

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 27th June 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor J. Ruhrmund (Vice-Chairman) (In the Chair)

Councillors A.R. Climo-Thompson
C.A. Dennis
F. Granger
K.L.W. Perry

12. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors J. Beamish, M. Freeman, R.M. Lawrence, C.A.C. White and T.E. Williams.

13. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16TH MAY 2005**

Having been circulated, it was

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

14. **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

(a) **QUEST On-Line Conferencing**

The Town Clerk advised that the on-line conferencing facility, run by the QUEST Trust, provided a free service to community groups and Local Councils to link up and to discuss matters of common concern.

Councillor Lawrence had been the Town Council's representative at such conferences, but as time went on it had become a pay to participate facility and the Council involvement had ceased.

QUEST had now written to advise that their main funding source had failed and the Trust were closing down and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(b) **County Fire Brigade - Integrated Risk Management Plan 2005/06**

The above plan had previously been sent to all Councils for information, but access to the plan was now by request or it could be viewed on-line and if any member required a copy, details could be obtained from the Town Clerk and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(c) Skateboarding - Local Byelaws

In response to an enquiry to Penzance police, the reply had indicated that such byelaws originate at Parish/Town or District Council level and the police are consultees in the process.

The police would generally support a byelaw where there are good facilities and as this is the case in Penzance, the police would support such byelaw in principle.

The next stage would be to obtain Home Office advice with regard to the introduction of a byelaw and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk obtain such advice.

(d) The Movement to Create an Alliance of Democratic, Ethical, Wealthy and Independent Countries

This Danish publication had been sent for information and to stimulate debate about the way in which the above was not being achieved by, for example, the European Union.

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

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(e) Correspondence from Enable in Cornwall Limited

The above named charity had sent information with regard to its work with people who have a physical disability and/or sensory impairment.

People aged between 16 and 64 can receive advice on access to paid or voluntary work and members were asked to spread the word to anyone who might benefit from the charity and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(f) Correspondence from Penwith District Council re. Lifeguard Services 2005

The District Council had written to advise that lifeguarding had commenced on the 28th May and would run through to September and the provision also included the Jubilee Pool in Penzance and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(g) Cruise Ships Visits to Mount's Bay

David Rutherford from the Sustainable Tourism Department of the District Council had written to provide a list of the six ships which it was hoped would be visiting Mount's Bay through June, August and September.

The first of these, the “Hanseatic”, had visited on the 21st June and had been welcomed by the Town Mayor and Bagas De Gol.

The Town Council had been asked to provide a welcome in the form of the Town Crier and it was

RECOMMENDED: that his normal appearance fee be paid for these duties.

(h) Stakeholder Letter from “First”

This letter had been copied to all members for information and had set out details of the company’s attempts to continue improvements through the appointment of a Performance Manager.

The letter went on to say that £5 million had been invested in new vehicles and ticketing technology and that all new vehicles were the low floor easy access type which were DDA compliant.

The letter also contained details of a number of service changes in the west of the county and returning to the issue of new vehicles, the question of the length of some of these vehicles operating in the town centre was raised and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk write to “First” to establish whether short-wheeled base vehicles could be used on town centre services.

(i) Penwith Older People’s Forum

The latest meeting of the Forum had taken place on the 16th June 2005 and, unfortunately, the Town Council could not be represented, and a copy of the latest newsletter had been sent for information and was available to any member who wished to have sight of it, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(j) Rural Net - Rural Focus Supplement

The Town Clerk advised that the Council subscribes to this on-line information facility and the organisers were now producing a hard copy newsletter on issues which were relevant to many rural areas and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(k) Over 50s Leisure Week

This project was aimed at the above age group and was overseen by Local Exercise Action Pilot - “LEAP” and it was set to run from the 19th to 25th September throughout Penwith and Kerrier.

Following a successful launch in April, this second attempt was aimed at introducing people to sports and leisure activities at appropriate centres, free of charge, and using suitably qualified coaches with the ultimate aim being the encouragement of a more active lifestyle.

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

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(l) Penzance Harbour Consultative Committee

The District Council had written to advise that because the above committee had not met for over 12 months, it suggested that various other consultative mechanisms were working effectively and the committee was, therefore, to be discontinued and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(m) Memorial Association for Newlyn Fishermen

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Granger had attended the latest meeting of this group whose aim was to provide a memorial in the port to mark the lives of fishermen throughout Cornwall who had been lost at sea.

The launch meeting would take place on the 28th June and Councillor Granger would again attend to represent the Council and fundraising would begin at that launch and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(n) 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.

(o) 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.

(p) Buses in Cornwall - Poetry in Motion

Details of an advertising campaign on the part of "First" had been sent for information and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(q) BBC - The Open Road

BBC Television had been in touch with regard to a pioneering film-maker who in 1924 had travelled from Land's End to John O'Groats by car and who had made a unique colour film of the communities through which he passed.

Programmes were being made to celebrate this film which would be shown in January 2006 and, in the meantime, a learning bus would make the journey commencing at Land's End on Monday 4th July and inviting people to view the film along the way, particularly those who may have been alive at the time, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the information be noted.

(r) Customs and Excise Road Show

Following a successful visit to St. Mellion in the Spring, the Town Clerk had contacted Customs and Excise in Birmingham who were prepared to come to the far west of the county and to bring a number of Government department representatives with them, with a view to providing information for local businesses and others.

The Town Clerk would include the District Council with regard to the proposed visit and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

15. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

(a) Alcohol Licence - Transfers

(i) Sunny City Restaurant

RESOLVED: to offer no objection.

(b) Public Entertainment Licence

Although the Town Council had not received formal consultation on the application to extend hours at Club 2000 to 4.00 am in respect of the sale of food, entertainment and alcohol, it was

RECOMMENDED: that an objection should be lodged with the Licensing Authority on the grounds of protection of public safety, crime/disorder and public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

The committee was aware of other applications in respect of Blue Snappa and OJ's and the Town Clerk would seek clarification with regard to the omission of the Town Council as a consultee in respect of such applications.

16. **STREET TRADING APPLICATIONS**

There were no items to be dealt with under this heading.

17. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Town Clerk advised that because of the requirement to prepare accounts for the previous year for presentation to the Council by the end of July, it had not been possible to carry out the financial analysis and to provide a report in respect of April and May.

This information would follow as soon as possible to be received at a Special Meeting on the 25th July which was for the purpose of approving the accounts or at the earliest date thereafter, with a view to formally receiving the financial report at the September cycle of meetings and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

18. **HEALTH MATTERS**

(a) Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team

RECOMMENDED: that this item remain open to allow Councillor Cotton to report at full Council.

(b) Health Promotion Service Prospectus 2005-2006

This document had been sent and it provided a summary of projects/services and training opportunities available throughout Cornwall and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(c) Cornwall Partnership NHS Trust - Mental Health and Disability

Cornwall Partnership NHS Trust had become one of the first eight Mental Health and Learning Disability Trusts in the country and the first in Cornwall to be eligible to apply to become a NHS Foundation Trust.

The Trust would remain within the NHS but would have greater operational freedoms and the purpose of the letter was to advise that it was looking for Trust members who, as such, would have no specific duties, but who could put themselves forward as governors, or take part in the election of governors, and further details were available from the Town Clerk for any member interested and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

19. **REGENERATION MATTERS**

- (a) Cornwall Towns Study Document - Preparing the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West - Copy of Response Prepared by Councillor Climo-Thompson and Copy of Response to the Cornwall Towns Document as Prepared by Penwith District Council

Councillor Climo-Thompson was thanked for producing the detailed response which had been submitted to Cornwall County Council by the deadline of the 20th June.

The timescale for the production of a response was limited and in the interest of establishing as much common ground as possible between the District Council, the Town Council and other towns in Penwith, it had been agreed that there would be a meeting between Councillor Climo-Thompson, the Town Clerk, Councillor Clark and Matthew Barton of the District Council.

There would clearly be the opportunity to make further representation to the South West Regional Assembly to which the document had been copied and the document would be treated as a live document to which additions or modifications might be made in the light of discussions with the District and County Council and other interested parties and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (b) Penzance Harbour and Town Centre Steering Group Meeting - Including Market Jew Street

The Town Clerk advised that the latest meeting of the Steering Group had taken place on the 22nd June 2005 where Ray Crabb, Penzance Regeneration Manager, and successor to Mr. Nigel Horwell on a three day a week basis, had been able to advise that the Harbour Revision Order was proceeding and that an internal re-organisation at Penwith District Council was now nearly complete which should see the provision of two new posts, one of which would be attached to business and economic development and the second of which would focus specifically on regeneration issues and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (c) South West of England - Regional Development Agency Newsletter "Urban Future"

A copy of the above newsletter had been sent for information and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

(d) Penzance “Where Now” - Paper Prepared by Penzance Civic Society

Members noted receipt of the above document which had been prepared by the Civic Society and felt that a formal response to it should be made at full Council.

In the meantime, members noted the appointments referred to above and felt that the District Council’s stated aim of taking a more strategic view through a steering group comprised of senior managers and councillors would help give some focus and direction to issues raised within the document and, that the appointments referred to above would hopefully assist in the delivery of improvements.

(e) MCTI and Parish Plans

The Town Clerk advised that, together with Councillor Clark, he had attended a visioning meeting held at Penwith District Council on the 23rd June and that a further meeting had been arranged with Sally Newby of Penwith District Council on the 30th June to look at the way forward in respect of the MCTI Initiative and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(f) Town Guide

The Town Clerk referred to the Town Guide which had been produced in 2004 and which had been extremely popular with both businesses which had subscribed to it and with visitors to the town.

The Town Clerk reminded members that it had been agreed that the guide should be reproduced every two years and that there would be the need to make budget provision in the year 2006/2007 (but with the work taking place during the Autumn/Winter 2005/2006), to deploy Mr. Des Hannigan to review and update the document and to change a number of the photographic images, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk should proceed with the contract with Burrows in respect of a new guide.

(g) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Information provided by DEFRA in respect of the above Act showed that there were a range of new powers available to Parish and Town Councils which were not mandatory but there to be used if so desired.

The powers included fixed penalty notices in respect of graffiti, litter, fly-posting and dog offences and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(h) Sleeper Service - Paddington to Penzance

Although the Town Council had not been formally consulted with regard to the possibility of the discontinuance of this service at the end of 2006, members felt strongly that the service should be maintained and that the Town Clerk should make representation accordingly. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk take the necessary action.

9.20 pm

Chairman
12th September 2005