

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 16<sup>th</sup>  
December 2019 at 7.15pm

Present

Marna Blundy            Town Mayor  
Sue James                Deputy Mayor

Councillors

Farmer Morris            Brian Clemens  
Jonathan Manser        Grenville Prowse  
Constance Moore        Louise Paine

- TC.223            Public Address at Council Meetings  
The clerk advised that no requests to address the council had been received by the appointed time.
- TC.224            Apologies for Absence  
Apologies had been received from Councillors Zoe Baxter and Debbie Shephard.
- TC.225            Declarations of Interest  
Councillor Morris declared an interest in Planning Application PA19/10539 as the owner of land neighbouring the proposed development site.
- TC.226            Dispensations  
No requests for dispensation had been received.
- TC.227            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 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019.
- TC.228            Matters Arising  
TC212:  
Councillor James advised that in respect of the large spike in telephone charges she had examined the itemised bill which had revealed a number of calls categorised as 'special services'. Such calls were to HMRC and the bank and the charge per minute call had been as high as 20p.
- An enquiry to British Telecom had elicited that the council was not on the 'best deal' and it was  
**RESOLVED:** that the council seeks an alternative supplier with ExcelN suggested as a possibility.

TC212:

Having noted previously that the reclaimed flagpole from the British Legion was apparently beyond redemption Councillor Morris advised that Mr Neil McFadden had now offered to effect repairs without charge. Once completed the flagpole would then be erected at the library. Councillor Clemo advised that there may be a cost implication in respect of the provision of brackets.

TC215:

Planning Application PA19/09691 in respect of a proposed two storey extension and new garden shed at 57 Boscaswell Village, Lower Boscaswell had been deferred pending comments on the part of World Heritage and AONB. The Mayor advised that World Heritage had expressed concern in relation to scale, materials and design but AONB had yet to comment. Notwithstanding the view of World Heritage it was **RESOLVED: TO OFFER NO OBJECTION.**

TC218 (b):

With regard to the acquisition of new noticeboards, the clerk advised that there were a considerable number of companies in this field and he would provide a range of examples with costings to be considered by the Premises Committee in January.

TC218 (b) (iii):

With regard to legionella testing in respect of the library the clerk had approached a provider called AQUACERT which offered a service at £44.50 per test with a recommendation that this be carried out on a six monthly basis.

**RESOLVED:** To commission testing by AQUACERT with the first test being carried out in January 2020.

TC218 (b) (vi)

With regard to the relocation of the defibrillator, the Mayor advised that she had made an initial approach to the owners of The Commercial and there had been a favourable response which would hopefully be confirmed shortly and she would report the outcome to the next meeting.

TC221:

Councillor James advised that as requested she had obtained two quotes in respect of the staining of the door to the clock and it was **RESOLVED:** To accept the quote in the sum of £384 which provided for preparation and the application of three coats of stain to the internal and external surfaces.

TC.229

By-Election and Second Vacancy Update

The Mayor advised that Daisy Gibbs had been successful in the by-election on the 12<sup>th</sup> December polling 1007 votes. With regard to the second vacancy, an election had been requested with a closing date for nominations to be received of the 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

TC.230

Finance

a) Accounts for Payment

**RESOLVED:** To approve the accounts for payment as set out on the attached schedule subject to amendment to the payee in the sum of £78.00 for advertising to read Cornwall Council and not Cornwall Garden Services.

b) Grant applications

Having established that the application from St Just Church related to repairs to the clock (located on the tower and available to the whole community) and that it did not represent a grant to 'a place of worship' (prohibited under Section 137 Powers)

**RESOLVED:** To make a grant in the sum of £200.00

c) Letters of thanks

A letter of thanks had been received from Mr David May on behalf of the Table Tennis Club in respect of the grant in the sum of £1000.00. Mr May advised that there were a number of young players showing such promise as to be trialist for their age group at national level.

d) Budget Update and Timetable for Precept Setting

The clerk advised that he had been in touch with Cornwall Council and had secured an extension to the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 in respect of reporting the precept requirement. It was proposed that a first draft would be presented to the council on the 13<sup>th</sup> January and a final draft on the on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

With regard to the budget for the current year the clerk advised that with seven months gone most expenditure heads were at the appropriate profiled percentage point. However, two heads were showing an overspend but there should be a sufficient surplus on the salaries line to enable money to be vired as required to bring in a balanced budget at the financial year end.

TC.231

Planning

Sue James read the following statement:

*As both a Cornwall Councillor and Town Councillor for the St Just-in-Perwith 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**

1. PA19/09709

Proposal: Conversion of barn to dwelling. Location: Chymeneth Nancherrow Terrace St Just

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

2. PA19/09343

Proposal: Proposed reconstruction of existing extension to construct swimming pool and associated works and change of use of land to domestic curtilage. Location: Chy En Meneth St Johns Terrace Pendeen

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

3. PA19/09294

Proposal: Construction of agricultural building on agricultural land to the north of Cot Manor. Location: Cot Manor Road from Cot Manor to Kelynack Farm Cot Valley St Just

**RESOLVED: STRONG OBJECTION ON THE GROUNDS OF VISUAL IMPACT IN AN ELEVATED POSITION. THE DESIGN WAS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE THAT OF A TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL BUILDING WHICH SHOULD BE REPOSITIONED LOWER DOWN THE VALLEY TO REDUCE THE VISUAL IMPACT**

4. PA19/09955

Proposal: Change of use of Existing Lawful Extension to existing Farmhouse to separate dwelling Location: The Cart House Bollowal Farm Bollowal St Just

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

5. PA19/10029

Proposal: Formation of new access within existing arable crop field Location: Tregiffian Tregiffian Vean Road from Escalls Cliff to Tregiffian Vean Sennen TR19 7BD

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

6. PA19/10190

Proposal: Construction of conservatory extensions to two caravans Units 2 & 3 Location: Kelynack Caravan park Access Track to Green Acres Crippas Hill St Just

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

7. PA19/10195

Proposal: Re-application for the conversion of rear store to additional residential accommodation and associated works and replacement windows and doors as previously approved under PA13/10123 at 1, Regent Terrace, St. Just.

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

8. PA19/09739

Proposal: Proposed porch on rear elevation of cottage Location: 5 Bojewyan Stennack Pendeen

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

9. PA19/09745

Proposal: Listed building consent for proposed porch on rear elevation of cottage Location: 5 Bojewyan Stennack Pendeen

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

10. PA19/10495

Proposal: Replacement windows and doors Location: Kerrylee Bosorne Road St Just TR19 7JJ

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

11. PA19/09099

Proposal: Replacement Garage/Storage building Location: Porthnanven House Cot Valley St Just

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

12.) PA19/10539

Councillor Morris declared an interest and retired from the meeting.  
Proposal: Formation of off road parking area in rear garden. Location  
57 Carn Bosavern St Just

**RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

b) **Decisions**

1. PA19/04798

Use of part of caravan site for the storage of caravans and use of  
paddock for seasonal camping with non-compliance of Condition 4  
(holiday accommodation use) in relation to decision notice  
PA13/06515 Location: Kelynack Caravan Park Crippas Hill  
Kelynack St Just

**Refused**

2. PA19/06463

Outline planning permission with all matters reserved: Erection of  
an affordable self-build dwelling house and a domestic annexe  
Location: land east of Pen Tregrahan Botallack St Just

**Refused**

3. Appeals

None

TC.232

Neighbourhood Planning

The Mayor advised that the team had met that morning and in a long  
session had reviewed their policy writing and further detail would be  
provided at the next council meeting.

TC.233

Correspondence

The Mayor advised that she had written to Cornwall Councillor Rob  
Nolan seeking a more detailed response to the points raised in her  
original letter regarding the loss of the recycling bank. A response was  
awaited which would be reported to council in due course.

A letter had also been sent to Barclays bank in respect of issues  
relating to dishonoured cheques and the loss of the on line banking  
facility and in view of these problems the provision of banking services  
would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

TC.235

Code of Conduct Complaint

The Mayor advised that the complaint against her by Donna James had  
been determined and the notification from Cornwall Council dated 11<sup>th</sup>  
November stated that there was no breach of the Code of Conduct.  
The full details of the complaint and determination would be made  
available on the Cornwall Council website in due course.

TC.236

Committee Reports

a) Staffing Committee

Councillor Manser advised that 13 applications had been received

for the post of Town Clerk and shortlisting would take place at the CALC office in Truro on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 12.30 with a view to conducting interviews in the week beginning the 13<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed that the interviews should be carried out at the library

Councillor Manser also advised that the recruitment of volunteers for the library was continuing with 5 people expressing an interest and the next step would be to arrange a meeting of staff and volunteers to establish areas where support was needed and how the volunteers could best be deployed. On the issue of DBS checks it was felt that although it would not be necessary for all volunteers, particularly when operating under the supervision of staff, it would be prudent to have everyone checked so that all volunteers could be available to assist with children and vulnerable adults as required.

#### Climate and Environment Action Committee

Councillor Moore advised that the committee had met with Kate Beckley from the Neighbourhood Plan group to examine areas of the plan in relation to sustainability. Crystal Wakefield had also addressed the committee regarding an initiative to recruit volunteers on a street by street basis to raise awareness of the issue and actions which could be taken at the most local of levels. The committee felt that its' role in this respect would be to promote this volunteer scheme wherever possible.

On the question of raising awareness, Councillor Moore enquired as to whether it would be possible to mount a display board in the lower half of the glass frontage of the entrance lobby at the library. It was felt that it would be appropriate to wait until the move to the library was under way when a better judgement of the use of space could be made. Councillor Moore also referred to a noticeboard mounted by the Co-op which was in a poor state of repair and it was agreed that the Climate Committee was welcome to utilise this board subject to it being refurbished by volunteers. Any cost attached to this refurbishment, whether for an individual or for materials, would have to be reported to council for consideration.

TC.237

#### Library

To receive updates and agree any associated actions and expenditure

- a) The Mayor reminded members that the current office building had to be completely vacated by the 31<sup>st</sup> January and she sought the help of councillors who might be able to provide a few hours to assist. Storage was a matter of concern as was the disposal of furniture and paintings and in this respect care would have to be taken where paintings and other items had been gifted to the council and any councillor, past or present, or member of the community with information was asked to get in touch.

Chris Goninan and Sandy Angove were mentioned in this respect. With regard to items of furniture, contact would be made with Anton Barnes with a view to disposal by auction if appropriate, e.g the long table in the council chamber.

- b) Councillor Manser advised of a number of items he was pursuing including the moving of the kiosk, modification of the letter box, construction of new cupboards, the need for more carpet tiles and the work by BT to relocate phones and lines in the building.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the quote from NSN in the sum of £1500.49 for cabling and data points including moving the intruder alarm keypad. Further to accept the quote from Alarm Guard in respect of the intruder alarm for updating, moving keypad in the sum of £170 to £240 + VAT depending on how much needs replacing plus £190pa + VAT for annual service, 24 hour support and monitored alarm connecting to a central station.

For installation of the fire alarm to include smoke/heat detectors, call points and sounders throughout the building and fire alarm plans in the sum of £2830 + VAT.

- c) The Mayor advised that statistical information was beginning to be received from the library which indicated that there had been 1703 books borrowed in October and 1925 in November and new members in each of those months of 30 and 11 respectively. Footfall figures for November had been reported at 1921 and the Mayor felt that these numbers were encouraging.

TC.238

Car Park and Toilets

Councillor James advised that there was nothing to report other than that a response was still awaited in respect of the revised Heads of Terms of the lease.

TC.239

Mayor's Report

1. On the 4<sup>th</sup> December the Mayor had attended Pendeen School's Nativity which had been very enjoyable.
2. On the 5<sup>th</sup> December the Mayor had met with the Library's Client Relationship Officer, Rosemary Phillips, which had proved to be very helpful.
3. Between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> of December the Mayor took part in two Ordinalia workshops at the Knut, part of the bid for funding to enable the trilogy to be staged in 2021.
4. On the 10<sup>th</sup> December the Mayor, with St Just Primary School Choir, had attended St Just Memory's Café's Christmas celebration.
5. On the 11<sup>th</sup> December The Mayor had attended the National Coastwatch Institution's Presentation Evening.
6. Again with St Just Primary School Choir, the Mayor had visited the residents of Benoni Nursing Home on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.
7. On the 13<sup>th</sup> December The Live Nativity was held in the Miners Chapel due to inclement weather which meant the Plen an Gwary couldn't be used. The Mayor then moved to St Just Square and switched on the Christmas Lights.

8. On the 14<sup>th</sup> December the Mayor attended the 'Christmas Time' play staged by Ta Ra Theatre in the Old Town Hall.
9. The Mayor helped with the clearing up in the council building on the day of the meeting at the start of preparations for the move in the New Year.
10. On the 17-19 December the Mayor would be attending rehearsals and Carol Concerts with St Just primary School.

TC.240

#### Cornwall Councillors Report

Sue James: Since I last reported the main issues have been the Spaceport, setting the budget, Pensions Committee Responsible Investment work and my involvement with the Penwith Local Family Partnership. Other news is that the Forest for Cornwall project starts around Saltash next week and there is a 'have your say' feedback survey on Cornwall Council's Planning Services.

I'm sure people have heard that Cornwall Council voted to support investment in Newquay Airport that would facilitate the Spaceport project. This was a split vote after a lengthy debate. The webcast was held back due to the General election and rules of purdah but people can view that for themselves now. I have a feeling we have not heard the last of this as the public gallery was full to over-flowing with protestors. It also requires Government funding and as the Stadium for Cornwall is still waiting, after 18 months, I'll not hold my breath. Budget setting is under way and a public consultation is available on-line. This year it has been especially difficult as the General Election has meant officers preparing the draft had less of an idea of what Government grants might be. There was an All Member Briefing, that I did not manage to get to but it is on my catch up list for this week.. This is available for you or members of the public to view too.

I have attended a couple of all day training/briefing events, as a Pensions Committee member, looking to revise our Responsible Investment Strategy. It is fair to say that those of us concerned about Climate Change are having more influence than before, in relation to investment in fossil fuels. Whilst progress is being made to reduce the carbon footprint of investments, some of us are concerned that monitoring is inadequate of indirect investment through, for example, financial institutions. Whilst in the past limited progress was being made, many Councils are now looking at this together and it appears a step change to strategies will take place.

I reported a few months ago that I have become the elected representative on Penwith Local Family Partnership. This is a multi-disciplinary group of practitioners (and me) looking at the needs of children and families and how best to meet those, ensuring the best preventative and universal services whilst being able to respond and protect children that could be at risk. These forums are meeting throughout Cornwall and whilst best practice will be shared and adopted, there is also recognition that not all areas will have the same needs and there are varied community resources which are being mapped, for the first time, and supported to grow.



There is also recognition that innovation comes from the ground and the level of autonomy being given should allow that to blossom. Finally, I mentioned last time the Wheal Buzzy project, developing habitats for our declining solitary bees. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December, they worked with local children, a local resident and a Trustee of Lands End Peninsula CLT, to plant suitable wild flowers in part of the open space at Croft Mear, Pendeen. Obviously it does not look much at the moment but I hope that, next spring, the rewards will be there for our human eye and our pollinators.

TC.241

Information Items and Matters to Report

Councillor Clemens advised that the next Community Network Panel Meeting would be taking place on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7pm and that with a new Police Inspector in place, Police Liaison Meetings would resume. If any councillor had an issue to raise it should be reported to Councillor Clemens in order that it could be discussed at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Chairman's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

