

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 1st December 2008 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor SJ Reed (Chairman)

Councillors CA Dennis
RM Lawrence
M Lovegrove
RA Mann
JF Moreland
D Nebesnuick
PCH. Rendle
J Ruhrmund
H Worth

55. **POSITION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE**

Councillor Reed having now assumed the position of Chairman of the committee, the position of Vice-Chairman was vacant and it was

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillor H Worth as Vice-Chairman.

56. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors M Freeman, KLW Perry

57. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor RM Lawrence declared a personal interest in Minute 63. Health Matters and Minute 65. One Cornwall.

Councillor SJ Reed declared a personal interest in Minute 59.(b) Montol Festival and 59.(g) Forum for Penwith based arts and cultural organisations due to his position as Chairman of the Montol Festival Committee.

Councillor J Ruhrmund declared a personal interest in Minute 64.(c) Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Market Jew Street, Penzance Traffic Management & Street Enhancement Scheme – Final Report Summary, due to her position as Chairman of the group that produced the report.

58. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2008**

Having been circulated, it was

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

59. REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

(a) Election details

The Town Clerk advised members that three candidates had been nominated to fill the vacancy on the Council and that an election date had been set for the 18th December and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

Members raised concerns about the proposed location of one polling station on Market Jew Street and its inaccessibility for disabled residents and the lack of parking and it was

RECOMMENDED: that a letter be sent to Penwith District Council raising concerns about the choice of location for the polling station and calling for a review of the suitability of all polling stations in the parish.

(b) Montol Festival

The itinerary for the forthcoming Montol Festival had been distributed to all members and this included two civic functions – the Carol Service at St Mary’s Church on Sunday 14th December and the Lantern Procession on Montol Eve on Saturday 20th December.

Members were informed that the Montol market would take place inside a vacant shop site in the Wharfside Shopping Centre and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted and that congratulations should be offered to all the organisers of the Festival.

(c) Police Matters

(i) PACT – report of meeting on 13th November 2008

Councillor Lovegrove had attended the meeting held on 13th November and provided a brief verbal report. The main topics under discussion were the proposed new parking restrictions and the suggestion from the police that Penwith District Council could offer free overnight parking (6pm to 9am) to local residents to alleviate the parking problems and this suggestion had been accepted by the District Council.

The problem of vehicles constantly parking on Causewayhead had also been discussed and parking fine tickets would be issued and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(d) CTE/PAS

(i) Sub-lease of properties to people with learning disabilities – meeting of 17th November 2008

Minutes of the meeting that took place on 13th October were now available for anyone who wished to have sight of them and this item would be taken forward to the next full Council meeting for Councillor CAC White to report on the meeting of 17th November and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (ii) Consultative Panel Meeting – Monday 1st December 2008

It was noted that this was the second meeting of the Consultative Panel Meeting that clashed with a Town Council meeting and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the officers at PDC responsible for organising these meetings be asked to ensure that they do not clash with Town Council meetings in order to enable the Town Council representatives to attend.

- (e) CALC

- (i) Postponement of Annual General Meeting

The Town Clerk informed members that the AGM of CALC that should have taken place on 28th November had been postponed to Saturday 7th February and Councillor Rendle would attend as the Town Council's representative and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (ii) Larger Councils meeting with the new Chief Executive of One Cornwall Council

A Larger Councils meeting had been organised for the morning of Wednesday 10th December at which the new Chief Executive of the One Cornwall Council would be present and the Mayor, Councillor PCH Rendle and the Town Clerk would attend this meeting and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (f) Penwith Town and Parish Forum – change of meeting date

The next meeting of the Penwith Town and Parish Forum had been moved to Thursday 18th December to coincide with the Electoral Boundary Review consultation event that would be held on the same day and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (g) Forum for Penwith based arts and cultural organisations

Notification had been received of a proposed meeting organised by the Director of Acorn Arts (Toni Kirk) and David Scott of Penwith District Council to bring together various art and cultural groups, organisations and committees to liaise and provide mutual support.

No date had yet been set for this meeting but Councillor Cotton would attend as one of the Town Council's representatives on the Golowan Management Group and as Chairman of the Finance Committee and Councillor Reed would also be attending as the Chairman of the Montol Festival group and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(h) Newlyn Archive

The Newlyn Environment Group was in the process of setting up a Newlyn Archive which it was hoped could be housed in the Newlyn Centre and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(i) A30 Action Group

Notification had been received of the next meeting of the A30 Action Group that would take place in the Penwith District Council offices on the 19th January 2009 and this would be forwarded to Councillor F Granger, the Town Council's representative on the Group and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(j) CCTV – damaged camera

The Town Clerk reminded members that concerns had been raised about a CCTV camera outside M&Co on Market Jew Street that had been damaged during removal by a scaffolding company. In response to a letter raising these concerns, an email had been received from the Community Safety Officer stating that the camera had now been repaired and was fully operational and that, although the repair had been paid for out of the West Cornwall CCTV budget, reimbursement of this amount from the scaffolding company's insurance provider was being pursued and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(k) Appointment of Honorary Freemen

Members were reminded that the deadline for the submission of nominations for Honorary Freemen was the end of December and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(l) List of Circulars Received

In addition to the circulars already listed in Appendix 'A' the Summons and Agenda for the full Council meeting of Penwith District Council on Wednesday 3rd December had been received and all the circulars were available to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(m) **Reports from Outside Bodies**

There were no reports from outside bodies and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(n) **Items for Information**

Items for information, as listed in Appendix 'C', were available to any member who wished to have sight of them and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

60. **FINANCIAL POSITION INCLUDING REVISED ESTIMATES 2008/09 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2009/10 TOGETHER WITH SUPPORTING NOTES (SEE APPENDIX 'D')**

The Committee considered its financial position to the 31st October 2008 and it was

RESOLVED: to note the position.

The Committee also considered revised estimates for the current year and estimates in respect of 2009/10 and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the revised figures be approved in respect of the current year and the proposed budget for 2009/10 also be approved.

In respect of the Christmas lights, members welcomed the proposal put forward to install a permanent electrical infrastructure to support the lights and to hire in lights annually on a three year turn around basis it was

RECOMMENDED: that the proposal be accepted.

61. **STREET TRADING**

There were no street trading applications to report.

62. **EDUCATION**

In view of the Committee's decision at the previous meeting to support the positive aspects of education and schools within the parish, Councillor Nebesnuick put forward the suggestion that the Headteacher of Mousehole School be invited to speak to the Committee about the improvements that had been implemented recently at the school and it was

RECOMMENDED: that Councillor Nebesnuick proceed with this invitation.

Councillor Worth, whose son had recently attended a full Council meeting in order to gain

a better understanding of how a Council works, suggested that there could be more teenagers who would welcome the opportunity to attend Committee and/or Council meetings to gain a similar insight into the workings of local government and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the attendance of members of the Youth Council at future Council meetings be supported.

63. **HEALTH MATTERS**

(a) **Report of meeting of Mayors Parlour Campaign Team**

This item would be taken forward to full Council to enable Councillor Cotton to report and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

64. **REGENERATION**

(a) **Isles of Scilly Route Partnership – public exhibition**

A week long public exhibition organised by the Isles of Scilly Route Partnership would take place in January 2009, followed by a public meeting.

The Town Clerk also reminded members that a private meeting had been arranged for the Town Council to meet with Tim Wood, Isles of Scilly Route Partnership Project Lead Officer, and that the Conservation Officer and the Head of Sustainable Development from Penwith District Council would also be present. The meeting was scheduled for Monday the 8th December 2008 and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(b) **Newlyn Fish Industry Forum – Minutes of meeting held on 24th September 2008**

The minutes of this meeting had been copied to all councillors for information and the Town Clerk informed members that the next meeting that had originally been scheduled for December had now been postponed to January to allow more time for funding issues to be resolved and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

(c) **Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Market Jew Street, Penzance Traffic Management & Street Enhancement Scheme – Final Report Summary**

The final report summary of the Market Jew Street Traffic Management & Street Enhancement Scheme had been copied to all councillors for information and Councillor Ruhrmund, the Chairman of the group, informed members that the report would be presented at the forthcoming meeting of Penwith District Council on Wednesday 3rd December with the recommendation that PDC support the report when it is presented to the Implementation Executive of the One Cornwall Council.

Councillors raised concerns over some of the items contained within the report such as the amount of displaced traffic using Chapel Street and the fact that there is no evidence of economic benefits to the street resulting from the scheme and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (d) Penzance & Newlyn Regeneration Management Group Meeting – change of meeting date

The next meeting of the Penzance & Newlyn Regeneration Management Group Meeting would take place on Tuesday 2nd December and the Town Clerk would provide a verbal report of the meeting at the full Council meeting on the 11th December and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (e) Defra – managing our marine resources – licensing under the Marine Bill

This paper had been received in the office and was available for any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

- (f) The European Commission’s Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Correspondence had been received concerning the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and was available from the Town Clerk’s office for any member who wished to have sight of it and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt be noted.

65. **ONE CORNWALL**

- (a) One Cornwall – information for young people

In a bid to involve young people in the forthcoming changes to the local government, three information sessions had been organised - 29th November in St Blazey, 6th December in Liskeard and 13th December in Helston - aimed specifically at providing information for young people and it was

RECOMMENDED: that the position be noted.

- (b) Parish and Town Council Engagement Events and Electoral Review Consultation

A series of consultation events around the electoral review had been organised by One Cornwall with the local event taking place at the Penwith District Council offices on 18th December and a representative of the Town Council was invited to attend. Due to the size of the Council and the level of interest expressed by Councillors who would like to attend this event it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Clerk contact the organisers to request that more than one representative be allowed to attend and this item would be taken forward to full Council for further discussion.

(c) The Localism Charter

A draft summary of the Localism Charter had been circulated to all members and comment was invited by the end of December. The full version of the document was available on the internet and it was

RECOMMENDED: that members who possessed a computer could download a copy of the document if they wished and that members who did not have access to the internet could contact the office and request a paper version.

Councillor Ruhrmund felt that the 15 principles of the core agreement should include mention that Town and Parish Councils are committed to delivering best service at a local level and it was

RECOMMENDED: that receipt of the document be noted and the matter be taken forward to full Council for further comment.

(d) Active Partnering Framework

Town and Parish Councils had been invited to submit a request to take part in a pilot scheme aimed at testing the principles of the active partnering framework. It was intended that 20-25 pilot schemes would run for a maximum of 18 months and councils were asked to indicate which service they would be interested in testing and at which level (chosen from an outline of five levels provided with the consultation document).

There was some debate about whether the Town Council should submit a bid to be part of this pilot scheme or whether it should wait for the outcome of other councils taking part. However, Councillor Ruhrmund put forward the view that, as one of the larger councils in Cornwall, at least a petition to take part should be submitted and after further deliberation it was

RECOMMENDED: that the Town Council apply for the management of St John's Hall as an asset at level five – 'Devolved service delivery – complete devolution of service to local council where appropriate', with the proviso that full funding follow the function of managing the building.

66. CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE CODES OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

A suggested response to the proposed changes to the codes of conduct had been received from Penwith District Council's Standards Committee and it was

RECOMMENDED: that this response be copied to all members for consideration at full Council on the 11th December 2008.

8:50pm

Chairman
19th January 2009