

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Monday 6th September 2022 at 7.00pm held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, The Moor, Falmouth. TR11 3QA

Present: Councillors S D Eva (Town Mayor), K J Edwards (Deputy Mayor), G W Chin-Quee BEM, D E Clegg, L D Coley, D V Evans BEM, G F Evans MBE, A J Jewell CC, J S Kirkham CC, J C Robinson, B M A Ross, D W Saunby CC, E E Seiler, J M Spargo and Z Young.

In Attendance: A M Williams	(Town Clerk)
J C Mallard	(HR Manager)
Councillor L Magowan	(Cornwall Council –Arwenack ED)
P Fitzpatrick	(Fairtrade Falmouth)
Rev B Stuart-White	(Mayor’s Chaplain)

Prior to the commencement of business prayers were said by the Mayor’s Chaplain.

C5664 APOLOGIES

Aa apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor Rowe (family matter).

C5665 INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

C5666 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the special meeting of the Council held on 27th June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C5667 TOWN MAYOR’S REPORT

The Town Mayor reported on his civic attendances, including Sea Sunday, Falmouth Week and Britannia Naval College. He had held a presentation to mark Tony Eddy’s retirement from the Council. He remained concerned about the incidences of antisocial behaviour in and around the town centre.

C5668 DEPUTY MAYOR’S REPORT

The Deputy Mayor updated on her civic and community event attendance. She had attended councillors’ residents’ surgeries, Mazy Day, Falmouth Week, and a Rotary event with the Women’s Charity Forum, and the local Band of Brothers wellbeing group.

C5669 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

C5670 FAIRTRADE FALMOUTH

Pat Fitzpatrick thanked the councillor representatives for their support and was developing a relationship with Falmouth University. She updated on Fairtrade activity locally and advised that the Fairtrade Status renewal had been deferred until June 2023.

C5671 POLICE REPORT

None received. Councillor Ross as Police Advocate would request that an update report is presented to the next Council meeting.

C5672 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND FIRE REPORT

None received. The Mayor would request that the local CFRS team present an update report to the next Council meeting.

C5673 COMMUNITY NETWORK MANAGER REPORT

None received. Councillor Edwards advised that as the Council representative to the Community Network Panel she would present future updates in lieu of the Community Link Officer.

C5674 CORNWALL COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Penwerris

Councillor Kirkham advised that she had followed up on residents concerns regarding speeding vehicles and dangerous driving incidents with the new Police Sector Inspector. A Section 59 Notice had been issued to a motorist and the Police No Excuses Team would visit Falmouth. She had submitted expressions of interest to the Shared Prosperity Fund in regard to the Council's projects for Kimberley Park Lodge and Skatepark. She was greatly concerned and was making representations regarding the incidents of sewage discharge into the Fal Estuary by South West Water, which was the most polluted in the country.

Trescobeas and Budock

Councillor Saunby continued to deal with a significant number of residents housing issues. He was also concerned regarding speeding vehicles and noisy motorbikes; he had requested a review of speed limits and enforcement at Bickland Water Road. He also advised on highway works at the entrance to Eve Parc.

Arwenack

Councillor Magowan advised of a South West Water consultation, whereby the concerns regarding pollution and sewage discharge could be raised. There had been national press coverage regarding the pollution at Gyllyngvase Beach. He thanked the Council for its support of Falmouth Week which he felt had been very successful and well received locally. He updated on the Van Dwellers Group and parking issues around the seafront. In regard to planning the Inspector was still considering the applications for the former Marks and Spencer site and the former quarry site at Swanpool Road.

Boslowick

Councillor Jewell updated on planning matters including new steps for the footpath at Swanpool and the development of the Bosvale site progressing through further resident consultation. Yellow lining at Tregonigge was being abused and need to be better enforced. He also reported on speeding vehicle issues. In regard to licensing Cornwall Council were considering the continuation of the Cumulative Impact Zone for Falmouth and extending it, he would like to see the extension to cover the Gyllyngvase area as well. There were issues with antisocial behaviour at Swanvale Fields.

C5675 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Finance and General Purposes Committee Part I Report dated 13th June 2022 was presented by Councillor Robinson, Chair of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor D V Evans and

RESOLVED that the Part I Report of the Committee dated 13th June 2022 be approved.

The Planning Committee Report dated 13th June 2022 was presented Councillor Spargo, Vice-Chair (Planning) of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Spargo, seconded by Councillor Clegg and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 13th June 2022 be approved.

The Planning Committee Report dated 4th July 2022 was presented Councillor Spargo, Vice-Chair (Planning) of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Spargo, seconded by Councillor Clegg and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 4th July 2022 be approved.

The Planning Committee Report dated 25th July 2022 was presented Councillor Spargo, Vice-Chair (Planning) of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Spargo, seconded by Councillor Clegg and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 25th July 2022 be approved.

The Planning Committee Report dated 15th August 2022 was presented Councillor Spargo, Vice-Chair (Planning) of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Spargo, seconded by Councillor Clegg and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 15th August 2022 be approved.

The Grounds, Facilities and Environmental Action Committee Report dated 18th July 2022 was presented by Councillor Kirkham, Chair of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Kirkham, seconded by Councillor D V Evans and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 18th July 2022 be approved.

C5676 APPOINTMENTS

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED that

- (i) Councillor Eva replaces Councillor Young as the Council's Town Centre/Night-time Economy Champion
- (ii) Councillor Eva replaces Councillor Young as the Council's representative on the CCTV Stakeholders Group
- (iii) Councillor D V Evans replaces Councillor Young as the Council's alternate representative on the Falmouth and Penryn Community Network Panel.

C5677 CORNWALL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The complaint outcomes determined by the Standards Committee in regard to CCN058 (Councillor Clegg), CCN057 (Councillor D V Evans) and CCN056 (Councillor Eva) were duly noted.

C5678 MOTION – MAYOR FOR CORNWALL

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Clegg and

RESOLVED unanimously that the Council supports the Let Cornwall Decide Campaign and requests a county-wide referendum to determine the proposal to create a Mayor for Cornwall role and supports the petition to Cornwall Council requesting a referendum thereon.

C5679 MOTION – FOOD JUSTICE

Councillor Kirkham asked the Council to note the growing number of people in Falmouth who have difficulty putting food on the table, are relying on food banks, or skipping meals. As inflation increases and utility bills rise, the numbers would grow higher.

It was proposed by Councillor Kirkham, seconded by Councillor Robinson and

RESOLVED that the Council commits to food justice in Falmouth and

- (i) Appoints a food justice champion who will lean on tackling food poverty locally.
- (ii) Recognises and thanks the Falmouth Food Co-op for the work they are doing, having delivered more than 40,000 meals to people in the town.
- (iii) Supports work to set up a food partnership in Falmouth to bring together partners to develop food action plan: including Falmouth Food coop, churches, Trussell Trust, Fairshare, and the numerous citizens of Falmouth who already do so much to help to support local people and tackle the growing crisis of food poverty.

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

RESOLVED that Councillor Kirkham be appointed as the Council's Champion for Food Justice.

C5680 MOTION – HOMES BEFORE HOLIDAYS CAMPAIGN

Councillor Kirkham reminded the Council regarding its declaration of a Housing Emergency in January 2022 and asked the Council to formally support the aims of ACORN Falmouth and Penryn who felt the key factor in the current housing crisis was the high numbers of second homes and holiday lets in proportion to long term housing, and therefore there must be significant steps taken to regulate the creation of second homes and holiday lets in Falmouth.

It was proposed by Councillor Kirkham, seconded by Councillor Edwards and

RESOLVED unanimously that the Council reiterates that it strongly supports regulation of the second homes and holiday let market in Falmouth using new tools such as planning restrictions on new builds, licensing, a register of second homes/short term lets, the taxation system and a local residence requirement. The Council will continue to press Cornwall Council and the Government for implementation of those measures that can make a difference at the local level.

C5681 CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE

The Mayor and Town Clerk advised that the Government had not addressed the revisions of the Members Code of Conduct that the sector bodies had requested. The Mayor asked the Council to consider signing up to the civility and respect pledge, which could start a culture change for the local council sector.

By the Council signing up to the civility and respect pledge it was demonstrating that it was committed to treating councillors, its clerk, employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.

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

RESOLVED unanimously that the Council registers and agrees to the following statements:

- Our council has agreed that it will treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.
- Our council has committed to training councillors and staff.
- Our council has signed up to Code of Conduct for councillors.
- Our council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.
- Our council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.
- Our council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.
- Our council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council e.g., via the Local Council Award Scheme.
- Our council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

C5682 TOWN MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Town Managers report was duly noted and forms part of these minutes.

C5683 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT PART I

The Town Clerk's Part I report was duly noted and forms part of these minutes.

C5684 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of contractual matters and personal information it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public, be excluded from the meeting.



Town Management/Town Team Report **to Falmouth Town Council 05/09/22**

New reporting process

- With the change in meeting frequency and as I am now involved with the Cultural Services Committee my report will adapt. Event details will be included on the Cultural Services Report and there will be more details from a Town Team perspective. Having said that on occasion I will still give updates within this meeting to ensure all Cllrs are kept up to speed.
- During September we will be working on the various planning meetings for such things as Traders meeting's and other event organisations that is required.

Cost of Living Campaign

- The Town Team are engaged in a national Cost of Living advocacy campaign in partnership with the Association of Town City Management (ATCM), British BIDs and others across the UK. The aim is to bring the entire UK business community together via the key national organisations that are engaged in towns and high streets, to demand greater Government support
- We will be leading on supporting activity for the region as part of the efforts.
- A comms plan and toolkit is being worked up by partners; letters and lobbying to Government also being planned in
- We received a huge amount of positive feedback in respect of our detailed support package - extensive comms, free advisory workshops, safety and promotional material distributed to businesses and around town etc etc, to Falmouth businesses and the wider community over the past two years of the Pandemic, and the intention is to ensure we are on the front foot to support, advise, impart information as much as is possible at the present time

Anti-Social Behaviour issues

- Unfortunately, there continues to be a range of ASB issues across the town, particularly in and around our toilet blocks, Prince of Wales Pier, Gyllyngvase, Kimberley Park and various other locations. There are understandable frustrations, and we are feeding into the various organisations but there is no quick fix to this. Just as one issue is resolved a new one pops up. If I could ask all Cllrs/ public to report via the various channels anything that is witnessed as the more info the police and Cornwall Council have the better.
- It is important to mention that despite the challenges there have been some successes, one example would be the boats that have been moved alongside Church Street car park. It has not solved all the issues relating to that area and Upton Slip but has certainly improved it.

ATCM National Advisory Council

- Richard Wilcox has been invited onto the Association of Town and City Management's (ATCM) National Advisory Council
- The National Advisory Council discusses high level public policy for high streets, town and city centres. The themes covered in the Advisory Council inform the content for meetings of the UK's All-Party Parliamentary Group on Town Centres and ATCM's wider advocacy work.
- This follows on from the Town Team's regional leadership work; lobbying and supporting Falmouth in as many different ways as possible.

Promotional Falmouth film

- A new promotional film, shining a spotlight on Falmouth's lifestyle and work/life balance is being worked upon
- This will be the latest in a suite of films the BID has co-ordinated and utilised as part of the longstanding destination marketing efforts
- That wide-ranging work includes funding, designing and managing www.falmouth.co.uk, the official destination website, overseeing the official range of social media platforms that now have tens of thousands of followers, and a very productive national strategic PR campaign. The millions of pounds worth of media coverage achieved for Falmouth and its businesses over the years as a result of that ongoing, intensive planning process, can be viewed here - <https://www.falmouth.co.uk/falmouth-press-coverage/>



FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

5th SEPTEMBER 2022

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT PART I

1. Complaints Policy

As per the reporting requirements in the Council's complaints policy, I have determined the following complaints. These have not so far been appealed.

- Falmouth week market allocations
- Dog on beach enforcement
- Councillor behaviour complaints (these were signposted under the Code of Conduct process)
- Dracaena Fields usage by sports teams
- Planning Committee process
- Market Stallholder conduct

Mark Williams

Town Clerk

August 2022