

Minutes of the Meeting of St Ives Town Council held in The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 23 March 2017 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor L Taylor (Town Mayor)  
Vice-Chairman – Councillor C Nicholls (Deputy Town Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes, T	Parsons A
Chard, C	Symons, J
Garrod, H	Tanner, J
Lait R	Tanner, S
Prior P	Tulley R
Parsons A	Williams T

OFFICERS

Town Clerk  
Support Services Manager

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - were received from Councillors M Armstrong and R Glanville.

164. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

165. DECLARATION OF MEMBER/OFFICER INTERESTS

None.

166. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION (approved by Council only)

None.

167. MINUTES

It was noted that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23 February 2017 had yet to be finalised and so would be presented for approval at the next meeting of the council.

168. BANKING ARRANGEMENTS – TO AGREE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SWITCHING THE COUNCIL'S CURRENT ACCOUNT, PROVISIONS FOR DIRECT PAYMENTS AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

Members considered the report and the reasons given for moving the council's current account to another bank, upon the closure of the local branch of HSBC, including proposed provisions for direct payments, payments of staff salaries and other matters associated with banking services. Further update was given on the bank charges applied by the banks referred to in the report.

Members raised matters including a suggested cap on the amount to be held in the current account, noting the steps taken to ensure the optimum banking services alongside security of funds, and practical arrangements for day to day banking, depositing cash, etc. It was noted that the Town Clerk would be presenting a treasury management strategy to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

**RESOLVED** – that the town council opens a current account (with Corporate MultiPay Card facility) with Unity Trust Bank, and to close the current account with HSBC when the transfer of Direct Debit payments and receipts is complete, with a proposed maximum of £50,000 to be held in the current account, figure to be finalised by the Finance & General Purposes Committee as part of the treasury management report to the next meeting of that committee.

**RESOLVED** – that bank accounts numbered 1, 2, 3 & 6 on the schedule be closed, with funds to be allocated between the new current account and the Cornwall Council Town and Parish Council Deposit Scheme at levels to be determined in the first instance by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

169. **UPDATES TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Following consideration of the report, it was

**RESOLVED** – that Financial Regulations be amended to increase from £10,000 to £50,000 the level of funds that may be transferred between council bank accounts before Council approval is required.

170. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, MAYOR CHOOSING CEREMONY AND MAYORAL DINNER**

This report was withdrawn in response to concerns raised that it contravened Standing Orders to include the item on the agenda if it had been considered in the previous 6 months. It was subsequently clarified that the previous decision had been open-ended and so it was appropriate for a further report to determine the actual dates of the Mayor Choosing Ceremony and Mayoral Dinner.

171. **RECOMMENDATION OF THE DEVOLUTION PANEL WITH REGARD TO A TOWN PACKAGE**

The Chairman of the Devolution Panel set out the recommendation to move forward with previously agreed devolution proposals (open spaces, car parks and beaches) with the removal of the management of the harbour from the package.

It was noted that development of a town package would be more challenging than individual devolution projects. A package approach could better ensure that the town council fulfilled its long-standing aspiration to take on services and facilities and to negotiate accompanying resources to build in financial sustainability.

In discussion it was acknowledged that the council had already achieved devolution of community buildings, public toilets and the tourist information service. Harbour management would no longer be on the list as responsibility was moving to Cornwall Ports and Harbours.

The Initial Proposal Form would need to be written and submitted following which there would be a delay pending Cornwall Council progressing other devolution schemes to a position where they would have the capacity to work with St Ives. Meanwhile the town council would continue to work up the devolution plans.

**RESOLVED** – that the town council agree the principle of developing a town package for devolution and to submit an Initial Proposal Form on this basis (to replace two Initial Proposal Forms already lodged with Cornwall Council) for the St Ives Town Council proposal to ‘join the queue’ for consideration by Cornwall Council. The proposal to reaffirm the existing policy for those areas to be devolved by to remove the management of the harbour from the list, and to present the remaining elements as a package rather than individual items.

172. **DATE OF ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING**

At the 23 February meeting of the Council, it was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of Electors on Tuesday 6 June on the basis that efforts should be made to enable time for publicity and organisation to make the event meaningful and well-attended by local electors

The decision at Council was made without the benefit of confirmation at that meeting of the dates between which the Annual Electors meeting may be held. As set out in Part III of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, “The parish meeting of a parish shall assemble annually on some day between 1st March and 1st June, both inclusive, in every year.”. Accordingly, it was necessary to reschedule the date for this meeting.

**RESOLVED** – that the Annual Meeting of Electors be held on Tuesday 30 May at 6.00pm.

Meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Chairman