

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 26 January 2015 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor K McFadden - Town Mayor

COUNCILLORS

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

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Mrs S James – Cornwall Council  
Rob Evans – Local Resident

PUBLIC ADDRESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

TC.242 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from the Deputy Town Mayor and Cllr Mrs McQueen.

TC.243 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None received.

TC.244 DISPENSATIONS

None received.

TC.245 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 12 January 2015 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.246 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

TC.247 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEUTY TOWN MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr Mrs Salmon reported that she had attended the "open day" event for the new affordable housing at Moorland Close, Boscaswell on 17 January 2015.

TC.248 REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

In the absence of PCSO Andrew Tonkin the Town Clerk presented the monthly Police report for the period covering 16 December 2014 to 26 January 2015. During that period there had been 13 reported crimes which compared to 12 for the same period last year.

The reported crimes were as follows:-

- 3 Assaults (ABH)
- 2 Thefts
- 2 Criminal Damages
- 1 Robbery
- 1 Theft of conveyance
- 1 Use Threatening/ abusive/ insulting words/behaviour towards a person
- 3 Common Assault's

TC.249 REPORT OF THE CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

Cllr Mrs James presented her monthly report of county matters as follows:-

**Committees**

Cllr Mrs James reported that, subject to formal confirmation, she would be allocated a seat on the new Homes and Environment Policy Advisory Committee, working with the new portfolio holder, Cllr Joyce Duffin. This would maintain Cllr Mrs James's involvement with housing but would bring new areas including waste management, Cornwall in Bloom and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Cllr Mrs James remained Vice-chair of Pensions Committee and continued to be a member of Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee. These committee changes meant that it remained relevant for her to be the Councils representative on the DCH Board but had given her the opportunity to step away from the Police and Crime Panel.

**Case for Cornwall**

Cornwall Council had debated on 20 January 2015 on whether Cornwall Council should seek more devolved powers from Government, and those wanting to hear it for themselves could view the webcast. Essentially, some Councillors had felt it lacked ambition and should be asking for a Cornish Assembly with powers similar to Scotland and Wales. At the other extreme there were Councillors who felt the Council needed to focus on being good at what it already had powers to deliver and / or this was the wrong time to be seeking more powers. The conclusion of the majority was that whilst the current document was not perfect and could be strengthened in parts (particularly

around planning powers) there was a window of opportunity that needed to be seized. Many felt Cornwall Council did not have a mandate from the people of Cornwall to seek a Cornish Assembly and this was more likely to get rejected without the detail of the request being properly considered. Over the next few weeks a cross party group would review the document to take into account what Councillors and partners had said, and start conversations with national political leaders about the possibilities. A final document would be put to Government once the outcome of the General Election was known.

### **Planning Issue**

Following on from the approval of the Botallack planning application and Cllr Mrs James's experiences on the West Planning Committee she commented on her concerns that the Council's Homechoices Register was being used as evidence of need of all forms of affordable housing whereas it was only an accurate measure of those seeking secure housing through a registered housing provider: often referred to as social housing. It was accepted that the Homechoices Register did not give accurate evidence of the need for new local affordable housing for sale or private affordable rent but at the moment Cornwall Council Affordable Housing Team had no better evidence base. Cllr Mrs James was told that whilst Cornwall Council was beginning to consider how they could develop better information on the need for various affordable housing solutions the evidence was better obtained by local communities. Once again Neighbourhood Planning had been advocated as the best (and to some extent the only) way of ensuring local needs for development were respected and influenced local planning decisions.

### **Library and Youth Centre in St Just**

Cllr Mrs James reported that discussions regarding the devolution of Library Services were temporarily on hold due to a legal challenge of Lincolnshire County Council's process to devolve libraries to town / parish councils. In essence, this was because the process had not enabled other organisations with an interest in running local libraries to be considered. Lincolnshire CC had been told that their processes for devolution needed to be more open and transparent and officers from Cornwall Council were now looking at what could be done locally to ensure conversations recommenced without the possibility of expensive legal challenges.

Cllr Mrs James reported that Cornwall Council funded Youth Workers, working from Nancherrow Youth Centre, had their contracts terminated effective from 31 March 2015. Cllr Mrs James had attended an Extraordinary General Meeting and reported that it had been well attended with people coming forward willing to take a role in running the Centre. Concerns had been raised in terms of putting efforts into securing the future of youth service provision, over their continued use of the current building and future costs. At present the building was leased from Cornwall Council on very similar terms to that of the Town Council and the fear was that with no Council funded services it might be put on a more commercial basis and therefore unaffordable. Cllr Mrs James was seeking to ensure a sensible approach that allowed the new committee to focus on the sustainability of the service to young people before having to consider changes to the financial arrangements over the building.

**Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr Mrs James reported that she would be attending the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 27 January 2015 and highlighted the following areas of interest:-

- Patient Experience and Serious Incidents at Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust;
- Poltair Hospital Next steps;
- Maternity Services;
- Adult Social Care Improvement Plan;
- Local Authority Mental Health Challenge Project (about having a lead member and officer for mental health and striving to reduce inequalities of access to mental health services); and
- Children's Community Health Services Commissioning

TC.250 CCTV

The Town Clerk provided the Town Council with an update on the condition of the CCTV system following recent repairs to one of the cameras on the Fire Station tower. The Council was advised that the digital video recorder was faulty and a quotation of £679.00 (excl. VAT) had been received from Ellis Security Ltd. to replace the recorder. In addition, there would also be a cost to network the system at a cost of £380.00 (excl. VAT).

Following the recent site visit it was also recommended that cleaning and adjustments be made to the existing cameras to improve performance. This would be charged on an additional day work basis (including boom fit). The Town Council was advised that over the past 5 years the Town Council had spent on average £2,000 p.a. on maintaining the CCTV. £2,500.00 had been allocated in the 2014 / 15 budget and there was currently £1,911.60 left in the budget.

RESOLVED:-That

- (a) the quotation from Ellis Security Ltd to replace the DVR, together with associated networking be accepted; and
- (b) cleaning and adjustments be made to the existing cameras on an additional day work basis (including boom fit) be approved.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.251 FINANCE

(a) Financial Assistance

The Town Clerk reported that a grant application had been received from St Just Football Club towards the cost of replacement protective fencing. However, the Town Council was advised that the club had already made an application within the current financial year and had been awarded a grant of £1,500.00 for electrical upgrade and replacement fencing. The Town Clerk commented that the notes accompanying the application form made it clear that only one application per year would normally be considered.

Cllr Clemens commented on a number of other potential funding streams that the club could apply to and stated that he would be willing to offer his assistance to the club on this matter.

RESOLVED: That St Just Football Club is advised that on this occasion the application has been unsuccessful.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

(b) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £844.69 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

(c) Letters of Thanks

None.

TC.252 PLANNING

(a) Applications

**PA14/09999** Proposed extension and internal alterations at 4, Carrallack Mews, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. J. Curnow. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA14/11651** Installation of Bank of Ireland ATM at 18, Bank Square, St. Just. Applicant: Bank of Ireland. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA14/11652** Advertisement consent for a collar Type C sign to surround the ATM at 18, Bank Square, St. Just. Applicant: Bank of Ireland. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA15/00024** Construction of single storey extension and associated works at 14, South Place Gardens, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA15/00242** Removal of a tree at Little Ferriby, 25, Botallack, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. M. King. **(For Information Only)**.

**PA15/00285** Conversion of redundant farm buildings to a dwelling and associated site development works at Bollowal Barn, Bollowal, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. A.J.H. Thomas. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA15/00308** Construction of first floor extension at 22, Carnyorth, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Stephen Flinders. **(T CI No objection)**.

**PA15/00330** Demolition of low quality two storey rear extension, construction of single storey rear extension and internal remodelling at Chy Growynek, 3, Truthwall Villas, Truthwall, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. Ben Chalwick. **(T Cl No objection)**.

(b) Decisions

**PA14/10967** Erection of kitchen/utility extension to the N.W. corner and porch extension to the S. elevation of the property at The Farmhouse, Bollowal, St. Just. Applicants: Ms. E. Kieboom and Mr. T. Felton. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection)

**PA14/10706** Revisions to Approval Ref: PA13/05832 – Retention and completion of living accommodation in association with existing care business. Applicant: Mrs. A. Nicholson. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection subject to condition restricting use of building).

**PA14/11023** Construction of new agricultural barn at Trevedra Farm, Sennen, Penzance. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. John Nicholas. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA14/11523** Retention of replacement animal welfare agricultural timber building, replacing storm damaged building at South Bosvargus Farm, Bosvargus, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. Crosbie and Andrew Stephens. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

**PA14/11630** Single storey rear and side extension and external chimney to replace existing rear extension at Town Houses, 1, Bosorne Street, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. M. Wingrove. **Approval** (T. Cl. No Objection).

TC.253 INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That Cllr G Roberts be appointed to the Internal Audit Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.254 INFORMATION ITEMS

The Town Clerk reported on St Just Free Church had been successful in its grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and that works had commenced.

TC.255 MATTERS FOR REPORT

The Town Clerk advised the Town Council for the arrangements to fill the current vacancy on the Council. In the event that the seat was contested, Cornwall Council had advised that the election would take place on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015, the same day as the General Election.

Cllr Clemens reported on the re-occurring problem of dog fouling in the Plain-an-Gwarry. Cllr Mrs James commented that she had been advised of a number of other reoccurring problems within the parish and that she would be advising Cornwall Council's Dog Warden of the situation.

Cllr D Roberts reported that St Just Sports Centre was continuing in its efforts to find alternative funding streams and had made an application to Sport England. In addition, the last payment in respect of the solar panel installation was due to made and following that all future revenue from the panels would go direct to the centre.

Cllr G Roberts reported on his attendance at the Pengarth Board of Trustees meeting and confirmed that the £36,000 grant to the Day Centre had been received from the Henry Smith Charity.

Meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

Town Mayor