

Minutes of the Meeting of St Ives Town Council held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, at 7pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025

PRESENT

Chair – Councillor J Wells (Mayor)

Vice-Chair – Councillor K Messenger (Deputy Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Arthur K	Mitchell A	Van Staeyen M
Evamy M	Rogers L	Viney P
Hynes S	Ryall J	Walsh A
Kennedy P	Smith L	

IN ATTENDANCE Press & Members of the public.

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

Head of Culture & Community

Administration Assistant

74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Harris and Fuller. Councillor McNamee did not attend.

75. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced the resignation of the Head of Culture & Community and thanked them for their work for the Town Council.

76. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER/ OFFICER INTERESTS AND THE REASONS

Councillor Mitchell declared an interest in item 1 Dog Control Orders, due to their role as chair of the Committee which would be carrying out the review.

77. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION RELATING TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Mitchell requested and was granted a dispensation for Item 1 on the grounds that it was a non-registerable interest and in the public interest for them to hear the debate. However, they would abstain from expressing a view or voting.

78. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Council signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Meeting 26 June 2025 and the Extra-Ordinary Council of 7 August 2025.

79. ATTENDANCE RECORD AND CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLIANCE

No comments.

80. REPORTS FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLORS

Councillor Mitchell had received correspondence relating to:

- Homelessness and imminent threats of becoming homeless.

- Parking Issues.
- The need for yellow lines on the Stennack adjacent to the entrance to the Stennack Surgery.

In response to a request for an update on the enforcement action at Wharf Road Tides Café, they advised that this was being investigated alongside another enforcement case at Market Place.

**Councillor Rogers provided the following report:**

- Officers from Harbours had been asked to meet with the Town Council and Cornwall Council regarding the St Ives PSPO specifically in relation to the Pleasure Boat Licences.
- Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee was running an enquiry in relation to County Farms.
- The faulty Lelant electronic carpark sign displaying that Trenwith Carpark constantly full had been resolved.
- CORMAC had been contacted regarding the planted entrance sign at Tempest roundabout. The Clerk advised that this land was owned by Cornwall Council but plans had been tabled for its improvement as part of the transport scheme and it would be devolved to the Town Council.
- Road marking and sign improvements in Lelant and the Old Coach Road areas were being discussed with Highways.
- Concerns had been raised about the state of the Malakoff and delays to works.
- It was confirmed that the black boxes on lamp posts were 5G enabling infrastructure.
- Concerns of the residents of the Carbis Bay Holiday Village were being pursued.
- Treloyan Manor licensing application refused.
- The RNLI Memorial Sculpture proposal was being discussed with the Harbours Board.
- Community Chest grants have been awarded to St Ives Archive and Lelant Village Hall
- Cornwall Council officers are involved in work to address the management of St Ives Bay and Hayle Harbour in relation to the removal of sand.

81. **REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

None

82. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – VERBAL AND WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY**

None

83. **CLERK'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Town Clerk gave the following updates:

**Update from 26 June 2025 meeting:**

**45: Councillor Appointments, Representatives on Outside Bodies and Bank Signatories**

- **Edward Hain Board Member:** Councillor Evamy was appointed as a trustee.
- **St Ives Bay Management Group:** Councillor Hynes was appointed the outrep.

**46: St Ives RFC Reference Request**

The Mayor had received another request to write a letter of support for St Ives Food Bank.

RESOLVED that the Council APPROVE the appointments to outside bodies and the reference request.

84. **DOG CONTROL ORDERS**

The Council considered correspondence from Cornwall Council seeking town and parish views in advance of the public consultation on the review of Dog Control Orders. The following views were

expressed:

- Dog owners were now part of the visitor economy
- The restrictions were a middle ground and worked well, with a balance of dog friendly and controlled beaches
- There would be a large scale consultation and the Council should not express a specific view but allow the community to comment and shape the decision.
- Complaints had been received in relation to wider dog behaviour issues (dog owners not being responsible in the streets, the use of long leads and dog mess not being picked up).
- The level of enforcement for people who breach the order was insufficient
- The level of fines has been significant

The Town Council played an active role in the implementation of the order, by supporting and funding signage and also in determining the level of resources for enforcing the dog control orders as this was commissioned by the Town Council.

The Council RESOLVED to confirm through the consultation that it:

- i) Supported the principle of dogs on beaches restrictions
- ii) Agreed with the current restrictions
- iii) Did not propose any further amendments

Councillor Mitchell abstained from voting.

#### 85. YONKERS YOUTH BUS

The Council considered a detailed report on proposals to accept a donation of a free decommissioned First bus. The item had been previously discussed at Finance & General Purposes and Community & Environment Committees and Councillors were in full support, subject to an operating plan and practical arrangements being resolved. Further investigations had identified that it was not feasible or practical to maintain the bus as a mobile facility. Instead the alternative option of a static, decommissioned bus being permanently located at Palemon Best Skate Park would now be progressed.

It was proposed that the Council support the progression of the project to commissioning and refurbishment. This would include the delivery of the bus and the laying of a concrete pad to support its installation. It was agreed that there was a need to:

- Develop a day-to-day management plan.
- Ensure the security of the site and the public.
- Pursue alternative options and spaces for Carbis Bay and Lelant, given that it could not be a mobile facility.

The Council RESOLVED to

- i) SUPPORT the project and
- ii) CONFIRM that officers could take practical steps to accept the donation of a bus to be utilised by Yonkers as a youth bus and café and
- iii) Subject to practical and affordable solutions being put in place for its day to day management, location, operation and maintenance, progress the project as a static facility, to be located at the skate park in Palemon Best park with future provision for maintenance and insurance costs being built into the youth team budget in future years.
- iv) Require a final project plan and budget to be approved by Finance and General Purposes Committee prior to delivery.

**86. PHARMACY AT THE STENNACK SURGERY**

The Council considered an NHS England consultation proposal for the letting of the vacancy pharmacy space at the Stennack surgery. Its only concern was the sustainability of the business to ensure that the service be maintained as long as possible.

The Council RESOLVED to respond to the NHS England consultation, supporting the proposal, whilst, expressing the need to ensure the sustainability of the business operation.

**87. RATIFICATION OF A DECISION UNDER DELEGATION IN RELATION TO BIN LICENCE FEES**

Under delegation, new fees and charges could be set, subject to ratification by Council. The Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor and Chairs of the Finance & General Purposes and Facilities Committees, had agreed an annual charge for the siting of commercial bins at the Sloop Car Park. The current business owners had been informed and were in agreement with the charges. The aim of the higher fees was to part fund the development of a new secure bin store.

The Council RESOLVED to

- i) RATIFY the charges and
- ii) NOTE the proposed approach to the management of commercial waste bins on the site, which is in accordance with the agreed devolution plan and supports the positive management of waste and environmental hazards, working in partnership with businesses

**88. MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THE ROLE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

*Councillor Arthur declared a 5b non-registerable interest, due to their previous role with the Police & Crime Commissioner and through their present employment.*

A motion of no confidence in the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Messenger. Council debated the motion, in accordance with standing orders and the following key points were made:

- The professionalism and hard work of the local community policing team stationed in the town in difficult circumstances, was not in question
- Local residents paid an estimated £4 million through their Council Tax bills and national tax contributions yet this level of funds was not invested locally
- The Town Council were paying for services such as CCTV and street wardens, which were necessary to fill the gaps, due to a lack of police resources.
- The principle of a political role was flawed
- The reduction in police resources was dramatic - in 2000, there were over 26 officers stationed in St Ives including CID officers, Patrol Officers and community constables operating 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Now there were just 1.5 officers and 1 part time PCSO.
- The police commissioner had undertaken to re-invest the proceeds from the sale of the former police station in 2021 into facilities in the parish but, after almost 5 years, this had not been honoured.
- Whilst visibility and early intervention were key, the limited foot patrols and depleted resources meant early intervention and prevention were not possible.
- The current service levels demonstrated that the office of Police and Crime Commissioner was failing in its statutory duty to the people of St Ives
- The concept of commissioners was deeply flawed and there was little support, evidenced by a

lack of voting in elections

- The system introduced top down accountability at the expense of community accountability
- The £4 million taken from taxpayers could not be demonstrated to represent value for money

A proposed amendment, that the motion include a vote of no confidence in the present post-holder, on the grounds that they were able to make investment decisions to re-distribute resources between areas and that they had failed to do this for St Ives, was voted upon and carried.

The Council RESOLVED to

- Write to the Deputy Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and Cornwall Council, copying in the PCC and the Chief Constable, to report this Council's passing of a motion of no confidence in the PCC role and the present postholder and to call for a more broadly representative form of governance and oversight, reflective of Cornwall's status as a nation, which ensures better local accountability, effectiveness and value for money for our area and will help restore public confidence in our police force and to
- Write to other Town Councils, advising them of the Council's resolution and asking them to consider debating and supporting the motion in their own organisations.

## 89. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- (1) Community & Environment Committee – 3rd July 2025
- (2) Staffing Committee – 8th July 2025
- (3) Devolution & Place Shaping Panel – 15 July 2025
- (4) Planning Committee – 17 July 2025
- (5) Planning Committee – 28 August 2025

### **Working Groups**

- (6) Low Carbon Transport Working Group – 30 June 2025
- (7) PSPO, Licensing & Enforcement Panel – 1 July 2025
- (8) Guildhall Working Group – 17 July 2025
- (9) Low Carbon Transport Working Group – 18 August 2025
- (10) PSPO, Licensing & Enforcement Panel – 31 July 2025
- (11) Chairs' Meeting – 7 August 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Committees and working groups, as set out above be RECEIVED.

## 90. **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### 90.1 **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2025**

#### **C&E.12 HAYLE HARBOUR SAND AND DREDGING ISSUES**

*St Ives Town Council recognises that the sand in St Ives Bay is part of a closed cell system and once taken, can never be replaced. It expresses grave concern about the very significant amounts of sand, which have already been taken, without robust evidence that this does not have erosional effects and other adverse impacts on the local marine ecosystem. Dredging (and possibly sluicing) is necessary to keep the harbour open, but this Council's position is that sand must not be removed after dredging but rather returned to the dune system. In addition, sand should never be taken from beaches or dunes. The Council fully supports Hayle Town Council in their efforts to protect the sand system in St Ives Bay and look forward to working with them on this matter. We also applaud the*

*local community of Hayle for their efforts in raising this issue which is a critical concern to all residents of the Bay.*

RESOLVED that the Council endorse the motion, as set out above.

C&E.16 AMENDMENTS TO THE ALLOTMENTS POLICY

RESOLVED that the Council ACCEPTS changes to allotment policy be ADOPTED and, should any shorter notice periods be required prior to adoption, that officers be granted discretion to manage the process expediently.

90.2 DEVOLUTION PANEL – 15 JULY 2025

D.9 PROPOSED CHANGES TO ASSETS WITHIN THE PROGRAMME

The Council RESOLVED to SUPPORT

- i) A proposal in principle to add a site into the package (Smeatons Ladies Shelter), subject to a building survey and to a request for grant funding to undertake any repairs
- ii) A proposal in principle to add a site into the package (Porthgidden Beach Storage) on the grounds of its cultural and artistic significance
- iii) A recommendation to remove a site from the package (land at St Ives Fire Station) in the light of site dangers and extensive mining activity.

91. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

**St Ives Jumbo Association:** Happy to have council representation for the group. The representative informed the group about the Town Council community grants and the application process. The Association were holding a film screening fundraising event at the September Festival.

**The Sailing Club:** The representative had met members of the group and informed the council that the group were having a meeting to discuss the Town Council rental charges.

92. CORRESPONDENCE AND CONSULTATIONS

The Council NOTED, with disappointment the response received from the Secretary of State regarding Planning Permission for Cornwallis Nursing Home, Trewidden Road.

93. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE REPORT

RESOLVED – that the Council NOTE the regular summary finance monitoring report, together with receipts of £64,574.15 up to 29th August 2025 and APPROVE:

- i) creditor payments made since the last meeting totalling £709,896.86
- ii) credit card payments of £7,599.97
- iii) petty cash expenditure £145.85 and
- iv) payroll £162,576.03

94. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meeting) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involved information of a confidential nature.

95. STAR AWARDS UPDATE

The Council had received excellent nominations for this year's Star Awards and the format was

working well.

RESOLVED: that Council NOTE the successful outcome, the award winners for 2025 and to continue with the awards in the similar format for 2026.

96. DATE OF THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Due to an officer obligation, the date for the December Council meeting was recommended to change from the 11<sup>th</sup> December to the 4<sup>th</sup> December, to commence at 6pm.

RESOLVED: that the December Council meeting be held at 6pm on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

97. Next Meeting: 4th December 2025

Chair

Meeting closed at 20.29