

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, The Moor, Falmouth on Monday 7th September 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Ms C Atherton CC (Chair), I J Body, Mrs R D Brock, G G Chappel, O K Cramp, Mrs M Davies, Mrs V E Eva, A J Jewell CC, M McCarthy, Ms D E Merrett (to point mentioned), Mrs P A Minson, B M A Ross and D W Saunby CC.

In Attendance: A M Williams (Town Clerk)
Mrs R N Thomas (Finance Officer)
Ms J Richards (Grant applicant)

F4622 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors Gray (family illness), S D Eva (work) and Evans (ill).

F4623 **INTERESTS**

Councillor Chappel declared a disclosable interest in the Grant application by Beacon community Regeneration Partnership (Minute F4625) as he was employed by the Partnership and left the meeting during the consideration of that item.

Councillor Mrs Davies declared a disclosable interest in the Leisure Services Review (Minute F4627) as she was the Chairman of the Friends of Princess Pavilion and left the meeting during the consideration of that item.

Councillor Jewell declared a disclosable interest in the Pitch and Putt site (Minute F4656) as he was the adjoining landowner and left the meeting during the consideration of that item.

F4624 **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the Part I minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2015 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman subject to the inclusion of Councillor McCarthy in the record of attending Councillors.

F4625 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs V E Eva, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that

- (i) pursuant to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1971 Carnon Carers be granted £200 towards minibus hire;
- (ii) the Carnon Carers be suggested to make an annual grant application for consideration by the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Body, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESOLVED that pursuant to subsection 1 to 8 of the Localism Act 2011 the Beacon Community Regeneration Partnership be granted £1,000 to provide benefit advice to residents.

A letter of thanks for grant award (£1,500) received from the Falmouth Twinning Association was duly noted.

The Grant schedule for 2015/16 to date was duly noted.

F4626 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION**

The Chair of the Steering Group updated on the consultation process and policy formulation work for the emerging Plan and Direction which was duly noted.

F4627 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : SHIPS AND CASTLES LEISURE CENTRE, FALMOUTH**

The Chair advised that Cornwall Council had deferred the consideration of the future of the Centre given the weight of public reaction.

It was proposed by Councillor McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Cramp and

RESOLVED that the Council continues to support the Falmouth Cornwall Councillors in ensuring the Centre is retained and improved and that the Council facilitates a public meeting for Cornwall Council to hear the concerns of residents.

F4628 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : LEISURE SERVICES REVIEW**

It was duly noted that the Council had submitted an expression of interest to Cornwall Council regarding the future management of Princess Pavilion and Gyllyngdune Gardens. Also that it had requested that those two sites be removed from the Leisure Services Portfolio as they did not sit comfortably with the Leisure Centre offer.

F4629 **HERRING GULLS**

The Chair reported resident representations regarding nuisance gulls.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Atherton, seconded by Councillor Jewell and

RESOLVED that the Grounds and Facilities Sub-Committee be instructed to consider the matter and possible solutions.

F4630 **EXTERNAL AUDIT**

It was duly noted that Grant Thornton were undertaking the Council's External Audit and that additional information had been requested and submitted.

F4631 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014 : BEACH DOG CONTROL, CORNWALL**

The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council were seeking to harmonise powers and restrictions with the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Atherton, seconded by Councillor Body and

RESOLVED that a range of views as to the control of dogs on beaches were expressed by the Council. The Council had only recently comprehensively considered the matter and it was therefore felt that this position be maintained, particularly in regard to Gyllyngvase Beach, although the PSPO may make enforcement easier.

F4632 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : ENVIRONMENTAL LATE NIGHT CALL-OUT**

The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council were not able to provide additional late night call out cover financed by the Town Council. Also that currently there was less of a call for the service. However, other opportunities to work with Cornwall Council in terms of envi-crime enforcement may be pursued.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Atherton, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESOLVED that the Council works with Cornwall Council to provide enhanced enviro-crime enforcement in Falmouth, particularly around the Town Centre.

F4633 **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS : REPRESENTATIONS ON NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES**

The NALC representations, including the case study provided by the Council, to the Government in this matter were duly noted.

F4634 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : LOCALISM**

The representations submitted to Cornwall Council to address the delays and issues preventing the expeditious devolution of assets and services was duly noted.

F4635 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : LIBRARY AND ONE STOP SHOP REVIEW**

The submission of the Council's initial business case to operate the library from the Municipal Buildings and other co-located services from the Former Post Office was duly noted.

F4636 **TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS**

The local Electoral Division Members had now prioritised schemes and the Falmouth TRO would be progressed. This was duly noted.

F4637 **CAR PARKING**

The Council duly noted with disappointment that the suggested amendments to off-street parking management had been rejected by Cornwall Council. The local Electoral Division Members were requested to again feed these into the ongoing Car Parking Review.

F4638 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : CHURCH STREET CAR PARK : SEAWALL STRENGTHENING WORKS**

It was duly noted that these long overdue works were proceeding but disappointingly without the seating and improvement works that the Town Council would fund as Cornwall Council did not wish to lose car parking revenue.

F4639 **CORNWALL COUNCIL : RESPONSIBLE LANDLORD SCHEME**

The new on-line resource to support private landlords and letting agents to offer safe, well managed and better quality accommodation whilst ensuring they remained compliant with legislation was welcomed and duly noted.

(Councillor Ms Merrett now left the meeting)

F4640 **ARWENACK TRUST**

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

RESOLVED that the Arwenack Trust, an ex-servicemans charity in Falmouth, be permitted to use the Council's logo in its stationery subject to it being permissible to do so.

F4641 **CEMETERY EXTENSION – BUDOCK**

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

RESOLVED that the submission of the planning application be noted and that the Council commissions the land suitability tests as requested by the Environment Agency.

F4642 **CONGREGATIONAL CEMETERY SITE – PONSHARDEN**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Brock, seconded by Councillor Ms Atherton and

RESOLVED that the Council confirms its intention and undertakes the adverse possession of the site to better enable its management of, and better support the efforts of volunteers in maintaining the site.

F4643 **OPEN SPACES REVIEW**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Minson, seconded by Councillor Ms Atherton and

RESOLVED that the Grounds and Facilities Manager Manager's Open Spaces Review be considered by the Grounds and Facilities Sub-Committee, with Ward Councillor input, prior to submission to Cornwall Council.

F4644 **2016/17 BUDGET SETTING**

The report of the Town Clerk on budget setting timescale (consideration by the Committee on 20th October 2015 and confirmation on 7th December 2015 for the Council to ratify and set precept on 14th December 2015) was agreed. The tapering of the Council Tax Support grant was duly noted.

F4645 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

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

RESOLVED that the Accounts and Petty Cash schedules for July and August 2015 (attached) be approved.

F4646 **BUDGET MONITORING**

Deferred for consideration at the subsequent meeting.

F4647 **BURIAL RECORDS (URGENT ITEM)**

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

RESOLVED that

- (i) the burial records for the Swanpool Cemetery and the records for the Dissenters Cemetery at Ponsharden be scanned and added to the Council's website at the cost of £1,440 plus VAT
- (ii) the Council regularly updates and scans comprehensively its burial registers every 5 or 10 years as appropriate.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item to allow the expeditious processing of the matter.

F4648 **PENWERRIS BY-ELECTION (URGENT ITEM)**

It was duly noted that the recharge by Cornwall Council for the Penwerris Election in 2015 was £5,364.27.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item to update the Council in this matter.

F4649 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business as it involves the consideration of property and contractual matters.