

**MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL held on MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2017 in the Council Chamber, St Austell One Stop Shop, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DR at 6.05pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Brown, Bull (Mayor), Collins, Colwill, French, Heyward, Keast, King, Krishnan, Lanxon, Leonard, Oxenham, Palmer, Pears, Stewart and Walker.

**In attendance:** David Pooley (Town Clerk), Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk), Steve Skinner (Operations Manager).

**C/16/170) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Double, Lake and Murtagh.

**C/16/171) Minutes of Meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**C/16/172) Matters to Note**

The Clerk advised that he had nothing to add.

**C/16/173) Declarations of interest and gifts or hospitality received**

None.

**C/16/174) Dispensations**

Councillor French advised that his wife was a fundraiser for the Festival of Fun and that he would like to say a few words about the project before leaving the room.

Councillor Heyward advised that she was organising an event for the Festival of Fun and declared an interest in this item.

**C/16/175) Mayor's announcements**

The Mayor advised that her charity concert had raised nearly £2,000 and thanked Members for the sensitivity shown during the recent Anti-Social Behaviour Summit meeting.

*\*\*Councillor Lanxon arrived during the next item\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Pears arrived during the next item \*\**

**C/16/176) Members' Questions**

**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.

## **Councillor Nicola Oxenham**

### **Question 1**

*"Why has Cornwall College been apparently permitted to continue its modus operandi contrary to those obligations under the site's original planning consent (travel plans), with no checks and balances, and what is being done to bring it in line with those obligations?"*

*"Why too is the Keay Theatre not pulling its weight as providing a cultural facility to St. Austell as it/its staff promoted ahead of its inaugural opening in 2005 and what is being done to turn things around?"*

Councillor Bull advised that she has monthly meetings with the college and that as far as she is aware, the college is fully co-operating with the original planning consent and that there are no outstanding issues. She confirmed that she would write to Councillor Oxenham in due course about the points raised once she has permission from the college to release the required information.

### **Question 2**

*"What is being done to ensure attendance (excepting Members' needs to occasionally require absences), ie police and monitor, as efforts to date appear not to be working, with the remainder of this Full Council term for all Committees/Full Town Council meetings as well as for the next "new" Town Council? What measures are being taken to fully explain to new/potential Members what their obligations are when considering the position of Town Councillor and to fully represent those they were elected or co-opted to serve?"*

The Clerk explained that Town Councillor is an entirely voluntary position, no remuneration is received and that on the whole attendance at Town Council meetings was good. He added that the only legal requirement for a Councillor is to attend one Council meeting every six months.

## **C/16/177) Public participation**

Mrs Earl advised that she was still awaiting the Brewery's commitment to the proposed footpath clearance project at Menacuddle Well. There are now a group of volunteers to help with the maintenance of Menacuddle Well and Cormac have offered to provide training. She advised that Network Rail has agreed to hold a local meeting to discuss various issues and that she would send the details to the Town Clerk to forward on to interested Councillors once the date was known. Mrs Earl welcomed the proposed Section 106 improvements to Poltair Park and asked that serious consideration be given to an Eco Toilet.

The Mayor thanked Mrs Earl for her update and Councillor King volunteered his services to help with the Menacuddle Well project.

## **C/16/178) Sheila Vanloo – Festival of Fun**

The Mayor welcomed Ms Vanloo to the meeting.

Ms Vanloo explained that the Festival of Fun project had not been successful in obtaining a “celebrate communities grant” which had resulted in the project having to be scaled back slightly. The proposed festival will run over three days and will include a mixture of ticketed professional performances and a range of free activities including:

- free pop up and walkabout professional interventions in the town,
- local community talent shows,
- contributions from local organisations including a family film show in the cinema,
- library events,
- stand up comedy,
- classic films at the Arts Theatre,
- a jazz lunch in Wheal Martyn Museum,
- a live music gig, open mic performers in White River Place,
- a pooch party in the park
- a wellbeing day

On the last night, the headline band is Geno Washington and his Ram Jam Band at the Keay Theatre.

Ms Vanloo explained that the total cost of the project was in the region of £16,000 and was still very much dependent on grant funding and fund raising activities.

The Mayor thanked Ms Vanloo for her presentation.

Councillor French thanked Ms Vanloo for her outstanding contribution to the community and expressed his support for the application for funding.

*\*\*Councillor French left the meeting\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Heyward left the meeting\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Pears left the meeting\*\**

Members expressed their gratitude to Ms Vanloo and thanked her for her hard work in putting the project together. Councillor King offered his services through membership of the Scrap Store and suggested that Young People Cornwall might like to get involved.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £1,000 by way of funding towards the Festival of Fun initiative due to take place on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

*\*\*Councillor French returned to the meeting\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Heyward returned to the meeting\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Pears returned to the meeting\*\**

### **C/16/179) St Austell BID – Pirate FM**

Mr John Kneller, Chairman of the St Austell BID provided an overview of the 2016 Pirate FM radio campaign funded jointly by the St Austell BID, White River Place and the Town Council. He advised that there had been many positive comments regarding the campaign and that footfall had increased slightly in the town. He explained that negotiations have taken place once again with Pirate FM for a further 12 month radio marketing campaign and that the proposal before members was good value for money.

*\*\*Councillor Palmer declared an interest as a Director of the BID Board and left the meeting\*\**

Members were generally supportive of the proposals, although some expressed concern with regard to the lack of evidence of the success of last year's campaign and whether the Town Council's budget could afford the expenditure requested. It was suggested that should the St Austell BID return to the Council for funding in future years there should be some more detailed information about the benefits of the campaign.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £3,624 to the St Austell BID for a 12-month Pirate FM marketing campaign subject to the St Austell BID and White River Place contributing a similar amount.

### **C/16/180) St Austell BID – Coach parking sign**

Ms Annette Miller, St Austell BID Manager explained that following the successful introduction of coach parking bays in Priory Car Park, she was seeking permission to erect 4ft x 3ft signage in the car park close to the coach parking area and one on each of the pay and display machines. She explained that the signage included a map of the town, a town trail and colour coded images showing where businesses and food and drink outlets were in the town. Ms Miller added that she had permission to place signage on the wall of the Sew and Fabric shop at the entrance of the car park.

The Town Clerk welcomed the signage but suggested that in order to keep the pay and display machine signage clear and clutter free no additional signage should be placed there. Members were supportive of the additional signage but felt that the words "St Austell Town Council" should be added to the logo.

It was **RESOLVED** to permit the erection of coach parking signage in Priory Car Park next to the coach parking bays on condition that the signage has the words "St Austell" added to the logo.

*\*\*Councillor Palmer returned to the meeting\*\**

*\*\*Councillor Pears, Keast and Lanxon left the meeting\*\**

### **C/16/181) CCTV Camera, Truro Road**

The Town Clerk explained that following the recent incident in Truro Road Park, it had been suggested that a CCTV camera located in the area would be beneficial and that the Community Link Officer had identified some Section 106 funding to help pay for it. The Park House flats have been identified as a possible location for the camera and full costings should be available by the end of the week from the CCTV engineer.

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Innes Dowlen who advised that he was responsible for community safety and proactive work in the St Austell area and was fully supportive of a CCTV camera being installed in the Truro Road area. He explained that following the tragic incident in Truro Road Park, there was a need for public reassurance that the town is safe and that the installation of a camera should go some way towards re-building public confidence.

Councillor Heyward expressed her support for the camera and confirmed that she would, as the Gover Divisional Member, sign off the Section 106 funding as soon as the costs were known. Councillor Heyward suggested that Cosgarne and Freshstart should be approached to see if they would be prepared to contribute towards the costs of the proposed new camera.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the installation of a CCTV camera at Truro Road utilising Section 106 monies.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write to Cosgarne and Freshstart seeking a financial contribution from both organisations towards the cost of the proposed new camera and infrastructure.

#### **C/16/182) Car Park Order**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve The St Austell Town Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2017 and authorise Councillors Bull and French to sign the Order.

#### **C/16/183) Devolution**

The Operations Manager referred Members to the previously circulated report and made reference to the Health and Safety Consultant's visit, the RoSPA playground inspection, a diseased tree in Cemetery Park, the reinstatement of flower beds, roundabout maintenance and tree inspections.

The Clerk updated Members on the legal status of the parks and gardens and the requirement to enter into a new lease with the Bowls Club. The Clerk advised that the transfer of the library was progressing and that two Members would be required to sign legal documentation in due course. The devolution of the car park is progressing with a draft lease due shortly which should include the toilets.

A number of Members advised that they had received very favourable comments from the public about the visible difference the grounds maintenance team had made across the town and expressed their gratitude to the Operations Manager and the Grounds Maintenance staff for their excellent work.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be permitted to appoint a Solicitor to negotiate a revised lease for the Bowls Club.

It was further **RESOLVED** that Councillors Bull and French be permitted to sign the Library and Car Park legal documentation when available.

#### **C/16/184) Members appointed to outside bodies update reports**

Councillor Palmer updated Members on the latest CALC Larger Councils meeting where the discussions included:

- Neighbourhood plans
- Devolution
- Safeguarding training
- Boundary review
- The review of Community Networks

Councillor Oxenham updated Members on the work to date of the South and East Cornwall Local Action Group and their work on the South and East Cornwall Community Led Local Development Strategy.

### **C/16/185) Cornwall Councillor update reports**

Councillor Brown advised that he had recently attended meetings where air quality issues, taxi licensing and the potential for St Austell to become a Cumulative Impact Zone had been discussed. He advised that he had been involved with a Wainhomes appeal in Par and ongoing discussions with regard to the Boundary Review with which CALC is playing a major part.

Councillor French advised that he was liaising with Cornwall Council officers about the recent air pollution press article which was causing major concern in his Ward.

Councillor King confirmed that the supplementary planning policy documents for the local plan are being worked on which include the land allocation DPD.

Councillor Heyward advised that if St Austell becomes a Cumulative Impact Zone she would seriously consider invoking Article 4 (Permitted Development Rights) where she felt appropriate.

Councillor Bull updated Members on planning applications recently reviewed by the Strategic Planning Committee.

### **C/16/186) Planning Committee**

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

### **C/16/187) Community Committee**

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Community Committee held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

### **C/16/188) Payments Schedule**

Arising from a question, the Clerk agreed to review the water usage at Priory Car Park toilets.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Schedule of Payments for the period 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 in the sum of £76,477.45 be approved.

### **C/16/189) To consider excluding the press and public**

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the next item of business under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the commercially sensitive details contained therein.

### **C/16/190) Sandy Hill Park**

It was **RESOLVED** that the actions of the Clerk be endorsed and the Clerk in consultation with the Mayor and Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee be authorised to enter into a contract for further investigatory works at the site.

### **C/16/191) Dates of Meetings**

It was noted that the dates of the next meetings were Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.