

Minutes of the Meeting of St Ives Town Council held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, St Ives on Thursday 13 May 2010 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor Mrs Y Watson (Town Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

Andrewes T	Slack K
Fry B	Symons J H
Mitchell A P (until 8.10 pm)	Tonkin G E T
Nicholls C C	Tulley R
Richards P J	Williams T M (until 9.17 pm)
Sanger C E (until 9.17 pm)	

OFFICERS

Town Clerk
Administrative Assistant

PRAYERS

In the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain, Councillor Nicholls led the Council in prayer.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Councillors Isaacs H R G and Tanner Mrs J.

210. POLICE LIAISON SESSION

PCSO Vikki White presented the police report which had been prepared by PC Scott Perkin. She reported on the crime statistics and detection rates, the support by the local policing team for the Penwith Schools Sports Partnership tag rugby tournament, the continued success of the boxing club and the engagement with youngsters in positive activities in the town. PACT priorities were traffic flow and lack of youth activities. Further PACT priorities would also include those which could be achieved in the short term – next PACT meeting at 7.00pm at the Rugby Club on 8 September.

Other updates included:

- One individual responsible for a number of assaults has been given a suspended sentence and will be tagged and subject to curfew
- PCSO White is working with others on the Penbeagle Community Rooms project
- A recent Police / RNLI charity rugby match raised £2,300 which funded four shelterboxes and a donation to the RNLI
- The police are supporting the creation of the St Ives Bay Youth Council
- A recent Home Safety Check Day had resulted in home safety and security advice being given to a number of households, and had the additional benefit of four neighbourhood watch schemes being initiated.

The Mayor thanked PCSO White for her attendance at the meeting.

211. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

None.

212. REPORTS FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLORS AND / OR THE COMMUNITY NETWORK PANEL

The Community Network Manager reported on progress in developing the Community Plan for the network area (to date based on previous plans, drawing out priorities and consulting with Ward Members, town/parish Chairmen and Clerks). At the latest Community Network Panel meeting they had considered how the Sustainable Community Strategy aligns with the Network Programme, looking at how local information would feed into the local and strategic priorities.

Concerns were raised from Town Councillors regarding funding and commitment from Cornwall Council for localism and local issues, at concern at lack of response from Cornwall Council.

The Mayor thanked the Community Network Manager for her attendance at the meeting.

213. PUBLIC SPEAKING

Two residents from the Trowan area spoke at the meeting to raise the following concerns regarding the Town Council's proposal to establish an allotments site at Trowan:

- concern from Trowan property owners that they had not been consulted on the proposal
- questioned whether planning permission was needed
- concern at the potential traffic impact on the road to Trowan and stated that the lane currently operated at capacity
- proximity of house and children to the road
- asked whether Highways had been consulted
- concern at the visual impact in an environmentally sensitive area and AONB
- the environmental impact
- not realistic to expect people to access the site by bike, car share, walking or bus
- questioned the decision making and transparency of the council
- unquestionably the case that the fields have the right to draw water from the water source at Trowan, but concern that the system was already working at capacity

The Mayor thanked the speakers for their attendance and advised that the relevant report would be considered later in the meeting, following the exclusion of the press and public due to the confidential nature of the matters to be discussed.

214. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised of the following:

1. The date of the by-election for the two vacancies on the North Ward will be held on Thursday 8 July and so the Council meeting scheduled to be held on that date will be re-scheduled to be held on Thursday 15 July.
2. The annual St Ives Fun Run will be held on Saturday – any Councillors who haven't yet volunteered to marshall at the event are asked to consider doing so and to contact the Clerk for details.
3. The award received from Coast Magazine for the 'Best Family Holiday Destination by the Sea' was shown to the Council and the Mayor advised that it would soon be on display at the Guildhall.
4. May Day 2010 was another great success enjoyed by the many people who attended – grateful thanks were extended to the Lions Club of St Ives for agreeing to take on the organisation of the event.
5. Two additional agenda items have been included on the agenda for this meeting in view of the urgency of their nature: Proposed Allotments at Trowan; and Town Map. These items will be considered after the exclusion of the press and public in view of the confidential nature of matters to be discussed.

215. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER / OFFICER INTERESTS

Councillor Williams declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute 225 (St Ives School of Painting), as an attendee at the School of Painting, and in Minute 238 (Allotments), as a person whose name was on the allotments waiting list, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of these items.

Councillor Sanger declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute 238 (Allotments), as the spouse of a person whose name was on the allotments waiting list, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Tonkin declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute 225 (St Ives School of Painting), as a personal friend and a member of the regeneration committee of the Borlaise Smart Trust.

216. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 March 2010 and the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 15 April 2010.

217. APPROVAL OF END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING ANNUAL RETURN AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Clerk / RFO presented the End of Year Accounts along with the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement. It was also reported that the Internal Audit report had been received and would be reported to the next meeting of the Resources Committee.

An amendment to page 13 of the EOY Accounts (Palemon Best account) was noted.

RESOLVED – that

1. the End of Year Accounts (as amended at page 13) be approved;
2. the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement be approved;
3. the Internal Audit report be presented to the Resources Committee for consideration.

218. APPROVAL OF RISK ASSESSMENT

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Resources Committee.

219. CORNWALL COUNCIL CONSULTATION – LICENSING OF TAXIS IN CORNWALL – CONSULTATION ON NUMERICAL LIMIT POLICY

The consultation document and associated correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting. The matter was discussed, taking into account the quality of the level of taxi service to be provided in the town and the matters raised by local taxi drivers.

RESOLVED – that the response of the Town Council call for no change to the existing policy for St Ives and to retain a restriction on the licences issued, with the number of licences for St Ives to be retained pending review. Also to call for an updated unmet demand survey for St Ives and to work on increasing taxi rank provision for St Ives.

220. TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Councillor Fry reported on Chamber of Commerce correspondence he had sent to Cornwall Council regarding concerns at traffic enforcement in St Ives. The concerns raised had received support from Councillor Mrs Symons who had met with Peter Moore (Senior Cornwall Council highways officer), with initial support for reviving Traffic Forum meetings to resolve traffic and parking matters.

During discussion, it was noted that whilst more parking enforcement was needed in some areas to improve traffic flow in the town, efforts also needed to be made to enable local tradesmen, health visitors etc to operate and for local businesses to flourish. The roles of Traffic Enforcement Officers in enforcing parking restrictions, and the police in dealing with obstruction of the highway were noted.

Councillors also raised the concerns of local residents, particularly in the Ayr area, that it was often impossible to park due to visitor parking, leading to calls for a residents parking scheme.

Councillor Symons reported that the Civil Enforcement Officers would also be responsible for the council car parks this summer, and so there would be expected to be less parking enforcement carried out in the town.

RESOLVED – that

1. the Town Council contact the relevant officers at Cornwall Council to help seek a reply to Councillor Fry for the letter that he had sent; and
2. Peter Moore (Traffic/Highways, Cornwall Council) be invited to a meeting of the Environment Committee to discuss parking enforcement issues.

Councillor Mitchell left the meeting at this point.

221. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE TO ST. IVES MUSEUM

Correspondence had been received from St Ives Museum seeking the appointment of a Trustee to fill the existing vacancy.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Nicholls be appointed as Trustee to St Ives Museum.

222. NEED FOR REINSTATEMENT OF ROAD AT NANJIVEY TERRACE / NANJIVEY PLACE AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY WORK

Councillor Tonkin reported that he had included this item on the agenda in response to concerns raised by local residents that the road at Nanjivey Terrace had not been repaired despite previous calls for the works needed. The road was in such poor condition that it presented a risk to pedestrians using it.

RESOLVED – that the Environment Agency be contacted with a request for the reinstatement of the road at Nanjivey Terrace / Nanjivey Place to be carried out as a matter of urgency.

223. RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OF CALC

The Clerk reported that the annual subscription to the Cornwall Association of Local Councils and the National Association of Local Councils was due. During discussion, there was some question as to the value for money of membership of the organisation, with Members noting the benefits but questioning whether full value was gained. However, the access to expert advice and information from the local and national associations were considered on balance to merit continued membership. Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED – that the membership of CALC be renewed and that a letter accompany the subscription to emphasise the wish of St Ives Town Council that CALC work to speak up for local councils with regard to localism and devolution when working with Cornwall Council, and to enquire about the nature of any issues they are working on on behalf of local councils.

224. CALC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Notification had been received from CALC that nominations were sought for vacancies on the CALC Executive Committee.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Fry be nominated to serve on the CALC Executive Committee.

225. THE ST. IVES SCHOOL OF PAINTING – REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

Councillor Williams declared a Prejudicial Interest in this item as an attendee of the School of Painting, and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor Tonkin declared a Prejudicial Interest in this item as a personal friend and a member of the regeneration committee of the Borlaise Smart Trust, and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

The St Ives School of Painting had contacted the council to give details of a funding application to be submitted to support the transition of the School during the redevelopment of the Porthmeor Studios, and to help the School to continue to be sustainably viable in the future.

RESOLVED – that a letter of support for the funding bid be sent to the St Ives School of Painting.

226. PCDT – GROW YOUR OWN POTENTIAL – REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

A letter had been received from the Penwith Community Development Trust setting out the aims of their 'Grow Your Own Potential' project, aimed at teaching people the basics of growing their own vegetables.

RESOLVED – that a letter of support for the Grow Your Own Potential project be sent to the Penwith Community Development Trust.

227. LOCALISM IN ACTION – NALC CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

The localism conference to be held on 2 July was noted.

228. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations of the following committees were considered:

- Community and Amenities Committee – 23 March 2010
- Planning Committee – 1 April 2010 and 28 April 2010
- Environment Committee – 8 April 2010

RESOLVED – that the recommendations of the committees listed above be approved.

229. COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Minutes of the following committee meetings had been circulated prior to the meeting:

Community and Amenities Committee – 23 March 2010
Planning Committee – 1 April 2010 and 28 April 2010
Resources Committee – 25 March meeting cancelled
Environment Committee – 8 April 2010

RESOLVED – that the Minutes referred to above be approved and adopted.

230. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

None.

231. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Reporting on Hayle Harbour Advisory Committee, Councillor Fry reported that a new Harbourmaster had been appointed at Hayle Harbour – Mr Capon.

232. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence circulated was received and noted.

Cornwall Council – removal of I-Plus terminal from outside the Guildhall, St Ives

With the permission of the Chairman, this correspondence was considered. Concerns were expressed at the loss of this source of information for visitors to the town, resulting in a reduction in tourism provision with no proposed replacement.

RESOLVED – that a letter be sent to Cornwall Council to express concern at the removal of this tourist information provision and to request that resulting savings be utilised in St Ives.

233. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

The Schedule of Accounts was circulated and it was

RESOLVED – that

- (1) payments made since the last meeting totalling £24,144.65 be approved; and
- (2) the accounts listed totalling £18,960.89 be paid

234. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) 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.

235. MARKET HOUSE – TENANCY UPDATE (Paragraph 3)

An update was given on an ongoing matter with a Market House tenancy, and interest that had been shown in the unit should it become available.

RESOLVED – that the agreed course of action be continued, and that if a unit at the Market House becomes vacant, it would be advertised and allocated on the basis of proposed trade to be conducted and the references supplied.

236. MARKET HOUSE – RENT REVIEW UPDATE (Paragraph 3)

The Clerk reported that the rent review for Shop 5 at Market House was complete and had been agreed by the tenant.

RESOLVED – the proposed rent for Shop 5 be approved, with effect from 9 May 2009.

237. TOWN MAP – WELCOME SIGN AT ST. IVES RAILWAY STATION (Paragraph 3)

Councillor Tulley, as the representative on the St Ives Branchline Forum, reported that the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership had agreed to fund a large, freestanding map case at the station to house a 'You Are Here' map. He assisted this process which had resulted in a good quality map case being purchased and due to be installed in the near future. A basic map could be included from the initial sum paid, but the Town Council had been offered the opportunity to order a bespoke map which could be use at this location and for other uses (including the website and on council publications). The map could then include photo's of key attractions and could feature areas of importance for visitors to the town.

RESOLVED – that the town map be sourced from the company who had supplied the map case for the railway station, and that the Town Council purchase the map, along with usage rights and electronic version, for the sum of £300.

Councillors Sanger and Williams left the meeting at this point in view of their Prejudicial Interests in the final item on the agenda.

238. PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS AT TROWAN (Paragraph 3)

The Clerk presented a report setting out the steps that had been taken to date towards establishing allotments on land at Trowan and advised that preparatory works had been stopped in view of concerns raised by local property owners. It was noted that the proposed site at Trowan had been welcomed by a good proportion of those on the allotments waiting

list, and that of the 100 plus people on the waiting list, a sufficient number had applied for a plot at Trowan for the site to be viable.

Members considered the representations that had been made to the Council in person, by correspondence and by phone.

The initial advice received from planning officers was also taken into account, along with precedents set through the establishment of allotments elsewhere.

Following full discussion, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council proceed with Option 2 as set out in the report, in view of the Council's intention to continue to work towards establishing allotments at Trowan, but with no further site preparations to take place while issues raised were reviewed.

Meeting closed at 9.37 pm

Chairman