

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING held in The Guildhall, St. John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance on Monday 20th April 2009 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor RA Mann (Town Mayor)
J Ruhrmund (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors MR Cotton
CA Dennis
JH Dixon
M Freeman
F Granger
RM Lawrence
R Lewarne
M Lovegrove
D Nebesnuick
J Parkin
KLW Perry
PCH Rendle
H Worth

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors J Moreland, SJ Reed, CAC White, TE Williams.

Absent without apologies: Councillor DJ Axford.

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH APRIL 2008**

The minutes of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Town Meeting, having already been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a true and correct record.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

4. **REPORT OF TOWN COUNCIL'S TWENTY-NINTH YEAR**

The Town Mayor reported on the Council's year 2008-09 and a copy of the Mayor's Report now appears as Appendix "A" to the minutes.

5. **AN EXPLANATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S FINANCES DURING THE PAST YEAR**

The Town Mayor informed members that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008, having been approved by the Council at a meeting on 14th July 2008, were available for review.

6. **REPORTS FROM LOCAL VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS WHO WISH TO GIVE THEM**

(a) Mayor's Parlour Campaign Team

Concerns were raised about the recent dismissal of the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust and it was agreed that this matter would be discussed and a suitable response agreed upon at the forthcoming Informal Council meeting on 22nd April.

(b) Cornwall Community Banking (formerly Penwith Credit Union)

Councillor Lawrence reported that Penwith Credit Union had been renamed as above and now covered all of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

(c) Older People's Forum

Councillor Lawrence reported that the Older People's Forum was going from strength to strength and that Penwith Radio would go live on 1st May and would hopefully be available on FM radio early in 2010.

(d) St Petroc's

Councillor Granger reported that St Petroc's had opened a further hostel for the homeless in Falmouth and that Breadline in Penzance was undergoing refurbishment and that an application for lottery funding was being made to assist with the ongoing provision of services.

(e) Penzance, St Just, Bendigo & Nevada City Twinning Association

Councillor Freeman reported that, since inviting St Just to join the twinning association a year ago, the activities of the group had increased significantly and had now split into two sections with Bendigo and Nevada City operating under separate chairmanships but sharing the same administration. Two local primary schools were now successfully twinned with schools in Bendigo and were regularly exchanging correspondence and artefacts and further schools in both Bendigo and Nevada City were eager to take part in the twinning experience. An IT consultant was working with the group on a voluntary basis to set up a 'social networking' site that could be accessed by all the twinning groups of Penzance (including Concarneau and Cuxhaven) and, although this was still in an embryonic stage, the concept was very exciting. The group was also deciding upon a commemorative gift to the people of Bendigo in recognition of the loss of life and property during the recent bush fires.

(f) YMCA

Councillor Dixon had been a member of the board of the YMCA in Penzance in his capacity as a Penwith District Councillor and had been asked by the board to remain as a member. The YMCA provides accommodation for homeless teenagers (aged between 15 and 21) and also looks after refugees and provides various activity clubs for young people. The Penzance YMCA is the only one

remaining in Cornwall and now also operated a branch in Redruth. The association was finding it increasingly difficult to raise funds although the demand on their services was increasing and they would like to expand their operation and would appreciate any advice or assistance with raising funds. It was agreed that the YMCA would be asked to formally request a representative from the Town Council on the Board and this would then be included in the list of 'outside bodies'.

(g) Penzance/Concarneau Twinning Association

Councillor Cotton reported that a delegation from Penzance had visited Concarneau in 2009 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the twinning connection and had presented the people of Concarneau with a copper plaque from the Newlyn Copperworks as a commemorative gift.

(h) Penwith Police Consultative Committee & Police Liaison

Councillor Lovegrove reported that the Police Liaison Committee had been very active during the past year and the main focus of activity had been tackling alcohol abuse.

7. **QUESTIONS AND/OR RESOLUTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Cotton spoke on behalf of a resident of Chirgwin Court, Queen Street who was very concerned at the increasing level of anti-social behaviour taking place in Queen Street resulting from the displacement of rowdy people by the police from the area at the top of Market Jew Street, especially on weekend nights. Many of the residents of Chirgwin Court were elderly and/or vulnerable and were very upset by the noise and nuisance acts in the street. The residents had put together a petition to request an extension of the CCTV system to cover Queen Street and were seeking support from the Town Council. Councillor Lovegrove agreed to take the petition to the next meeting of the PACT group and a representative from Chirgwin Court would also be asked to attend that meeting.

7:43pm

Town Mayor
19th April 2010