

St Ives Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community and Amenities Committee held in the Carbis Bay Memorial Hall on Thursday 1 October 2009 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairman - Councillor T Andrewes
Vice-Chairman - Councillor T M Williams

COUNCILLORS

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| Isaacs H R G | Tanner J |
| Mitchell A P | Tulley R |
| Peters M | Watson Mrs Y |
| Slack K | |

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors Fry B, Nicholls C C and Richards P J (Councillor Richards for public speaking item only)

OFFICERS

Town Clerk

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

CA.32 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this was a meeting of the Town Council's Community and Amenities Committee and was the second of a trial series of meetings to be held at venues around the parish to give a greater opportunity for local residents to attend meetings and participate during the public speaking period.

18 members of the public attended the meeting. Of these, 3 requested to speak.

Mandy Cartwright raised concern at the number of businesses in Carbis Bay which had closed during the past few years, stating that Carbis Bay was a community and tourist attraction in its own right. With signage directing day visitors to St Ives along the old coach road there had been a reduction in traffic through Carbis Bay, with a reported knock-on effect on Carbis Bay businesses.

There was general agreement at the meeting for a brown traffic sign to be erected at the Tempest roundabout to give directions to: Carbis Bay, accommodation, beaches and restaurants. There was also a suggestion for signage to businesses from Carbis Bay railway station.

It was noted that the brown traffic signs could be requested by businesses from Cornwall Council. Town Councillors present advised that the efforts to divert the St Ives day

visitors from the Lelant / Carbis Bay route had been implemented in response to concerns at traffic levels from residents of Lelant and Carbis Bay, but acknowledged the need to encourage visitors to Carbis Bay. Accordingly, the assistance of the Town Council was offered in applying for signage.

Ruth Skinner raised a number of points, including:

- the need for suitable highways provision for visitors to Carbis Bay and St Ives
- the need for more parking in Carbis Bay
- schoolchildren dropping litter after leaving Tesco
- horse droppings on pavements
- planning applications – need for better quality developments rather than infill
- rights of way issues

In response, Councillors spoke of the role of the Town Council as a statutory consultee on planning matters and efforts by Town Councillors to ensure that housing developments were in keeping with the area, citing instances when the Council had objected to overdevelopment and loss of open areas, gardens etc. The Council was also actively pursuing rights of way issues in the area.

It was reported that in partnership with Cornwall Council, the Town Council had recently taken on a Community Pride Officer and the Clerk confirmed that they would be asked to target any litter problem areas identified. A letter raising concerns at littering would also be sent to the Headteacher at St Ives School.

Members of the public were invited to contact the Town Council with regard to any matters which the Community Pride Officer could help with.

Alexis Grey asked about dogs being allowed on beaches – often uncontrolled and without dog mess being cleared up by owners. Also concern at dog mess on pavements, particularly on the school route.

Town Councillors expressed concern at the current provision in the Beach Dog Control Order and advised that Cornwall Council had promised a review with full public consultation.

The importance of members of the public writing to Environmental Health at Cornwall Council with concerns regarding dogs on beaches and dog fouling was stressed, both for the review process and to help determine areas of priority for enforcement officer patrols.

The Chairman thanked all those members of the public who had attended the meeting, and those who had spoken on the various topics raised.

CA.33 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Chairman signs as a true and correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the meeting of the Committee held on 13 August 2009.

CA.34 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that two additional grants applications (St Ives Christmas Lights Appeal Fund and the Twinkle Twinkle event) would be considered in view of the need to make a decision before preparations for Christmas were made.

CA.35 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBER / OFFICER INTERESTS

Councillor Williams declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute CA.41 (grant application – Twinkle Twinkle event), as a friend of the applicant, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item. She also declared a Personal Interest in Minute CA.44 (provision of allotments) as her name was on the allotments waiting list.

CA.36 UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

No updates were given.

CA.37 RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES

The Chairman introduced Cornwall Council rights of way officers Mike Eastwood (Programmes Manager, Environment Service) and Alison Clough (Assistant Definitive Map Officer).

Mike Eastwood explained that his team worked on the legal side of rights of way issues, including modifications to the definitive statement. When introduced, the definitive statement aimed to provide a definitive list of footpaths, however additions and modifications still led to disputes, even leading to court cases and public enquiries.

It was noted that often footpaths were used without issue until being blocked and leading to people wishing to protect it as a right of way. The process to modify the definitive statement usually took months to complete in view of the need for evidence of use, assessing this against other evidence, inviting comments of landowners, technical reports and processes which had to be followed if objections were received. There was a priority system to determine which footpaths would be given priority to be processed. If a low priority, a path could take up to seven years to be included on the definitive statement.

Should there be a contentious footpath issue linked to land without planning permission, then the Environment Service could liaise with planners to lodge an objection against future planning applications.

Update on application for modification order for footpath off Steeple Lane

The Chairman reported that the Town Council had agreed to act as applicant with regard to a blocked path which links to Footpath 33, evidence had been compiled by local residents and the application was nearly ready for submission.

The Programmes Manager gave an undertaking to consider the application and whether it would be more appropriate to create a new path, and agreed to speak to the Council to advise once the application had been received.

Consideration of request for support for seeking footpath creation orders for paths off the new Coastline Housing development, Higher Stennack

Members considered a request from Adrian Bigg for the Town Council to explore with Cornwall Council the viability of a Creation Order for a bridleway at Higher Stennack. The correspondence circulated set out the various issues including concerns at the alternative route currently proposed around the development. Mr Bigg had advised that the developer was in agreement with a path through the housing site, but that it would need to link to a formal path as opposed to the existing informal path through the Palemon Best recreation area.

The Programmes Manager advised that an option would be to create a new path along the line suggested, but would first need to assess the risk to Cornwall Council.

It was noted that it would be a benefit to seek the formal agreement of the developers before seeking to progress the request with Cornwall Council.

RECOMMENDED to Council – that PAROW be supported in their efforts to protect the route of the bridleway at Higher Stennack by contacting Coastline Housing to seek their agreement to the elements affecting their site, and then contacting the Programmes Manager, Environment Service to request that he investigates the feasibility of this request and take the matter forward.

CA.38 ST. IVES FOOD FESTIVAL

In response to a request at the previous meeting, Graham Buckley of Mercury PR had provided information on the proposed food festival

During discussion it was noted the the timing (June 2010) fell outside the school holidays, but whilst there would be reasonable visitor numbers in the town. The potential benefits to the town and local food suppliers were noted, and it was thought that the success of the project would be led by market forces.

RECOMMENDED to Council – that the proposed Food Festival be supported and that Councillor Mitchell be nominated to represent the Town Council on the organising committee.

CA.39 UPDATE OF 9 OCTOBER OPEN MEETING IN LELANT – TRAFFIC ISSUES

It was noted that following the meeting of the Community and Amenities Committee held in Lelant on 13 August, a meeting was to be held in Lelant on 9 October to which representatives from Highways and the Police had been invited to attend, but that Highways had declined to attend.

In view of concern that the outcome of the meeting would be limited without the attendance of a representatives from Highways, the Clerk was instructed to seek Cornwall Councillor support in requesting a Highways representative to attend. Otherwise to continue with the meeting as already arranged and publicised, and to ensure that all agencies were aware of any matters to be followed up.

CA.40 UPDATE ON 30 SEPTEMBER MEETING – CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Mayor reported on the meeting which had been attended by various organisations, at which initial plans had been agreed for events to be held in St Ives on the three Friday evenings in December, leading up to Christmas. The meeting had been positive and the number and range of ideas to be implemented had been encouraging.

Whilst the Council was able to provide a central point of coordination for the events, it had been agreed that each individual / group organising each of the elements would be responsible for their event and its promotion.

RESOLVED – that the proposals for Christmas events be supported.

CA.41 COMMUNITY GRANTS – CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

The Committee considered the following grant applications.

Application: St Ives Bay Amateur Boxing Club – Purchase of gloves and sparring pads. To pay affiliation/insurance to Amateur Boxing Association of England.

Consideration: Value of the project to local youngsters, efforts of the Police in establishing the club, grant towards start-up costs. Some concern at encouraging fighting.

Recommendation: that a grant of £250 be awarded to the St Ives Bay Amateur Boxing Club for use in accordance with the application submitted.

Application: St Ives Christmas Lights Appeal Fund – towards purchase costs of Christmas lights and trees

Consideration: Community benefit of the planned project.

Recommendation: that a grant of £400 be awarded to the St Ives Christmas Lights Appeal Fund for use in accordance with the application submitted.

Application: Twinkle Twinkle Project – to assist with the purchase of materials for lantern making workshops for star themed childrens event

Consideration: Community benefit of the planned project.

Recommendation: that a grant of £100 be awarded to the St Ives Christmas Lights Appeal Fund for use in accordance with the application submitted, provided that they achieve the £1,000 funding applied for from FEAST.

RECOMMENDED – to Council that the awards of grant, as set out above, be approved.

CA.42 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

CA.43 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.

CA.44 PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS (Paragraph 3)

The Chairman and the Town Clerk provided an update on the efforts to date to secure a community transfer of land from Cornwall Council to the Town Council for use as allotments. Members were advised of the legal and land issues involved, and the steps being taken to address them.

Consideration was also given to other potential allotment sites previously identified, including Palemon Best land at Penbeagle, an area of land at Lelant and land at Trevalgan.

RECOMMENDED to Council – that the Town Council continue to work to achieve the land transfer by pursuing the options identified and to explore the potential of the area of land at Lelant.

Meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Chairman