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A Meeting of the Town Council was duly convened and held in the Council Chamber at 1 Chapel Street St Just on Monday 19th May 2008 at 7.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor M Thomas – Deputy Town Mayor (Chairman of the meeting)

Councillors Mrs S Smith, Mrs S Olds, Ms S Angove, Mrs S James,
B F Angwin, B Rees, D Stevens, N McFadden, K McFadden together
with

The Town Clerk (Mrs E George).

Sgt. Andy Crawford (part meeting)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Nicholls (Mayor) prior engagement and Councillor C McClary.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S Smith declared an interest in planning application 08/0638-HP.

See also agenda item 13.

3. REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR

In the absence of the Mayor the Clerk read his report as follows:

The Mayor attended the following appointments:

16th April – Informal meeting with John Le-Baton from Brec’h in France together with the Town Clerk to discuss the subject of Twinning.

20th April – Morvah Schoolhouse – opening of the Art Exhibition.

24th April – Town Public Meeting

26th April – Trevithick Day at Camborne

28th April – together with Councillor Angwin I attended the funeral service of an ex Mayor of Hayle, Mrs Marjorie Roberts.

12th May – together with the Deputy Mayor (Councillor M Thomas) I attended a meeting of the W I at St Just.

14th May – St Just and District Liaison Meeting

15th May - Hayle Mayor Choosing

16th May – meeting of the Working Party re edit of JAW.

4. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

The Deputy Town Mayor reported that he had attended the W I meeting with the Mayor.

5. REPORT OF TOWN COUNCILLORS

a)Councillor Rees reported that he had attended the St Just and District Liaison Group, together with B F Angwin the Town and Parish Forum, and the Working Party meeting to edit the JAW newsletter.

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b)Councillor Smith reported that she had attended two meeting of Age Concern, one on 15th and one on the 19th May, and a Working Party edit meeting.

6. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Thomas reported that 135 houses had been built in Penwith within the past year. Penwith had received a Disability Facilities Grant for the year to the value of £600,00.

7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Angove reported that the prohibition order was now active in Trewellard with the installation of the double yellow lines. The Carn Bosavern order would be implemented in the very near future.

Councillor Angove reported that she had received complaints at vehicles obstructing the highway and vehicles speeding through Pendeen. This is being investigated. Also a complaint about Pendeen Carne which is also being investigated. She stated that forthcoming reports from County on Cancer Care in Cornwall and help with transport costs for patients and relatives in rural areas would soon be available.

8. REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

Sgt. Andy Crawford was in attendance at the meeting and introduced himself to Councillors. He stated that he was very committed to dealing with local issues of concern and that a Pub Watch scheme was currently being considered locally.

Councillor Angove referred to the accidents in the Balleswidden area on the A3071 probably being caused by speeding vehicles.

Sgt Crawford gave the report for the month since the last full meeting as follows:

23 crimes compared to 29 for the same period last year.

4 criminal damages to vehicles, 4 drunk and disorderly, 4 assaults (ABH), 7 thefts from vehicles and dwellings, 1 possession of drugs, 1 criminal damage, 1 disqualified driver, 1 burglary.

Police and St Just Fire Brigade carried out a joint operation on Thursday 8th May to educate drivers who park their vehicles in unsuitable locations on the narrow streets in the St Just area. Inconsiderate parking can delay the emergency services.

Sgt Crawford left the meeting at this point.

9. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of 14th April 2008, 6th May 2008 (AGM) and 6th May 2008 (Planning) were confirmed and signed.

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10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) One Cornwall Update

The Implementation Executive had proposed 130 Councillors for the new authority. A further newsletter had been circulated to all Town and Parish Councillors.

The subject of transfer of assets was discussed.

County Councillor Angove was asked to obtain a list of County Council assets in this area and District Councillor Thomas was asked to obtain a list of District Council assets in this area. On receipt of this information further consideration could be given to the matter.

b) CCTV Maintenance Agreement – 3 quotations sought

The Clerk reported that she had written to request 3 quotations from appropriate companies for the ongoing maintenance of the above equipment. Consideration by the Town Council would be given on receipt of these quotations in the near future. Noted.

c) Plastic Bag free town – update from Councillors

No further information was available from Councillors at this time. The Local Traders Assoc. felt the subject was not really applicable to their members but in general they were supportive of the initiative. It appeared that the removal of plastic bags was taking place as a matter of course and several shops were no longer using them on a regular basis. The Council would monitor the ongoing situation.

d) Twinning – update from sub-committee

The committee had not held a meeting to date and were waiting for the Mayor's forthcoming private visit to France after which more information would be available.

e)St Just Area Guide Book – quotation from publishers

The Clerk reported that Burrows (the publishers) had given a quotation as follows:

1000 copies - £1450

2000 copies - £1595

The Council asked the Clerk to enquire the price for 3000 copies. If it was an increased cost in line with the above quote – the Clerk was given authority to order the 3000 copies of the above publication. Unanimous decision.

f)Community Land Trust (Affordable Housing) update (SJ)

Councillor James gave the Council an update on this subject. She had arranged for a public meeting to be held in the Methodist Church Hall on 30th June at 7.30 p.m. All interested persons would be invited to attend. In attendance at the meeting would be Mr A Fox (Community Land Trusts) Gina Trevena (Affordable Housing Officer PDC) Mr Andy Moore (Penwith Housing Association) Mr Anthony Ball (Affordable Housing), District Councillors. Publicity locally and through the press would be undertaken in the near future. Noted.

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11. FINANCE

a)Local Government Act 1972 – Section 137

Applications for financial assistance

1. Outreach Magazine (Pendeen)

On a proposal by Councillor K McFadden, seconded by Councillor D Stevens the Council awarded £1000 to the above organisation.

b)Letters of thanks

The following letters of thanks for recent donations had been received from the following organisations:

1. St Just in Bloom
2. Penwith Senior Life Skills Exhibition 2007
3. Shelter

c)Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

£7158.96

Totalling

d) Formal approval of accounts and completion of Annual Governance Statement for External Audit submission

The Clerk presented the Internal Auditors report to the Council and there were no matters to bring to the Council's attention other than the required explanation of the variances. Noted.

Councillors had previously been issued with the Statement of Accounts and relevant papers including the bank reconciliation statement. The accounts were formally approved by the Council and the audit form signed by the Chairman of the meeting (Deputy Mayor).

The Clerk read the questions as listed in the Annual Governance Statement to the meeting and the Council answered in the affirmative to all questions. The Chairman of the meeting (Deputy Mayor) signed the statement on behalf of the Council for forward transmission to District Audit.

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12.PLANNING

a) Applications:

Councillor Thomas made the following statement:

"On commenting on these applications I should make it clear that 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."

08-0377-P

Construction of replacement dwelling at Topknot Vean, Trevedra Cliff, Sennen for Mr E Thornton. Held over until next meeting for more information (advised by P.A.)

08-0638-HP

Re-roofing of kitchen extension with mineral felt & installation of 2 replacement rooflights at 23 Fore Street, St Just for Susan Thompson. T. Cl. No objections.

b) Decisions

08-0351-HP

Demolition of existing sun lounge & construction of single storey extension on south west elevation & replacement of existing flat roof with pitched roof on existing storey extension at Dunheved, Trewellard, Pendeen for Mr & Mrs Harris.

Tcl: No Objection, PDC: APPROVED

08-0382-P

Change of use, conversion & extension of existing dwelling to form 2 self contained units at 23b Chapel Street, St Just for Mr Menear.

Tcl: No Objection PDC: APPROVED

08-0383-LBC

Change of use, conversion & extension of dwelling to form 2 self contained units at 23b Chapel Street, St Just for Mr D Menear.

Tcl: No Objection, PDC:APPROVED

13. ST JUST BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SA and MT)

Councillor Thomas issued information to the meeting on two sites in the area:

1. Gews Slaughterhouse, Gews Farm, St Just and
2. Leswidden Block Works, Leswidden, St Just.

At this point of the meeting Councillors K McFadden, N McFadden and B F Angwin declared an interest in site 1 as detailed above.

Councillor Angove stated that together with Councillor Thomas she had met with representatives from the RDA and Penwith District Council to view both of the above sites. It was likely that funding for a feasibility study would be made available with 50% of the funding from Penwith. The aim was to increase the work opportunities in sites near to St Just. They were now looking for support from the Council to further this vision.

The two proposals put forward by Councillor Thomas were as follows:

Gews:

1. "Provision of a Resource Hub to supply help and support to local businesses, to provide a facility for capacity building enabling micro-business to escape their back

room or shed and increase local commerce and employment. To include – there is enough space on this site to make provision for affordable micro-work units and “Rent a Space.”

Leswidden:

2. “Leswidden Block Works comprising an area of approximately 30 acres is the primary site for a small to medium office and work space together with if successful the possible future expansion on to the North and South Clay Dries. Only 1 mile from St Just and 5 miles from Penzance, offers easy access for travel to work.

To provide a centre of excellence incorporating eco-friendly workspaces of various shapes and sizes that would call on the natural surroundings to provide sustainable energy needs.

Possible provision within the site for recreation, networking and cross company collaboration. The hope is that the site would consist of significantly designed units to achieve the exact requirements of the end user and also fulfil their green credentials. To attract both local and national companies who wish to be able to gain a very low or zero carbon footprint.”

The Council resolved to support both of the above proposals and to notify this decision to the Regeneration Manager at Penwith District Council and the Area Director of the Regional Development Agency.

14. TREWELLARD BUS STOP (SJ)

Councillor James stated that she had been approached by members of the public concerned at the poor surface of the waiting area(at the north side of the Trewellard junction) at the bus stop. The County and the Bus Company did not appear to take responsibility for the current situation as the land is said to be privately owned. It was agreed that an attempt be made to contact the owner of the land to see if this matter could be taken further. The Clerk to liaise with Councillor James to obtain a contact if possible.

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15. APPLICATIONS TO USE THE PLAIN AND GWARRY

The Clerk reported applications as follows:

1. Bash Street Theatre – Saturday 17th May 3 p.m. (confirmation of Clerk’s approval sought).
2. St Just Midsummer Committee – Saturday 21st June 3 p.m.

The Council were pleased to grant approval of the above applications. Confirmation of the Clerk’s approval of application 1 above was granted.

16. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Keep Cancer Care in Cornwall Campaign – press release

The Clerk read the above press release for the Council’s information. Noted.

b) Sustainable Community Strategy for Cornwall consultation

The Clerk informed the Council that the Consultation document is now available on the website www.cornwallstrategicpartnership.gov.uk Responses should be made by the 5th of June.

c) West Cornwall Footpaths Preservation Society – newsletter

The membership secretary of the above society had written giving details of walks in this area and inviting Councillors to attend if they so wished to view any improvements and/or problems. Noted.

d) Appointment of Independent Members to the Police Authority

The above authority were looking for independent members of the public to serve for a period of 4 years from 1st October 2008. The Clerk had displayed the notices on the Council's Notice Board.

e) Local Assessment of Standards Allegations – PDC

Changes had taken place regarding consideration of local breaches of the Code of Conduct. Under the new regulations complaints would first be dealt with by a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee at Penwith District Council who will decide if the matter should be investigated. The guidance for this procedure is still to be produced.

The Town Council were asked if they had any concerns on the introduction of these new Regulations. The Council made no comment.

f) Land Registry

Information had been received regarding an invitation to register freehold land with the Land Registry. The Council made no comment.

g) AOL Broadband – upgrade and extended 18 months contract

The Clerk had received information regarding the above service. Noted.

h) Efra – Access Newsletter – Committee to consider coastal access provisions in the draft Marine Bill.

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An invitation to submit views in writing had been received regarding pre-legislative scrutiny of the coastal access provisions contained in the draft Bill. Further details and information was available on the following websites:

http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committee/environment_food_and_rural_affairs.cfm and

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/issues/accesscoast/htm>

email address Coastal.access@defra.gsi.gov.uk

The Council noted the above information.

i) Electoral Review of Cornwall – Stage 1 submission PDC

Penwith had made the above submission, but the deadline for submissions to Stage 1 was 21st April. It is possible that comments may be taken into account outside the deadline detailed above by contacting the Review Manager for Cornwall at The Boundary Committee for England, Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW. The Council made no comment.

j)Cornwall Minerals Development Framework –Core Strategy and Draft Supplementary Planning Document.

A series of exhibitions have been arranged to accompany the publication of the above documents. Within Penwith area the exhibition will be on Tuesday 3rd June 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. St Johns Hall, Penzance. The Clerk had published the notices as requested in the letter from the Assistant Director of Spatial Planning at Cornwall County Council. The Council had no comment at this point in time.

17. PUBLICATIONS:

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

- a) Clerks and Councils Direct
- b) Local Council Review
- c) Cornish Assocn. Of Victoria Newsletter
- d) Outreach Magazine
- e) League of Friends of West Cornwall and Poltair Hospitals
- f) PAROW – Agenda
- g) Interlink Magazine
- h) Direct Information Service (3)

18. MATTERS OF REPORT Nil.

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

CONFIRMED THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2008.

Town

Mayor.....

