

MINUTES OF PENZANCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in The Guildhall, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Thursday 15th December 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor D.J. Axford (Town Mayor)
Councillor F. Granger (Deputy Town Mayor)

Councillors R. Clark
M.R. Cotton
C.A. Dennis
J.H. Dixon
M. Freeman
R.M. Lawrence
K.L.W. Perry
P.C.H. Rendle
A.J. Richings
C.A.C. White

50. **PRAYERS**

The Council's Chaplain, Reverend Julian Drew, offered prayers and, in so doing, advised members of the death that day of Mr. Peter Kendall, President of the Penzance Royal British Legion, who had worked tirelessly for the local branch and the County organisation over many years.

51. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors J. Champion, R.A. Mann, S.J. Reed and J. Ruhrmund.

52. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th November 2005, having been circulated, it was

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

53. **TO DEAL WITH BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE**

The Town Clerk advised that there were no matters to be dealt with under this heading.

54. **TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) The Town Mayor reminded members that they were all invited to join him for Christmas Drinks at the Pirates Rugby Club on Monday 19th December at 7.30 pm;

(b) The Town Mayor advised members that he would be carrying out the traditional hospital visits to West Cornwall and Poltair on Wednesday 21st December.

55. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NUMBER 24

The Town Clerk advised that no such questions had been received.

56. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) **General Purposes Committee - 5th December 2005**

(i) 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.

(ii) Licensing Concerns (Minute 46)

Members noted the concern expressed in respect of the licence relating to Rami's and the enquiries which would be made by the Town Clerk in this respect.

With regard to the recording of incidents of concern, it was reiterated that members should provide full details of their attempts to contact the police, the response received, with such information being forwarded to the Town Clerk for use as required in any subsequent review of the licences in the town and it was

RESOLVED: that the position be noted.

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

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

(iv) Health Matters - Paper prepared by Councillor Cotton regarding Position of Penzance Town Council in Relation to Hospital Provision (Minute 49(c))

The paper prepared by Councillor Cotton, and the latest press release from the Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team, had been copied to all members and the position of the Town Council in relation to services at West Cornwall Hospital, as set out in the minutes, was endorsed as was the resolution of the Town Council at its previous meeting, ie. to call upon Cornwall County Council to use its statutory powers to request that the Secretary of State carry out a review of acute hospital service provision in Cornwall.

Councillor Cotton would continue to represent the Council on the Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team, along with the Town Mayor, and he would provide a report with regard to the local review of services at West Cornwall Hospital in due course and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(v) Regeneration Matters - Market Jew Street:- Public Art Exhibition - Proposed Water Feature adjacent to Humphry Davy Monument (Minute 50(a)(i))

The Town Clerk referred to the paper which had been prepared by Rose Barnecutt of the District Council relating to a request to jointly adopt, with the District Council, the proposed water feature at the above location.

Some members expressed concern with regard to the feature and its potential to attract vandalism and inappropriate use and before a decision was made, it was

RESOLVED: that full design details be provided for the Council.

(vi) “Save Our Sleeper” Campaign (Minute 51)

Members were pleased to note that following the success of Great Western in receiving the franchise for rail services in the region, that the commitment had been given to retain the Sleeper service from Paddington to Penzance and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(vii) Sea Defences - Newlyn Green (Minute 53)

Members expressed continuing concern with regard to the sea defences at Newlyn Green and Councillor Granger advised that the group, which had been formed in Newlyn to provide a memorial to fishermen lost at sea, had had drawings prepared in relation to sea defences at the above location.

Councillor Granger would obtain copies of these drawings for the Council and in order that appropriate attention could be drawn to this issue, it was

RESOLVED: that a pressure group be formed, comprising of representatives of the Town Council, the District and County Councils and the Newlyn Association.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(b) **Penlee House and Park Committee - 22nd November 2005**

It was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(c) **Penlee House and Park Committee - 6th December 2005**

(i) Financial Position including Revised Estimates 2005/2006 and Estimates 2006/2007 (Minute 28)

The budget for the Penlee House and Park Committee, in terms of revised estimates and the ensuing year, had been recommended for approval and had contained a proposal to allocate £5,000.00 as matched funding in relation to the employment of a project officer who would take forward proposals relating to the West Cornwall Arts Archive.

The Director of Penlee House Gallery and Museum was in attendance and had prepared a paper relating to this bid and the Town Clerk confirmed that he had now received a copy of the agreement letter from the donor charity providing the £5,000.00 matched funding and a commitment that the minutes of the meeting to be held on the 18th January 2006, and copies of the HLF application completed during the year but withdrawn on the advice of the National Lottery, would be lodged with the Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk went on to advise that it was proposed that he would now act for the Town Council in the management of the project officer to work with a representative of the West Cornwall Arts Archive.

A copy of the brief for the project officer would be provided in due course and the officer would be asked to make a presentation to the Town Council as soon as was practical after appointment and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED: to approve the Penlee House and Park Committee revised estimates for the current year and the estimates for 2006/2007.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(d) **Planning Committee - 24th November 2005**

It was

RESOLVED: to approve the report.

(e) **Planning Committee - 7th December 2005**

(i) Correspondence from Cornwall County Council re. Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Places and Waiting Restrictions at Thornberry Terrace, Penzance (Minute 50(e))

RESOLVED: to support the proposals in part, ie. approval of the 'No Waiting' restriction either side at the top of Lescudjack Road, but an objection to the 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction proposed for the stretch of highway in front of Lescudjack Terrace.

- (ii) Application No. 05/P/0736/F - Change of Use and Conversion of Warehouse to Offices and Kitchen; Construction of Attached Restaurant, Bar, Café and Associated Access Works at Abbey Warehouse, Penzance Dry Dock

The District Council had forwarded revised plans in respect of the above application involving only minor modifications as required by the Environment Agency and it was, therefore,

RESOLVED: to maintain the original objection, ie. to the proposed shape, form and materials in the proposed extension and that the Planning Authority be asked to look again at this aspect of the development and to negotiate with the developer for a more appropriate design.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(f) **Finance/Property Committee - 8th December 2005**

- (i) Financial Position (Minute 25)

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Councillor Cotton, provided a summary of the proposed revisions to the current year's budget, and the proposed estimates in respect of 2006/2007, and thanked each of the four standing committees for their careful consideration of their budgets and he noted that each committee had recommended approval of the figures which gave rise to a precept requirement in the sum of £393,969.00, representing a rise of 3.821 per cent on the previous year.

Councillor Cotton referred to the fact that this figure took account of the agreed wage settlement for the ensuing year, a further percentage point rise in the employer's contribution to the Superannuation Fund and the need for additional support in the Town Clerk's Office, which had been subject to detailed examination by the Finance/Property Committee and the paper for which had been circulated to all members with the agenda for the full Town Council Meeting.

The Chairman asked if there were any comments or questions from members, particularly those not on the Finance/Property Committee and, in the absence of any such questions, it was

RESOLVED: to approve the revised estimates for the current year and the proposed estimates for 2006/2007, giving rise to the above precept.

- (ii) 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.

(iii) Town Clerk's Hours

The Town Clerk retired from the meeting. It was

RESOLVED: to approve the recommendation of the Finance/Property Committee as contained in Confidential Appendix "C" to the minutes of the meeting of the 8th December 2005.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

8.40 pm

Town Mayor
30th January 2006