

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 28th May 2012 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Falmouth at 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors A K Ayres, I J Body, C H Choak, Mrs M Davies, G F Evans, Ms D E Merrett, D M O'Brien, Mrs M Ryan and Dr D A Sterratt

In Attendance: Mr A M Williams (Town Clerk)
Mrs R N Thomas (Finance Officer)

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F4134 **CHAIRMAN**

Nominations were sought for Chairman. One valid nomination was received.

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

RESOLVED that Councillor Sterratt Chairs the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

F4135 **VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman sought nominations for Vice-Chairman. One valid nomination was received.

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

RESOLVED that

- (i) Standing Orders be temporarily altered to allow Councillor Mrs Ryan, as Deputy Town Mayor, to be nominated as Vice-Chair of the Committee;
- (ii) Councillor Mrs Ryan be appointed as Vice-Chair for the ensuing municipal year.

F4136 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors Mrs Biggins (attending a funeral), Mrs Booth (family commitments), Chin-Quee (Cornwall Housing meeting), Cramp (family commitments) and Mrs Hrydziuska (family illness).

F4137 **INTERESTS**

None received.

F4138 **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2012 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

F4139 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

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

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 145 of the Local Government Act, 1972, Falmouth Spring Flower Show be granted £650 towards the costs of staging the show.

The Council noted and recognised the Special Circumstances of the application contrary to its normal grants policy.

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

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, Vitalise be granted £363 to support Falmouth carers of disabled people.

The actions of the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to grant £400 pursuant to Section 145 of the Local Government Act, 1972, to the Dracaena Centre for the Olympic Torch Relay event and the time constrained reason for urgency was noted and duly approved.

A letter of thanks for a grant award of £315 from Cornwall Blind Association was duly noted.

The 2012/13 grant schedule was duly noted.

F4140 **ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL RETURN 2011/12**

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

RESOLVED that

- (i) Financial Statements for 2011/12 be approved and as attached as part of these minutes
- (ii) the Annual Return for 2011/12 be recommended to the Council for approval and as attached as part of these minutes.

F4141 **EXTERNAL AUDITOR 2012/13 AND FUTURE YEARS**

The appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as the Council's Auditor from September 2012 for five years was duly noted.

F4142 **INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2011/12**

The Town Clerk reported that this had now been received and would be reported fully to the next meeting.

F4143 **ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION – HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION**

The Committee was disappointed to note the correspondence from the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning at Cornwall Council who advised that it was still premature to consider the request for the Article 4 Direction. The Chairman reported he was raising the issue with the local Member of Parliament.

F4144 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCE REVIEW**

The Town Clerk reported that he had reiterated the stance of the Council to Cornwall Council. That is that the Webber Street Public Conveniences were surplus and ideally be incorporated into a redevelopment of that aspect of the Municipal Buildings, and could the facilities at Prince of Wales Pier, Swanpool Beach, Castle Beach, Gyllyngvase Beach and Maenporth Beach be incorporated into existing Cornwall Council lease arrangements and the facility at Grove Place Car Park be funded from the Car Park revenue given its strategic importance. The report was duly noted.

F4145 **BEACH CLEANSING**

The Town Clerk reported that following residents complaints Cornwall Council had confirmed that Gyllyngvase Beach and Swanpool Beach were cleansed to a Grade A standard at peak season. The issue of seaweed and protocols for how it was dealt with was under review.

It was proposed by Councillor Sterratt, seconded by Councillor O'Brien and

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Council requests Cornwall Council to provide additional, or better placement of existing, litter bins at Gyllyngvase Beach
- (ii) Cornwall Council be requested to expeditiously address the issue of seaweed accumulation at Gyllyngvase and Swanpool Beaches and that the Town Council be permitted to input to the formulation of a seaweed removal policy for Town Beaches.

F4146 **PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND**

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

RESOLVED that

- (i) email notification of transactions in regard to the fund be permitted
- (ii) the Town Clerk and the Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, of the Committee be permitted to authorise transactions in respect of the fund.

F4147 **LAND REGISTRATION**

The Town Clerk provided an update report in respect of the ongoing rationalisation of the Council's Land Registrations. The report was duly noted.

F4148 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

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

RESOLVED that the Accounts and Petty Cash Schedules (attached) for March and April 2012 be approved.

There being no further business to transact the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

