

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of St Ives Town Council held in the Council Chamber,
The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 26 March 2015 at 6.00pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor L Taylor (Town Mayor)

Vice-Chairman – Councillor T Williams (Deputy Town Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Chard C

Garrod H

Mitchell A

Nicholls C

Symons J

Tanner J

Tulley R

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

187. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Councillors T Andrewes, M Armstrong, R Glanville, A Parsons, R Lait and S Tanner.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Additional agenda item included in view of urgency – St Pirans Day Holiday

188. PUBLIC SPEAKING

None.

189. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Clerk declared an Interest in Minute 193 as a member of staff.

190. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

191. CONSIDERATION OF THE NEED TO ISSUE POLL CARDS FOR THE ST IVES WEST WARD ELECTION ON 7 MAY 2015

Members considered the forthcoming election in the town council ward of St Ives West, and whether poll cards should be issued.

During the debate, the following points were raised:

- The usual practice of the town council to issue poll cards in the interests of encouraging the exercise of the democratic right to vote, increasing voter turnout
- It being unusual for the town council to have held 3 elections in one year, and the coincidence of the election being held alongside the Parliamentary election
- The fact that most people would be made aware of the election through candidates leaflets and other means

- The opportunity to make a cost saving, to enable the funds to be allocated to another project at some point

RESOLVED - that poll cards not be issued, a press release be sent out, and posters produced in-house for councillors to display around the area.

192. ST PIRANS DAY HOLIDAY

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the St Pirans Day Holiday, included on the agenda with the agreement of the Chairman due to urgency, to enable processing of March wages and holiday records.

Members were advised that the town council had resolved in 2009 that St Pirans Day be a holiday for town council staff. This was introduced in 2009 and in years since had lapsed, partly due to the increase in workload and staff of the council and changes in working practices. The Clerk sought direction from the Council on how or whether this policy should continue to be implemented.

During discussion the following points were raised:

- The staffing, workload and working practices of the town council had changed since 2009
- A recollection of the original intention to enable staff to join in St Pirans Day festivities in the town
- How the policy had been intended to be implemented, and ambiguity in the original wording over whether it should be paid or unpaid holiday.
- If staff had requested the day off, they would have been granted it.
- Whether to implement a revocation from this date onwards or retrospectively

RESOLVED – that St Ives Town Council no longer give St Piran’s Day as a holiday for Town Council employees, to be implemented retrospectively.

Councillor Mitchell requested that his name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

193. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – “that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meeting) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matter on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.”

194. STAFFING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TWO NEW POSTS
(Paragraph 3)

Members considered the report circulated prior to the meeting setting out the recommendation of the Staffing Committee, as presented by the Chairman of the Staffing Committee.

Following consideration, it was

RESOLVED – that that posts of third Information Assistant and of Traffic Control / Dog Control Order Enforcement / Caretaker be approved and advertised on the basis of a zero hours contract to run until 30 September 2015.

Meeting closed at 6.44 pm

Chairman