

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 Tuesday 26 May 2015 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor K McFadden - Town Mayor  
Councillor Mrs F Cock Deputy - Town Mayor

COUNCILLORS

Mrs M Blundy	F Morris
B Clemens	D Roberts
T McFadden	Mrs G salmon
Mrs G McQueen	D Stevens

TOWN CLERK

Elaine Baker

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Mrs S James – Cornwall Council

TC.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr G Roberts.

TC.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Morris declared a pecuniary interest in TC.32/15 (Matters for Report) in respect of an alleged breach of planning regarding the erection of a chalet to the r/o 10 / 11 Botallack Corner, as a contractor on the site, and agreed to withdraw from the meeting for consideration of the item

TC.21 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations granted.

TC.22 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 11 May 2015 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

TC.23 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

TC.24 REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Mayor reported that he had attended meetings of the Miners' Statute Committee and the Centre of Pendeen on 12 May. The Town Mayor reported that the Miners' Statue would be unveiled at an event being held on 6 June 2015 at the Old Town Hall, and confirmed that the statue was to be sited at Geevor Tin Mine within a dedicated commemorative garden at the entrance to the site. An auction of paintings was also to be held in September.

The Deputy Mayor reported that she had attended refresher Code of Conduct training on 22 May 2015 and outlined a number of points which Town Councillors needed to be aware of in carrying out their official duties.

Cllr Clemens gave an update on Pendeen Silver Band, repairs to the litter bins within the town in conjunction with St Just in Bloom and his attendance at the Community Network Meeting on 14 May 2015 which unfortunately had been hijacked by a single planning issue and gave no opportunity for other town and parish councils to raise other issues.

Cllr Mrs Blundy gave an update on the relocation of services following the closure of Poltair Hospital (report appended to the signed minutes), and the lack of evidence to justify the closure of hospital beds. An update was also provided on the Penwith Dementia Action Alliance.

TC.25 REPORT OF THE POLICE OFFICER

In the absence of PCSO Andrew Tonkin, the Town Clerk presented the Police report for the period covering 16 April to 26 May 2015. During that period there had been 17 reported crimes which compared to 21 for the same period last year.

The reported crimes were as follows:-

- 2 Sexual Assaults
- 1 Threatening behaviour / Insulting behaviour
- 3 ABH
- 3 Burglaries
- 1 Theft
- 1 Carried in / on a motor vehicle without the owner's consent
- 5 Criminal damages
- 1 Dog not under proper control

TC.26 REPORT OF THE CORNWALL COUNCILLOR

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

For the first time in the history of Cornwall, the administration had elected two women to the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of Council, Ann Kerridge and Mary May. The Leader remained unchanged, the Independent Councillor John Pollard.

Cllr Mrs James also reported on her attendance at a briefing on the Case for Cornwall, and what powers should be devolved. She urged the Town Council to consider making a response to the consultation, and for individual councillors to attend a consultation event at St Clare on Wednesday 27 May at 6.30 p.m.

Cllr Mrs James had also attended the first Cornwall Civic Awards event where Jonathan Hancock had received recognition for his contribution to our community. The Town Clerk read a letter which had been received from Jonathan Hancock thanking the Council for submitting his name for nomination, and which confirmed that he had *“accepted the award on behalf of the community of St Just of which he was proud to be a member.”*

The Town Council and community groups were reminded that Cllr Mrs James had a very small pot of Community Chest money, to support local groups with projects. Details of how to apply could be found on her website but this year priority would be given to organisations that had not received funding before and those struggling due to Cornwall Council funding cuts.

Cllr Mrs James commented that she had been a little surprised to hear of Cornwall Council's proposal for a Lengthmans Scheme as she had not been made aware of the scheme. After investigations, she confirmed that a select group of rural town & parish councils have been asked to consider involvement in a pilot scheme. The scheme involved employing or using volunteers to maintain a length of road, railway or waterway. It was envisaged that the pilot would focus on maintaining the sides of rural roads, keeping ditches clear and dealing with weeds and rubbish. There was also the potential for discussion on minor pothole repairs although this was thought unlikely.

Cllr Mrs James had also attended a briefing regarding a Waste Incentive Scheme whereby town and parish councils, alongside community groups, could be paid if they reduced the amount of domestic waste in their area. The funding came from Government money, paid to Cornwall for keeping the weekly bin collections. Areas that took part would receive financial payments according to the reduction of household waste in their area. How areas reduce waste was not being dictated but ideas offered were community composting, helping people to reduce food waste which made up a large proportion of landfill or setting up schemes to help communities reuse rather than throw away items. Stopping business waste going into residential waste would also be a good scheme, particularly in an area like St Just, where holiday homes running as businesses should pay to have their rubbish removed. There were 'set up' funds available based on sound business cases.

Finally, Cllr Mrs James reported that on Monday 15 June local not-for-profit groups, with any sort of premises, were being invited to meet with her to discuss proposals to reduce the level of support they receive with their business rates. This was so they could be prepared for the changes and listen to the problems it was likely to cause, and therefore help to influence how the new scheme was implemented. The meeting was to be held in the Council Chamber at 7 p.m. and because groups that had financial problems tended to

come to the Council for help, Cllr Mrs James hoped the Council would feel able to work with her in informing and supporting them. If, as a Council, it agreed then she hoped a representative might also attend that initial meeting and she agreed to acknowledge the Town Council's support in her letter. The Town Council agreed to work with Cllr Mrs James on this issue and Cllr Stevens agreed to attend the meeting on 15 June to represent the Town Council.

Cllr Mrs James also gave an update on her attendance at the Social Care Scrutiny Committee which had discussed Poltair Hospital. The Committee remained unconvinced that there had not been a loss of provision in the community. There had been an increase in hospital bed turnover and thereby an increase in outpatient provision. Other issues included 97% of Penwith postcode patient being treated in local hospitals, and investment in community hospitals. The Committee had therefore called for a further report on West Cornwall Hospital as it was not a community hospital which meant that the issue of Poltair would remain on the Committee's agenda for the foreseeable future.

TC.27 FORMALISATION OF TWINNING RELATIONSHIP WITH BURRA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Town Council considered a letter from the Chief Executive of the Regional Council of Goyder inviting the Council to establish a low-key relationship with Burra, South Australia.

RESOLVED: That the establishment of a low-key relationship with Burra, South Australia be approved.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.28 FINANCE

(a) Financial Assistance

No applications for financial assistance had been received.

(b) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED: That the accounts to the value of £3,091.38 be approved for payment.

(Action by: Elaine Baker)

(c) Letters of Thanks

There were no letters of thanks.

TC.29 PLANNING

(a) Pre-application Advice

The Town Council's informal views were sought on a proposed planning application for the construction of one dwelling on land at Carnyorth, St Just. The proposed development had been the subject of pre-application submission to Cornwall Council's Planning Team in December 2013 which had received favourable support.

The Town Council commented that provided the design of the proposed building was in keeping with the local area, in proportion to neighbouring properties, traditional in design and granite faced and not visually obtrusive the Town Council was unlikely to raise an objection to the proposal.

The Town Clerk commented that she would advise the applicant that this was the informal view of the Town Council and that it reserved its position until the receipt of a formal planning application as part of the statutory consultation process.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

(b) Applications

**PA15/03440** Erection of two dwellings on land south west of St. John's Terrace, Pendeen. Applicant: Mr. G. Earley. **(T Cl Objection on the grounds of inappropriate use of materials. With the exception of the two facing gable ends, the Council would prefer the units to be faced in granite to be in keeping with the local area.)**

**PA15/03665** Proposed two storey extension at Bosavern Cottage, Bosavern, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. M. Nicholas. **(T Cl Objection on the grounds of inappropriate use of materials. Extension to be granite faced and not timber cladding.)**

**PA15/04452** Listed building consent for a proposed two storey extension at Bosavern Cottage, Bosavern, St. Just. Applicant: Mr. M. Nicholas. **(T Cl Objection on the grounds of inappropriate use of materials. Extension to be granite faced and not timber cladding.)**

**PA15/03703** Installation of Cabana natural slate roof tiles, terracotta ridge tiles, applying white paint to the exterior of the property and Atlantic Blue paint to the exterior doors at 39, Fore Street, St. Just. Applicant: Ms. Rebecca Turner. **(T Cl No objection)**

(c) Decisions

**PA15/01559** Demolition of existing agricultural building and construction of replacement general agricultural and machinery store at Nanquidno Cottage, Road from Newtown to Nanjulian, Nanquidno, St. Just. Applicants: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas. **Refusal** (T. Cl. No Objection).

(d) Enforcement

The Town Clerk provided an update on the following enforcement matters:-

Erection of Agricultural Building, Cape Cornwall Golf Club – The Town Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer had visited the site and met the land owner's planning agent and representatives from the National Trust. All work on site had stopped and retrospective planning permission would now be sought for a suitable scheme.

Erection of a Chalet building - Land at Leswidden Common – The Town Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer was aware of the situation and that the matter was currently under investigation.

The Town Council would be kept informed on the progress of these matters.

TC.30 APPLICATION TO USE THE PLAIN-AN-GWARRY AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

RESOLVED: That the application by Seven Stones Theatre Group to use the Plain-an-Gwarry and electricity supply on 5 June 2015 from 16.00 – 22.30 hours be approved.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

TC.31 CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER – THE CORNWALL COUNCIL (FOOTPATH NO.4 ST JUST-IN-PENWITH (PART)) (KERROW FARM)

The Town Council noted that the above footpath diversion order had been confirmed by Cornwall Council on 17 March 2015.

TC.32 MATTERS FOR REPORT

In accordance with his declaration, Cllr Morris took no part in the discussion on this matter.

Cllr Mrs Blundy raised two potential breaches of planning: first, the erection of a chalet on land to the rear of 10 / 11 Botallack Corner. Removal of a static farmworkers caravan and erection of chalet building. It was agreed that the matter be raised with Cllr Mrs James to determine whether planning consent was required for the erection of the structure, prior to an application for enforcement action being taken. The second related to the placing of a large static caravan in a field beyond Parknoweth Cottage, Botallack. Extensive trenching work had also commenced from the caravan, across the field to the main road. It was agreed that an application be made to Cornwall Council's Enforcement Team to have the matter investigated.

(Action by : Elaine Baker)

Cllr Morris advised that he had been in contact with the National Trust regarding the installation of a gate at Cot Valley and that the matter was now in their hands and the owner of the property where the gate had been installed.

Cllr Mrs McQueen sought clarification on her appointment to the St Just & Pendeen Children's Sure Start. The Town Clerk agreed to look into the matter.

Tc.33 INFORMATION ITEMS

The Town Clerk advised the Town Council on the tender process being undertaken by Cornwall Council in connection with public convenience closures by 21 August 2015. The Council was informed that the list of closures excluded the public conveniences in St and Pendeen as the Town Council was making a financial contribution to the cleaning costs, but the Town Clerk commented that it was likely that the future of the public conveniences within the parish would form part of future discussions with Cornwall Council on the rationalisation of its assets.

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Town Mayor