

MINUTES of an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL held on MONDAY 24th JUNE 2019 in the Council Chamber, St Austell Information Centre, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5DR at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Brown, Bull, Cohen, Colwill, French, Hanlon, Heyward, Jones, King, Lanxon, Oxenham, Palmer, Pears, Styles, Thompson and Walker.

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

C/19/24) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bishop, Pearce and Rees.

Councillor Palmer advised that he needed to leave the meeting at 7.30pm.

C/19/25) Declarations of interests and gifts or hospitality received

Councillor Bull advised that a number of residents from Chandlers Walker were in attendance at the meeting and that as a resident of Chandlers Walk, she would declare an interest and leave the meeting should any discussions take place with regard to this area.

Councillor Brown explained that he was not declaring an interest but, as a Cornwall Councillor and Chair of the Review Panel which would be responsible for reviewing all of the submissions and making formal recommendations, he would listen to the debate but not contribute to the meeting in any substance.

C/19/26) Dispensations

There were no requests for a dispensation.

C/19/27) Minutes of Meeting held on 13th May 2019

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th May 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Councillor Oxenham abstained from voting on this item as she was not present at the meeting

C/19/28) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that he had nothing to add.

C/19/29) Mayor's announcements

The Mayor advised that he had nothing to add under this agenda item, but that Councillor Heyward would like to make a statement about the traffic lights on Bodmin Road.

Councillor Heyward advised that the traffic lights on Bodmin Road will remain in situ for the foreseeable future as the three owners of the collapsed wall did not have cover for its repair under their insurance policies.

Cornwall Council has instructed a structural engineer to advise on the repair of the wall and a planning application has been submitted for the removal of 2 copper beech trees in preparation for the repairs to be undertaken once the funding for the required works has been agreed.

C/19/30) Community Governance Review

The Mayor introduced Councillor King, Chairman of the Community Governance Review Working Group, who provided a presentation on the draft submission to Cornwall Council.

Councillor King outlined the background to the Community Governance Review, the timescales involved and the 6 areas surrounding the Town Council's area that the Working Group considered should be within St Austell. He outlined the Ward changes, the estimated electorate in each area and the numbers of Councillors required.

The Mayor thanked Councillor King for his presentation.

The Clerk advised that he had an update which was not in the presentation with regard to Chandlers Walk. The Mayor agreed that the Clerk should update the meeting with developments.

Councillor Bull declared an interest and left the meeting

The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from some of the residents at Chandlers Walk requesting that the properties in this area, 23 in total, be subsumed into St Austell Bay Parish Council and that they were present at the meeting to make their representations to the Town Council. He added that they had approached St Austell Bay Parish Council who had agreed to make this proposal to Cornwall Council if it was in agreement with the Town Council.

The Mayor agreed that this matter should be considered first and that he would take public participation, parish council representations and Member discussion/resolution for one proposed boundary change at a time to avoid confusion.

C/19/31) Chandlers Walk

Public Participation

The Mayor invited the residents of Chandlers Walk to speak.

Annie Davidson from Chandlers Walk thanked the Council for their continued support with regard to "In Bloom" and the funding of a bin. She explained that their wish to move Parishes did not reflect a lack of gratitude towards the Town Council, but residents of Chandlers Walk simply felt that their properties related better to Charlestown than St Austell. She explained that the properties at Chandlers Walk are within a short walk to the heart of Charlestown, close to the church, opposite Mill Lane which is deemed to be the start of Charlestown and are very much part of the village community. Mrs Davidson confirmed that they had the support of St Austell Bay Parish Council.

Parish Council representation

The Mayor invited a representative of St Austell Bay Parish Council to speak.

Councillor Neal confirmed that the residents of Chandlers Walk had attended the St Austell Bay Parish Council meeting on the 13th June and had stated their case for Chandlers Walk being transferred to the Parish Council very well. He confirmed that the Parish Council had agreed to their request and this would form part of their submission to Cornwall Council. He praised the Town Council for their support at Chandlers Walk, particularly for the community garden which had many In Bloom awards.

Members discussion

Members were generally supportive of this proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** to support St Austell Bay Parish Council's submission to Cornwall Council to subsume Chandlers Walk into St Austell Bay Parish Council.

Councillors Brown, French, Hanlon and Palmer abstained from voting on this item

C/19/32) North East St Austell – Map 1

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

David Stephens, Clerk from Treverbyn Parish Council advised that Treverbyn Parish Council are strongly opposed to this proposal as it would have a drastic impact on the finances of the Parish Council. Councillor Shand challenged the suggested railway line boundary as it conflicted with the railway line boundary on Map 6.

Members discussion

Members raised the following issues/concerns:

- The effect the proposal would have on the finances of Treverbyn Parish Council;
- The potential Council Tax increase for people living within Treverbyn Parish Council if they were subsumed by St Austell Town Council;
- Many residents living in the area use the facilities of St Austell Town Council including the parks and library;
- The potential to extend the Town Council further to encompass Wheal Martyn and the Essam building;
- The legalities around the potential to compensate Treverbyn Parish Council for the loss of income for a period of time until the Garden Town was built;
- The need to bring neighbourhoods together.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 1 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell provided that the Clerk explores the potential for financial compensation to Treverbyn Parish Council and the legal issues associated with this.

Councillors Brown, Cohen, French and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/33) South East St Austell – Map 2

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

Councillor Moore of Carlyon Parish Council advised that they had not yet completed their submission but they were opposed to the proposal as the transfer would be detrimental to the affordable housing availability within Carlyon Parish Council and the Council's revenue base.

Members discussion

Members raised the following issues/concerns:

- Impact on the traffic and flooding that the new development would have on St Austell
- The services that the householders would enjoy would largely be in St Austell;

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 2 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell.

Councillors Brown, French and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/34) Southern St Austell – Map 3

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

Councillor Muskett from Pentewan Valley Parish Council advised that the Parish Council was not opposed to the Wainhomes development being in St Austell but they did object very strongly to the undeveloped land to the south of the A390 being subsumed within St Austell. In fact, the Parish Council felt that the A390 would be a suitable boundary. His Council was opposed to any development on this land as they consider it a green buffer between St Austell and the settlements in Pentewan Valley.

Members discussion

Members raised the following issues/concerns:

- The need to protect green space in the area

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 3 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell subject to changing the wording concerning "future expansion".

Councillors Brown and French abstained from voting on this item

C/19/35) South West St Austell – Map 4

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

Councillor Muskett from Pentewan Valley Parish Council advised that he had been involved in the Town Framework Project which accepted that the natural topography of much of this site related to St Austell. The Parish Council believed that the natural boundary should be the proposed link road as the land to the south of this looks towards Pentewan Valley and the additional income would help Pentewan Valley Parish Council.

Councillor Tarbox, representing St Mewan Parish Council, suggested that the Town Council might consider taking the boundary further to subsume more of Pentewan Valley Parish.

Members discussion

Members raised the following issues/concerns:

Members had sympathy for Councillor Muskett's views but felt that his suggestion would split a community and there was no guarantee that the link road would be built.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 4 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell.

Councillors Brown, French, Heyward and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/36) West St Austell – Map 5

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

St Mewan Parish Council advised that they had done a leaflet drop in the area and that nobody had raised issues or concerns in the Parish.

Members discussion

Members felt that the proposals were sensible.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 5 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell.

Councillors Brown and French abstained from voting on this item

C/19/37) North West St Austell – Map 6

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

Parish Council representation

Councillor Highland advised that he felt that the viaduct was a strong boundary and that Treverbyn has supported this area for a long time and would like to continue to support it.

Members discussion

Members felt that the area identified with St Austell as it is very close to the town centre and that it was traditionally considered the historic start of St Austell.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a proposal to Cornwall Council recommending that the land identified at Map 6 be subsumed in to the Parish of St Austell.

Councillors Brown, French, Heyward and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/38) Ward Boundaries

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Ward Boundaries as set out in the submission subject to an amendment to reflect the decision regarding Chandlers Walk.

Councillors Brown, French, Heyward and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/39) Community Governance Review Submission

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should submit the proposals as drafted subject to:

- Deleting Chandlers Walk and requesting that it is subsumed in to St Austell Bay Parish Council;
- Amendment of the wording relating to Map 3;
- The addition of an Appendix relating to consultation;
- Consultation with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor King, Chairman of the Working Group, prior to submission.

Councillors Brown, French and Thompson abstained from voting on this item

C/19/40) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next Town Council meetings are due to take place on Monday 15th July 2019 and Monday 9th September 2019.

The meeting closed at 7.34pm