

MINUTES of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018 at THE STABLE BLOCK, PONDHU HOUSE, PENWINNICK ROAD, ST AUSTELL, CORNWALL, PL25 5DP at 6pm.

Present: Councillors Bishop, Brown, Cohen, Colwill, Hanlon, Heyward, King, Leonard, Pearce, Pears, Styles (Chair) and Thompson.

Also present: Councillors Jones and Oxenham.

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

CC/17/61) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Bull, Rees and Walker.

Councillor Brown advised that he may have to leave early.

CC/17/62) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

CC/17/63) Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations received.

CC/17/64) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th March 2018

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th March 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

CC/17/65) Matters to note

The Clerk advised that the cheque for the grant to the Friends of Menacuddle Well (Minute CC/17/54 refers) had been returned as the Churches Together were now not supporting this event.

Further to Minute CC/17/57, the Town Clerk advised that Poltair Park was awarded a 4* assessment in the Pride in Parks competition run by South West in Bloom.

In response to a question, Councillor Heyward advised that the owner of the car park in High Cross Street had promised to tidy the site.

Councillor Oxenham arrived

CC/17/66) Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Councillor Pears arrived during the next item

CC/17/67) Community Network Highways Scheme

The Chairman welcomed Helen Nicholson, Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council, to the meeting. Ms Nicholson provided a presentation on Cornwall Council's new

Community Network Highways Scheme and explained that each Community Network area would have a budget of £50,000 per annum to allocate to small highways schemes. She circulated a list of schemes identified historically and asked Members to consider their priorities. Ms Nicholson confirmed that due to the lengthy consultation, analysing and costing process, any scheme approved would not be carried out until next year.

Members raised a number of issues including:

- The complexity of the scheme
- The potential and benefits of picking off a number of low value schemes which could be incorporated into a single Transport Regulation Order
- Types of schemes which could be funded from a share of the £50,000
- The need to spread the budget across a number of parishes and
- The extent to which the Town and Parish Councils should contribute towards the cost of schemes.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the priorities for further investigation were:

- Slades Road
- Truro Road
- Tregonissey Road
- Penwinnick Road
- Trenowah Road
- A large number of small proposals incorporated into a single TRO.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should submit the six schemes identified above for further consideration by Cornwall Council officers and, if feasible, the Community Network panel.

Councillors Brown, Heyward and Pears abstained from voting on this item

CC/17/68) Community Speedwatch Scheme

Helen Nicholson explained how the Community Speedwatch Scheme could work and asked Members to consider the priority areas for the introduction of a Community Speedwatch scheme. It was noted that there needed to be evidence to support an introduction of a scheme and that the public perception was often different from the reality.

After discussion of a number of areas, it was decided that the top priority areas for any schemes would be the 20mph speed limit areas close to schools.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should ask that Cornwall Council consider those areas in the town which are subject to a 20mph speed limit and are near to schools.

Councillor Pears left the meeting

CC/17/69) CCTV

The Town Clerk advised that following the decision not to connect the St Austell and Newquay CCTV cameras to the Tolvadden Monitoring Suite, further discussions had taken place with representatives of the Police and Crime Commissioner and there now

seemed a change of position and area monitoring hubs were now being supported. There was as a result the potential to bid for funds to upgrade the existing CCTV cameras and monitoring hub and to include within the bid provision for connecting the monitoring suite to Cornwall Council's Emergency Control Centre and the Police at Crown Hill Plymouth. The Clerk advised that the Town Council had been invited to submit a bid jointly with Newquay Town Council for funding. He advised that £5,000 had been included within the 2018/19 budget for the upgrade of cameras. As a number of the Town Council's cameras are in need of upgrading, it was suggested that the Town Council should bid for funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner and if unsuccessful then proceed with the planned upgrade programme.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should submit a bid to the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding for an upgrade scheme incorporating the Town Council's budget as its contribution to the wider scheme and if this proves unsuccessful, to proceed with the upgrade of cameras as permitted within budget.

CC/17/70) Sponsorship of roundabouts

The Clerk explained that when the Town Council agreed to manage the three roundabouts at Mount Charles, Asda and the urban village on behalf of Cornwall Council, the right to seek sponsorship, subject to certain conditions, was passed to the Town Council. In order to demonstrate a fair and transparent process, the Clerk recommended seeking expressions of interest from local companies to sponsor one or more of the roundabouts.

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk to seek expressions of interest for sponsorship of each of the roundabouts and to arrange opening and evaluation of the submissions in conjunction with the Chairman of the Committee.

Arising from the above, Members discussed the SABEF garden town initiative and the potential to change the signs on the boundary of St Austell to read "St Austell Garden Town". It was agreed that a further report should be brought to the Town Council on these issues in due course.

Councillor Brown left the meeting

CC/17/71) Small Grants Scheme

Prince Charles House Community Group

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £250 to the Prince Charles House Community Group towards their summer fete and re-planting of the community garden.

CC/17/72) Project update

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk outlined some of the projects that staff are currently working on:

CCTV

The Town Clerk advised that the insurance company had settled on a reimbursement of approximately 75% of the total cost of replacing the cameras damaged by lightning. He reminded Members that a CCTV visit was being arranged most probably on the 24th April 2018 and asked any Members interested to contact the office.

Safer St Austell

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that Safer St Austell was organising a multi-agency walkabout in Bethel on the 11th April 2018 starting at Tesco at 2pm. She advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner had provided a grant of £5,000 to the Safer St Austell initiative and the group was trying to agree how best to spend the money. The ASB summit held last week had proved very successful and was attended by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Alison Hernandez.

Environmental Projects

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that grass cutting had started but that it was very wet currently, so progress was sporadic. The Truro Road embankment has been cleared and will be planted shortly. The roundabouts, Poltair Park, the Trompe L'Oeil and flower beds in South Street will all be planted up at the end of May. Answers are awaited from Cornwall Council on the bids made for Section 106 funding for play equipment at Poltair Park and the Band Stand at Truro Road Park.

Councillor King advised that Trinity Street bus shelter was due to be painted by volunteers from Cosgarne. He had donated some paint for this purpose.

Linear Park Leat

A start has been made on site, but work is likely to progress fairly slowly.

Woodland Road Park Working Group

The Working Group has met twice and some progress has been made. A report will be brought back to Council in due course.

The Town Clerk will be chasing CORMAC to complete work in Woodland Road Park shortly.

Sandy Hill

Work progressing, and the contractor is currently on site.

Poltair Park Café

Some concern with regard to the lack of progress. The Clerk will chase Cornwall Council and CORMAC for progress.

Chapel Field

Some progress made but a completion date not yet known.

Pondhu House

The Clerk advised that he is awaiting a report from the Conservation Officer on what is permitted on site.

Youth Services

The Clerk advised that Kier had completed a tremendous refurbishment project at The House and that he was working on the leases for the premises. Some works were required to the roof and Cornwall Council had indicated that the works would be completed in time for Young People Cornwall to move in to the premises in May/June.

Town Heritage Scheme

The post of Project Officer has been advertised with a deadline of 23rd April and recruitment will proceed with a target start date of June 2018.

Public Conveniences

The toilet has been painted and signage updated. Currently, the ASB issues in the area appear to have reduced.

Car Park

Income for 2017/18 was close to budget, despite the Bodmin Road closure. Potholes have been filled but a more substantial plan will be required soon for tarmacking. A section of wall has collapsed, and professional advice is being sought as to the cause and the potential remedies.

Councillor Colwill advised that he felt that the parking in the Poundstretcher Shop car park was being abused and was impacting on fee paying car parks.

Weed Spraying

The contract has been let with the first spray to be undertaken shortly.

Footpaths

Local Maintenance Partnership entered into with Cornwall Council and the contract to be let shortly.

Bus Shelters/Map signage

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that a contract would be let shortly for the cleaning of bus shelters and maps and signage in Fore Street in readiness for the summer season.

Events

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the only event approved to date was the Stepping Stones fun day in Poltair Park on the 19th May 2018.

Councillor King advised that the Garden Town Festival was now due to be held on 30th June 2018 in White River Place.

CC/17/73) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next meetings of the Community Committee are scheduled for Monday 4th June 2018 and Monday 17th September 2018.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.