

MINUTES OF PENZANCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in The Guildhall, St. John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance on Monday 1 June 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor R A Mann (Mayor)
Councillor J Ruhmund (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors D J Axford
M R Cotton
J H Dixon
M Freeman
R M Lawrence
M Lovegrove
J F Moreland
D Nebesnuick
K L W Perry
P C H Rendle
T E Williams

Also present: Inspector Mark Eccles, Penzance Police; Calum Humphreys, winner of the Humphry Davy Prize.

1. **PRAYERS**

The Council's Chaplain, Reverend Julyan Drew, offered prayers.

2. **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

There were no members of the public present.

3. **PRESENTATIONS:**

Humphry Davy Prize Winner

The Humphry Davy Prize was presented by the Mayor to Calum Humphreys, this year's winner. Mr Humphreys had been unable to attend the Annual Town Council Meeting on 11 May when the prize would normally have been presented to him.

Inspector Mark Eccles, Penzance Police re CCTV

Inspector Eccles addressed the Council with regard to the CCTV system, responsibility for which had now passed to Cornwall Council. The system was due for renewal and a digital system was being investigated rather than the existing analogue one. This had provided an opportunity to review the current location of the cameras and the coverage provided and, although the coverage in the town centre was good, the police would like to add a further three cameras:

- In the High Street / Bread Street area
- At the bottom of Morrab Road to also cover the Promenade
- At the top of Chapel Street / Queen Street

It was hoped that these further cameras would help in dealing with the displacement of anti-social behaviour away from the town centre and some of the existing cameras would be relocated slightly to provide more effective coverage.

Inspector Eccles also confirmed that alcohol-related incidents in Penzance had been highlighted as a priority by the PACT group.

Following Inspector Eccles' presentation, there was an opportunity for members to ask questions about the CCTV system and any other policing related issues where members highlighted concerns about the impact of anti-social behaviour on visitors to the town, including drinking in public, foul and offensive language, vandalism and drunkenness and abusive behaviour of young people, and a proposal was put forward that a special meeting of the Town Council should be organised with the local police and other agencies to investigate more effective ways of tackling such incidents in the town.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Eccles and he left the meeting.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors C A Dennis, F Granger, R Lewarne, S J Reed, C A C White, H Worth

Absent without apologies: Councillor J Parkin.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Other than the declarations of interest from the four standing committees, there were no further declarations to be noted.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on 16 March and 11 May 2009 having been circulated, it was

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

7. TO DEAL WITH BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

The Clerk advised that there was no business to be dealt with under this heading.

8. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor made the following announcements:

- On 20 May, the Mayor, Mayoress and Town Clerk had met HRH the Duke of Kent on the occasion of his visit to the Penlee RNLi Lifeboat.
- The Mayor invited all members to take part in the Feast of St John service on Sunday 21 June with a reminder that they should meet at 10:40 a.m. on the forecourt of St John's Hall.
- A group of children from Newlyn School had recently visited the Mayor's Parlour (with Rev Julyan Drew) and the Mayor had conducted a guided tour of the Parlour and the Guildhall.
- Members were informed that the annual Corpus Christi Fair (run by Anderton & Rowland) would take place from Thursday 4 June to Sunday 7 June on the Harbour Car Park.

9. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 24

Councillor Freeman pointed out that two committee meetings had been inquorate during the last cycle of meetings and asked if steps could be taken to ensure better attendance at future meetings. The Town Clerk pointed out that there were ways in which the Council could look at providing financial assistance (such as helping with childcare costs) to facilitate the attendance of those members who sometimes find it difficult to meet this commitment.

10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) General Purposes Committee – 18 May 2009

Acceptance of the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee on 18 May 2009 was proposed and seconded with the Chairman drawing particular attention to the recommendations at Minutes 6., 8(a) and 8(b).

(b) Penlee House & Park Committee – 19 May 2009

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Penlee House & Park Committee on 19 May 2009 was proposed and seconded with the Chairman drawing particular attention to the recommendation at Minute 4(h).

(c) Planning Committee – 2 April 2009 & 30 April 2009

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Planning Committee on 2 and 30 April 2009 was proposed and seconded.

Penwith District Council – Penzance Conservation Area Appraisal – adopted March 2009 (Minute 94(d))

Councillor Moreland expressed concerns over the views put forward by the Planning Committee and about the usefulness of the Penzance Conservation Area Appraisal document as a planning guide and aid and it was

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk would organise a small working group (to include the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee) to

review the document and provide a draft response for discussion at the next full Council meeting.

(d) **Finance/Property Committee – 21 May 2009**

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Finance/Property Committee on 21 May 2009 was proposed and seconded with the Chairman drawing members' attention to the fact that, as the meeting had been inquorate, all items discussed had resulted in recommendations only being made.

11. Exclusion of Press & Public

Due to the confidential nature of the next item, the press were asked to leave the meeting.

Finance/Property Committee – 21 May 2009; Penlee House & Park Committee – Memorial Chapel (Minute 9(b))

A report concerning structural repairs required to the Memorial Chapel had already been distributed and the Town Clerk advised members that information regarding potential funding from the War Memorials Trust had been received in the office. There were several issues to be concerned including the drainage, under-pinning and renewal of the roof and it was

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk should proceed with obtaining costings for the work, submit an application for funding, draw up a tender document to go out to local companies and keep the Penlee House & Park Committee and the Finance/Property Committee updated on progress.

Subject to the above, it was

RESOLVED: to adopt the reports and Appendices of all the Committee meetings.

8.30 p.m.

Town Mayor
13 July 2009