

St Austell Town Council



To: All Members of St Austell Town Council

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the **Meeting of St Austell Town Council** to be held in **The Registrar's Office, Carlyon Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4LD** on **Monday 18th March 2024** at **6pm**.



David Pooley
Town Clerk

12th March 2024

Tel 01726 829859
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Website: www.staustell-tc.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

(Purpose: To accept apologies for non-attendance).

2. Declarations of interest and gifts or hospitality received.

(Purpose: To receive declarations of Members' interests and gifts or hospitality received).

3. Dispensations

(Purpose: To consider requests for dispensations).

This meeting has been advertised as a public meeting and as such could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media or members of the public.

Please be aware that whilst every effort is taken to ensure that members of the public are not filmed, we cannot guarantee this, especially if you are speaking or taking an active role.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 29th January 2024

**Pages
1 - 8**

(Purpose: to agree that the minutes of the above meeting be signed as a correct record).

5. Matters to note

(Purpose: A verbal update from the Town Clerk on the actions taken since the last meeting).

Note: No decision may be made under this agenda item.

6. Mayor's announcements

(Purpose: To receive an update from the Mayor on her engagements and any other civic matters).

7. Public Participation

(Purpose: To invite members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be carried out at the meeting).

Each person addressing the Council will be allocated a maximum of 2 minutes

8. Members' questions (10 minutes maximum)

A Member may ask the Mayor or the Clerk any question concerning the business of the Council, provided 3 clear days notice of the question has been given to the person to whom it is addressed. Every question shall be put and answered without discussion. A person to whom a question is put may decline to answer or undertake to provide a full answer within a timescale agreed with the Member. They may also agree to accept a question after the deadline.

9. Emma Rodgers, Senior Development Manager – Treveth Holdings LLP

(Purpose: To receive an update on the demolition and future plans for the Penwinnick Road site).

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- 10. St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership**
- (Purpose: To receive a progress report from Hayhurst Consultants).
- 11. Nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor** **Pages 9 - 12**
- (Purpose: To consider the nominations received for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2024-25 civic year).
- 12. Members appointed to outside bodies update reports**
- (Purpose: To receive reports of any relevant information from Members appointed to outside bodies).
- 13. Cornwall Councillor update reports** **Pages 13 - 16**
- (Purpose: To receive reports of any relevant information from local Cornwall Councillors). (Reports attached).
- 14. Schedule of Payments** **Pages 17 - 22**
- (Purpose: To receive a schedule of payments from 20th January 2024 to 8th March 2024). (Attached).
- 15. Planning and Regeneration Committee** **Pages 23 - 32**
- (Purpose: To note the minutes of the Planning and Regeneration Committee meeting held on 5th February 2024 and 4th March 2024). (Attached)
- 16. Finance and General Purposes Committee** **Pages 33 - 36**
- (Purpose: To note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 19th February 2024). (Attached).
- 17. Community Committee** **Pages 37 - 42**
- (Purpose: To note the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 26th February 2024) (Attached).

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18. Staffing Committee

(Purpose: To note the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11th March 2024). (To follow).

19. To consider excluding the press and public.

Under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the business specified for the following item:

Items 20 and 21 is confidential because it contains commercially sensitive information.

20. Piazza and Green Open Space

(Purpose: To receive an update on the Community Capacity Grant and to obtain approval to appoint landscape designers to take the project forward). (Verbal update).

21. Town Vitality Fund

(Purpose: To consider match funding for the Town Vitality Fund projects identified). (Verbal update).

22. Dates of Meetings

(Purpose: To note dates of future Town Council Meetings: 29th April 2024 (Annual Parish Meeting) and 15th May 2024 (Annual Town Council Meeting)).

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MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL held on MONDAY 29th JANUARY 2024 in The Registrar's Office, Carlyon Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4LD at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Brown, Clemo, Double, Fox, French, Gray, Guest, Hamilton, Kimber, Lanxon, Pearce, Preece, Stephens and Thompson.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

C/23/127) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Bull, Cohen, Pears, Rowse, Styles and Young.

The Clerk advised that Councillor Guest would be late arriving as he is chairing a meeting that is due to finish at 5.30pm.

C/23/128) Declarations of interests and gifts or hospitality received

There were no declarations of interest.

C/23/129) Dispensations

There were no requests for a dispensation.

The Mayor advised that in order to assist Mr Palmer and Ms Heyward, she would bring agenda items 9 and 10 forward.

C/23/130) Brian Palmer, Chair of Trustees – STAK

The Mayor welcomed Mr Brian Palmer to the meeting.

Mr Palmer advised that STAK started approximately 13 years ago at 8 High Cross Street and provided heavily subsidised three course meals throughout the day (approximately 25-30 meals per day) for the less well-off people in the town. At the time, STAK also provided debt and benefit advice and computer courses. During the pandemic, the premises were closed and only a takeaway service was provided. STAK also had a contract with Cornwall Council during Covid to provide meals to the homeless temporarily housed in the Travelodge.

Mr Palmer added that since the pandemic, the number of people visiting STAK has dropped off (approximately 20-25 meals per day) and due to a change in contract arrangements, only a very limited service is provided to the homeless in the Travelodge. The advice service has also stopped. Mr Palmer also advised that post covid the clientele attending STAK changed and the more challenging behaviour from this cohort has caused friction with the neighbouring premises in High Cross Street.

On the 31st December 2023, STAK closed their premises at High Cross Street and they are in the process of refurbishing their new premises in Duke Street which it is hoped will be open by the end of March. Mr Palmer advised that keeping the service going is a struggle, but the Trustees will continue to do their best for vulnerable people in the town. He acknowledged that their reputation in the town varies, but assured Members that their presence in St Austell is part of a solution to assist the vulnerable and reduce anti-social behaviour in the town centre.

The Mayor thanked Mr Palmer for his update.

C/23/131) Small Grants Scheme

The Gover Community Larder

The Mayor welcomed Ms Heyward to the meeting.

Ms Heyward advised that the Gover Community Larder does not have an income stream and relies heavily on grants and donations. She added that the location of the larder has moved from the Pondhu Childrens Centre to a temporary location behind the Watermargin Restaurant and that the demand for food has increased significantly. By way of an example, she advised that on 2nd January 2024, 31 boxes of food were given out, compared to 19 boxes in January 2022. Ms Heyward explained that the 200kg weekly food delivery from Fare Share requires an annual membership fee of £4,000. Ms Heyward added that they also collect regularly from the local supermarkets.

Members thanked Ms Heyward for her presentation and expressed their full support for the Gover Community Larder.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £500 to the Gover Community Larder to enable them to continue to purchase food and obtain 2 new insulated boxes and ice blocks.

Mr Palmer and Ms Heyward left the meeting

C/23/132) Minutes of Meeting held on 11th December 2023

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Arising from a question with regard to the Mid Cornwall Metro, and in the absence of Councillor Pears, the Clerk advised that the Town Council has not been consulted on the Mid Cornwall Metro (MCM) project as it is viewed by Cornwall Council that St Austell will not be significantly affected by the proposals and no alterations are proposed for the station at St Austell. Cornwall Council has also advised that there has been no public consultation, but Cornwall Council officers have kept the Cornwall Councillors up to date with progress. Cornwall Council also advised that the Metro Project was the only Round 2 Levelling Up Funding bid approved for Cornwall and the time scales for the bidding process were very tight.

Councillor Brown expressed his disappointment that the Town Council had not been consulted with regard to this project as he felt that local knowledge from the work carried out by Restormel Borough Council on train links between Newquay and St Austell could have assisted with the project planning process. Councillor Brown suggested that the Town Council should write to Cornwall Council to express their displeasure at not being consulted and request that the Town Council is consulted in the future, as the project develops, if any issues arise that might affect Parish residents.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Cornwall Council expressing disappointment that the Town Council has not been consulted on the Mid Cornwall Metro project and request that the Town Council is consulted in the future, if any issues arise that may affect Parish residents.

C/23/133) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that Councillor Styles represented the Town Council at a Licensing Hearing between Christmas and the New Year to outline the Town Council's objection to The Club's application to extend its opening hours. Despite a well presented objection, Cornwall Council's Licensing Committee resolved to approve the application.

Councillor Thompson referred to minute number C/23/121 and asked if any progress had been made with regard to the parking bays and associated congestion at Clifden Road.

The Clerk **AGREED** to liaise with Councillor Pears and/or Cornwall Council's Highways Officers.

C/23/134) Mayor's announcements

The Mayor advised that in November she had laid a wreath on the Poppy Bus and attended the St Blazey Pantomime the evening before with 16 events attended on behalf of the Town Council in total during that period. The Mayor also read out a thank you e-mail from Kernow Young Carers who had received a number of Christmas shoe boxes for their young carers and thanked Councillors for their input into this initiative.

C/23/135) Public Participation

None

C/23/136) Members' questions

There were no questions from Members.

C/23/137) Small Grants Scheme

No Limits Personal Training & Wellbeing CIC

The Deputy Clerk outlined the grant application and the breakdown of the project costs which include the hire of Par Running Track, instructor fees and the purchase of equipment and apparel.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to No Limits Personal Training for the costs involved with their "Remember You" project.

C/23/138) St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership

The Town Clerk advised that he would update Members later in the agenda during private session but confirmed that the Partnership had received the same presentation from the consultants with regard to the design options for the roof top garden and they had agreed with the Town Council's informal collective view that the designs showing a higher aspiration for the roof top garden were preferred.

The Clerk advised that no progress has been made on the General Wolfe project and the Carlyon Road draft Masterplan is due to be made available to the Stakeholder Group shortly for consideration.

Councillor Double confirmed that the church piazza bid has been signed off by Cornwall Council officers.

Councillor Brown added that although supportive of the roof top garden project, the Revitalisation Partnership had expressed some concerns, particularly with regard to the impact the project could have on the tenants of the building and the town centre as a whole.

Councillor Guest arrived during the next item

C/23/139) Town Centre – Red Pots

The Clerk advised that due to a reduced budget, the BID has asked the Town Council to consider taking on responsibility for the twice yearly planting, watering and general maintenance of the town centre large red pots and the planters located next to the Town Council's notice board and the slope next to Studio 4 in White River Place. The BID has confirmed that they will continue to fund hanging baskets. The Clerk added that at the present time, the Town Council owns the red pots but contracts with St Austell BID to plant them up twice a year.

Costings have been obtained from the Town Council's horticultural supplier for Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter planting of the pots and watering in the sum of £1165 per annum. The Clerk added that if the Town Council's Grounds Maintenance Staff absorb some of the work involved, the costs will be reduced.

Arising from questions, the Clerk advised that if Members agree to take on the planting of the red pots and wall planters in the town centre, more sustainable planting will be considered. General concern was also expressed with regard to the BID's reduced income and the pressure this puts on to the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to take on responsibility for the twice yearly planting, watering and general maintenance of the town centre large red pots and planters located next to the Town Council's notice board and the slope next to Studio 4 in White River Place with a maximum budget of £1165 per annum.

C/23/140) Edgumbe Road/Truro Road – Pedestrian Improvements

The Clerk advised that to improve pedestrian safety at the Edgumbe Road/Truro Road junction, Cornwall Council has put forward a scheme which involves the installation of pedestrian crossing facilities which will provide push button units, tactile pavement, drop kerbs and road studs to formalise the crossing points. He added that this junction used to have air quality issues, but this has now dropped below the level of concern.

The Clerk read out a statement from Councillor Young, Deputy Mayor, who welcomed the proposals to instal pedestrian crossings but expressed concern with regard to the lack of a crossing across Truro Road from the St Austell side of Edgumbe Road in the suggestion put forward.

It was suggested that a site visit for Councillors with Highways Officers would be helpful.

During discussion the following issues were raised:

- Concern with regard to the diagonal crossing proposed
- Concern with regard to the build outs proposed and whether or not they will leave enough room for buses
- The lack of clear vision at the junctions
- The need for a pedestrian crossing further up Edgcumbe Road

It was **RESOLVED** to support the scheme subject to a pedestrian crossing being installed higher up on Edgcumbe Road and Highways Officers checking the practicality of the proposed build outs either side of Edgcumbe Road and that buses can navigate the narrow turnings without adversely affecting pedestrians and cyclists.

C/23/141) St Austell Family Hub

The Clerk advised that Cornwall Council has identified the St Austell Family Hub at Woodland Road as surplus to requirements through the Estates Transformation Programme and are looking to sell it on the open market when the new Family Hub is built in White River Place.

During discussion, Members noted the poor condition of the building and welcomed a new Family Hub in White River Place. Overall, Members supported the proposal as long as the new Family Hub is up and running in White River Place before the building at Woodland Road is de-commissioned.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

C/23/142) Members appointed to outside bodies update reports

Councillor Brown advised that he had attended a meeting of the Trustees of Citizens Advice Cornwall where it was advised that they are temporarily located at the Urban Village with a view to a permanent location in the CN4C building on High Cross Street. He added that he had also attended a recent meeting of the CALC Larger Councils where they had received an interesting presentation from Dr Alison Hibbert, GP Dementia Lead and Dementia Advisor NHS Cornwall. The Town Clerk from Penzance provided a presentation on dementia initiatives within Penzance and a NALC paper entitled "dementia friendly communities" was referred to. Councillor Brown advised that following a conversation with the Deputy Clerk, the NALC paper will be put to a future meeting of the Town Council to consider their role with regard to dementia initiatives and projects in St Austell. Councillor Brown advised that the refreshment of the Local Plan was also discussed at the meeting and the role of Town and Parish Councils. Sarah Mason advised that she is due to meet with planning officers shortly and agreed to seek their views on Town Framework Steering Groups being set up again. Councillor Brown suggested that the Town Council should ask Cornwall Council to set up town forums for the major towns and surrounding parishes.

During discussion, Councillor Double advised that she could not support this suggestion at this time because of the potential impact on Cornwall Council resources and Councillor Guest advised that he is always happy to liaise with Town and Parish Councils on an informal basis rather than having formal meetings.

The Town Clerk agreed to make enquiries of Cornwall Council with regard to their views on Town and Parish Council input into the refreshment of the Local Plan. It was noted that guidance is still awaited from the Government.

Councillor Lanxon advised that the Football Club/Cornwall College are hoping to submit a planning application for a new football pitch and associated facilities at Poltair Park and that the next meeting of the CAP is due to take place during the week at Lostwithiel.

C/23/143) Cornwall Councillor update reports

Further to Councillor Double's report, Councillor Brown advised that Treverbyn Parish Council had supported the Town Council's views with regard to the old Carclaze School pre planning application and similar comments had been passed to Cornwall Council. In response, Councillor Double advised that she supported the façade of the building being retained but felt that the Town Council's aspiration for 100% affordable housing on the site is unrealistic. She added her disappointment with regard to the poor state and management of the property over many years.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the reports from Councillors Double and Guest.

C/23/144) Schedule of Payments

It was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments for the period 4th December 2023 to 19th January 2024 totalling £214,404.53 be approved.

C/23/145) White River Project

The Clerk advised that the Cornwall South CAP has set up a White River Project Working Group of which Councillor Clemo is a member in a personal capacity. The Community Link Officer has suggested that it would be helpful if Councillor Clemo could update the Town Council from time to time on the group's activities and suggested that this role be formalised.

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Clemo be appointed as the Town Council's representative on the Cornwall South CAP White River Project Working Group.

C/23/146) Planning and Regeneration Committee

Councillor Brown asked that "house" on top of page 3 of the minutes be changed to "housing".

Further to minute number: P/23/104 (v) Councillor Kimber advised that he did not state that shops on the site were advertised as a certainty and asked that this be reflected in the minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the Planning and Regeneration Meeting dated Monday 8th January 2024 be noted.

C/23/147) Climate and Environment Committee

Councillor Hamilton, Chair of the Climate and Environment Committee for clarity purposes asked if "**£1,000 to £5-600 per annum**" within minute number CE/23/23 could be amended to read "**£1,000 to £500 to £600 per annum**"

It was **RESOLVED** that subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the Climate and Environment Meeting dated Monday 22nd January 2024 be noted.

C/23/148) To consider excluding the press and public.

It was **RESOLVED** that under Section 1 (ii) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item in view of the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be transacted.

C/23/149) St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership

The Town Clerk introduced the paper "St Austell Revitalisation Project Options for additional Town Vitality Funding" and the suggested projects that could be put forward to Cornwall Council for funding.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit the paper as circulated subject to the section on traffic flows around the town centre being modified as discussed.

C/23/150) It was **RESOLVED** to re-admit the public and press to the meeting.

C/23/151) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next Town Council meetings are due to take place on 18th March 2024, 29th April 2024 (Annual Parish Meeting) and 13th May 2024 (Annual Town Council Meeting).

The meeting closed at 8.03pm.

St Austell Town Council



NOMINATION FORM ELECTION OF MAYOR 2024-25

We, the undersigned Members of the Council, wish to nominate

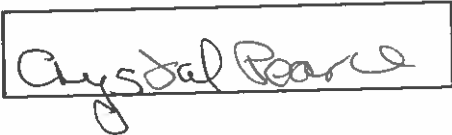
Councillor JULIAN YOUNG

As Mayor of St Austell for the Civic Year 2024-25

Proposer: Councillor COLIN HAMILTON

Signed  Date 29/2/24

Seconder: Councillor CRYSTAL PEARCE

Signed  Date 01/3/24

I, Councillor JULIAN YOUNG agree to my name going forward for consideration in the election of Mayor for 2024-25

Signed  Date 29/2/24

Please be advised the deadline for nominations is **12pm, Tuesday 12th March 2024**



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10/10/10

St Austell Town Council



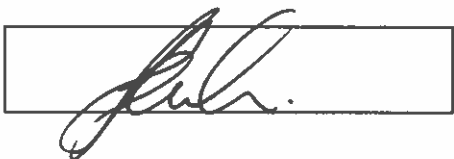
NOMINATION FORM ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2024-25

We, the undersigned Members of the Council, wish to nominate

Councillor ANNE DOUBLE

As Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2024-25

Proposer: Councillor Tom French.

Signed  Date 01/03/2024

Seconder: Councillor RICHARD CLEMO

Signed  Date 8/3/2024

I, Councillor ANNE DOUBLE agree to my name going forward for consideration in the election of Deputy Mayor for 2024-25

Signed  Date 11-3-24

Please be advised the deadline for nominations is **12pm, Tuesday 12th March 2024**

Cllr Anne Double – report to Town Council March 2024

It was good to see the town busy for St Pirans Day and well done to all those who put on events throughout the day. Whilst I couldn't attend the parade, we did visit in the morning and heard the St Austell Youth Band play and have a wander around some of the stalls.

It is always good when events like that bring us all together.

It has been another busy few weeks and time just won't stand still.

There are still a few niggling issues with the waste contract and I would encourage all those who are still struggling to get their new bins to get in touch. I would like to put on record the help the BIFFA Manager has given me in resolving local issues in my division.

We have had a few meetings with regards to the Highways schemes and at our most recent meeting we signed off the recommended schemes that have been put before us as viable for this next tranche of funding. It does not mean, however, that just because some have been "approved" and others not – that these schemes cannot be put forward again – if they are deemed as viable schemes with Highways approval.

For our CAP area – the following schemes will go forward for approval to the CAP and responses should be received by 23rd March.

- St Mewan School – waiting restrictions and lining (TRO including design).
- Goran School – Waiting restrictions and bus stop markings
- B3273 Treviskey – Speed limit review
- Trenowah Road – Crossing point and waiting restrictions
- Mobile vehicle activation sign – St Austell.

These schemes total £67,900

I have on going issues with families who suffered as a result of the flood at Pondhu school – so I am assisting them in seeking compensation from Wainhomes.

The building in Penwinnick Road is slowly coming down and I have started to have meetings with Treveth who will be engaging with the Town Council in due course. I have reiterated that this is very important and we are seeking to get a small group together to help formulate what happens on that site.

Likewise with the Blantyre site, we are looking to put extra care facility on that site and I am due a briefing just prior to the Town Council meeting which I will update members on.

I have been informed by the Cormac Highways Safety Officer that the camera on the junction of Truro Road/Edgecumbe Road will be relocated – they are looking to move it so it captures red light jumping for vehicles going up Edgecumbe Road and coming from the A390 – town direction. They will do this at the same time as when they are

putting in the new pedestrian crossings. Whilst I had his attention, I mentioned some other sites in and around St Austell that I have witnessed red light jumping and some very dangerous manoeuvres.

Apart from all of the above I am dealing with the usual casework.

Finally, I am disappointed to have to report that there seems to be some issues with me not attending the Planning Committee. I would respectfully remind members that I am not on the planning committee and there should be no expectation on me to attend. However, if I can, I always do. I always send my apologies if I cannot attend – and the last two meetings I have been unable to attend were due to sickness and organising a St Pirans event in Parliament – something I am proud to have done – to raise the profile of Cornwall.

I am sorry if some members are not happy I do this, but as you are all aware, I do have a full time job and this is part of my job. It is also helpful to note that is often the case (and I am sure I will be corrected if I am wrong) that it is advisable that Cornwall Councillors are not members of the TC Planning Committee so they can call in any application without any predetermination. What I think is very disappointing is members complaining about my non attendance but don't discuss this with me.

I would also add that some members have been keen to also have updates and information on the CAP, but fail to attend any meetings, despite saying they are going to. At least I send my apologies when I don't attend.

Dear Councillors,

I hope you are all keeping well. Before I commence my report, I have to say that since the end of January, I have been on Paternity Leave as my wife and I welcomed our beautiful son into the world. To that end, I have not been working for the past six weeks, other than picking up urgent emails and actions, because I have taken some time out to be at home with my family.

I have been working with Highways and the Community Area Partnership on developing proposals for the latest CAP Highways Scheme. I was pleased to put forward a safe pedestrian crossing on Trenowah Road. Wheal Northey surgery is one of the busiest, if not the busiest, GP surgery, health hub and pharmacy in St Austell. Even more so on the pharmacy front now Boots in Polkyth has shut. There is a huge amount of traffic, on foot and vehicular, in and out of Wheal Northey surgery each day, but there remains no safe crossing for pedestrians to cross to access the surgery. This is a necessity as the pavement on that side of the road, ends when you get to the row of cottages on Trenowah Road. The only way for residents on foot to access the surgery, is by crossing the road. Trenowah Road is also one of the busiest roads in St Austell, and is argued by many as a dangerous road. It is therefore right that we explore the option of a safe crossing here, so our residents can safely cross the road to access Wheal Northey. This will compliment the pedestrianised works to the double roundabouts in Bethel. I hope I can rely on your support with this scheme. Another submission, is the suggestion of purchasing mobile speed advisory signs for the town – which could be operated like our mobile CCTV camera, which has been a huge success for the town.

I have been working closely with Steve Skinner to secure funds from Cornwall Council to improve the skate park at The Meadows park in Bethel. With a contribution of circa £1,000 this will allow us to tidy up the skate park and make it a great facility for local kids, and adults, to use.

Recently I saw the Beryl Bike figures for St Austell. To date, since the scheme was introduced in the town, there have been nearly 15,000 journeys, with a total distance travelled of over 30,000km – more than the distance from here to Australia and back! The average ride time is 12 minutes, the average ride distance is 2.1km and the best performing bike station is the one at St Austell Train Station. This is excellent news and I am pleased to see the Beryl Bike scheme is proving to be such a success.

In March, Cornwall Council committed £12.5m investment in people and skills as it continues its mission to provide opportunities for all. I will be pushing to make sure children in St Austell get access to this.

Research by Cornwall Council shows that there are 22,300 households in Cornwall where no-one has a job. That is 13.8% of the total and above both the South West (12%) and England averages (13.4%). Meanwhile there are an estimated 10,600 people who are economically inactive but want a job. Good Growth investment aims to remove some of the barriers to people finding work.

Cornwall's workforce is also getting older. The average age of people in Cornwall is 47, whereas in England and Wales it is 40. Helping older people reskill, and younger people to train for jobs and careers, are therefore important to the future economy.

The £12.5m package includes £2.5m to support more than 1,200 disadvantaged young people in Cornwall aged 16-24 to help them progress. It will especially cater for those who are not in education, employment or training, and help in key areas like employability, mental

health, and financial wellbeing. £4m is also being invested in providing skills in growth areas of Cornwall's economy. £2m of this will help to upskill people for the future green economy, including domestic and commercial renewable energy systems, electric vehicles, and the floating offshore wind industry. Another £2m is being invested in providing digital skills in areas including Artificial Intelligence, immersive technology, software and data. To help people navigate the range of support available with employment, training and qualifications, a further £6m is being invested in the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly People Hub. Cornwall Opportunities, a searchable database of jobs, apprenticeships and courses has also been launched following a £257,000 grant from the Government's G7 Legacy Fund, which aims to make it easier for residents to access information and work opportunities.

I trust this is helpful and I can confirm I am now back to work upon returning from Paternity Leave.

Best wishes as always,

Jordan

ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 18th MARCH 2024
SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS
20th JANUARY 2024 to 8th MARCH 2024

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To approve a schedule of payments made since the last meeting.

2. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

There is a requirement for the Town Council to approve all payments made. All payments are authorised by at least two signatories and all payments must be within the budgets approved by the Council. Payments methods used are cheque, BACS, direct debit, credit card and petty cash.

3. RESOURCE ISSUES

The payments made and proposed are all within the Council's approved budgets.

4. EQUALITY ISSUES

None. Payments are usually made promptly to small contractors and charitable groups to help avoid cashflow difficulties.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

All items procured are delivered to the office by van or lorry. Where possible items are procured locally and from sustainable sources or using recycled materials.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Councillors approve the attached Schedule of Payments totalling £178,256.55.

DAVID POOLEY - TOWN CLERK

Payment Schedule

St Austell Town Council

For the period 20 January 2024 to 8 March 2024

Date	Payment Method	Contact	Reference	Amount Cost Centre
22 Jan 2024	Credit Card	J Parkers	CC22 01 24	220.73 Other Parks and Open Spaces
22 Jan 2024	Credit Card	Driveline (GB) Ltd	CC22 1 24	421.10 Transport and Plant
22 Jan 2024	Credit Card	Greenregis Ltd	CC22 1 24	17.88 Other Parks and Open Spaces
22 Jan 2024	Credit Card	Kings Seeds	CC22 1 24	13.65 Other Parks and Open Spaces
22 Jan 2024	Credit Card	J Parkers	CC22 1 24	275.40 Other Parks and Open Spaces
23 Jan 2024	Credit Card	Royal Mail	CC23 1 24	95.00 General Administration
24 Jan 2024	Direct Debit	Allstar Business Solutions	E2018197792	112.61 Transport and Plant
24 Jan 2024	Credit Card	WF Education Group Ltd	CC24 1 24	58.20 Library
25 Jan 2024	BACS	Salaries and Wages inc oncosts	EBP	55,732.50 General Administration
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Logical Cleaning Solutions	INV-6671	684.25 Stable Block/Pondhu House
26 Jan 2024	BACS	APS Construction Services Limited	3407	4,431.11 Pollar Park
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Spot-On Supplies Ltd	21579059	44.50 Library
26 Jan 2024	BACS	GB Sport and Leisure UK Ltd	14316	139.20 Other Parks and Open Spaces
26 Jan 2024	BACS	James Hallam Ltd	530163610	28.00 Transport and Plant
26 Jan 2024	BACS	SBR Electrical	2324 397	88.80 Library
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Logical Cleaning Solutions	INV-6606	1,030.27 Library
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Conwall Association of Local Councils Limited	2324-570	332.40 Civic Ceremonial
26 Jan 2024	BACS	H D Pooley	Expenses	23.50 General Administration
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Crucial Flooring Solutions Ltd	Refunds	140.00 Priority Car Park
26 Jan 2024	BACS	BT	2196966	5,688.80 CCTV
26 Jan 2024	BACS	Keith Clemes Line Marking Service	6778	1,424.40 Priority Car Park
29 Jan 2024	Direct Debit	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	522C90063	1,267.28 Other Parks and Open Spaces
29 Jan 2024	Direct Debit	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	522C90068	11.10 Library
31 Jan 2024	Direct Debit	Allstar Business Solutions	E2018213673	1,709.18 Multiple Categories
01 Feb 2024	Credit Note	EDF Energy	E39105397008	(126.81) Other Parks and Open Spaces
01 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Conwall Council	802973815-2023/2024-10	173.00 Pollar Park
01 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Screwfix Direct Ltd	1443650137	49.29 Library
02 Feb 2024	BACS	Vickery Holman	INV019587	10,810.86 Priority Car Park
02 Feb 2024	BACS	The Gover Community Group	Grant2	500.00 Misc. Projects/Grants
02 Feb 2024	BACS	ITEC	954119	112.65 General Administration
02 Feb 2024	BACS	No Limits Personal Training & Wellbeing	Grant1	250.00 Misc. Projects/Grants
02 Feb 2024	BACS	Lex Designs Ltd	INV-14033	15.60 Civic Ceremonial
02 Feb 2024	BACS	Everything Stone Ltd	ES6034/2	100.00 Library
02 Feb 2024	BACS	Treweath Commercial LLP	457	1,385.00 Stable Block/Pondhu House
05 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	BT	M093 GR	504.00 General Administration
05 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	British Gas	6663641	55.06 Priority Toilets
06 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Hutchison 3G UK Limited		27.17 Pollar Park
07 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Allstar Business Solutions	E2018245693	215.96 Transport and Plant

08 Feb 2024	BACS	Car Park user 2	Car park refund	2.60	Priority Car Park
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105590	97.80	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Npower	IN09614620	306.13	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105592	95.00	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Alliance Tool Hire (SW) Ltd	S-327	332.64	Bethel Park
09 Feb 2024	BACS	D May & Son Ltd	3636	45.12	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	ObjectiveITServices	3451	448.02	General Administration
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Cornwall Association of Local Councils Limited	2324-606	36.00	Civic Ceremonial
09 Feb 2024	BACS	M-R-S Communications Ltd	1251433	78.00	Library
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106161	71.50	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106163	107.80	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	D May & Son Ltd	9277	30.00	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	FindParkPay Ltd	INV-000004	366.63	Priority Car Park
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106168	92.13	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	D May & Son Ltd	8565	23.62	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	M A Grigg Ltd	S89865	34.99	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Cornwall Council	8100449997	379.66	Priority Car Park
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105720	118.71	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Cornwall Council	8100444277	1.00	Library
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Cornwall Association of Local Councils Limited	2324-656	36.00	Civic Ceremonial
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105591	94.30	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	G4S	2024012685	802.79	Multiple Categories
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105458	85.00	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	M-R-S Communications Ltd	1250951	78.00	CCTV
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106162	65.00	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	DJR Water Hygiene	SI-633	200.00	Multiple Categories
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106166	73.60	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	D May & Son Ltd	9651	2.90	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	106164	114.30	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105459	86.50	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	D May & Son Ltd	9090	30.00	Other Parks and Open Spaces
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Grahams Garden Machinery Ltd	105722	151.96	Transport and Plant
09 Feb 2024	BACS	Lyreco UK Limited	6723722452	83.71	Library
12 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	EE Limited	V02193139054	184.99	General Administration
14 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Alistar Business Solutions	E2018298178	256.04	Multiple Categories
15 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Cornwall Council	802635724-2023/24-11	1,206.00	Library
15 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	AIBMS	310124 000001	19.97	Priority Car Park
15 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	NatWest	Rates	51.20	General Administration
15 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Cornwall Council	JN1359	3,626.00	Priority Car Park
16 Feb 2024	BACS	Duchy Defibrillators	3414	228.00	Priority Car Park
16 Feb 2024	BACS	APS Construction Services Limited	Expenses	14,370.18	Pollair Park
16 Feb 2024	BACS	Steve Skinner	291732542	47.38	General Administration
20 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Workday (UK) Ltd	E2018318290	74.50	General Administration
21 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Alistar Business Solutions	SIN9519	296.24	Transport and Plant
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Alliance Tool Hire (SW) Ltd		30.24	Bethel Park

23 Feb 2024	BACS	Kent County Council	G9205239	1,453.07	Library
23 Feb 2024	BACS	ITEC	CW1152748	57.24	General Administration
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Dormakaba UK Ltd	0000506192	252.00	Misc. Projects/Grants
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Source for Business	4084781876	82.22	Library
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Logical Cleaning Solutions	INV-6717	1,030.27	Library
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Logical Cleaning Solutions	INV-6762	695.53	Stable Block/Pondhu House
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Cornwall Council	8100450837	18.00	Library
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Source for Business	4084787995	20.50	Pollair Park
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Car Park user 1	Refund	3.00	Priority Car Park
23 Feb 2024	BACS	Salaries and wages inc oncosts	EBP	55,988.27	General Administration
26 Feb 2024	BACS	Malcolm Brown	Expenses	12.90	Civic Ceremonial
26 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	522C98253	1,159.40	Other Parks and Open Spaces
26 Feb 2024	Petty Cash	Sara Gwilliams	PC09	2.25	General Administration
28 Feb 2024	Direct Debit	Allstar Business Solutions	E2018355117	113.40	Transport and Plant
01 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	Screwfix Direct Ltd	1455418439	88.90	Multiple Categories
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Glendale Countryside Ltd	GC421-4051	342.58	Other Parks and Open Spaces
01 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	Screwfix Direct Ltd	1454072997	69.99	Other Parks and Open Spaces
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Bermrose Mobile Limited	B3122442	296.16	Priority Car Park
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Devon & Cornwall Community Watch Associatio	Grant1	250.00	Misc. Projects/Grants
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Glendale Countryside Ltd	GC421-4053	749.82	Other Parks and Open Spaces
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Cornwall International Male Choral Festival	Grant3	250.00	Misc. Projects/Grants
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Glendale Countryside Ltd	GC421-4050	930.78	Stable Block/Pondhu House
01 Mar 2024	BACS	Glendale Countryside Ltd	GC421-4052	522.08	Other Parks and Open Spaces
05 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	BT	M094 KD	504.00	General Administration
06 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	British Gas	6925714	53.54	Priority Toilets
06 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	Allstar Business Solutions	E2018380140	259.69	Transport and Plant
08 Mar 2024	Direct Debit	Hutchison 3G UK Limited		27.17	Pollair Park
Total				178,256.55	

MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2024 in The Registrar's Office, Carlyon Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4LD at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Brown (Chair), Bull, Cohen, Fox, Gray, Hamilton, Lanxon, Preece and Thompson.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

P/23/106) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Double, French, Kimber, Pearce and Styles.

P/23/107) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

P/23/108) Dispensations

None.

P/23/109) Minutes from the Meeting dated 8th January 2024

Councillor Thompson referred to minute number P/22/56 from a meeting in August 2022 where it was suggested that an update report on "Highways Schemes" should be put on every Planning & Regeneration Committee agenda which he believed was voted on and passed by those present. In the light of this, he asked why "Highways Schemes" are now not on the agenda as there has been no subsequent vote for the removal of this topic from the agenda. Councillor Thompson asked that the Clerk investigates whether proper procedure has been followed and report back to the committee.

The Clerk advised that he would investigate and produce a report for a subsequent Committee meeting but assured the Committee that if a reoccurring agenda item entitled "Highways Schemes" has incorrectly been missed off the agenda, nothing illegal has taken place.

During discussion Councillor Bull asked that the following amendment be made to the Arts Centre's request on page 4.

Councillor Bull reiterated the Arts Centre's request not to have a pedestrian or vehicular access to the Arts Centre from the site at this time but that a future option to have access to the Arts Centre from the site is preserved by the access land remaining in the current ownership and not being built out. Councillor Bull welcomed the proposal for a shop on the site and highlighted the need to focus on the design in due course.

On page 5, Councillor Preece asked that "sewerage" be referred to after "lack of infrastructure"

On page 5 Councillor Gray advised that Mr Simpson had stated at the meeting that the proposed shop would probably be in private ownership and the community facility in public ownership and asked that these comments be minuted.

It was **RESOLVED** that subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th January 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

P/23/110) Matters to note

The Clerk advised that Treverbyn Parish Council had responded to Cornwall Council with comments similar to the Town Council's regarding the request for pre-application advice in connection with the former Carclaze Community Infant School.

He said he would update the Committee on planning application PA23/06966 later in the agenda.

P/23/111) Public participation

There were no members of the public present.

P/23/112) Planning Applications

- i. **PA23/09946:** Shandrani 117A Slades Road St Austell Cornwall. Rear extension.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application subject to the Planning Officer being satisfied with the drainage proposals.

- ii. **PA23/10059:** 61 Caprera Truro Road St Austell Cornwall PL25 5JG. Works to Trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) - Trim back trees.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application subject to the Tree Officer being satisfied with the proposals although it was felt that the justification for the works was weak.

- iii. **PA24/00197:** Tesco Superstore Daniels Lane St Austell Cornwall. Advertising consent for 1x LCD media screen and 2x flag pole signs.

It was **RESOLVED** to support this application.

- iv. **PA24/00578:** 100 Truro Road St Austell Cornwall PL25 5HH. Works to trees in a Conservation area (TCA) A1 Ash tree with dieback in rear garden (prev lapsed TCA PA21/08084).

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application subject to Tree Officer approval and a replacement tree being planted.

P/23/113) Premises Licence Applications

None.

The Chair advised that despite Councillor Styles' excellent representation outlining the Town Council's objection, the lack of evidence led to Cornwall Council's Licencing Committee approving The Club's application to extend their opening hours.

P/23/114) Planning Decisions

PA23/08702

The Clerk advised that this non-material amendment application was determined by Cornwall Council without consulting the Town Council.

PA23/08932

The Clerk advised that the Tree Officer has agreed a smaller extent of works with the applicant and these works have been approved.

PA23/09709

The Clerk advised that that the Tree Officer has decided not to make this the subject of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) due to a structural defect and the presence of ash die back. This decision will allow the works to go ahead.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

The Committee noted that there are now very few arboricultural reports on the planning system to inform planning applications and the Clerk agreed to raise this with Planning Officers.

P/23/115) Cornwall Council – Urgent Delegated Planning Decisions

The Clerk advised that there were two delegated decisions to report and one matter for information.

- PA23/ 06966 Land adjacent to 50 Phernyssick Road – a 5-day protocol letter was issued, and it was agreed under delegated procedures to uphold the Council's objection to this application.
- PA23/06498 Land adjacent to 16 Sandy Hill - a 5-day protocol letter was issued, and it was agreed under delegated procedures to agree to disagree.
- PA23/06098 Avonwyn – the application was approved following improvements to the highways proposals agreed with the Highways Officer. As the Highways Officer was happy with the proposals there was no need for a 5-day protocol letter or further consultation.

P/23/116) St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership

The Chair advised that he had agreed with the Town Clerk that due to very little business for the partnership, this week's meeting of the St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership should be cancelled and that the next one will take place as scheduled in March.

The Clerk advised that he had submitted the funding proposal as approved at the Council meeting on 29th January 2024 and Cornwall Council's Economic Development Officers had that afternoon confirmed that they are prepared to fund the following:

- £10,000 - Student Accommodation/Key Worker Accommodation feasibility study (Town Accelerator Fund)
- £25,000 - Historic quarter highways feasibility study (Town Accelerator Fund).

In order to accept this offer, the Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership has been asked to provide evidence that they are happy with the proposal and Councillor Brown, Chair of the Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership, had signed a letter confirming acceptance.

During discussion, the following was raised:

- The need to identify funding for additional CCTV cameras in the town centre;
- What the latest position is with regard to the Rooftop Garden project;
- When the pre-planning advice for the Rooftop Garden project is likely to be received from Cornwall Council;
- The need to ensure that the structural testing of the car park is carried out in a phased basis to ensure that the project remains within budget;
- The potential for a cover to be put over White River Place

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

P/23/117) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the dates of the next meetings of the Planning and Regeneration Committee are Monday 4th March 2024 and Monday 8th April 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.08pm.

MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 4th MARCH 2024 in The Registrar's Office, Carlyon Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4LD at 6pm.

Present: Councillors Brown (Chair), Bull, Fox, French, Gray, Hamilton, Kimber, Lanxon, Preece, Stephens, Styles and Thompson.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Steve Skinner (Operations Manager).

P/23/118) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cohen, Pearce and Double.

P/23/119) Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bull declared an interest in planning applications PA22/02532 and PA22/02533 by virtue of being a member of St Austell Bay Parish Council.

P/23/120) Dispensations

None.

P/23/121) Minutes from the Meeting dated 5th February 2024

Councillor Thompson confirmed that he was satisfied with the minute relating to highways matters.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th February 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

P/23/122) Matters to note

The Clerk provided an update on planning application PA23/06966 – Land adjacent to 50 Phernyssick Road and, in response to a question, the Clerk explained that arboricultural reports were good practice and not mandatory for most tree works applications.

P/23/123) Public participation

There were no members of the public present.

P/23/124) Planning Applications

- i. **PA22/02532:** Land North East To Recreation Ground Church Road Charlestown St Austell. Development of 4 dwellings with associated road, garage/carport and parking.

Councillor Bull reiterated her interest in the first two planning applications. She explained the St Austell Bay Parish Council position and expressed the view that the benefits of this application far outweighed the harm when viewed with the next application and the community benefits which would arise.

*** Councillor Bull left the meeting ***

The Clerk advised that the Town Council were being consulted on this application and application PA22/02533 because there was a proposal to transfer land in St Austell parish to St Austell Bay Parish Council. Members discussed both applications and raised various issues including:

- Design and impact on the World Heritage Site and the Charlestown conservation area;
- Highways issues;
- Whether the benefits outweigh the harm;
- The risk of losing the community facilities;
- The value of the community facilities.

The Chair decided to vote on each application separately. Members voted by 8 votes to 1 in favour of expressing no objection to the application. Councillor Thompson abstained.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application.

- ii. **PA22/02533:** Land To East Of Charlestown Road Charlestown St Austell. Construction of 2 detached houses with associated drives and parking.

Members voted by 8 votes to 1 in favour of expressing no objection to the application. Councillor Thompson abstained.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application.

*** Councillor Bull returned to the meeting ***

- iii. **PA23/08543:** 12 Mount Charles Road St Austell Cornwall PL25 3LD. Timber annexe in rear garden.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application.

- iv. **PA24/00367:** Land North Of 4 Trevarrick Road Trevarrick Road St Austell Cornwall. Erection of a dwelling.

The Clerk explained that planning permission had been granted for a dwelling on this site and foundations had been laid making the permission still valid. He also outlined neighbour comments and the concerns of the Environment Agency with regard to the proximity of the proposed development to the river.

Members expressed concern that the design was not in keeping with the area and that the property might overlook a dwelling across the river at 21 Gover Road. Members voted by 8 votes to 2 to object to this application.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the grounds of:

- The proposal being out of character with the area and not in keeping with the street scene;

- The proposed dwelling not being an appropriate scale or mass or finished in appropriate materials;
 - The potential over-looking of a dwelling off Gover Road;
 - The need to protect the large oak tree on the site which is the subject of a TPO;
 - The need to satisfy the Environment Agency and South West Water in relation to the river and drainage.
- v. **PA24/00509:** 2 Gewans Meadow St Austell Cornwall PL25 4SB. Extension and alterations to 2 Gewans Meadow.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application subject to satisfying the Environment Agency and South West Water.

- vi. **PA24/00547:** 20 Grove Road St Austell Cornwall PL25 5NP. Single storey extension to the rear of the property consisting of a double bedroom, bathroom and utility room.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application subject to the right of way being maintained satisfactorily and an acceptable construction plan.

- vii. **PA24/01311:** 7 Hillside St Austell Cornwall PL25 3LR. Proposed single storey lean-to extension.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no objection to this application.

P/23/125) Highways Schemes

The Clerk introduced a report which had been produced in response to a concern expressed by Councillor Thompson and confirmed that proper procedures had been followed with regard to minute P/22/56 dated 22nd August 2022. The report suggested a number of ways that the consideration of highways matters could be improved.

The Clerk explained the recent decision of the South Cornwall Community Area Partnership to approve a number of minor highways schemes including a pedestrian crossing at Trenowah Road and a mobile speed camera/sign for St Austell subject to certain conditions to be clarified. He explained that the Town Council's top priority, a crossing at Tregonissey Road to serve the College had not been approved.

Members acknowledged that highways matters were the responsibility of Cornwall Council but expressed a desire to be more involved in highways matters and the determination of highways schemes. Arising from a question the Clerk agreed to ascertain the threshold for release of Section 106 funding from the eco town which was earmarked for highways improvements in the Tregonissey Road area.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. Members note the report and procedure adopted;

2. The Clerk seeks to arrange half yearly briefings for the Planning and Regeneration Committee with Cornwall Council on Local Transport Schemes;
3. The Community Link Officer is asked to provide a quarterly update on the progress of the Community Area Partnership Highways Schemes;
4. The Cornwall Councillors are asked to include an update on their local Highways Schemes within their Cornwall Councillor update reports to the Town Council and if possible to attend meetings of the Council and committees when highways issues relevant to their division are to be discussed;
5. If Members have concerns about particular highways matters they request these be placed on a future agenda giving time for research and reports to be obtained;
6. The Committee reaffirms the wish expressed in a meeting with Rebecca Lyle of Cornwall Council Highways Service in 2023 for the Town Council to participate in strategic work on highways issues in the St Austell area.

P/23/126) Premises Licence Applications

There were no applications to consider.

Councillor Kimber thanked Councillor Styles for representing the Council's views with regard to the licence application for The Club at Cornwall Council's recent Licensing Committee meeting. He outlined his experience of anti-social behaviour in the town centre in the early hours of Sunday morning some of which he believed was linked to patrons of The Club.

P/23/127) Planning Decisions

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

P/23/128) Cornwall Council – Urgent Delegated Planning Decisions

There were no urgent planning decisions.

P/23/129) St Austell Town Centre Revitalisation Partnership

The Clerk provided an update on various regeneration projects including:

- Rooftop Garden – Stage 2 report received, stage 3 design and stress testing commenced. There has been some scaling back of the scheme to make it more viable.
- Funding for the design of a piazza at the Holy Trinity Church has been approved.
- An application for funding for the banner project has been submitted to the Town Vitality Fund.

- The Staffing Committee next week would be asked to consider resource for the regeneration projects.
- A draft plan commissioned by Cornwall Council for the future of the Carlyon Road public land is due to be considered by a working group this month and would soon be ready to be shared with the Town Council.
- Despite regular chasing there is still no report from the High Street Taskforce following the visit in September.
- It is hoped that there will be more thorough briefings for members and the Town Centre Partnership in the week commencing the 18th March.

Members stressed the importance of the rooftop garden being transformational and noted the update.

P/23/130) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the dates of the next meetings of the Planning and Regeneration Committee are Monday 8th April 2024 and Monday 20th May 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.38pm.

MINUTES of a MEETING of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2024 in The Stable Block, Pondhu House, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5DP at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Brown, Clemo, French, Gray, Lanxon and Young.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

Also in attendance: Councillor Kimber

F/23/31) Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors: Bull, Pearce and Rowse.

F/23/32) Declarations of Interest

None.

F/23/33) Dispensations

None.

F/23/34) Minutes of meeting held on 18th September 2023

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th September 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

F/23/35) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that the car park machines have been upgraded to take contactless payments and after some teething problems, they appear to be working satisfactorily. The payment options in the car park are cash, contactless, Phone and Pay (app) and Pay 2 Park (web app). The final cost for the replacement of the machines was £11,766, reduced from an anticipated cost of £13,000.

The children's literacy festival is taking place on 28th, 29th and 30th June and the library are involved in the event planning with Mr Simon Disney-Pollard.

F/23/36) Public participation

There were no members of the public present.

F/23/37) Budget Monitoring Report

The Clerk explained the variances in the budget monitoring report for 1st April 2023 to 31st January 2024.

It was noted that the car park income is slightly down on budget, investments are up on budget and following a successful appeal, the business rates have been reduced for Priory Car Park and a backdated refund has been received in the sum of £38,000.

The Clerk advised that the demolition of the old toilet block at Poltair Park is over budget due to the unforeseen requirement to build a bat shelter and additional remedial works to the two abutting neighbouring properties. Miscellaneous grants are slightly over budget due to an increase in funding to the BID for Christmas events and security cover.

In answer to Members' questions, the Clerk advised that there could be additional re-lining works in Priory Car Park before the year end and the library's operating expenses are accounted for within the general operating expenses of the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the budget monitoring reports and bank reconciliation statements.

F/23/38) Earmarked Reserves

The Clerk advised that the year end is approaching and explained the latest position regarding the use of the Town Council's earmarked reserves. He added that in order to maximise the benefits of the Town Council's reserves, he would like to utilise the Community Infrastructure Funding (CIL) in the sum of £6,955 which will reduce the Town Council's use of the playground reserve.

The Clerk also advised that if as predicted the outturn of the year end reveals a budget surplus, he would like the Town Council to purchase one or two additional cameras for the town centre to compliment the existing cameras and monitoring arrangements.

During discussion, Members felt that the other areas of St Austell should not be forgotten and suggested that an additional mobile camera is purchased and located at the direction of the police in problem residential areas outside of the town centre.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair to:

1. Optimise the use of reserves to provide the greatest flexibility of funding in future years;
2. Apply CIL funding received from Cornwall Council to the Bethel Park project;
3. Permit funding of up to four CCTV cameras, at least one of which should be a mobile camera, should the outturn spending position allow.

F/23/39) Health and Safety Audit

Members reviewed the summary Health and Safety Report from the Town Council's consultants and noted the minor observations recorded. Members agreed it was an excellent report and asked that the Operations Manager be thanked for his hard work and the high standards consistently maintained.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and thank the Operations Manager for the excellent report and the high health and safety standards consistently maintained.

F/23/40) Risk Management

Members reviewed the Risk Management Strategy and Strategic Risk Register.

The high risks identified were:

- Paragraph 2.1 – Inadequate staffing resource.
- Paragraph 8.8 – Failure to attract sufficient funding to deliver large scale tangible town centre improvements.
- Paragraph 9.23 – Non renewal of the lease of The Stable Block.

During discussion it was noted that the Staffing Committee is due to review the Senior Officer Management Team and that large scale funding, particularly Levelling Up Funding, is unlikely in the near future.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

1. Approve the updated Risk Management Strategy and Strategic Risk Register and publish both documents on the Town Council's website.

F/23/41) Treasury Management Strategy

The Clerk advised that the only amendment in the Treasury Management Strategy is within paragraph 2.5 (Liquidity of Investments) which now reads:

*The Town Clerk, as Responsible Officer, will determine the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed so as not to compromise liquidity and may transfer up to **£100,000** between bank accounts as appropriate to take advantage of interest bearing deposit accounts while maintaining sufficient liquidity.*

The Clerk explained that investment income for the 2023/24 financial year to date has exceeded budget due to the higher interest rates seen. He added that £962,869.70 is invested on a low risk basis with Cornwall Council who have ethical investment policies in place.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and approve the Treasury Management Strategy for a further 12 months.

F/23/42) St Austell Library

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the library was the top library in Cornwall for issues during the month of January and explained that the number of new borrowers was very healthy and the use of the public computers is steadily increasing. The Deputy Clerk expressed her gratitude to SALSA who continue to put on many and varied events which encourage new footfall into the library. A shop watch radio has been issued to staff to help improve security. In response to a question about maintenance the Deputy Clerk explained that the Town Council is responsible for the contents of the building but the fabric of the building is still the responsibility of Cornwall Council. She added that the building has recently received a carpet clean and the Cornish studies room and computer suite have both been painted.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and thank the Library Manager for the library's continued excellent performance.

F/23/43) Dates of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is due to take place on 2nd April 2024. The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

MINUTES of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2024 at The Registrar's Office, Carlyon Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4LD at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Cohen, Fox, Kimber, Preece, Stephens, Thompson (Chair) and Young.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

Also in attendance: Councillors Gray and Hamilton.

CC/23/46) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Double, Guest, Pearce, Pears and Rowse.

CC/23/47) Declarations of Interest

None.

CC/23/48) Dispensations

None.

CC/23/49) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 27th November 2023

It was **RESOLVED** the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th November 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

CC/23/50) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that the Ethernet upgrade between St Austell and Newquay and the Bethel Park mine shaft capping works have both been completed. He added that the mine shaft capping work cost just over £12,000 and could not be re-claimed under the Town Council's insurance policy.

Arising from a question, the Clerk advised that he is in negotiations with Cornwall Council regarding the renewal of the Enabling Agreement.

CC/23/51) Public Participation

The member of public in attendance did not wish to speak.

CC/23/52) Mr Gray – A Band of Brothers

The Chair welcomed Mr Gray to the meeting.

Mr Gray explained that A Band of Brothers is a mentoring organisation that pairs trained mentors with young men (18 to 25) who are, or at risk of, being in the criminal justice system. Referrals usually come from Probation, Police Pathfinder and Exeter Prison.

Mentors are generally aged 35 years and above and need to be able to commit to 4 hours a week to mentor young people on a 10 week mentoring programme. The young people can disengage at any time. If after the 10 week programme the young person feels that they need more help, they can continue with the same mentor or change mentor.

Mr Gray advised that A Band of Brothers relies on donations to fund a co-ordinator for 2 hours a week, reimburses volunteers at 20p per mile and provide refreshments at the meetings. Mr Gray advised that to keep 1 person in prison for a year costs the taxpayer £46,000 and that for every £1 invested in preventative work it saves the taxpayer £6.

Arising from Members questions, Mr Gray confirmed that they cannot mentor men who are on scripts or are in an addictive situation and that they have a 50% to 70% success rate.

Members thanked Mr Gray for his interesting presentation.

CC/23/53) Community Network Highways Schemes

The Clerk advised that a Highways Sub Group of the Community Area Partnership (CAP) has been formed and was due to meet the next day to consider five projects that have been approved and costed up by the Highways Officers for taking forward. The Clerk further advised that the Town Council's representative, Councillor Lanxon, is unable to vote on behalf of the Town Council on CAP proposals unless approval has been given by the Town Council. He added that the Town Council's preferred scheme (pedestrian crossing between Cornwall College and Poltair School) did not get on the final short list.

Members noted the two proposals put forward for St Austell:

- A crossing on Trenowah Road for Wheal Northey surgery
- The purchase of one flashing speed camera for rotation around the Parish

The purchase of the flashing speed camera is conditional on the Town Council taking on its maintenance and figures have been obtained from Cornwall Council which suggest that they would charge between £16,000 and £19,000 for this service for 4 years. The Clerk advised that a neighbouring parish has given indicative costs based on their experience of procuring a flashing sign and the associated maintenance which is a lot cheaper than the costs quoted by Cornwall Council.

The camera would not record personal data, only average speed details and the recommendation is that a camera should only remain in situ 2-8 weeks at a time.

During discussion, Members expressed their disappointment that the pedestrian crossing between Cornwall College and Poltair School did not make the short list and expressed a view that it is more urgent than a crossing at Trenowah Road.

Broad support was given for the procurement of a speed sign, but Members were concerned at the costs suggested for the purchase of the sign and that the four year maintenance agreement offered poor value for money.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. Councillor Lanxon be authorised to vote for:

- a. The purchase of one flashing speed sign for rotation around the Parish on condition that the Town Council reserves the right to procure the sign and maintenance arrangements to obtain better value for money;
- b. A crossing on Trenowah Road for the Wheal Northey surgery.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councillor Lanxon should express the Town Council's disappointment that the Tregonissey Road crossing proposal between Cornwall College and Poltair School did not make the short list of projects to proceed.

CC/23/54) Trewiddle Pedestrian Crossing

The Town Clerk advised that following concerns expressed by the Town Council and the neighbouring Parish Councils, a slightly revised scheme has been submitted for consideration. The revision reflects an increase in the width of the build out. Due to budget constraints Cornwall Council has advised that they are unable to procure a scheme that involves a lighted crossing.

During discussion, Members reiterated their strong concern for the proposal and felt that the revision did not improve the proposal greatly. Members stressed that it would be mainly primary school children using the crossing walking to and from St Mewan School and that the proposal is not robust enough, due to its close proximity to the brow of a hill, the speed of traffic approaching and leaving the roundabout and the strong concerns expressed by the neighbouring parishes.

It was **RESOLVED** to reiterate the Town Council's strong concerns with regard to the proposal but to reluctantly accept the proposal if Cornwall Council is unable to offer a more acceptable solution.

CC/23/55) Small Grants Scheme

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the funding available for the small grants between now and the year end stands at £1,000 and suggested that the Committee reviews each grant and prioritises accordingly.

Biscovey Youth Football Club

Members noted that the Biscovey Youth Football Club is not based within the Parish and felt that at this time applications from within the Parish should take priority.

It was **RESOLVED** to make no grant to Biscovey Youth Football Club at this time and to suggest that if they have not already done so, contact Treverbyn Parish Council for funding towards a replacement generator.

Cornwall International Male Choral Festival

It was **RESOLVED** that a grant in the sum of £250 should be awarded towards the Cornwall International Male Choral Festival gala festival due to take place in St John's Church on Saturday 4th May 2024.

Devon & Cornwall Community Watch Association - The Feel Safe Scheme

It was **RESOLVED** that a grant in the sum of £250 should be awarded towards The Feel Safe Scheme.

Imerys Singers

It was **RESOLVED** to make no grant to Imerys Singers as a grant has been awarded to this organisation in the current financial year.

St Austell & District Camera Club

It was **RESOLVED** not to make a grant on this occasion and to advise the St Austell and District Camera Club accordingly suggesting that they re-apply in the new financial year.

St Austell Library Support Association (SALSA)

It was **RESOLVED** not to make a grant on this occasion and to advise SALSA accordingly suggesting that they re-apply in the new financial year.

St Austell Town and Youth Band

This application was withdrawn.

Stepping Stones Childcare

It was **RESOLVED** not to make a grant on this occasion and to advise Stepping Stones Childcare accordingly suggesting that they re-apply in the new financial year.

CC/23/56) Carlyon Bay Surf Life Saving Club

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

CC/23/57) CHAOS Radio

It was **RESOLVED** to note the update.

CC/23/58) NALC Dementia Friendly Communities

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that Councillor Brown was impressed by a presentation on dementia at a recent meeting of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) and felt that it would be beneficial for the Town Council to consider the NALC publication "Dementia Friendly Communities". She advised that a while ago the library hosted a series of dementia support workshops, singing and dance sessions for memory therapy, gardening/art workshops and visits to Trevarna residents for singing and story sessions.

During discussion Members agreed that there are very few Dementia support groups in St Austell and endorsed the principles contained within the NALC paper and dementia awareness support groups at the library.

It was **RESOLVED** to endorse the principles contained within the NALC – Dementia Friendly Communities paper and work towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Council.

CC/23/59) Project Update

Town Centre Regeneration

The roof top garden stage 2 report is due to be finalised within the next few days and the outcome of the visual concrete testing site visit is awaited. The final stage 2 report is likely to reflect a scaling back of the project due to the lack of large scale funding and commercial viability.

A funding bid for feasibility work for the churchyard improvements has been approved and a funding bid for the replacement of the Poundland banners will be submitted by the end of the week. Cornwall Council has indicated support in principle for this project.

CCTV

All cameras are working across the town on winter monitoring hours. The police have identified a few gaps in the monitoring and the Town Clerk has agreed to take this to Newquay Town Council for their views. The Finance and General Purposes Committee has agreed that if the year end budget allows, up to 2 further CCTV cameras can be purchased for the town centre and a further re-deployable camera that can be used outside of the town centre.

Poltair Park

The toilet block demolition and making good of the two properties behind is almost complete. The bat house was finished a few weeks ago and located on the wall adjacent to the police station.

Bethel Park

The Bethel Park opening event was cancelled due to inclement weather and is hoped to be re-arranged in the spring.

Cornwall Councillor Community Chest Funds

The Operations Manager has submitted a grant application to Councillor Rowse's community chest fund for funding towards wildflowers at Daniels Lane, a picnic bench at The Meadows and painting of the skateboard ramp.

Poltair Park Café

The café has re-opened after a winter break with the same tenant who has agreed to take on the business rates with effect from April. It is operating under a Tenancy at Will and will be reviewed again at the end of the year.

Priory Car Park Toilets

There have been a few incidents of ASB in the priory car park toilets over recent weeks. The cleaning arrangements are excellent with no complaints from the public.

ASB

A letter has been written to Cornwall Council about the increase in ASB in the town centre following an increase in reports from partner agencies and complaints from the public. A Cornwall Council report on supported housing/temporary accommodation should be available at the end of February. The security guards continue to work well with the Police and have assisted with a number of ASB and welfare issues in the town.

Library

The Library continues to perform well and was the top performing library for issues in January. SALSA have held and continue to plan community events and baby classes, lego classes, reading/writing classes and support groups are regularly on offer.

Allotments

Following the departure of a tenant, Plot 9 has been re-let.

Young People Cornwall

Young People Cornwall have confirmed that they would be happy to be involved in any consultations that the Town Council or Regeneration Partnership may have in due course.

Grounds Maintenance

The winter maintenance jobs are nearing the end in preparation for the grass cutting season. Work completed include:

- Hedge cutting and tree management works
- Play equipment maintenance
- Shrubbery maintenance
- Winter cut of rural footpaths

Weed Spraying

The Town Council contracts three sprays a year.

CC/23/60) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Committee is scheduled for Monday 25th March 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.01pm.