

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 16th May 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor C.A.C. White (Chairman)
Councillor J. Ruhrmund (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors J. Beamish
C.A. Dennis
R.M. Lawrence
K.L.W. Perry

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors R. Clark (left meeting 7.15 pm) and P.C.H. Rendle.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors D.J. Axford and F. Granger.

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28TH FEBRUARY 2005**

Having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED: that they be signed as a true and correct record.

3. **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

(a) **Report of Meetings re. Cruise Ship Visits from "Destination South West"**

The Town Clerk advised that information had been received from David Rutherford, the District Council's Sustainable Tourism Officer, and also from Bob Harrison of "Destination South West" re. conferences and seminars detailing the attempts which were being made to develop cruise ship visits to the South West in general and to Mount's Bay in particular.

Any member requiring further information could obtain it from the Town Clerk and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(b) **Correspondence from Penwith District Council re. Affordable Housing, Potential Sites and Homeseekers Register**

The Affordable Housing task force had written to provide an update in respect of its work in encouraging Town and Parish Councils to identify sites for affordable housing and also to advise with regard to the introduction of the Homeseekers Register which, as of the 1st April 2005, combines and replaces the former Common Housing Register and the -1-

Parish Housing Needs Register and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the information be noted.

(c) Communication from Bendigo City

Following Peter Mundy's visit in August 2004, he had sent a variety of information relating to Bendigo City via Councillors Steve and Margaret Freeman and this was now available to any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(d) Town and Parish Forum Meeting - 24th March 2005

Councillor Reed, the then Mayor, had attended this meeting and the matter had been placed on the agenda to allow any item to be reported back to Council and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(e) Correspondence from Virgin Trains "Supporting the Case for Cross-Country Intercity Services"

Virgin Trains had written to provide a copy of the document prepared in support of the case for improving cross-country services, both in terms of track and rolling stock, and highlighting congestion points such as Birmingham New Street which prevented further expansion of the service.

The document was available to any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(f) Penwith District Council - Budget Information 2004/2005 and 2005/2006

The District Council had sent copies of the budgets for the above mentioned years and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(g) Review of the Provision of Services to Older People and AGM of the Older Peoples Forum

The District Council had written with a questionnaire regarding services for older people, which could be supported by the Town Council, and the Town Clerk had responded to indicate that the maintenance and care of Penlee Park and the trimming of footpaths were not specific to older people, but contributed to amenities which they could enjoy to the benefit of their health, and the letter went on to enquire as to whether the Town Council would support the setting up of a Befriending Scheme for older people and the Town Clerk had advised that the Council would be interested in further details of this proposal.

Councillor Granger had represented the Town Council at the Forum's AGM on the 21st April and the matter would be left open for further comment and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(h) Alan Harvey Citizen of the Year Award

The Town Clerk was pleased to advise that the Town Council's nomination of Councillor Mike Cotton had been successful and that he had received his award on the 11th May 2005 and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(i) Shopmobility Cornwall

Following on from the conference in Falmouth, one suggestion arising had been to employ a Development Officer to cover the whole of Cornwall and this proposal had now been accepted and would be pursued.

In the meantime, the Town Clerk had written to the Chamber of Commerce and had copied the letter to the Wharfside, but had yet to receive a response.

Councillor White advised that she was the representative for the District Council and the first meeting of the Steering Group was due to take place on the 27th May at St. Austell and a report would be provided in due course and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(j) Newsletter from The Hypatia Trust

The latest newsletter from the Hypatia Trust indicated that their interest in the Union Hotel had come to an end following its sale to remain in the commercial sector and, the newsletter went on to provide details of the continuing activity at Trevelyan House on the part of the Hypatia Trust and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt of the newsletter be noted.

(k) Western Morning News - Best Local Foods Award

The Western Morning News had initiated a "Buy Local Campaign" in 2001 to help recovery following the "Foot and Mouth" crisis and, as a further step in the campaign, a competition was now being organised, based on the sale of local produce in shops and restaurants, and the letter would be copied to members for information with a proposal that the Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel and Restaurant Association be approached to be involved in the competition. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the information be noted.

(l) Correspondence re. “Fair Trade Town Status for Penzance”

The District Council had written to advise that, following a meeting on the 17th March to discuss the possibility of Penzance becoming a Fair Trade Town, it had been resolved on the part of the District Council to contribute to the Fair Trade Foundation’s aims of tackling poverty by enabling disadvantaged producers from poorer countries to receive a fair price for their produce and a fair wage for their workers.

If the Town Council was minded to support the proposal to become a Fair Trade Town, then an invitation was extended to join the Evolving Fair Trade Steering Group and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the nomination of a representative be made at the full Town Council Meeting.

(m) West Cornwall CCTV Group - Nomination of Representative

Councillor Aitken had resigned from this position and a new nomination was required and it was

RECOMMENDED: that Councillor Dennis be nominated as the Town Council’s CCTV Group member.

(n) AGM of The County Playing Fields Association

An invitation had been received to attend the AGM of the County Playing Fields Association to be held in Truro on Thursday 23rd June 2005 at 2.30 pm and this was open to any member and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt of the invitation be noted.

(o) Circulars Received

See Appendix “A”. The circulars, as listed in Appendix “A”, were available to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(p) Reports from Outside Bodies

See Appendix “B”. The reports, as listed in Appendix “B”, were available to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

4. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

Councillor White declared a code of conduct interest in this matter and refrained from discussion or the vote thereon.

(a) Alcohol Licence - Transfers

(i) The Regent Hotel

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(ii) Bowjey Stores, Newlyn

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(iii) Sports Cue Leisure

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should endeavour to obtain further information with regard to the Police Licensing Officer's position.

(iv) Club 2000

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should endeavour to obtain further information from the Police Licensing Officer's position.

(v) Dolphin Tavern

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(vi) Ship Inn, Mousehole

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(vii) Fisherman's Arms, Newlyn

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(viii) Coco's Deli, Market Place

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(b) Public Entertainment Licence

(i) Golowan Festival - 23rd to 26th June 2005, it was

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

5. **STREET TRADING APPLICATIONS**

(a) Avril Machray

To trade Sundays (occasionally Fridays) at Market Place in the sale of paintings and sewing crafts (renewal). It was

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(b) Niamh Gribble

To trade Monday to Saturday at Market Jew Street in the sale of cotton bags, incense and floating candles. It was

RESOLVED: to object on the grounds of conflict with existing traders.

(c) Ms. K. Hicks - Newlyn Olives

To trade next to Lloyds Bank - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm (renewal). It was

RESOLVED: not to object, subject to no objection from any other trader.

6. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Committee considered its finances to the 31st March 2005 and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

The Committee also considered payments made in the months of February and March 2005 and it was

RESOLVED: to approve such payments (see Appendix “C” for both financial position and payments made).

7. **HEALTH MATTERS**

(a) Report from Mayor’s Parlour Campaign Team

Councillor Cotton had attended the meeting of the Campaign Team on the 8th April and had advised as follows:-

(i) Andrew George, MP, continues as a member of the team, but insists that he must be able to speak publicly on issues as he sees fit;

(ii) The group had written to Anthony Farnsworth saying that the Steering Group (4 of whom are representatives from the Mayor’s Parlour Team) must not be disbanded as only 3 (or a maximum 5) of the 17 points raised in the original draft report had been addressed;

(iii) The Presentation Team continues around the county, meeting Parish, Town and District Councillors. Officially, they have met with County Councillors at County Hall, but the County Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairman had refused to meet with them;

(iv) All 5 MPs had agreed to ask for a review of Health Services in Cornwall. Three Chief Executives had also signed up to this position;

(v) Unfortunately, it does appear that the “common position” no longer exists, but the Mayor’s Parlour Team is working hard to hold the campaign together and it was

RECOMMENDED: that Councillor Cotton’s report should be received.

(b) Proposed Pharmacy - Heamoor

The company seeking to establish a pharmacy in Heamoor had had their application refused, but were appealing against this decision and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(c) Healthy Living Network News

The May newsletter had been received and was available to any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

8. **REGENERATION MATTERS**

(a) Correspondence from the Regional Development Agency - Review of the Regional Economic Strategy

The RDA had written to provide details of the timescale for the review in terms of gathering information, identifying and negotiating key priorities and actions with partners between May and July and, the drafting of a document and formal consultation during July 2005 and January 2006, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(b) Market and Coastal Towns Initiative

A number of members had attended the Launch Meeting for the above initiative, held at the Lugger Hotel on the 28th April 2005, and a further meeting would follow from which it was hoped a Steering Group would be formed.

The Chairman referred to the paper prepared by Councillor Clark, to which he had spoken prior to the commencement of the business of the meeting, and the proposals contained therein now appear as Appendix “D” to the minutes and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the formation of an Economic Development Committee be supported as outlined in Councillor Clark’s letter.

(c) Newlyn Fish Industry Forum - Minutes of Meeting held on 14th April 2005

A copy of the above minutes had been received and were available to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(d) The Objective One Programme - Review Newsletter - October to December 2004

A copy of the above document had been received for information and was available to any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

9. **THE STANDARDS BOARD - "A CODE FOR THE FUTURE" - CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

A copy of the introductory consultation document had been copied to all members for information and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Council would support the main principles referred to in the document and

FURTHER RECOMMENDED: that it would assist the debate if members were to respond individually through the consultation process.

10. **CREATION OF A TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Unfortunately, the meeting scheduled for the 4th May had not been able to proceed and, the paper prepared for that meeting had been copied to those members serving on the committee for information and no comment had been received thus far. It was

RECOMMENDED: therefore, that the paper be circulated to all members to enable the matter to proceed at the full Town Council Meeting.

11. **STRATEGY FOR THE CORNISH LANGUAGE**

The strategy for the Cornish Language had now been formally adopted and it was now proposed that there should be an appointment of a dedicated officer to assist with the production of detailed action plans and it was

RECOMMENDED: that this proposal be supported.

9.10 pm

Chairman
27th June 2005