

MINUTES of a MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL held on MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2018 in the Council Chamber, St Austell One Stop Shop, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DR at 6.05pm.

Present: Councillors: Bishop, Brown, Bull, Cohen, Colwill, Heyward, Jones, King, Lanxon, Leonard, Oxenham, Rees, Styles, Thompson and Walker (Chair).

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

C/17/109) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors French, Hanlon, Palmer, Pearce and Pears.

C/17/110) Declarations of interest and gifts or hospitality received

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk declared an interest in minute number S/17/16 by virtue of potentially benefiting from the Local Government National Pay Negotiations 2018.

C/17/111) Dispensations

There were no requests for a dispensation.

C/17/112) Minutes of Meeting held on 18th December 2017

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th December 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/17/113) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that further to minute number C/17/95, the DIY SOS event at The House is now scheduled for March with Young People Cornwall hopefully moving in to the building during May. He added that the Licence from Cornwall Council to enable Kier to start the works has been received.

C/17/114) Mayor's announcements

The Mayor advised that he had met Square Sail and Cormac with the Town Clerk and Operations Manager about the leaking leat in Linear Park and that a joint solution has been found, to be resourced by all three parties which involves the clearing of vegetation, installation of pipework, creation of a filter to the pipework and re-surfacing of the footpath.

The Mayor reminded Members about the Mount Charles/Bethel parks tour due to take place on Tuesday 6th February 2018. All Members to meet at the Stable Block at 9.20am for a 9.30am start.

The Mayor advised Members that the process for nominating a Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2018/19 civic year would commence in March, with consideration of the nominations at a special Council meeting on Monday 16th April 2018.

Councillor Lanxon arrived during the next item

C/17/115) Public Participation

Mr Richard Hurst thanked the Town Council for their support during the BID renewal process and confirmed that the BID had been re-elected for a further 5 year term. He advised that the Pirate FM campaign, which had in the past been jointly funded by the Town Council, BID and White River Place, was due for renewal soon; most probably on a smaller scale than in previous years. He invited the Town Council to consider whether it wished to continue supporting this campaign. Mr Hurst concluded by expressing his concern about the 16 weeks road closure at Bodmin Road and the adverse effect it could have on trade in the town centre. He urged the Town Council to remain vigilant on the progress of the works and put pressure on CORMAC to complete the works as soon as possible.

The Mayor thanked Mr Hurst for his comments and congratulated the BID on their re-election. He suggested that the BID and White River Place attend the next Council meeting to talk to Councillors about a further Pirate FM campaign and that the Town Clerk should monitor the progress of the proposed roadworks and the effect on the town centre.

C/17/116) Members' Questions

There were no Members' questions.

Councillor Brown arrived during the next item

C/17/117) Truro Road Bandstand

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Heyward, the Cornwall Councillor for Gover, and the Community Network Manager have identified Section 106 funding for the refurbishment of the Bandstand in Truro Road Park. The Clerk stressed that the funding available would only cover the refurbishment of the bandstand, and not the toilets. The Town Council would be responsible for obtaining quotations for the proposed works, project managing the refurbishment and for ongoing future maintenance.

Members raised the following issues/comments:

- The likely timescales of the refurbishment;
- The need to consider installing toilets in Truro Road Park;
- Whether an electricity point could be installed in the park;
- The potential for community groups to apply for Section 106 funding;
- General support for the proposal.

Councillor Heyward advised that a friends group had been formed for Truro Road Park and that she had been liaising with the Operations Manager about obtaining quotations for the proposed works and the project management requirements.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to:

- i) Apply for Section 106 funding from Cornwall Council to enable the Town Council to commission and project manage the repair of the bandstand at Truro Road Park;
- ii) Explore the cost and viability of re-opening the toilets at Truro Road Park for discussion with Members during the 2019/20 budget setting process.

C/17/118) Accessible Play Equipment – Poltair Park

Following a complaint about the lack of wheelchair accessible equipment at Woodland Road Park, Cornwall Council has approached the Town Council about applying for Section 106 funding to install a wheelchair accessible piece of play equipment at Poltair Park on the proviso that the Town Council commission and manage the project.

The Clerk advised that since writing the report, additional Section 106 funding has been identified for an accessible basket swing at Truro Road Park. Currently, there is a frame for a basket swing but no swing.

Members raised the following issues/comments:

- Whether the piece of play equipment due to be removed from Poltair Park could be re-located to another park;
- General support for the proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to:

- iii) Apply for Section 106 funding from Cornwall Council to enable the Town Council to commission and project manage the installation of a wheelchair friendly piece of play equipment at Poltair Park;
- iv) Apply for Section 106 funding from Cornwall Council to enable the Town Council to commission and project manage the installation of an accessible basket swing at Truro Road Park.

C/17/119) Work Plan

The Clerk advised that it is deemed good practice for the Council to track the progress of projects and that he had drafted a Work Plan for the period from February 2018 to March 2019 for Members' consideration. He added that the Town Council are now in a strong position to obtain a qualification under the Local Council Award Scheme (Foundation Award), which only 4 or 5 Councils in Cornwall have achieved, and that an up to date work plan is part of the criteria.

Members raised the following issues/comments:

- The governance arrangements for approving the quarterly newspaper articles;
- The use of acronyms;
- The need to refer to the Linear Park project within the document;
- The potential for a community governance review and the involvement of CALC;
- The timescale for Pondhu House
- The need to treat the work plan as a working document

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the work plan as drafted subject to the inclusion of the Linear Park leaf project.

C/17/120) Townscape Heritage Scheme

The Town Clerk explained that Cornwall Council is in the process of setting up a Townscape Heritage Strategic Partners Group and that the Town Council have been asked to nominate one Town Councillor to sit on the group.

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Palmer be elected as the Town Council's representative on the Townscape Heritage Strategic Partners Group with Councillor Bishop nominated as a reserve.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should re-confirm its financial commitment of £36,220 in total made up of £25,000 for capital works and £11,220 for administrative support as approved previously in minute number **C/13/70**.

Councillor Lanxon left the meeting

C/17/121) Members appointed to outside bodies update reports

Councillor Brown provided an update on the work of SABEF which included:

- A presentation from the developers of Trewiddle
- A presentation from Imerys
- A presentation on Thinking Places
- The ceramics project
- The greening project

Councillor King advised that he had unfortunately had to miss the last CALC meeting but hoped to provide Members with an update at the next Council meeting. He advised that he had attended the last Steering Group meeting of The House which had been very positive and complimentary about the Town Council's support.

Councillor Bull advised that she had attended a recent meeting of the local Patient Participation Group where the challenges and strengths of the partnership were discussed. Issues discussed at the meeting included the difficulty in recruiting GP's and the need to communicate better with the public.

C/17/122) Cornwall Councillor update reports

Councillor Heyward advised Members that she had attended a meeting regarding the re-structuring of the NHS and Social Care Services which had proved very interesting and would be considered by Cornwall Council's Cabinet in due course.

Councillor Bull advised that she had attended planning meetings, debates on the level of Council Tax to be levied by Cornwall Council and the new waste/re-cycling collection arrangements and a St Austell Transport strategy meeting.

Councillor Brown updated the meeting on Cornwall Council's policy on outsourcing, the potential for a Social Value contribution for the A30 link road project and the feasibility work being carried out with regard to the Tour of Britain cycling event possibly passing through Cornwall. He outlined a planning application recently approved at Cuddra and the latest divisional review proposals for St Austell.

C/17/123) Planning and Regeneration Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Regeneration Committee held on the 8th January 2018.

C/17/124) Staffing Committee

The Clerk advised that SABEF has been given the opportunity to bid for a £40,000 investment from Cornwall Council on the proviso that match funding can be found and the potential for the package of match funding to include resource earmarked by the Town Council for a project officer.

Members raised the following issues/concerns:

- Support for additional resource for the Town Council;
- The difficulties in sharing resource with other organisations;
- The need for accountability and sound governance arrangements for projects undertaken;
- The potential to share resource with the Town Heritage Scheme.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on the 15th January 2018 and approve the **RECOMMENDATION** contained therein.

C/17/125) Schedule of Payments

It was **RESOLVED** that the Schedule of Payments for the period 12th December 2017 to 30th January 2018 totalling £85,453.60 be approved.

C/17/126) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next Town Council meetings were due to take place on Monday 19th March 2018 and Monday 14th May 2018.

The meeting closed at 8pm.