

MINUTES OF PENZANCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in The Guildhall, St. John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance on Monday 2nd June 2008 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor RA Mann (Town Mayor)
R Clark (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors MR Cotton
CA Dennis
JH Dixon
M Freeman
M Lovegrove
RM Lawrence
JF Moreland
D Nebesnuick
PCH Rendle
J Ruhrmund
H Worth

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr Neil Badcock, Chairman of Penzance AFC.

18. **PRAYERS**

The Council's Chaplain, Reverend Julian Drew had offered his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting and the Mayor led the Council in reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Mr Badcock was invited to present the revised plans for the redevelopment of the football ground to the Council and due to the confidential nature of this presentation it was

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

See notes of Mr Badcock's presentation at Confidential Appendix "A".

Following the presentation by Mr Badcock, it was

RESOLVED: to re-admit the press and public.

19. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors DJ Axford, F Granger, J Parkin, KLW Perry, CAC White.

20. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest from the four standing committees were noted, in addition to which the following declarations were made:

Councillor Ruhrmund declared an interest in Appendix “A” – Presentation by Neil Badcock, Chairman of Penzance AFC, pending legal advice concerning her position as a member of the Planning Committee of Penwith District Council.

21. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the following meetings:-

- (a) Full Council - 10th March 2008
- (b) Special Town Council - 17th March 2008 (the Town Clerk informed members that a query had been raised concerning the Minutes of this meeting and this would be discussed ‘in committee’ at the end of the meeting).
- (c) Special Town Council - 7th April 2008
- (d) Annual Town Council - 12th May 2008

having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED: that, subject to the amendments to the minutes of the Special Town Council meeting of 17th March, the minutes should be signed as true and correct records.

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

Street Trading Application – Simon Taylor

Mr Taylor had applied for permission to sell pancakes from a trailer on 14th November either outside Lloyds Bank on Market Jew Street or in a car park in aid of Children in Need and it was

RESOLVED: Not to object to the application.

23. **TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reminded the Council of the forthcoming events and encouraged members to attend:

Feast of St John Service on Sunday 22nd June, and
Golowan weekend on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June.

24. **QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 24**

Councillor Freeman raised a query as to why the water feature by the Humphry Davy Statue had been out of action for 10 weeks and the Town Clerk advised members that he had spoken to Penwith District Council and that there was a problem with the water pump and an ongoing dispute about who was responsible for the repairs. He had, however, been informed that the water feature should be back in action in approx. 2-3 weeks.

25. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

It was

RESOLVED: to consider all confidential appendices (unless no discussions required) at the end of the meeting.

(a) **General Purposes Committee – 19th May 2008**

(i) Penwith District Council Young Citizen of the Year Award 2008 (Minute 4.(f))

The Town Clerk advised members that both the local police force and the YMCA had been contacted regarding nominations for this award but that, so far, none had been received and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(ii) St Piran's Day Holiday (Minute 4.(g))

The question of supporting a public holiday for St Piran's Day in general was discussed and arguments both for and against the proposal were put forward and it was

RESOLVED: to support the adoption of St Piran's Day as a public holiday in Cornwall.

(iii) Post Office – Network Change Programme (Minute 4.(l))

Members were advised that Gulval Post Office had been closed and converted into residential property at the request of the owner who had found the business unviable due to the proximity of Tesco and it was felt that, since one Post Office had already been lost in the Parish, efforts should be made to secure the future of the remaining Post Offices and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(iv) Resignation of Councillor from Golowan Management Group and selection of new representative (Minute 4.(t))

Councillor Reed was unable to continue as the Council's representative on the Golowan Management Group due to work commitments and it was

RESOLVED: that Councillor Worth would be appointed the new Council representative with immediate effect.

(v) Visit of HMS Penzance (Minute 4.(u))

Although HMS Penzance would not be able to visit Penzance over the Golowan weekend, the commanding officer had informed the Town Clerk that he would still like to take part in the festivities and offered the support of himself and 5 or 6 crew members (dependent upon them obtaining accommodation at RNAS Culdrose) and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(vi) Health Matters (Minute 8.)

The Town Clerk informed members that notification had been received of a ½ day meeting ‘One Cornwall Health Impact Assessment Workshop’ that would take place on Tuesday 17th June in Redruth and if anyone was interested in attending further details could be obtained from the office and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(vii) Mayors’ Parlour Campaign Team – notification of meetings on 20th March and 25th April and press release from the ‘Keep Cancer Care in Cornwall Campaign’ (Minute 8.(d))

Councillor Cotton reported that there were delays on the progress of several initiatives but the CT Scanner was now in a trial period and should be fully operational by the end of June.

Concerns were expressed about the slow progress, especially with regard to residents of West Cornwall still being allocated appointments at Treiske rather than at West Cornwall Hospital or St Michael’s and patients were encouraged to ask for a transfer of such appointments. Councillor Lawrence also raised the issue of excessive expenses occurred by patients having to travel to Devon for specialist treatment and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(viii) Penzance and Newlyn Regeneration Management Group – Minutes, Agendas and dates of next meetings (Minute 9.(a))

The Town Clerk was asked to provide an update on the status of the Penzance Regeneration Consultation Group that had not met for some time but members were informed that progress on all outstanding issues was slow (partly due to the move to a Unitary Authority) and there was little to report and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(ix) Newlyn Fish Industry Forum – meeting of 12th May (Minute 9.(c))

A written report on the activities of the Newlyn Fish Industry Forum had been provided by Councillor Granger and would be circulated to all members at the next opportunity and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position. (NB: sent to members under separate cover on 6th June)

(x) Draft Marine Bill (Minute 9.(d))

With regard to the proposals contained in the Draft Marine Bill to widen the coastal path to a width of 4 metres, it was

RESOLVED: that a letter should be sent from the Council protesting against this proposal and asking for further clarification and justification of a measure that could destroy the character and purpose of the coastal path and requesting that the Town Council be included as a consultee on all such proposals.

- (xi) One Cornwall (Minute 10.)

The Town Clerk advised members that additional papers had been received that would be copied out to all Councillors and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

- (xii) Council/Councillor Project/Initiatives – formulation of policies (Minute 13.)

The purpose of forming a small committee to co-ordinate the input of various items for discussion was to encourage all Councillors to become involved in the areas in which they had a special interest and it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the proposal.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report including the Confidential Appendices.

- (b) **Penlee House and Park Committee – 20th May 2008**

It was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report including the Confidential Appendices.

- (c) **Planning Committee – 13th March 2008**

It was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

- (d) **Planning Committee – 3rd April 2008**

It was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

- (e) **Planning Committee – 24th April 2008**

- (i) Invitation to the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Conference – 17th May 2008 (Minute 106.(k))

Councillor Moreland asked if a summary of the above conference was available and the Town Clerk would investigate this and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(f) **Planning Committee – 21st May 2008**

(i) **Correspondence re Road Sign Finger-Posts in Gulval (Minute 3.(b))**

Concerns were expressed over the lack of action by Cornwall County Council with regard to the re-painting of the Finger-Post signs in Gulval and the failure to regard this as a priority and it was

RESOLVED: to write to the County Council as proposed.

(ii) **Cornwall Minerals Development Framework (Minute 3.(g))**

The Town Clerk informed members that he had reviewed the documents recently received and reported that the Development Framework would have no impact of any consequence on the operation of quarries in the area. Any additional quarrying works would be the subject of a planning application and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(iii) **Sustainable Community Strategy for Cornwall – Consultation Document (Minute 3.(h))**

Concerns were expressed over the ‘unwieldiness’ of this document that was very difficult to read, full of ‘jargon’ and lacking in ambition and members were asked to submit their views in writing to the Town Clerk’s Office by the morning of Thursday 5th June for collation and submission by the deadline of that date and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

(iv) **Site Viewing Panel Meetings**

Councillor Rendle raised concern over a site meeting that had taken place without the Town Council being informed and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

(g) **Finance/Property Committee – 22nd May 2008**

(i) **St Piran’s Day Holiday (Minute 7.(a))**

The members of staff present left the meeting while the Council discussed this item.

It was

RESOLVED: to grant staff an additional days holiday in celebration and support of efforts to raise awareness of the patron saint of Cornwall.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the report.

26. **Consultation on Parish Elections**

Correspondence had been received from the Chief Executive's Department of Cornwall County Council seeking views on four options for the date of the next Town and Parish elections. Members were reminded that a resolution was passed at the meeting of the Town Council on 4th February 2008:

“to adopt the recommendation that Penzance Town Council should call upon government to ensure that elections of councillors for the parish of Penzance are next held on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2009 and every four years thereafter.”

This resolution was taken to bring the elections into line with the proposed Unitary elections in 2009, however, it now looked doubtful whether the Unitary Authority would be in a position to hold the elections then and they may be postponed to a later date. It was pointed out that a 'stand alone' election would be very expensive for the Town Council and it was

RESOLVED: that the resolution taken on 4th February would stand as stated and that the Town Clerk would write to Sheila Healey at Cornwall County Council requesting an explanation as to why the options for election dates had been restricted to four which did not concur with the directive from DCLG that did not place a limit on the options.

10:05pm

Town Mayor
14th July 2008