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Minutes Meeting of St Ives Town Council held in The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 22 October 2015 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor L Taylor (Town Mayor)

Vice-Chairman – Councillor M Armstrong (Deputy Town Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T

Chard C

Garrod H

Glanville R

Lait R

Mitchell A

Prior P

Nicholls C

Tanner S

Tulley R

Williams T

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

Assistant Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - were received from Councillors A Parsons, J Symons and J Tanner.

79. APPOINTMENT OF SERGEANT AT MACE

The Clerk advised that Mace Bearer, Simon Major, had not been able to attend the Annual meeting of the Council and so had not yet been sworn in for the year. Mr S Major was appointed Sergeant at Mace for the remainder of the Council year and took the Charter Oath.

80. POLICE LIAISON

PC Saint attended the meeting and presented the police report, featuring the figures now able to be generated by the new reporting system. He also noted that the Street Marshal initiative had provide helpful, with the marshals helping to calm situations and reassure the public, and had been of assistance with local policing.

PC Saint answered Members questions and received their feedback on the Street Marshal initiative.

Councillor Mitchell spoke to say that whilst continuing to have concerns at the Street Marshal initiative as an encroachment into the role of the police, he fully appreciated the constraints on the police and gave an assurance that the town council were willing to assist the police in their role wherever possible, for example if space at the Guildhall could be available as a base following the proposed closure of St Ives Police Station.

Councillor Andrewes thanked the police for their assistance with problems with the buses at Royal Square. There were now plans to reduce the roundabout and consider other improvements.

The crime statistics were noted and appreciated, and Members asked if it could be possible for

future statistics to include reference to numbers of crimes detected.

It was noted that the proposed closure of the police station was likely to cause difficulties for the taxi rank, as the taxi's currently encroached onto police property. This space was likely to diminish in future.

With regard to the vandalism at Palemon Best Recreation Ground, PC Saint gave an overview of the steps that had been taken to tackle the vandalism and damage to the skate ramps. Patrols covered the area and publicity had been circulated to encourage peer pressure and community pride in keeping this facility in good condition.

The usual pre-festive Police visits to licensed premises were being carried out to encourage responsibility relating to drunken behaviour.

The Mayor thanked PC Saint for his attendance at the meeting and his comprehensive report.

81. REPORTS FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLORS AND/OR THE COMMUNITY NETWORK PANEL

Councillor Andrewes presented his report and outlined the following: Draft Cornwall Local Plan; Buses in Royal Square; bins and litter; car parking review; future of the library service; and St Ives Leisure Centre. He reported that a local organisation had expressed an interest in the future running of the library, and that the town council had also asked to be involved in discussions.

Councillor Mitchell presented his report, with the following topics included: Financial Strategy; budget setting; devolution of the library service.

Community Link Officer, Vanessa Luckwell, attended the meeting and was able to update Councillors and answer questions if any were raised. Councillor Mitchell thanked Vanessa for meeting with himself and Councillor Andrewes for their recent meeting and the number of matters actioned almost immediately.

82. PUBLIC SPEAKING

Kevin Hughes, Chairman of Towednack Parish Council attended to introduce himself and reported on current matters including: thanked Mayor and Councillor Mitchell for attending recent parish council meetings; suggested the reciprocal sending of Minutes; important to work with boundary councils; work commenced on a Parish Landscape Plan (wetland areas and wildlife areas, similar to the Neighbourhood Plan); Cornwall Community Land Trust in Nancledra for affordable housing although Cornwall Housing have said there is no need for affordable houses in the area; looking after bridle paths; actions that the parish council is taking against flooding; working with the Environment Agency to take enforcement against a raised flood meadow. In closing, Mr Hughes extended the invitation to attend the parish council meetings, and to work jointly where this approach could help to meet common aims.

Chris Cocklin – Edward Hain League of Friends. Mr Cocklin reported on the completion of the day room at Edward Hain Hospital, noting that it was a significant achievement for the community and for the hospital. The continued support of the people of the town was a key contribution to the hospital's success. It was explained that whilst the project was under contract, there had been a restriction on information which could be released and so there had been limited information during that period. It was noted that with the pending withdrawal of the Trust operating community

hospitals in Cornwall, there would be changes in the near future. However a new project was being worked up and the Friends intended to continue to support the hospital.

Terry Murray, also from the Edward Hain League of Friends, attended to speak in support of Councillor Prior's motion on the agenda with regard to the future of the Community Health Services. He noted the battles that have been fought in the past to keep Edward Hain Hospital and stated that proposals to put clinical services out to tender could put community health services at risk in the future.

83. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced the following:

- Noted that after one of the busiest summers in St Ives, there were the usual challenges, traffic, access and public conveniences. Feedback from visitors indicated that they enjoyed their time in the St Ives area.
- Numerous events had been attended over the summer months, in her Mayoral capacity.

84. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER / OFFICER INTERESTS

Councillor Tulley declared an Interest in Minute 99 (Decorative Lights) as Council representative on the Decorative Lights Committee, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Armstrong declared an Interest in Minute 93 (Community Health Services) as she was working for Peninsular Health, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Lait declared an Interest in Minute 99 (Grants – NCI) as her husband was a member of the NCI Coastwatch, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Glanville declared an Interest in Minute 99 (Grants – NCI) as a member of NCI Coastwatch, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

85. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

86. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 30 July 2015.

87. TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE REPORT

Members noted the Clerk's update report circulated with the agenda papers.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

88. SECTION 106 CONTRIBUTION

Members considered the report circulated and the recommendation of the Resources Committee. Councillor Andrewes stated that the Section 106 Agreement should be worded to be allocated to the Palemon Best Recreation Ground as a whole, rather than solely for the skatepark.

RESOLVED – that the council agree to accept the Section 106 Agreement (relating to Palemon Best Recreation Ground as a whole), and that the Town Clerk, as Proper Officer, be authorised to sign it.

89. DISABLED ACCESS TO FIRST FLOOR OF GUILDHALL

Councillor Prior had requested that this item be considered by the Council. It was noted that aspirations to improve accessibility to the first floor were in the Service Plan for the Guildhall, albeit without any firm date.

During discussion the following points were made:

- Current provision for the first floor meeting rooms included reference to access arrangements on the summons for each meeting;
- The wish for the council to make a commitment to providing means of accessing the first floor within a reasonable timescale;
- Practicalities and costs involved;
- Whether the building was suitable for adaptation with lift access, within a reasonable cost;
- This could be an early project for a Facilities Manager to address, once the position had been appointed; and
- The existing aspiration of the council to improve the accessibility of the first floor of the Guildhall.

RESOLVED - that the matter be referred to the Facilities Committee to request a costed report with options for improving the accessibility to the first floor, to be subject of a report to Council.

90. STREET MARSHALS FOR NEW YEARS EVE

Councillor Taylor noted that in view of the work carried out over the summer by the street marshals, she proposed that street marshals be employed to work from 9.00pm to 2.00am on New Years Eve.

During discussion it was noted that each New Year there had been an appropriate level of policing and so it was questioned whether additional, civilian, cover was needed.

No vote was taken on this item.

91. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE FOR ST IVES TOWN CHARITY

It was noted that the St Ives Town Charity (as previously considered by Council) was being created and that the town council had been invited to propose a Trustee.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Williams be nominated as Trustee to the St Ives Town Charity.

92. FISHERMENS LIGHTS CONTRIBUTION FROM ST LEONARDS CHAPEL

Members considered the report circulated prior to the meeting, noting that in previous years a contribution had been made from the St Leonard's Chapel donations (commonly known as the Fishermen's Chapel) to the Fishermen's Lights. Following brief discussion, it was

RESOLVED – that the current donations received this year to date to St Leonard's Chapel (£412) be granted to the fishermen who provide the Fishermen's Christmas Lights.

93. COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Councillor Prior presented this proposal on community health services, as set out in the report.

During discussion the following points were made:

- The need for community health services to be provided by the National Health Service rather than being privatised;
- The need for community health services to continue
- Concerns that it is not the place of a local council to interfere in the workings of the health service
- Acknowledgement that the commissioning group were made up of GP's and health professionals who were well placed to put the best interests of patient's as a priority;
- The need for patient's needs to be placed before political reasons for decisions.

RESOLVED – that the statement set out below be sent to the Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group.

"This Council recognises the vital role played in the life of our communities by Cornwall's Community Health Services and applauds the dedication of the more than 2000 people working as community nurses, staffing Cornwall's 12 community hospitals and providing other important services such as physiotherapy and emergency dentistry.

This council notes with concern the decision of the Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS Kernow) to put these services out to tender and hopes that the outcome of this tendering process will ensure the continued operation of the Edward Hain Hospital, a vital asset to the local community."

94. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – CONSULTATION ON DRAFT REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

It was noted that Councillors were able to respond to the consultation as individuals.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

95. REQUEST FROM CORNISH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION - ST IVES WRESTLING TROPHY

Members considered the request of the Cornish Wrestling Association and following discussion it was

RESOLVED – that the request of the Cornish Wrestling Association be agreed to, with the Cup to be given to them on loan, to be returned to the town council if either the Cornish Wrestling Association be disbanded, or if a St Ives Wrestling Committee should be established in the future.

96. ST IVES BID UPDATE

Councillor Mitchell circulated his report and advised that he would be attending the BID AGM as the town council's representative. There was a brief discussion and it was noted that good communication would help ensure that projects were not duplicated by BID and the town council or other organisations.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

97. ST IVES BAY YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING - UPDATE

Councillor Williams reported on the latest meeting of the Youth Council, the first of the new academic year. The youth councillors were given their councillor badges and considered issues such as rubbish, dog waste, playgrounds and soft play areas, width of pavements, street lights, cycle path, and the idea of a junior skate park. Future meetings would aim to focus on single issues to be able to give more time to discussions on each topic.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

98. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Lait reported that the Independent Examiner was currently working on her report and it was hoped to be received in the near future.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

99. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Members considered the recommendations proposed by the various committees. Councillor Prior also expressed concern that a council meeting had been called to be held on a Tuesday evening.

RESOLVED – that the Committee recommendations be determined as follows:

F.38 (Security Information Policy) – deferred to the next meeting, pending receipt of the draft document

C&E.128 (Management of Palemon Best) – noted that this would be decided later in the meeting

R.155 (Grants) – St Ives in December. The recommendation of Resources Committee to grant £250 was considered, with concerns raised at the use of live animals (camels) and whether this was the type of event in the commercial centre of the town which businesses should be solely funding. Counter arguments were put, including the participation of the town council in a festive community event, and the enjoyment of local families and visitors.

RESOLVED – that no grant be awarded to St Ives in December

R.155 (Grants) – NCI St Ives. Councillors Lait and Glanville each declared an Interest in this item as spouse of an NCI Member and NCI Member respectively, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

RESOLVED - that a grant of £1,000 be awarded to NCI St Ives for the purpose set out in the grant application.

R.156 – Section 106 Agreement – *agreed earlier in the meeting.*

R.158 – that the credit card limit be increased to £5,000 with immediate effect, and that this change be recorded in the Financial Regulations.

R.160 – Decorative Lights. Councillor Tulley declared an Interest in this item as the town council representative on the Decorative Lights Committee, and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

RESOLVED - that other organisations potentially willing to take on responsibility for the decorative lights have their deadline for decision extended to 31 December 2015, to give a firm commitment to taking on the lights. Funding of £1,000 to be agreed as a sum to be paid to whichever organisation takes on responsibility for the decorative lights. If an organisation is not willing to take on the lights by the 31 December, then the town council to make arrangements to take the lights down.

D.15 –that the decision to join talks on the future of the library be ratified.

It was noted that with regard to Minute C&E.121 there had not yet been a response from south West Water. As this was considered an urgent matter, the Chairman agreed that this could be included on the agenda as an urgent item.

100. COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following committee minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting

Planning Committee – 20 August, 17 September and 15 October 2015

Community & Environment Committee – 3 September 2015

Facilities Committee – 10 September 2015

Resources Committee – 6 October 2015

Devolution Panel – 24 September 2015

Amendments raised at the meeting:

- Devolution Panel Minutes – add Councillor P Prior to the list of Councillors present
- Planning Committee Minutes (17 October) – add Councillor S Tanner to the list of Councillors present

- Planning Committee Minutes (17 September) – add Councillor T Williams to the list of Councillors present.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes referred to above be approved and adopted.

101. URGENT ITEM – SOUTH WEST WATER RESPONSE AWAITED REGARDING URGENT ACTION REQUIRED TO ADDRESS SEWAGE FLOODING ISSUES

Councillor Garrod noted that there had been no response from South West Water with regard to the urgent request for action on the sewage problem resolution. Following consideration, it was

RESOLVED – to send the letter drafted by Councillor Garrod to Ofwat, and for Officers to continue to pursue South West Water for response and urgent action.

102. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Glanville reported from the HHAC that the sluicing would not be able to be carried out for some time due to wildlife protection, and that parking on Lelant Quay (Dynamite Quay) will be for harbour users only. Two boats at Lelant Quay were in disrepair and were due to be looked at in the next few weeks.

103. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted the correspondence circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be noted.

104. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

Members considered the schedule of accounts circulated prior to the meeting, and the updated version of the schedule circulated at the meeting.

It was requested of Facilities Committee to look into Visit St Ives cabinet sales and the income and costs associated.

It was also suggested that the weddings package charges should be reviewed. It was noted that the scale of charges was due to be reviewed and that introductory charges to encourage bookings would be reviewed, as for other services.

RESOLVED – that

- (1) payments made since the last meeting totalling £187,423.50 be approved;
- (2) credit card payments made since the last meeting totalling £1,215.79 be approved; and
- (3) the accounts listed totalling £2,278.97 be paid.

105. EXCLUSION OF THE 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 the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve 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.”

106. PROPOSED FACILITIES MANAGER POST (Paragraph 3)

Members considered the report circulated at the meeting. During discussion the following points were raised:

- Whether this matter should be deferred to the Council meeting where the staffing and organisation of the council was due to be considered.
- A belief that the Facilities Manager role had been well thought out and was a post that it would benefit the council to appoint as soon as possible.
- Consideration to be whether the post should be part time or full time, taking into account potential workload and the attractiveness of the post to potential candidates.

RESOLVED – that the Facilities Manager post be agreed as a full time post with the job description previously agreed, on a full time basis. The post to be advertised.

107. PALEMON BEST RECREATION GROUND – QUOTE FOR LEGAL FEES FOR MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT (Paragraph 3)

The Clerk reported that a quote had been received from a specialist law firm to draft a management agreement between the town council and the trustees of Palemon Best (also the town council). The purpose of the agreement being to regularise the arrangement between the two entities.

RESOLVED – that the specialist solicitor be appointed to carry out this piece of work for the town council, at the rate set out in the report.

108. HANDYMAN / TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER POST (Paragraph 3)

Members considered the Clerk’s report. During discussion concern was raised at the Council’s use of zero hours contracts, although the reasons for doing so were set out.

RESOLVED – that the contract for this post be extended to the end of September 2016 on a zero hours basis and that the Staffing Committee monitor the position, with Council agreement to re-advertise this post should it become vacant.