

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Thursday 19th May 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor M.R. Cotton - Chairman
Councillor R. Clark - Vice-Chairman

Councillors J.H. Dixon
F. Granger
R.A. Mann

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor P.C.H. Rendle

1. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors W.J.L. Aitken, D.J. Axford and S.J. Reed

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD MARCH 2005**

Having been circulated, it was

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

3. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

(a) **Thank You Letters**

The Town Clerk advised that "thank you" letters had been received from Victim Support Cornwall, Penzance Netball Club and Pengarth Day Centre and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(b) **Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public**

Due to the confidential nature of the next item to be discussed, it was

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public from the next part of the meeting.

(c) **The Lodge, Penlee Park - Roofing Works**

See Confidential Appendix "A".

(d) **Resolution to Re-Admit the Press and Public**

RESOLVED: to re-admit the press and public to the meeting.

(e) Link into Learning Building

The Town Clerk advised that the Link into Learning building at Penlee Park was held on a Lease by Cornwall County Council, with the Town Council being responsible for all external repairs, including roof, windows and doors.

The windows and doors had, for some time, required decoration and repair and it had not been possible to produce a specification in as much as the preparation for decoration had been revealing the full extent of the repair works to be carried out.

For this reason, the Town Clerk had used the services of the Council's maintenance worker who was employed half-time at Penlee Park and on footpaths, but who was a qualified joiner, and it had always been the intention to utilise his services on a self-employed basis for works such as this.

The repair and redecoration work was now virtually complete and the total cost would be above £1,000.00 and would be met from the buildings maintenance budget and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

The Town Clerk also advised that the Lease on this building was now due for renewal and the services of a valuer would be sought as part of the negotiations with the County Council's Legal Department and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(f) Heamoor Old School Playing Field

The Town Clerk reminded members that this matter had been reported to the Committee in the Autumn with regard to the need to carry out works on the Leylandii tree boundary, bordering Nevada Place.

The trees were nearing the end of their natural life and had been reduced in height on two occasions.

The preferred option of the neighbouring properties at Nevada Place was the removal of the trees to be replaced with the planting of a hedge or more acceptable specimen trees.

The wall at the rear of the trees completed the boundary between the two sites and a somewhat dilapidated chain-link fence, which would be the responsibility of the Town Council, would also require attention.

A site meeting had been held the previous week with Ward Councillors S. Freeman and K.L.W. Perry and the Town Clerk would now proceed to confirm the views of all the affected residents, and work to the boundary trees would be planned accordingly, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(g) St. Piran in Penzance Celebrations

The Town Clerk advised that he had written to Mr. Howard Curnow to congratulate him on the St. Piran in Penzance celebration and to enquire as to whether it was planned to be an annual event.

Mr. Curnow indicated that he very much hoped that it would be an annual event and drew attention to the two major areas of expenditure which were the rosettes which were prepared and presented to the children and also the insurance.

Mr. Curnow went on to say that he was hoping to overcome the latter expense by requesting that the County Council take out an insurance for all officially organised St. Piran events throughout the County.

Mr. Curnow had booked St. John's Hall for the first Friday in March 2006 and intended to hold to that date to enable schools to better plan for the event.

If the Town Council was again minded to provide support, financial provision would need to be made at the budget revision stage in November and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(h) Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public

Due to the confidential nature of the next item to be discussed, it was

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public from the next part of the meeting.

(i) Conditions of Service for Clerks of Local Councils

See Confidential Appendix "B".

(j) Resolution to Re-Admit the Press and Public

RESOLVED: re-admit the press and public to the meeting.

(k) Matters from Audit 2002/2003 Accounts

There had been some considerable delay in signing off the accounts for 2003 on the part of the District Auditor and there were three matters to report to the Council relating to property valuation, the movement of reserves and the preparation of the cash-flow statement and it was

RESOLVED: to note the items raised by the Auditor and the action taken to deal with them and the Audit Report now appears as Appendix "C" to the minutes.

4. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Committee considered its finances to the 31st March 2005 and also examined the income and expenditure of the other three standing committees.

The Town Clerk advised that he would prepare an end of year statement in due course and it was

RESOLVED: to note the financial position and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED: to approve the payments made in the months of February and March 2005 (see Appendix "D" for both financial position and payments made).

5. **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT**

(a) Minor Awards

(i) Cornwall Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre

RESOLVED: to make a grant in the sum of £100.00.

(ii) Beach Safety Group

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk obtain further information in this matter.

(b) Major Awards

(i) Newlyn Association - Community Garden Project

Members readily supported the aim to produce a community garden on the site adjacent to Newlyn Gallery, but were concerned with regard to the proposed cost of the consultation and design process which it appeared could be somewhat disproportionate to that which could be achieved on the site.

It was, therefore,

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should write to the Newlyn Association seeking a response to this view.

8.40 pm

Chairman
30th June 2005