to the Clerk.

Resolved: The Committee agreed to the costing provided by Adam.

Adam had informed the Committee that it was proving very difficult to get Historical England to say what they exactly needed from him to progress the work. The Clerk had therefore contacted Nick Russell and his Clerk to try and press for more detail on what was needed and stating we believe the WSI is needed for the monitoring and recording during the trenching work: although it could also be for the archaeological recording or for the works that the building contractor is to undertake when installing the drain. Any guidance/information would be greatly welcome to be shared with Adam. Roger McClean (Building Contractor) had also been brought up to date.

Resolved: The Committee asked if the Clerk could help by making contact with Nick Russell and then ensuring he lets Adam know what is needed. Nick should be in contact with the Clerk by 1 March 21.

Any other matters.

Councillor Morris checked Bench/Table at the Leat which have become loose. He will replace a board, but no major work is needed.

Carnyorth Bus Shelter is missing down pipes and a missing tile and fascia board need replacing. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Full Council to obtain costings from 2 local contractors to carry out these low-cost repairs.

Resolved: The Council agreed to recommend that the Clerk obtain costings from 2 local contractors and carry out these low-cost repairs.

Chair of Climate Change Committee gave an overview of the last committee meeting. They are looking at putting in spring plants and keeping the grass lower. Daisy offered some springs bulbs such as snow drops to the Committee. The Chair is finalising the leaflet and will present quotes to the Council; although given the coronavirus crisis delivery may be later than planned. St Just in Bloom are still collecting money and the Collection Tin was collected from Clemo's Store recently. The Chair asked Councillors to recommended contractors to St Just in Bloom who could undertake the seat and its instalment by the Primary School in memory of Robert Matthews.

Chair of the Internal Audit Committee gave an overview mentioning this was an extra meeting to one held in September 20 and that the Committee and Full Council had been kept informed of the progress following the steps taken since the last audit. The last Quarter Report at the last Full Council Meeting had brought the Council up to speed with details on the investment strategy and plans to change banks in May 21 with the establishment of the new Council, and split the investment between Barclays £85K and remainder with Lloyds and to use Lloyds for its business account once they are accepting new accounts,

TC.202. Cornwall Councillors Report

LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORT

I want to stress again the importance of businesses being pointed in the direction of networking with advice and support available either locally or Cornwall wide. It can be very easy for small businesses to struggle with the impacts of COVID restrictions and some with challenges from Brexit alone, whereas if they could lift their heads a little and engage, they might find both practical and moral support.

Very locally, there is the Tin Coast Partnership, and whilst their focus is towards businesses that are in the tourism sector, many businesses in our Parish have a lesser indirect link with tourism. Also, many of the issues facing the tourism sector are the same or similar to those facing other businesses. Here is a link to the relevant part of the Tin Coast Website to share: [Tin Coast for Business](#)

To link with Cornwall wide advice, information and support I would strongly advise local businesses including our sole traders/ self-employed to visit the Cornwall Council [COVID Recovery page](#) and/ or [Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Growth Hub](#). On the Growth hub page, there is a phone number to ring if really struggling with where to turn and the feedback is that it is very helpful to point folk in the right direction.

TOWN VITALITY FUND BID

Our application is in and we have a virtual meeting on 1 March to discuss and clarify some of the detail of our bid. The application will then be discussed and decided on 5 March.

CORNWALL COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN & BUDGET

This is before Full Council tomorrow (Tuesday), when Councillors will be asked to vote on continuing to focus on the five-priority area below and a Council tax rise of 1.99% plus 3% specifically to fund Social Care which is facing even greater demands due to the pandemic. Full details can be found on the Cornwall Council website, including a link to watch the meeting: [Cornwall Council Papers for 23 Feb 21](#)

FEEDBACK FROM RESIDENTS ON COUNCIL SERVICES

For the first time, the number of residents saying they are satisfied with the way the Council runs things is above the Local Government Association average figure, with 69% of responses being positive, up from 46% back in 2017.

The number of residents who say they have a great deal or fair amount of trust in the Council has also risen to 74%, a significant rise in the past few years, up from 58% in 2018. It means trust levels in Cornwall are now 10% higher than the national figure measured by the Local Government Association.

There were also satisfaction increases recorded for nearly all council services, with waste and recycling enjoying particularly positive responses from the sample of 3,000 residents from all corners of Cornwall.

The only service to see a reduction in satisfaction levels last year was library services, possibly due to them being closed or offering restricted public access during the coronavirus pandemic. **Key findings:**

- 69% of residents surveyed were **satisfied with the way Council runs things**, up from 54% in Autumn 2019, and 51% in Autumn 2018.
- 74% of residents had a **great deal, or fair amount of trust in the Council**, up from 55% last year.
- 47% agreed the **Council provides value for money**, up from 42% in 2019.
- 73% of respondents outlined **everything was right first time** following their most recent contact with the Council, up from 62%.
- 93% of people said they were **satisfied with Cornwall as a place to live**.
- 88% were satisfied with **refuse collections**, up from 82% last year.
- 82% were satisfied with **recycling services**, up from 76%.
- 39% were satisfied with **road maintenance**, up from 25% in 2019.

- 41% were satisfied with **library services**, down from 46% last year, with 9% dissatisfied and 51% neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. 78% were satisfied with the **fire, rescue and community safety services**, up from 75% in 2019. 73% were satisfied with the **parks and open spaces**, slightly up from 72% in 2019. 55% of residents agreed the Council is making the local **area a better place to live**, up from 33% in 2017. 52% of residents agreed the **Council is campaigning and standing up for Cornwall**, up from 46% in 2019. 58% of residents felt Cornwall Council kept them **very or fairly well informed about the services and benefits** it provides, up from 51% in 2019. 55% agreed that the Council and the police are dealing with **ASB and crime issues** that matter in the local area, up from 43% last year. 43% of residents agreed the **Council is efficient and well run**, up from 32% in 2019.

ELECTION PLANS

Candidates

Cornwall needs all kinds of people to stand for the role of Councillor.

If you are passionate about your local community, we need you.

Our 'Be A Councillor' ([Be a Councillor - Cornwall Council](#)) webpage provides information for prospective candidates.

- Includes videos of current Members explaining what it is like to be a Councillor
- Links to the support available
- Explains what the process of standing for election involves.

Throughout the pandemic, our Councillors have:

- Helped keep residents and businesses informed
- Listened to their views and concerns
- Helped them get the help and support they need
- Been responsible for making decisions that affect the lives of all our residents

Now more than ever, it's clear to see how important their role is.

In January we hosted a virtual Councillor Fair to raise awareness of the role of not only a Cornwall Councillor but also a Town/Parish Councillor.

Nomination packs will be available from early March. You can contact our elections team on 01209 614373 to apply for one.

If you'd like to stand in your local town or parish council, you need to contact the town or parish council clerk direct.

Canvassing

The government has acknowledged that campaigning is an essential part of the democratic process, and voters deserve to be well informed before going to the polls.

Many forms of campaigning can be carried out without increased face-to-face contact including:

- online campaigning
- campaigning by telephone
- delivery of leaflets by post or other commercial delivery services (who are already operating, without causing additional circulation of campaigners)

Updated election expenses for council candidates.

The Government has made it clear that under the current national lockdown, leafleting and door-knocking by party activists is not permissible.

However, it is vital that voters are fully informed, and all candidates have a level playing field in making their case to the electorate in order for elections to be fair and effective.

The Government is due to publish further information on permitted face-to-face campaigning before the beginning of the regulated election period.

We will ensure that prospective candidates and political groups are kept updated when this guidance is available.

Candidates can find updates on the electoral commission and LGA websites.

Poll stations

We are putting arrangements in place to ensure polling stations are safe places to vote.

Voters can expect many of the measures they've become used to over recent months, such as:

- hand sanitiser
- floor markings
- social distancing
- face coverings

Changes in people's working habits (i.e. more people working from home) may result in a more staggered turnout throughout the day (less people before and after work – may help reduce queues).

Postal votes

We know that many people, particularly those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, may be concerned about leaving their home to vote.

Measures are being put in place to ensure that polling stations will be safe, but we'd encourage anyone who is concerned and would prefer to vote by post to apply as soon as possible.

We want to ensure that everybody who wants to vote feels confident in doing so in whatever way they choose.

You can download the postal vote and proxy vote application forms from the elections page on Cornwall Council's website.

You can call our elections team on 01209 614373 if you would like one sent to you.

You can send the form to us by post or you can sign it, scan it and send it as a PDF attachment via email (voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk).

Alternatively, you could take a photo of the completed form on your phone and send it as a jpeg file.

We don't need it to be physically sent in the post but we do require a wet signature.

Emergency proxy

If you are told to self-isolate before the elections, it is really important that you stay at home.

The Government is changing the law to ensure that anyone who is self-isolating can request an emergency proxy vote at the last minute – up to 5pm on polling day itself.

Register to vote

Remember you must be on the Electoral Register if you want to vote.

Staff recruitment

We are recruiting poll clerks and counting staff to work during the elections in May.

Poll clerks are paid £175 for the day.

Count staff are paid £10 an hour for a daytime count and £15 an hour for an overnight count.

You can register your interest in applying via the elections page on the Cornwall Council website.

TC.203 Mayor's Report

Tin Coast

A couple of issues to highlight from meetings attended:

- Concerns about protestors booking campsites for the G7 summit in June
- An incident near the lighthouse involving ambulances, fire engines, Coastguard, police cars and helicopter, all because someone reported clothes found near the cliff edge. It turned out to be vandalised fencing and a shoe. Local knowledge could have prevented this – it also demonstrated the difficulty of accessing that location if there were many visitors' cars around
- A Falmouth book being produced to publicise places for wild swimming, including Boat Cove and all the secret places; this was considered not helpful for remote places

Nature Friendly Cornwall

- I attended the launch on Wednesday. I was particularly interested in Lisa Guy's contribution about the efforts of local farmers working together around Pendeen to develop nature and wildlife corridors

Mayors Zoom

- Kate Holborow, the current High Sheriff, attended. She is still seeking nominations for her Unsung Heroes awards. There was quite a discussion about the experience of a High Sheriff, or a Mayor, during a year of lockdown – the challenges, the disappointments, and the opportunities for doing things differently
- May elections: there is still considerable concern about running the elections with all the uncertainty surrounding lockdown and the restrictions on canvassing and leafleting, which will impact more on independent candidates than those in the major parties – a concern for towns and parishes in particular
- Virtual meetings: Mayors were pretty much united in not wishing to be forced back to physical meetings from early May, as is currently proposed, with a strong message that virtual meetings should be allowed probably for the rest of the year. CALC is encouraging councils to contact their MPs about this
- HMS Tamar: this new Navy ship is kept to develop shoreside relationships across Cornwall, not just for Truro. I suspect we are just too far away from Devonport to make this feasible, unless Councillors think differently
- Incitement: an issue in Bude was highlighted, and we were all encouraged to check that our Council Social Media policy is adequate

Police Liaison

In quite a long meeting, it was interesting to meet Divisional Inspector Becky Le Cheminant, and Jo Shields who is responsible for the G7 arrangements. The usual issues were raised – speeding traffic, parking, and the need to be able to talk to a local officer

Planning issues

- Concerns raised about the diggers by Pendeen Lighthouse opening up a new entrance, presumably linked to the contentious temporary pop-up campsite there
- I had enquiries from the public about the activities at Bostraze Recycling Ltd, and have referred them to the relevant authorities, as well as receiving assurances that all is in order there

NHS

I've joined the ranks of those who have now received their first vaccination and I was, as everyone else has been very impressed with the service at St Clare last week

St Piran plans

Just a reminder that the children's competition entries, for a one-minute video or a 500-word short story, need to be submitted this week; and you're all encouraged to 'Put Your Flags Out' on St Piran's Day, March 5th

TC.204 Correspondence

Cornish Plastic Pollution Coalition's Covid Impact Report 2020, Noted.

The Reopening High Streets Safely Fund (RHSSF) email, Noted.

TC.205 Information Items and Matters to Report

The Town Vitality Fund Bid is with Cornwall Council; a meeting is taking place on 1 March 2021.

Brian Clemens gave an update on the Police Liaison Meeting. The meeting contained a brief on the G7 due to take place in June 21 at Carbis Bay. One interesting development was a new Blue Speed Gun which can operate at 1500 metres and at night and is linked to DVLC for a road tax check on the vehicle has now been developed. The Councillor intends to write to the Crime Commissioner to ask if can be funded from the Crime Proceeds Fund.

Louise Paine mentioned the 101 system for reporting suspected Coronavirus rule breakers.

TC.206. Exclusion of the Press and Public

If necessary, to consider passing the following resolution:

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(s).

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.

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Chairman's signature _____ Date _____