

## **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 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Ms C Atherton CC (Chair), I J Body, G G Chappel, O K Cramp, Mrs M Davies, S D Eva, Mrs V E Eva, G F Evans CC, S Gray, A J Jewell CC, M T McCarthy, Ms D E Merrett, 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)  
G Everard, S Seaton and Mrs S Tregidgo (Grant Applicants)

### F4764 **CHAIRMAN**

Nominations for Chair were sought. Two valid nominations were received.

It was proposed by Councillor Ms Merrett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Davies and

RESOLVED that Councillor Ms C Atherton be appointed Chair of the Committee for the ensuing Municipal year.

A motion proposed by Councillor Cramp and seconded by Councillor S D Eva that Councillor McCarthy be appointed was lost.

### F4765 **VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Nominations for Vice-Chairman were sought. Two valid nominations were received.

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

RESOLVED that Councillor S Gray be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the ensuing Municipal year.

A motion proposed by Councillor McCarthy, seconded by Councillor S D Eva that Councillor Mrs V E Eva be appointed Vice-Chairman was lost.

### F4766 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor Mrs Brock (holiday).

### F4767 **INTERESTS**

None received.

### F4768 **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

F4769 **GRANTS**

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

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 133 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Falmouth and Penryn Sea Cadets be granted £500 towards floor repairs for their premises.

It was proposed on an amendment by Councillor Ms Atherton, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 234 of the Public Health Act 1936 that Cornwall Resus be granted £1000 towards the costs of providing first aid cover in Falmouth on Saturday nights 2200 to 0300 hours. This grant award to be repeated for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years.

It was proposed by Councillor S D Eva, seconded by Councillor Ms Merrett and

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1-8 of the Localism Act 2011, the Carnon Carers be granted £200 towards transport costs.

The 2016/17 grant schedule was duly noted.

F4770 **FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

RESOLVED that the report and recommendations of the Finance Sub-Committee dated 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016 (attached as part of these minutes) be approved.

F4771 **DEVOLUTION FUND**

The Chair reported that the Council's requests for devolution funding assistance had been partially agreed (£26,230 awarded for Library/OSS of £35,000 requested and nil award for Dracaena of £5,000 requested). This was somewhat disappointing as the scheme was meant to prioritise Library/OSS devolution schemes. The report was duly noted.

F4772 **DRACAENA FIELDS**

The Town Clerk reported that freehold transfer had been delayed whilst Cornwall Council resolve a Deed of Dedication to Fields in Trust.

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

RESOLVED that the report be noted and if necessary the Council enters a Deed of Covenant to satisfy Fields in Trust.

F4773 **JEWISH AND CONGREGATIONALIST CEMETERIES, PONSHARDEN**

It was proposed by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Mrs Minson and

RESOLVED that the statutory declarations be progressed to attest the Council's historical maintenance and security role to the sites to further the adverse possession claim.

F4774 **FORMER POST OFFICE DEVELOPMENT**

The Finance Officer reported the up to date position in regard to this matter (attached as part of these minutes)

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

RESOLVED that the report be noted and that works continue expeditiously including Option 2 for lift design and installation.

F4775 **COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND**

The Chair reported upon the consideration of the Falmouth Coastal Communities Team and the latest tranche of central funding available.

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

RESOLVED that the Council endorses the Falmouth Coastal Communities Team bids for funding and that capacity and resource funding assistance be a priority within that.

F4776 **SEATS AND SHELTERS**

The Town Clerk reported that transfers were progressing and a list of assets was being prepared. The report was duly noted.

F4777 **BLUE FLAG AWARD, GYLLYNGVASE BEACH**

The 2016 Award and sponsorship by Sharps Brewery was noted with pleasure.

F4778 **INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Internal Auditor's report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 was considered.

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

RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Report by Hudson Accounting Ltd be received and noted and that the Council responds as follows:

Internal Control Objective A: noted

Internal Control Objective B:

1. The Council would review its Financial Regulations and this had been deferred pending consideration of the newly issued Practitioners Guidance.
2. The Council would ensure that it publishes information to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code and the Model Publications Scheme. It had recently reviewed its website.

Internal Control Objective C:

1. The new risk assessment will be reviewed regularly and become a standing item for the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
2. Each service head to be tasked with producing a service specific risk assessment.
3. The Council has now documented its control systems and Members will be cognisant of those when undertaking regular checks.

Internal Control Objective D:

1. The recommendations of the Interim Report and a risk based approach to budget monitoring will be considered.
2. The Council is confident that there is sufficient flexibility within the earmarked reserves to meet unexpected expenditure.

Internal Control Objective E: noted

Internal Control Objective F: noted

Internal Control Objective G:

1. The practice of the Mayoral debit card to cease.
2. The Council have instructed the Town Clerk to ensure the retrospective reporting of delegated decisions is clear and timely.

Internal Control Objective H: noted

Internal Control Objective I: noted

Internal Control Objective J:

1. Income and expenditure will not be netted off.

Internal Control Objective K:

1. Trustees meeting was late and will be addressed.

F4779 **GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS, ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL RETURN 2015/16**

The Finance Office reported these matters (attached as part of these minutes).

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

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statements for 2014/15 be recommended to the Council as affirmative and submitted as part of the Annual Return to the Council's External Auditor Grant Thornton.

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

RESOLVED that the Accounting Statements numbered 1 to 11 for 2015/16 be recommended to the Council for approval and submitted as part of the Annual Return to the Council's External Auditor Grant Thornton.

F4780 **FALMOUTH CHANNEL DREDGE**

Those Councillors that attended the presentation of the scientific evidence appointing the application to the Marine Management Organisation for a dredge of a channel to access Falmouth Docks reported upon the event and had made a case for the approval of the application on socio-economic grounds. The report was duly noted.

F4781 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

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

RESOLVED that the Accounts and Petty Cash Schedules for April and May 2016 (attached) be approved.

F4782 **RSPB BRIEFING CONCERNING URBAN GULLS (EXTRA ITEM)**

The RSPB briefing was duly noted by Councillors. The Chair had allowed this as an urgent item so that Members could address residents queries and contact on matters of gull nuisance.

F4783 **FIELDS IN TRUST MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2016 (EXTRA ITEM)**

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

RESOLVED that the Fields in Trust Membership renewal for 2016 at £50 for the Council be approved.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item as it had been received too late for the agenda.

F4784 **SEAGULL PROOF SACKS (EXTRA ITEM)**

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

RESLOVED that the Seagull Proof bags be acquired for distribution in September 2016 for 11,000 sacks (45x45x90cm at 180 litres) with three logos as agreed with rubber pads at £1.79 per item, total £19690 before VAT. Storage as agreed with Councillor Jewell.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item so that cost efficiencies by delaying the order and to ensure compliance with new University term time could be achieved.

F4785 **SWANPOOL NATURE RESERVE BOAT TRIPS (EXTRA ITEMS)**

Councillor Gray and Mrs Davies reported a meeting with the Operator of Swanpool Nature Reserve to provide boat trips on Swanpool. The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council as the landowner did not support the proposal as it was not in keeping with the area and seen as over commercialisation.

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

RESOLVED that the Council does not support the proposal as it was not in keeping with the area and was over commercialisation.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item so that Cornwall Council could be informed expeditiously of the view of the Council.

F4786 **BOSCAWEN PROJECT BRIEF (EXTRA ITEM)**

The Town Clerk reported that Cornwall Council had worked with residents on this matter and works would cost £12,000 to be sourced from Section 106 Obligation contributions.

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

RESOLVED that the Council support the proposal to be funded from the Section 105 Obligation contributions.

The Chair agreed to take this as an urgent item so that Cornwall Council could expeditiously commence the works.

F4787 **TRAFFIC BOLLARD – CHURCH STREET (EXTRA ITEM)**

The Chair reported her meetings with Cornwall Council and new signage would be erected. A problem with the bollard electronics was being addressed and she hoped it would be quickly operational. The report was duly noted. The Chair reported this as an urgent item so that Councillors could respond to resident and trader queries in the matter.

F4788 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business as it involves the consideration of debt recovery.

F4789 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Gray, seconded by Councillor S D Eva and

RESLOVED that the Part II minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

There being no further business to transact the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....