

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ST IVES TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE GUILDHALL,
ST IVES ON THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2019 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor S Tanner (Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T	Harris A	Nicholls C
Arthur K	Henry R	Tanner J
Burton P	Lait R	Tulley R
Glanville R	Messenger K	Williams T
Griffin J	Mitchell A	

OFFICERS

Town Clerk
Support Services Manager
Minute Taker

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillor J Symons

152. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

None.

153. REPORTS FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLORS AND / OR THE COMMUNITY LINK OFFICER

Members received written reports from Cornwall Councillors Mitchell and Taylor. Apologies were received from Councillor Robinson.

Councillors welcomed Cornwall Councillor Taylor's update on the GWR timetable review and commented that lobbying by the Town Council had also been instrumental in putting pressure on GWR to increase the number of Lelant stops.

Councillors responded to Cornwall Councillor Mitchell's report by enquiring whether there was any update on the Bedford Road road markings. Councillor Mitchell confirmed he had referred this matter to highways officers who have made a commitment to come back and see if some of the very bright paint marks can be taken up to improve the current street appearance.

154. PUBLIC SPEAKING

(1.) Two representatives of Royal Square business owners spoke regarding the safety of the Royal Square bus stop.

Councillor Mitchell informed members that he no longer needed to declare an interest on this item, given that a personal acquaintance no longer had any involvement in the bus operator, the St Ives Bus Company. Councillor Messenger declared an interest and confirmed he would not be present for discussion on this item.

(2.)Mr Loveluck regarding an article 4 directive and permitted development rights.

155. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed the newly elected Councillor Patty Burton to the meeting

Given members of the public were present, the Chairman proposed to move item 5 - *Decision of the traffic commissioner: Nicholas Eastwood and St Ives Bus company licences PH1086607 and PH1053866* to be considered as the first report.

156. DECLARATION OF MEMBER/OFFICER INTERESTS

Councillor Lait declared an interest in item 160 (4.), a letter from the St Ives Archive as she represents the Town Council as a Trustee.

Councillor Messenger declared an interest in minute 155(2.)

157. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

158. MINUTES

The following amendments to the minutes were proposed

- Councillor J Tanner attended the last meeting but is not recorded
- Item 145 should read "Scale of Charges" not "Changes". Councillors Williams & Andrewes declared an interest in this item and left the room.
- Minute 144 currently reads "held in the Council Chamber" but should be amended to "held in the library".
- Minute 137 – Councillor Nicholls declared an interest in this item.
- The Clerk advised that declarations of interest were recorded under Minute 133. but it was custom and practice for these also to be recorded under each report item and this would be done.

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 21 February 2019, subject to the agreed amendments.

159. TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE REPORT

- 1) Councillors requested clarification on Minute 207 (19th April 2018): *interim management arrangements - external contractor be appointed to carry out project work, by Facilities Manager*. The Town Clerk explained that the decision had been made due to lack of staffing resource at the time and that the Council now had a full complement of staff and it was no longer necessary to outsource that project work.
- 2) Minute 80: *Edward Hain Hospital (standing item) that a public meeting be held with representatives from the Kernow Commissioning Group (18th October 2018)* Councillors agreed that this action be confirmed as complete and

removed from the update, as this had been superseded by probable actions arising from a report on tonight's agenda.

- 3) Minute 80 (19th October 2017): *Craze Hunkin Trust - officers be authorised to commission specialist legal advice and building surveys*. The Town Clerk agreed that this was a priority.
- 4) Minute 199 (19th April 2018): *the purchase of two vehicles be approved* – Councillors requested that officers proceed with vehicle purchase as agreed under this minute.

RESOLVED – that the Council accept the report.

160. **DECISION OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSIONER: NICHOLAS EASTWOOD AND ST IVES BUS COMPANY LICENCES PH1086607 AND PH1053866**

In the light of the draft report tabled, Councillor Mitchell confirmed it was no longer necessary for him to declare an interest in this item.

Councillor Messenger declared an interest due to his personal acquaintance with one of the owners of the bus operators and left the meeting at this point.

Councillors debated this item in the light of the traffic commissioner's draft report and the comments of the public speakers. They expressed disappointment that the draft determination only proposed two modifications to the existing licence: that drivers attending training sessions and the abolition of return fairs. Among the issues raised in the debate were:

- Noise and air pollution impacts
- Intolerable conditions for those who live and work in the area
- A bad first impression to visitors
- The quality and size of the buses. Buses were too large for the local streets and resulted in dangerously manoeuvring around pedestrians
- Open-top First Buses would also commence for the summer season and direct passengers to an area already very congested by buses
- There were additional issues at Trenwith car park area, where buses were encroaching into road whilst waiting, causing cars have to swerve round them

Suggestions for possible solutions to be explored included:

- better monitoring of the operators' practices (members' questioned whether there were CCTV cameras which offered surveillance.
- The de-commissioning of poor quality busses in favour of electric buses
- A change of parking/loading restrictions
- Expanding the on-street waiting area
- A Council-run Park and ride in the longer term

Page 4 of the Commissioner's report also suggests the need for a General Safety Supervisor; both bus companies expressed their willingness at the time to jointly employ someone. Councillors asked whether it would be possible for the two bus

companies to fund the salary of someone who could be employed independently. Councillor Andrewes was thanked for his attempts to resolve these issues. He proposed that the Town Council write formally to the Traffic Commissioner.

RESOLVED that the Town Council write to the Traffic Commissioner, welcoming the additional restrictions and conditions imposed by the Traffic Commissioner but expressing belief that enforcement and monitoring to date hadn't worked and a better resourced and proper enforcement regime needed to be put in place. In addition, that the Council would support further actions including cleaner buses of appropriate length, an additional bus stand outside the cinema to accommodate two buses and in the longer term, exploration of a Cornwall Council run park and ride scheme.

161. SELECTION OF MAYOR DESIGNATE 2019/2020

Nominations had been invited for the election of the Mayor and two nominations had been received. Councillor Harris had been proposed as Mayor Elect by Councillor Griffin, seconded by Councillor Arthur. Following a vote by secret ballot it was

RESOLVED – that Councillor Tony Harris be appointed as Mayor-Elect for the 2019-2020 Council year.

Councillors congratulated Councillor Harris and sent best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery to Councillor Symons.

162. PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

The Support Services Manager introduced the report. She explained that the Community & Environment Committee had considered the issue at length and resolved to support joint funding a Cornwall Council post in principle, subject to Council approving the re-direction of funds from the PSPO consultation budget and a detailed proposal being finalised with Cornwall Council. The Council were, however, still awaiting detailed proposals from Cornwall Council, although it was noted that Cornwall Council had advertised an additional full time post within the enforcement team and were due to meet Hayle Town Council shortly.

The report also sought members' views on their preferred option for resourcing enforcement work over the Summer season, should agreement with Cornwall Council not be possible or significantly delayed. The Town Clerk advised that views were sought on each of the proposed options and which is preferred. She clarified the alternative solutions listed in the report. Two part-time posts are suggested so that the post holders could support each other as the role requires lone working. Councillors requested that the Town Council contact Newquay Town Council for advice as they have been successful in issuing fixed penalty notices.

Councillors confirmed that they wished to continue to pursue a joint funded post. It was critical that three strands of enforcement work were covered: dogs, traffic and environmental issues at the harbour front (peddlers, A boards etc).

A procedural amendment, proposing that the proposal were taken and voted upon separately was lost.

RESOLVED that

- i). The Council continues to progress negotiations in order into a joint funding agreement with Cornwall Council to support the recruitment of a Civil Protection Officer, subject to a final detailed proposal being agreed
- ii). Existing funds within the 2019-2020 budget, earmarked for enforcement and PSPO consultation are used for this purpose.
- iii) In the event of officers failing to conclude an agreement with Cornwall Council prior to the Council meeting in June, officers are authorised to complete all necessary preparations to recruit one member of staff, working full-time between traffic control and environmental enforcement, with the necessary funds utilised from both the enforcement officer and PSPO consultation budgets.

Councillor Glanville requested that it be recorded that he voted against the resolution.

163. LETTER FROM THE ST IVES ARCHIVE

Councillor Lait declared an interest and left the room for this item.

Councillors debated a request from St Ives Archive that the charge for hiring the concert hall is waived to enable the charity to raise more funds. Proceeds of ticket sales would be shared 50/50 between the Archive and the Holmans Male Voice Choir.

They concluded that, although this was a worthy cause, there was already a concession in place in the scale of charges for community and charity events. The Council had previously agreed that there would be no free lets given because this would create a precedent, resulting in numerous other requests and would affect the income levels essential to maintain the hall. Further, the Archive could apply for additional support through the grants process.

RESOLVED that the usual room hire charges are applied.

164. EDWARD HAIN HOSPITAL

Councillors considered a letter from NHS Kernow inviting the Council to take part in a series of stakeholder consultation events on the future of community services including Edward Hain Hospital. Councillors commented that it was critical that the Council take part in the consultation. Assurances and information on the future use of the hospital had been sought for some time and this was now the opportunity to influence the debate.

The Town Clerk informed members that as well as the wider stakeholder workshops proposed, NHS Kernow were willing to meet with the Council. Views were sought as to whether this should be an informal meeting or an additional meeting of the Council.

Councillors agreed that a formal meeting of the Council was appropriate and, given the strength of feeling, that this should be a meeting open to the press and

public. The Town Clerk informed members that the Town Council had also been invited to nominate a representative to sit on the Penwith Stakeholder panel.

RESOLVED that NHS Kernow be invited to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Council at a date to be determined and Councillors Henry and Mitchell be confirmed as nominees to sit on the stakeholder group.

165. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

To receive and consider the **Committee Minutes** as reports of the following committee meetings:

1. Planning Committee – 28 February and 28 March 2019
2. Community & Environment Committee – 7 March 2019
3. Facilities Committee – 14 March 2019
4. Finance & General Purposes Committee – 4 April 2019`

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the committee meetings set out above be received

The following decisions were made, in response to recommendations from committees:

Community & Environment Committee

C&E.76 RESOLVED – that the waste reduction grant is earmarked to support the purchase of a water fountain, recycling bins and similar items to support the delivery of the action plan.

Finance & General Purposes Committee

F&GP.170 RESOLVED that £3,000 from the 2018/2019 Footpaths Maintenance budget be carried forward as an earmarked reserve for Footpaths Maintenance in 2019/2020 to enable the commission of external contractors to clear footpaths and the South West Coast Path up to a contract value of £3,000.

F&GP.172 RESOLVED that the proposed movements in earmarked reserves, as set out in the schedule tabled at the meeting, be approved, with the following amendments

- 1) Item 5 (Election Reserves) be increased to £10,000 at financial year end
- 2) Solar Array EMR be reduced to £5,400 for 2019/2020 as the equivalent of the loan repayment to be paid in 2019/2020 only, with subsequent year's budgets to include a line in the revenue budget for the loan repayment expenditure.
- 3) Funds set out at 28 and 30 be carried forward as earmarked reserves in 2019/2020 and those listed at 27, 29, 31, 32 and 33 will revert to the general reserve at the end of the 2018/2019 financial year.

166. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

None

167. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None

168. CORRESPONDENCE

1) Who Dares Works – Active Plus Letter. The Mayor recommended that Councillors attend the award sessions if possible as it was a very worthwhile cause.

169. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

Councillor Williams requested it be noted that the £40 spend on library “flowers” was in fact for plants which will last much longer.

After considering the report circulated prior to the meeting, it was RESOLVED – that

- 1) payments made since the last meeting totalling £165,213.37 be approved;
- 2) credit card payments made since the last meeting totalling £4,651.36 be approved; and
- 3) the accounts listed totalling £57,824.58 be paid

170. 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 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.

171. RELOCATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES OFFICE (PARAGRAPH 3)

The Support Services Manager introduced the item. She explained that the proposed budget was discussed at a recent meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. The Committee had requested a scaled plan and scheme design, so councillors could understand the layout and the space available. This had been commissioned and a copy was set out as part of the report.

She also advised that the majority of the costs in the scheme were to re-locate the computer server for the town council and to build a new reception desk. Relocation of the server was essential in any effective use of the ground floor, given its current location.

A discussion took place regarding the costs of works and scale of the current proposal. Some Councillors were concerned about the cost of the works. Others were concerned that the proposed open plan layout would not give staff necessary private space to carry out their work. The Town Clerk clarified that the reception desk would also act as a barrier to prevent members of the public entering the main office space.

Whilst all Councillors expressed a commitment to improve working conditions for staff, some felt that a smaller budget should be agreed and others that the scheme should proceed as set out. A cap on the budget of £5000 was suggested (plus

additional costs for the server move). In response to questions about scope to share the space with other organisations, the Support Services Manager confirmed that outside groups including the police have expressed an interest in using a hot desk rather than renting a separate office. Staff had been fully involved in the design of the scheme.

RESOLVED that

- i) the office relocation is undertaken, in accordance with the proposed specification of works
- ii) the Council receive the quotations and to expedite the works, no further quotes be sought (in a departure from financial regulations).
- iii) make available up to £10,600 from reserves in 2019-20 for this purpose; and a further £3,200 to relocate the Town Council server to ensure best use of ground floor office accommodation as a rentable commercial space.
- iv) the project be delegated to the Facilities Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice chairman to oversee the works.

Meeting closed at 9.14 pm

Chairman