

A Meeting of the Town Council was duly convened and held in the Council Chamber at 1 Chapel Street St Just on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2006 at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs S Smith – Town Mayor  
Councillor B Rees – Deputy Town Mayor  
Councillors B F Angwin M Nicholls R Lee H Bennett  
M Thomas D Stevens K Casley A Trezise together with  
the Town Clerk (Mrs E George).

Press  
Police

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs B Strick (illness) and C Williams (illness).

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R Lee declared an interest in planning application 06/A/0036 for the Sports Hall , Cape Cornwall Comprehensive School.

### 3. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor gave a verbal report (copy to the Clerk) of her official appointments since the last full meeting of the Town Council.

20 <sup>th</sup> November	Escorting the High Sheriff of Cornwall in St Just
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Travelled to London to the head office of Lloyds TSB Re the Closure of the St Just Branch.
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Primary Care Trust Public Meeting at Penwith College
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Attended the official opening of Rees Court at St Just
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Meeting at St Johns Hall regarding the decline of fossil fuels
27 <sup>th</sup> November	CAP meeting regarding motor bikes St Just area
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Meeting to update the Action Group re closure of Lloyds Bank
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Meeting with the High Sheriff of Cornwall at Bodmin
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Invited to the Free Church to talk about working in the Community
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Attended Truro Cathedral Carol Service
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting at PDC regarding the closure of the St Just office for the Registering of births, deaths and marriages.
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting at Age Concern St Just Town Council
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting of the Liaison Group at St Just Town Council
8 <sup>th</sup> December	CAP meeting of the Working Party at St Just
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting of the Mayors Parlour at the Guildhall Penzance

- 12<sup>th</sup> December Christmas party of the Old Cornwall Society at St Just Town Council
- 13<sup>th</sup> December Seminar at Tremough Campus at Penryn re Proposals for future of local Government – report by Mayor and Deputy Mayor
- 14<sup>th</sup> December Escorting the Chairman of PDC who judged the St Just Christmas Window Display Competition in St Just.
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Invitation to attend the Geevor Partnership’s celebration of their Successful Lottery funding application.
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Attended the switching on of the Christmas lights in St Just.
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Meeting of the Mayor’s Parlour at the Guildhall Penzance
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Customary annual visits to the Hospitals for Christmas
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Meeting with Bill Laikin, Geevor, and Chief Executive of ‘Visit Cornwall’ regarding the World Heritage Site.

#### 4. DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR’S REPORT

The Deputy Town Mayor gave a verbal report to the Council of his appointments since the last full meeting of the Council (copy to the Clerk) as follows:

- 21<sup>st</sup> November Meeting of Working Party
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November Town and Parish Forum at St Johns Hall
- 28<sup>th</sup> November CALC meeting at City Hall Truro
- 29<sup>th</sup> November Lloyds Bank – mtg of Action Group
- 30<sup>th</sup> November Radio Cornwall interview re Lloyds TSB
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December Sennen Feast
- 6<sup>th</sup> December CALC at Truro
- 7<sup>th</sup> December St Just & District Liaison Group
- 11<sup>th</sup> December CALC Truro
- 13<sup>th</sup> December White Paper At Tremough
- 14<sup>th</sup> December Window Display Competition Judging
- 16<sup>th</sup> December Geevor Party

#### 5. TOWN COUNCILLORS REPORTS

A) Councillor Lee stated that he had attended meetings of Healthwatch, Standards Committee at Penwith and a Dial a Ride meeting.

#### 6. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Nil.

## 7. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The County Councillor read a report from the County Councillor as she was unable to attend the meeting. (copy to Clerk)

The County Councillor reminded the Town Council that it was now a good time to report highway request to County as they are now making decision about budgets for 2007/8 and there will be a need to prioritise.

## 8. REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

P.C. Humphreys gave a verbal report to the Council (written copy to the Clerk) reported the crimes in the area since the last full meeting of the Town Council. These were reported as being 15 compared to 32 for last year.

## 9. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> November 2006 and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 were presented for confirmation.

The meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> November – 4 Councillors abstained from voting on these minutes. The minutes were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

The meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> December – 3 Councillors abstained from voting , 4 Councillors voting in favour of acceptance and 2 Councillors (Councillors Stevens and Thomas) voted as not being in favour of confirmation of these minutes. Councillor Thomas was not present at either of the above meetings.

Therefore on a democratic vote the minutes were confirmed and signed.

## 10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

### a) Closure of Lloyds Bank – update and acquisition of photograph

The Clerk reported the closure of the Lloyds branch in Bank Square on 30<sup>th</sup> November despite the petition and local objections and the Mayors visit to London to meet with the Chief Executive at Lloyds Head Office on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The local Manager at Penzance Lloyds had kindly given the Town Council some photographic history of the Branch in St Just for local history records. The Clerk had written and expressed the Council's appreciation of this gesture.

b)Christmas Window Display Competition

The Window Display Competition had been well received by the local shopkeepers and there had been 24 entries.

The judging was undertaken by District Council Chairman Miss Irene Bailey and her sister on the 15<sup>th</sup> December, accompanied by the Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor. The results were: 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Warrens (top shop) 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Second Nature (Penlee House) and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Jeremy's Fish and Chip shop. Miss Bailey commented on the many excellent displays that made the task of identifying the winners very difficult.

c)Local Government White Paper – Councils response/comments

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the meeting at Tremough Penryn organised by NALC on 13<sup>th</sup> December. The response to the District Council was required by 10<sup>th</sup> January.

The Council unanimously agreed that a Special Meeting should be held to consider this particular item and have a full discussion. It was therefore agreed that a meeting be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2007 at 7.15 p.m.

d)Conservation of War Memorials – result of inspection

Councillors Casley and Williams had undertaken an inspection of both War Memorials that were the responsibility of the Town Council and Councillor Casley had produced a report (copy to all Councillors issued at the meeting).

It was agreed that the item be reconsidered at the next full meeting of the Town Council in January.

## 11.FINANCE

a)Applications for financial assistance  
Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act

1. Boxing Club
2. First Air Ambulance
3. Safecare

The Clerk reported that she was awaiting the accounts from the Boxing Club. Noted.

The Council resolved to make the following donations:  
First Air Ambulance - £500                      Safecare - £100

b)Letter of thanks

A letter of thanks for a recent donation had been received from Pendeen Band.

c)Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were presented and approved for payment:

Totalling                      £    6297.32

Account 102368 – S Smith – travelling expenses

Included in this payment was the amount of £70 being the return rail fare to London for the Mayor on 22<sup>nd</sup> November re Lloyds Bank petition and meeting with the Chief Executive of the Bank.

Councillor Morley Thomas asked that his name be recorded as being against the payment of this amount as he deemed the expenditure not to be the responsibility of the Town Council.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Mayor (or any Councillor) is entitled to their reasonable travelling expenses when carrying out their duties as a Town Councillor as agreed by the County Remuneration Panel in 2004.

d)Outstanding Invoice for I.T.Equipment

The Clerk informed the Council that this item should be taken in Committee as it involved a Councillor present at the meeting and his private business.

The Clerk informed Councillor Stevens that he was obliged under the Declaration of Financial and Other Interest regulations and Code of Conduct to leave the room for this item of business and declare an interest.

No Declaration of Interest was made and the Council did not resolve to go into Committee.

The Clerk informed the Council that she was not prepared to remain in the room and take part in Council business that she considered was not legal. The Clerk (Mrs Elaine George) together with the Clerical Assistant (Miss E Sanson) left the room at this point and returned when they were informed that the Council had ceased their discussion and were prepared to deal with the matter in Committee at the end of the meeting.

12. PLANNING

a)Applications:

Councillor Thomas made the following statement:

“I would like to make it clear that in commenting on these applications my comments are based on the information currently available and do not commit me to taking the same position when the matter is discussed at the District Planning Committee and full information is available.”

List previously circulated:

The Council resolved that they had no objection to planning application 06/P/1412.  
The Council resolved to support applications 06/A/0036 and 06/P/1425.

b)Decisions:

Previously circulated

c) Appeals

Previously circulated.

### 13.COUNCILLORS SURGERIES – results/continuation

Councillors gave their individual comments on the result of the monthly Councillors Surgeries held on Saturday mornings at Pendeen and St Just.

Although it was agreed that to date these surgeries had not been well attended, it was felt that they should continue. With the exception of Councillor Trezise all Councillors agreed to the continuation of this service and instructed the Clerk to book the Centre of Pendeen for three Saturday mornings – January, February and March. After that period the service to be reviewed once again.

### 14.PRECEPT (MT)

Councillor Thomas stated that he believed the Council should invite groups to apply for funding and from the response the Precept should be increased in line with the requests.

Councillor Rees stated that local groups had the right to apply for financial assistance from the Town Council to support them in accessing funding for projects. The Council considered every application on its merits and according to its financial position at the time of application.

The Clerk stated that an individual Councillor could bring forward a project for consideration via the normal Agenda process. If the Council wished to financially support the project the matter could then be referred to the annual Precept meeting if thought appropriate.

### 15.MAQUETTE – Bronze Miners Statue (EG)

This item to be placed on the next full Agenda for consideration of the Town Council to purchase a maquette.

### 16.COACH FOR H.I.C. AT CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING(SS)

Councillor Smith stated that a coach had been provisionally booked to take residents to County Hall at the end of January. The cost quoted was £150. It is possible that the coach may not be required but the Mayor asked the Council if they would fund such provision if necessary. The Council resolved to support this request.



#### 17. TRAVELLING EXPENSES (SS)

The Mayor stated that as she had attended numerous meetings and functions during the past few months she had incurred regular travelling expenses. She asked the Council if they had any concerns regarding her numerous appointments.

The Council stated that they had no such concerns on her travelling expenses.

#### 18. HIGHWAY SAFETY – Rees Court Lafrowda Close (SS)

The Mayor stated that it had been brought to her attention that there was concern for pedestrians in front of the above new residential properties. It was suggested that a sign “Children playing” could be erected to warn motorists of their presence.

The County Council to be approached and the County Councillor informed of the concerns of the residents.

#### 19. CORRESPONDENCE

##### a) Letter from A George M.P. re Community Buildings Programme

A copy of this information had been circulated to all Councillors.

##### b) Letter from Community Responder re parking in Market Square

The Clerk read the above letter of request for dispensation. The Council were not in a position to relax the regulations and the Clerk suggested that a local private arrangement might be considered by the resident and information was supplied to her accordingly.

##### c) Letter from Helston Town Council - re concerns at 771 Squadron RNAS Culdrose

The Clerk circulated a copy of all the relevant information to Councillors for consideration. Any comments etc. to be forwarded to the Clerk at the earliest opportunity for a response.

##### d) Japanese Knotweed on public rights of way – CCC

The County Council had issued publicity encouraging the public to identify and report incidents of knotweed on public rights of way. The Clerk informed the Council that the County had a website where locations could be identified and reported directly.  
Noted.

e)PDC – reducing radon levels in homes – publicity

The Clerk stated that publicity was being distributed throughout the area on the above subject and information was available from the Clerk if required.

f)PDC – Housing Services Information

The Clerk reported receipt of the above information. Noted.

g)NHS – Strategic Review of Healthcare in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly

The Clerk issued to all Councillors a copy of the letter entitled “Your NHS – Your Say” – giving details of local hearings in Cornwall between 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January

Noted.

h)Register of Electors for 2006/7

The Clerk reported receipt of the above Register.

i)PDC – Notification of requirement to Precept for 2007/8

This official notification of requirement had been received from the District Council requiring Precept within the next few weeks. Date to be arranged.

## 20.PUBLICATIONS

The following publications had been received and were available to Councillors on request to the Clerk:

Geevor Gazette

Cornish Association of Victoria – newsletter

Outreach

PAROW – minutes and agenda

Community Care Guide

Cornwall Minerals Development Framework (one copy only)

with notification of meeting 4<sup>th</sup> January previously circulated to all Councillors.

Sure Start

South West Coast Path

PDC – Regeneration Tourism and Leisure

PDC – Minutes and Agenda

DEFRA – Rural Services Review

## 21.MATTERS OF REPORT

Nil.

AGENDA ITEM 11 (d)  
Outstanding invoice for IT equipment

Councillor Stevens made a verbal statement on the above matter before leaving the meeting.

The Council resolved to go INTO COMMITTEE

IN COMMITTEE

The Clerk informed the Council that she had been advised by CALC that the Council could not pay the account with the current available information.

On a proposal by Councillor Casley seconded by Councillor Lee the Council unanimously resolved to contact NALC and seek their legal advice on the way forward with this matter.

OUT OF COMMITTEE

There being no further items of business the Town Mayor closed the meeting thanking the Members for their attendance.

CONFIRMED THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2007.

Town Mayor.....