

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 21st January 2013 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Falmouth at 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors Mrs M Ryan (in the Chair), Mrs A J Biggins, I J Body, G W Chin-Quee, O K Cramp, G F Evans, Ms D Merrett and D W Saunby

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

F4225 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors Ayres (holiday), Mrs Davies (ill), Jewell (work), O'Brien (work) and Sterratt (ill).

F4226 **INTERESTS**

None received.

F4227 **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2012 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

F4228 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

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

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 145 of the Local Government Act, 1972, Source FM be awarded £2,000 to assist the production of six Sunday afternoon acoustic events in Kimberley Park in 2013.

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

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, Falmouth Recovery Support be awarded £350 towards the establishment of a Wellness Recovery Action Planning Group to assist Falmouth residents.

Further to his report the Town Clerk advised upon a further request for grant extension from Age Concern as they had been unable to process the Sensory Garden Scheme in 2012 (this has been extended previously from 2011/12).

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

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Grant awards for Friend of St Francis C of E School for play equipment (£1,500) and The Cornish Gorsedd for a publication of Falmouth and Penryn Bards (£200) be extended to be taken up in 2013/14 financial year;
- (ii) Grant award to Age Concern for a Sensory Garden (£1,000) be extended to be taken up in 2013/14 financial year but that no further extensions be granted.

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

RESLOVED that a request to resurrect a previously unclaimed grant award to Falmouth Skatepark Committee in 2010/11 for promotional material be treated as a new grant award for 2012/13 and pursuant to Section 145 of the Local Government Act, 1972, be awarded £500.

Letters of thanks for grant awards from CHICKS (£722) and from Friends of St Francis C of E School (£1,000) were duly noted as was the 2012/13 grant schedule.

F4229 **BRITAIN IN BLOOM**

The Town Clerk reported that following its recognition as best SW in Bloom Seaside Town then Falmouth had been invited to enter the National in Bloom Competition. Separate entries would be made for SW in Bloom, Cornwall in Bloom, Green Flag sites and In Your Neighbourhood Awards in 2013 and that additional resourcing would be required.

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

RESOLVED that the report be noted with pleasure and the Council resources the application bids and supports the Falmouth In Bloom Committee as necessary.

F4230 **MUNICIPAL INSURANCE**

The Town Clerk reported upon preparatory work for insurance renewal that was duly noted.

F4231 **2013/14 BUDGET AND PRECEPT**

The Town Clerk reported that the Council had not yet made its precept request of Cornwall Council as that Council had failed to determine the tax base and whether to mitigate affected Town and Parish Councils.

Councillor Evans advised that Cornwall Council would consider the matter again on the 29th January 2013 and the notification deadline had been extended to 6th February 2013.

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

RESOLVED that the Council reaffirms its intention to set a precept as agreed under Minute C4179 but that this is not notified to Cornwall Council until the tax base and mitigation position is clearer. If necessary the Council to meet to consider this item again.

F4232 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND ASSET DEVOLUTION**

The Town Clerk reported upon meeting with the Cornwall Council Portfolio-holder regarding future provision of Public Conveniences and asset devolution generally.

- (1) Cornwall Council would reduce its budget for public convenience provision by 50% in 2013/14 and look at closures, reduced opening or other local management solutions. It had/ or would enter dialogue as directed with the lease holders of adjoining assets at Castle, Gyllyngvase, Swanpool and Maenporth Beaches, and Community Interest Company in respect of Prince of Wales Pier. It was proposed that the facility at Grove Place adopts a usage charge.
- (2) Municipal Buildings and Webber Street toilets although freehold transfer was contrary to Cornwall Council policy the Council had been advised to resubmit its business plan for transfer for consideration on this basis.
- (3) Dracaena Skatepark. Cornwall Council would unlikely consider the freehold transfer but would agree a renewed long-term peppercorn lease to achieve redevelopment aspirations on this site.
- (4) Prince of Wales Pier. The Community Interest Company moved towards events management here. It was still unclear how it would engage with the Town Council.
- (5) Wodehouse Allotment Site. Seeking to clarify land ownership issue.
- (6) Webber Hill Border. The Council to write to Cornwall Council Environmental Service to request renovation of this important 'gateway' site.
- (7) Beaches. Beach Management Plan being prepared will not affect ownership and lease arrangements.
- (8) Street Trees. Town Council looking to develop partnership working arrangement with Cornwall Council.
- (9) Car Parks. Continued irreconcilable issues regarding income and budget setting.
- (10) The Moor. Revised Management Agreement near completion.
- (11) Future Cemetery Provision. Frustratingly still stymied regarding progress on proposed site given planning considerations.

The report was duly noted and ongoing work recognised and endorsed.

F4233 **SEAGULL PROOF SACKS**

Councillor Ms Merrett reported upon her meeting with Cornwall Council that is attached as part of these minutes.

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

RESOLVED that subject to confirmation of the sack unit price by Cornwall Council then the Council engages with it to make Seagull Proof Sacks available to Falmouth residents and that Councillors Ms Merrett and Jewell continue to represent the Council in this matter.

F4234 **TAXI FORUM**

The Town Clerk reported upon the recent Taxi Forum (former Carrick Area) that was duly noted.

F4235 **BEACH MANAGEMENT**

The Town Clerk and Town Mayor reported upon progress in developing a Beach Management Plan for Falmouth that was duly noted.

F4236 **MOSS AND WEED TREATMENT**

Pursuant to Minute F4216 the Town Clerk reported that the acquisition of a roadsweeper had been agreed, this was slightly in excess of budget.

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

RESOLVED that the acquisition at a cost of £8,000 plus £300 delivery be noted and approved. It was also noted that a cost of accredited training for two employees would be £600 from the Training Budget.

F4237 **CORNWALL COMMUNITY FLOOD FORUM**

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

RESOLVED that the report of the Town Clerk be noted and the Council joins the Cornwall Flood Forum as Falmouth was an area identified as at risk of flooding.

F4238 **SOUTH WEST WATER – 25 YEAR STRATEGY**

The proposed strategy was duly noted.

F4239 **COMMUNITY CHEST 2012/13**

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors to ensure that their Community Chest allocations for 2012/13 had been authorised. Where projects and allocations would not be taken up by 31st March 2013 then the respective Councillor should ensure carry-over arrangements had been approved and were in place. The report was duly noted.

F4240 **THE MOOR MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

As previously reported under Minute F4232

F4241 **KIMBERLEY PARK LODGE**

The Finance Officer reported that a Structural Engineers Report was awaited. The report was duly noted.

F4242 **ACCOUNTS AND PETTY CASH**

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

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

F4243 **LOCAL MAINTENANCE PARTNERSHIP – SW COASTAL PATH**

The Chairman agreed to consider this matter as an urgent item as Cornwall Council had requested a response by 31st January 2013.

The Town Clerk reported an invitation from Cornwall Council to add the SW Coastal Path within Falmouth to the Local Maintenance Partnership with a grant allocation of £4,964.09 for 2013/14.

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

RESOLVED that the Council establishes costings from its grounds maintenance contractor before considering whether to add the SW Coastal Path maintenance to the Local Maintenance Partnership in 2013/14 and Cornwall Council be requested to delay its response deadline accordingly.

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

Signed.....

Dated.....