

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 22nd January 2007 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor C.A.C. White (Chairman)

Councillors D.J. Axford
S. Bennett
R. Clark
C.A. Dennis
F. Granger
J.S. Lambourn
R.M. Lawrence
P.C.H. Rendle

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor J. Moreland

61. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors K.L.W. Perry and J. Ruhrmund

62. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4TH DECEMBER 2006**

Having been circulated, it was

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

63. **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

(a) Correspondence from Penwith District Council re. Public Toilet Closures

The above correspondence had been received regarding the closure of toilets in Jennings Street at 6.00 pm instead of 10.00 pm due to fire vandalism over a period of weeks. Fire vandalism has also been reported at the Clarence Street toilets and this would be monitored. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted but the Clerk was asked to write to Penwith District Council requesting that the 10.00 pm closures be reinstated from Easter 2007.

(b) Community Action Panel Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd November 2006 had been received and were available for any member who wished to have sight of them.

Councillor Lawrence requested that it be brought to the attention of the Community Action Panel that delivery of the 'Yellow Pages' Directory were often left on door-steps which could lead to acts of crime at properties where the residents may be away. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(c) Date of Next P-Tag Meeting

Correspondence had been received from Mr. David Rutherford of Penwith District Council informing members that the next P-Tag meeting would be held on the 1st February 2007 in Committee Room No. 1, St. Clare at 2.30 pm and it was

RECOMMENDED: that this information be noted.

(d) Letter from Penwith District Council re. Standards Committee

The Clerk informed members that a reply to the Town Clerk's letter requesting a meeting with the Chief Executive, Mr. Jim McKenna, to discuss the concerns raised regarding recent Standards Board investigations, had been received.

However, the reply received was from the Monitoring Officer of the Standards Board and as the request to meet the Chief Executive was in respect of the investigations into complaints against councillors, it was felt that the Clerk should contact the Chief Executive again to request a meeting with him personally.

Councillor Clark took exception to previous correspondence which implied that councillors required training in the Standards Board procedures as he felt that the training should be aimed at the Monitoring Officer. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

Councillors Dennis and Lawrence declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or vote.

(e) CALC - 3rd Annual Conference and Training Day

The Clerk reported that the above event would take place on the 10th February 2007 at New County Hall, Truro at 9.30 am and any member who wished to attend should contact the Town Clerk's Office. Nomination forms for Honorary Officers of CALC and for members to be representatives Outside Bodies had also been received, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that this item be discussed at the full Town Council Meeting on 5th February 2007, where nominations could be made, and the nomination forms would be sent out with the agenda.

(f) Quality Status and Councillor Training

Councillor Lambourn had requested that this item be placed on the agenda in order to seek Quality Status for Penzance Town Council.

The Clerk reported that there were a number of contributing factors in order to obtain 'Quality Status', one being a Town Clerk who had the qualification 'Working With Your Council'. Another requirement needed to obtain 'Quality Status' was that the council had to achieve 80 per cent elected members in the first instance, which rose to 100 per cent once the status had been received. If this is not achieved the 'Quality Status' is removed.

Councillor Lambourn also made reference to the Town Council members receiving suitable training in order to carry out their duties.

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk seek further information from councils in Cornwall who had achieved 'Quality Status' in order to consider the matter further and to investigate training opportunities for councillors.

(g) Flood Management Strategy Consultation

Correspondence had been received from DEFRA asking for the views of the council on the above. The closing date for comment was the 2nd March 2007 and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk obtain a copy of the consultation document and, that in order for the views of the council can be sent to DEFRA, the matter be added to the agenda for the Planning Committee Meeting to be held on the 15th February 2007. It was

FURTHER RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk contact Karen Clowes of Cornwall County Council to seek comment on how this relates to the recent Marine Bill.

(h) Twinning - Bendigo City/Nevada City

The Clerk reported that unfortunately, due to ill health, the Secretary of the Twinning Committee, Mr. Deryk Chappell, had resigned from post. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk write to Mr. Chappell thanking him for the work he had done for the Committee since its inception and also ask for a list of all current member. The letter would also ask if a list of current members could be provided so that a meeting could be arranged in order that a new Secretary could be put in post.

(i) Correspondence re. Penzance Grill

The Clerk advised that although the Town Council has not been consulted on licensing matters since the new laws were invoked, a letter from concerned residents who live in the vicinity of the Penzance Grill had been received seeking support for the opposition to the granting of a late night food licence. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk write to Penwith District Council to advise that the Town Council were opposed to the licence being granted. The members also wished to reaffirm its position that all licensing matters should be empowered to the Town Council.

(j) Golowan 2007 - Latest Position

Councillor Axford informed members that he had called a meeting with volunteers who

had contacted the Town Clerk's Office offering assistance to progress the organisation of the 2007 Golowan Festival.

A Management Committee was formed from those attending and discussions had taken place on the format for producing a Festival in June.

Councillor Axford was asked to produce a report to be presented to the Town Council Meeting on the 5th February 2007, and that the Clerk produce a Budgeting Report to be presented, and it was

RECOMMENDED: that both reports be circulated to all members with the agenda for the Town Council Meeting.

(k) CCTV

The Clerk had circulated further information received from Penwith District Council but, members considered that as this item had a financial implication it should be carried forward to the Finance Committee and then on to the full Town Council meeting for decision and it was

RESOLVED: that the position be noted.

(l) RDA Presentation on Convergence Programme - 31st January 2007

An invitation had been received from Penwith District Council for a representative to attend this meeting and it was

RESOLVED: that Councillor Lambourn attend on the councils behalf.

(m) Correspondence from HMS Penzance

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Lieutenant Commander Robert Bruford, the new Commanding Officer of HMS Penzance, to advise the council that Lieutenant Commander Ben Ripley, his predecessor, was re-appointed at short notice to HMS Ramsey.

Attached to the letter was a CV for Lieutenant Commander Bruford and the Clerk advised that both the letter and CV would be circulated to all members in due course and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(n) Circulars Received

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

The reports and minutes from outside bodies were available from the Town Clerk to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

64. **STREET TRADING APPLICATIONS**

Councillor C.A.C. White declared a code of conduct interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or resolution thereon. Councillor Axford assumed the chair

(a) Mrs. J.A. Howes

To trade in the sale of childrens wear for able bodied and special needs at Market Place on Monday to Friday, all year round, (renewal) and it was

RESOLVED: not to object .

(b) Mr. E. Verwaaijen

To trade in the sale of liquorice and dutch waffles at Market Place on Saturdays, all year round, and it was

RESOLVED: not to object .

(c) Mr. R.L. Lloyd

To trade in the sale of watercolours and cards at Market Place on Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Monday, and it was

RESOLVED: not to object .

65. **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The Committee considered its finances to the 30th November 2006 and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

The Committee also considered payments made in the months of October and November 2006 and it was

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

66. **HEALTH MATTERS**

- (a) Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Primary Care Trust - Presentation to Penwith District Council and Town and Parish Representatives - 17th January 2007

Councillor Cotton had been nominated to attend the presentation on behalf of the council and would give a report to the full Town Council on the 5th February 2007. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (b) Cornwall and Isles of Scilly PCT Meeting - Agenda 17th January 2007

The Clerk advised that the agenda for the meeting had been received via e-mail at the Town Clerk's Office. The Clerk had telephoned the Primary Care Trust to enquire whether it would be possible to have the minutes of the previous meetings distributed at the time of the agenda being sent as these were normally only issued to those attending.

The response from the Primary Care Trust Office Manager was that the information pack was too big to send but, the Clerk would endeavour to have the minutes from the pack sent to the Town Council and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted

- (c) Cornwall County Council Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 30th January 2007

The Clerk reported that the above meeting would be taking place and that the Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team was hoping for a large councillor and public turnout at County Hall. The League of Friends of West Cornwall Hospital together with Healthwatch, had arranged for a coach to go to Truro and any member wishing to book a seat should contact Councillor Cotton. It was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

67. **REGENERATION MATTERS**

- (a) Penzance and Newlyn Regeneration Management Group Meeting - 17th January 2007

The Clerk advised that the above agenda was available in the Town Clerk's Office for any member who wished to see it. The Clerk advised that minutes for the previous meeting would be presented at the meeting of the 17th January and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (b) Isles of Scilly Link Proposals

The Clerk advised that the information that had been requested from Mr. Tony Roche, Cornwall County Council, had arrived and had been sent to members together with a letter

that had been sent to Councillor Clark from Councillor Adam Paynter, the Deputy Leader of Cornwall County Council.

Councillor Clark advised members of a letter written in response to the letter from Councillor Paynter and it was

RECOMMENDED: that this item be discussed at the full Town Council Meeting on the 5th February and that the Clerk distribute the letter from Councillor Clark to all members with the minutes.

(c) THI Meeting - 7th November 2006

The minutes of the above meeting were available in the Town Clerk's Office for any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

9.10 pm

Chairman
5th March 2007