

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 6th March 2006 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Falmouth at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: G F Evans (Chairman), Mrs A J Biggins, I J Body, G W Chin-Quee, Mrs L S Coles, Mrs M Davies, S D Eva, L J Lloyd, Mrs M Ryan, Dr D A Sterratt, Mrs L A Trenchard, and Mrs M H Wengradt

In Attendance: A M Williams (Town Clerk)
S J Polglase (Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Officer)
Mrs D Newman (Bowling Green Residents Group) to point mentioned

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F 3291 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bonney (holiday), Hobbins (holiday) and Varney (holiday).

F 3292 **INTERESTS**

Councillors Mrs Davies and Mrs Coles declared an interest in Minute F3297 (King Charles the Martyr Parish Church) as both are Members Churches Together and did not speak or vote thereon.

Councillor Mrs. Biggins declared an interest in Minute F3309 and left the meeting during the consideration thereof.

F 3293 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Davies, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that Part I of the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2006 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

F 3294 **MARITIME LINE**

The Chairman reported representations from Councillor Cramp regarding the reduction of service on the Maritime Line as a result of rail re-franchising.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that the Council supports the strong representations of Cornwall County Council to the Minister for Transport regarding the cuts in service.

F 3295 **RE-STRUCTURING OF PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Evans and

RESOLVED that the Council be recommended to amend the composition of the Planning Committee to a total of eight members to reflect two Councillors from each Town Ward and ideally be separate from those Councillors that serve the Art Gallery Committee.

F 3296 **CHRISTMAS DECORATION OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS**

Further to this matter the Town Clerk reported the recommendations of the Council's contractor.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Davies and

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the contractor be implemented but that reference to the year be deleted.

F 3297 **GRANT REQUESTS**

It was proposed by Councillor Body, seconded by Councillor Mrs Biggins and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972 £300 be granted to Carrick District Council for renewal of Blue Flag signage at Gyllyngvase Beach. A further condition of grant to be that signage carries the Council's crest.

It was further proposed by Councillor Mrs Biggins, seconded by Councillor Mrs Coles and

RESOLVED that no further grant contribution be made towards Falmouth Mini-Guides from 2005/06 grant budget as this was contrary to the Council's usual policy to grant more than one award in the same financial year.

It was further proposed by Councillor Eva, seconded by Councillor Sterratt and

RESOLVED that no further grant contribution be made towards King Charles the Martyr Parish Church from 2005/06 grant budget as this was contrary to the Council's usual policy to grant more than one award in the same financial year.

F 3298 **FEES AND CHARGES**

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Fees and Charges attached as an appendix be approved for the 2006/07 financial year.

F 3299 **EARMARKED RESERVE BALANCES**

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that the following predicted closing Earmarked Reserve Balances for 2005/06 be agreed:

Local Project/Regeneration	£44,608
Election Expenses	(£1,164)
Referendum	£ 1,340
Falmouth Art Gallery Reserves	£ 1,990
Kimberley Park Toilets	£10,000
Falmouth Festival Fund	£ 110
Shopmobility	£ 3,780
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	£60,664
2004/05 Earmarked Reserve Balance	£92,917
Contribution to Earmarked Reserves	(£32,253)

F 3300 **COUNTIL TAX PRECEPT INFORMATION**

The Chairman apprised members of the information that would be provided to Falmouth tax payers. In addition to the statutory required data he had included details of spending plans and useful contact information.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

F 3301 **BOWLING GREEN PLAY AREA**

It was proposed by Councillor Evans seconded by Councillor Eva and

RESOLVED that

- (i) the replacement swing be provided on site with a match funding contribution by the Council from the 2005/06 General Fund reserve;
- (ii) the 2006/07 earmarked reserve for site improvements be retained at £8000 except that £810 be released for surface works to be carried out in conjunction with entrance improvement works;

- (iii) the Bowling Green Community Group be formally thanked for the fundraising efforts in respect of the swing replacement.

(Mrs Newman now left the meeting).

F3302 AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Chairman reported the Annual Audit letter, Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements and the Report to those Charged with Governance (SAS610) from the Audit Commission for the Audit 2003/04. He also reported upon the Council's accounts for the financial year 2003/04.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED unanimously that

- (i) the Annual Audit letter and Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements (Audit 2003-2004) be noted and agreed and that the recommendations therein be agreed; and
- (ii) the revised accounts for 2003-2004 be agreed and signed by the Town Mayor.

F 3303 NATIONAL PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

It was proposed by Councillor Body, seconded by Councillor Mrs Biggins and

RESOLVED that the Council renews its annual Membership of the Association at a cost of £25.

F 3304 IT SERVER REPLACEMENT

The Town Clerk reported that the Council's IT Server had now deteriorated to a stage whereby it was affecting administrative efficiency. He reported costings for replacement as repair was not viable.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor Eva and

RESOLVED unanimously that the Council's IT Server be replaced and installed by Objective IT Services as reported at an approximate cost of £5,000 to be met from 2005-06 general fund reserves.

F 3305 BUDGET MONITORING

RESOLVED that the budget monitoring report be noted.

F 3306 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Biggins, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that the accounts and petty cash schedules
(attached) for January and February 2006 be approved.

F3307 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Davies, seconded by Councillor Mrs Biggins and

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential
nature of the business about to be transacted,
it is advisable in the public interest that the
public and press be excluded from the meeting.