

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held in the Committee Room, The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 31 May 2018 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor T Williams
Vice Chairman – Councillor R Lait

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T	Messenger K
Garrod H	Nicholls C
Griffin J	Symons J
Henry R	Tanner S
A Harris	Tulley R

OFFICERS

Facilities Manager/Acting Support Services Manager
Admin Support Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from the Community Link Officer

C&E.1 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor T Williams be elected as Chairman of the Community & Environment Committee for 2018/9.

C&E.2 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED - that Councillor A Harris be elected as Vice-chairman of the Community & Environment Committee for 2018/9. The Chairman thanked Councillor Lait for her support over the last year as her Vice-Chairman.

C&E.3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that she would bring forward the two items on the agenda which members of the public had come to the committee to speak on. She also reminded members that the meeting would be adjourned at 6.55pm to allow members to attend the council meeting at 7pm.

C&E.4 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25 January 2018.

C&E.5 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLOR / OFFICER INTERESTS

None

C&E.6 PUBLIC SPEAKING

A representative of local group Plastic-Free St Ives asked for the Town Council's support of

plastic free alternatives and supporting plastic free initiatives within the town. He explained what would be required of the council if it agreed to sign up to the initiative.

A Carbis Bay resident spoke briefly about the need for a noticeboard in Carbis Bay, considering the number of events in the area.

C&E.7 **PLASTIC-FREE ST IVES**

Members had received a verbal presentation from a member of the Plastic-Free St Ives group earlier in the meeting. There was a discussion about how the scheme could be made to work in practice in council properties, and how room hirers, bands and so on could be persuaded to conform to the council's ambitions. Councillor Andrewes spoke in favour of a plastic-free initiative and said that Officers and Councillors should make changes to enable these aims to happen. He acknowledged that it might prove to be more difficult to encourage other users of the Guildhall rooms such market traders, wedding hirers etc to do likewise.

RECOMMENDED – that

1. the Council supports Plastic-Free St Ives and takes the required steps to become an accredited council
2. Councillor Andrewes represent the Council on the Plastic-Free St Ives group.

Councillor Andrewes left the meeting at 6.35.

C&E.8 **A TOWN COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD IN CARBIS BAY**

Councillors agreed that these noticeboards would be beneficial for community cohesion and advertising council events. It was noted that Halsetown and Lelant already have community noticeboards that are not owned nor maintained by the council.

RESOLVED - that Carbis Bay councillors, assisted by the Facilities Manager, should investigate the matter of one or more noticeboards, including their cost and how they should be managed, and report back to the next meeting.

C&E.9 **RESOLVED** – that the meeting be adjourned to allow members to attend a meeting of the Town Council.

Meeting adjourned at 6.55pm

Chairman

Minutes of the reconvened meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 31 May 2018 (reconvened at 7.58pm)

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor T Williams
Vice Chairman – Councillor A Harris

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T	Messenger K
Henry R	Nicholls C
A Harris	Tulley R

OFFICERS

Facilities Manager/Acting Support Services Manager
Admin Support Officer

C&E.10 UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITY LINK OFFICER (CORNWALL COUNCIL)

None received.

C&E11 OFFICER'S UPDATE REPORT

Held over to the next meeting.

C&E.12 FUN RUN

The 2017 St Ives Fun Run was held in unsatisfactory circumstances. Despite heightened sensitivities to the dangers of such events – not the least of which is the busyness of public roads – the event was not as well-organised as it might have been and there were fewer marshals than expected. The 2018 event was cancelled because of a lack of runners and marshals.

Councillors discussed a report from the Facilities Manager and debated whether the Town Council should organise the Fun Run in future. It was noted that the original intention – of giving local groups the chance to raise money for charity – was no longer evident.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Messenger will approach the Round Table to establish whether it will organise the 2019 Fun Run.

C&E.13 SKATE PARK – REQUESTS FROM THE PROJECT GROUP

The Trustees of Palemon Best and this committee have received presentations from the Skate Park Project Group regarding fund-raising for a new skate park. The Group has now written to the Trustees asking for permission to use the current skate park as the location for a new facility; and for a contribution towards the funding of the project.

RECOMMENDED – to Council that the council

1. supports the siting of a new skate park at Palemon Best for which funds will be raised by the Skate Park Project Group;
2. that the Finance and General Purposes Committee is given responsibility for ensuring the legal and financial probity of the council's involvement in the project;
3. writes formally to the Skate Park Project Group to commit a £10,000 grant towards the cost of the scheme;
4. authorises the Finance and General Purposes Committee to decide the timing and conditions of the actual transfer of funds.

C&E.14 **NEW YEAR'S EVE SECURITY REPORT**

Prior to the 2017 New Year's Eve celebrations, Cornwall Council took steps to improve the security surrounding the event by commissioning Perfect Events Group (PEG) to give advice before the event and to attend and make recommendations afterwards on how future events should be controlled. PEG also had a co-ordinating role on the night.

Members considered the PEG report. Councillors noted that the report's authors identified duplication of medical resources and that St John Ambulance's presence appeared to be lower than in previous years. The Facilities Manager reported that several requests by himself and the Clerk for clarification of the resources committed by the charity had not been answered, despite £700 having been committed by the council prior to the event in anticipation of a significant St John Ambulance presence on the night.

Members discussed PEG's strong recommendation to Cornwall Council that the road closure (paid for by the Town Council) should be manned. Members expressed the view that it was already odd that the Town Council should pay the local authority for a road closure that it, itself, required on its own property. Members noted the difficult meeting that had been attended by the Facilities Committee and endorsed the view in his report that the gathering of people in the town would take place irrespective of a road closure and a fireworks display taking place.

It was **RESOLVED** – that clarification should be sought from Cornwall Council regarding whether it will require the road closure for the 2018 celebrations to be manned and, if so, recommends to Council that a road closure should not be requested and paid for by the Town Council.

C&E.15 **A YOUTH CLUB AT THE ISLAND CENTRE**

Councillor Henry tabled a 2006 report on the findings of a comprehensive questionnaire completed by young people which included their views on a youth club for the area. The councillor felt that such a club would give young people something to do and be a safe place for them to come and be themselves. He said such a club would benefit from a small working group and might need a paid youth worker. Members discussed the merits of such a project.

RESOLVED - that the committee supported the scheme in principle and would welcome a further report from Councillor Henry at a future meeting.

C&E.16 **SAFE HARBOUR – REFERRED FROM COUNCIL 19TH APRIL**

During the public speaking session of the 19 April Council meeting, a speaker had reported on the Safe Harbours Initiative which had been started in response to a number of incidents in the town associated with bullying and anti-social behaviour. Officers had sought the view of the police on the matter, and the Facilities Manager reported that the police had reservations about the safety of individuals being encouraged to seek refuge in properties without knowing being assured that they were safe places. The police had urged people in difficulty or witnessing vulnerable people being put at risk to contact them urgently.

RESOLVED – that a letter be written to the organiser of the Safe Harbour initiative stating that the council would not be taking this forward and advising that people in difficulty or witnessing other people in danger to contact the police.

C&E.17 **ANNUAL ELECTORS’ MEETING**

Councillor Williams spoke about how disappointing the turnout had been for this year’s Annual Meeting of Electors and said this continued a trend dating back many years. She felt that the council should consider a strategy to make the meeting more meaningful for residents – including changing the name, advertising differently, inviting speakers and so on. It was suggested that each councillor should bring two residents to the meeting – guaranteeing an attendance of at least 32 people.

RESOLVED – that a working group be formed, led by Councillor Williams, and reports back with recommendations.

C&E.18 **FUNDING REQUESTS – ALLOTMENT MAINTENANCE & SALT BINS**

The Chairman of the Trowan Allotments Association has written to the Chairman of the committee seeking funding totalling £1,215. Separately, a resident of Joannies Watch has written on behalf of the residents of that road and Joannies Avenue asking the town council to fund a salt bin for use when freezing temperatures make those roads dangerous to drive on.

Members discussed the extent of the council’s responsibilities as a landlord in relation to the equipment requested by the Allotment Association and noted that the rubbish had been left on the site by allotmenters themselves. Members felt that the Association bore a responsibility to police its members.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding a salt bin being funded by the council. Members expressed the view that Cornwall Council had renounced an important responsibility and should be held accountable for it. Others felt that the town council would have to step in and take responsibility where the local authority had failed. Others felt that a precedent would be set that would encourage people from many other streets in the parish to apply for salt bins.

RECOMMENDED – that

- 1) the Town Council should fund the purchase of the allotments equipment and pay half of the cost of the removal of the rubbish, both to be funded from reserves
- 2) the Town Council should fund the purchase and siting of a bin and salt at Joannies Reach, to be funded from reserves

RESOLVED – that a prioritised list of streets in the parish that might benefit from salt bins

should be compiled.

C&E.19 **SCULPTURE PROJECT**

The South West Co-ordinator for Art UK's Sculpture Project has contacted the Clerk about the scheme, which is described as a nationwide project using digital and physical engagement to transform the way people access and learn about sculpture. The Project wishes to make images and information about the UK's 170,000 publicly-owned sculptures available to all on its website.

RESOLVED – that the council agrees to participate in the Art UK: Sculpture Project.

C&E.20 **PLANTING IN NORWAY SQUARE**

A resident of Richmond Place had written requesting funding for the purchase of plants and green refuse sacks for the garden in Norway Square. The individual has discussed this with Councillor Williams. She did not suggest an amount in her request. It was noted that an informal arrangement in the past had led to payments being made for this purpose from petty cash.

RESOLVED - that up to £50 be allocated to the residents' group for the purchase of plants and green bags, payment to be made on production of receipts and to be made from the In Bloom budget.

C&E.21 **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

- (1) St Erth Multi Model Hub – Rail Branch Line Timetable
- (2) Harbour Meeting Update
- (3) WINS Grant
- (4) Street Weeding Contract
- (5) Tree Wardens
- (6) St Ives Cinema & The Youth Council

RESOLVED – that the reports be noted.

Meeting closed at 8.58pm

Chairman