

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST IVES TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL, ST IVES ON THURSDAY 17 JANUARY AT 6.00 PM

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor S Tanner (Town Mayor)

Vice-Chairman – Councillor J Symons (Deputy Town Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T
Glanville R
Harris A
Henry R

Kilmurry-Arthur K
Mitchell A
Messenger K
Nicholls C

Tanner J
Tulley R
Williams T

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

Facilities Manager

118. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Councillors R Lait and Councillor J Griffin

119. PUBLIC SPEAKING

None

120. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced the resignation of Mr Simon Major from position of Mace Bearer and Hayden Garrood as town councillor.

121. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER/OFFICER INTERESTS

None.

122. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

123. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13 December 2018.

124. THE WESTERN HUNT AT FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

The council considered a recommendation from the Community and Environment Committee that the Western Hunt is not invited to the 2019 Feast Day celebrations, and that no more invitations are issued in future years. The Committee Chairman reported that the committee had concluded that hunting is outdated and inhumane, and had concerns about reports that trail hunting generally has led to harm to animals. It was stressed that the council had not been made aware of any such concerns in relation to the Western Hunt. She said that the ban would be consistent with the Council’s Animal Charter and the decision to replace animal fur with faux fur on the civic robes. She said that Feast Day is a tradition and a community event and the committee had considered that it had become divisive in recent years, with the growing attendance and activity of anti-hunt protesters.

Members heard that the Hunt should not be invited as a matter of principle, and some councillors were distressed that its website referred to recreating the “thrill” of foxhunting and working towards getting the Hunting Act repealed.

Some members stated that including the Hunt was a longstanding tradition and noted the central role that the Hunt had played in the town’s Feast Day for many years. They suggested that the hunt should continue to be invited as there was no evidence that the law was being broken by the participants, and said that the actual harm caused to animals should be determined.

RESOLVED - that the Western Hunt should not attend Feast Days until invited by the town council, and that this resolution should be added to the town council's Animal Rights Charter.

Councillors Messenger and J Tanner requested that it be recorded that they voted against the proposal.

125. **CLEARANCE OF CONSOLS POOL**

Council considered a recommendation from the Community and Environment Committee that money be made available from Reserves to clear several years’ of silt and debris from the pool. It was noted that, because of the need to carry out the work quickly and so reduce the impact on wildlife, there had not yet been opportunity to identify the means and costs involved.

RESOLVED – that the clearance of debris from Consols Pool is approved and funded from Reserves in this financial year.

126. **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

It was noted that the proposed St Ives parish ward boundary names appeared nonsensical, with the town council’s proposals adopted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England but incorrectly applied. Councillors also considered the potential for the parish boundary to be reviewed, and that there was scope for creating coterminosity with the Cornwall Council division boundaries.

RESOLVED – that the council submits an expression of interest for a community governance review, to consider reviewing the ward and parish boundaries and the number of councillors.

127. **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 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.

128. **SOLAR ARRAY FOR GUILDHALL (Paragraph 3)**

Members considered the paper outlining two options for the ownership of the solar array and the potential income to the council. Councillor Andrewes reported that he and the Facilities

Manager had had a very recent meeting with Neil Farrington of Community Energy Plus, who had introduced a third option that would see the risk and reward of taking on the array evenly shared between Community Power Cornwall and the council. Councillor Andrewes said that decisions could not be delayed if advantage was to be taken of the feed-in tariff, and that it may be possible to take out an interest-free loan to fund the scheme.

Members considered the options and concluded that purchasing the array, rather than effectively leasing the roof to Community Power Cornwall, gives the town council the opportunity to generate a good return on its investment, as well as the obvious environmental benefits of generating power from solar energy. Councillor Andrewes said that if the town council did purchase the array, Community Energy plus would be happy to stay involved in the scheme.

RESOLVED – to seek three quotes for the purchase and installation of the array, paid for by way of an interest-free loan, if possible, or, if not, from Reserves.

Meeting closed at 6.42 pm

Chairman