

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING** held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at 7.00 pm.

**PRESENT**

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

Councillors D.J. Axford  
J.W. Champion  
F. Granger  
R.A. Mann  
S.J. Reed  
A.J. Richings

27. **APOLOGIES**

Councillor J.H. Dixon

28. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2005**

Having been circulated, it was

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

29. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

(a) "Thank You" Letters

The Town Clerk advised that "thank you" letters had been received from the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies in respect of their Summer Festival, Tom Bawcock's Committee and Mount's Bay Rotary Club in respect of the St. Michael's Way Walk and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(b) Correspondence re. Zapcat National Championships

The Town Clerk advised that he had received a letter from the proprietor of the Yacht Inn which indicated that the Zapcat Championships did not cause any problems by way of noise and with the racing taking place largely off the western end of the Promenade, it did not have a particular impact in terms of increased custom.

The District Council had written to advise that it had supported the event financially in the previous year, but had indicated to the championship organisers that they would not be able to do so in 2006, and with nothing further having been heard from the Penzance and District Tourism Association, it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the Council take no action at this time.

(c) CCTV Meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> January 2006

The Town Clerk advised that together with Councillor Dennis, the Council's representative on the CCTV group, he had attended a meeting which had been convened by Penwith District Council to look at the future of CCTV, with particular regard to the age of the camera system and increased operational cost brought about by the need for greater repairs and maintenance.

The present cost of the system to the District Council is £177,183.00 in the current year and estimated to rise to £198,521.00 in the forthcoming financial year.

Although there had been capital contributions from the commercial sector initially and varied support from Town Councils towards revenue costs over time, the point had been reached where the total cost of this system now fell to the District Council and this had been the case in the Kerrier District Council area for some time.

A paper, prepared by the District Council, was then distributed to members which provided the various options open to the District Council and the view of the three Town Councils in which areas the system operated was now being sought. It was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the matter be considered at the full Town Council Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2006 when all members had had the opportunity to digest the information contained within the District Council report which is attached for those not present at the meeting.

NB. If members require any further information from the District Council on this issue, please advise as soon as possible.

(d) Staffing

The Town Clerk advised that it was proposed to advertise the new position in the Town Clerk's Office within the next two weeks, with a closing date of the second to third week in February and with interviews in early March.

With regard to the interviews, it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that a panel comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Finance/Property Committee and the Town Clerk conduct the interviews.

(e) Correspondence - Penzance Operatic Society

Arising from the last meeting, Councillor Clark advised that he had met with a representative of Penzance Operatic Society and had offered advice which has been well received with regard to the various options available in terms of publishing a booklet to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the society and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted and it was

**RESOLVED:** to thank Councillor Clark for his time in this matter.

(f) Meteorological Station

Councillor R.A. Mann declared a personal interest in this matter.

The Town Clerk advised of a letter from Jan Garrison who had become involved in the effort to raise the capital to install the automated system.

Mrs. Garrison was aware of the amount already committed to the project by the Town Council but sought further financial support because of the valuable publicity for the town which came via the reporting of meteorological information in the national press on a daily basis.

With no financial provision having been made in the forthcoming year's budget and given the demands on Town Council resources, it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that no further financial contribution be made but that the Town Council should urge the District Council, in the strongest possible terms, to allocate the necessary capital expenditure to secure the automated equipment which would bring advantages to the town as outlined above.

(g) South West Way Seating - Liveability Fund

The Town Clerk advised that he had now had a meeting with the Open Spaces Manager of the District Council and a member of the Regeneration Team and, locations for the proposed seating between Marazion and the Railway Station at Penzance had now been agreed.

It was hoped that 7 seats would be constructed in traditional materials along the walk and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

30. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Committee considered its finances to the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2005 and it was

**RESOLVED:** to note the position.

The Committee also considered payments made in the months of September, October and November 2005 and it was

**RESOLVED:** to approve such payment (see Appendix "A" for both financial position and payments made).

31. **APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT**

(a) Minor Awards

(i) Sea, Salts and Sail - Mousehole

**RESOLVED:** to make a grant of £250.00 towards the acquisition of new flags and up to £100.00 for a cup for presentation in the traditional craft races.

(ii) Boyan Choir (brought forward from December Meeting)

After careful consideration, and given the demands on the grant budget, it was

**RESOLVED:** not to make an award.

(iii) Cruse Bereavement Care

**RESOLVED:** to make a grant of £100.00.

32. **BUSINESS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

There were no items to report under this heading.

7.55 pm

Chairman  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006