

MINUTES OF PENZANCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in The Guildhall, St. John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance on Monday 28 September 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

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

Councillors M R Cotton
C A Dennis
M Freeman
R M Lawrence
R Lewarne
M Lovegrove
J Moreland
D J Nebesnuick
P C H Rendle
T E Williams

32. PRAYERS

The Council's Chaplain led those present in reciting the Lord's Prayer.

33. APOLOGIES

Councillors D J Axford, J H Dixon, J Parkin, C A C White.

Absent without apologies: Councillors F Granger, H Worth.

34. PRESENTATION:

The Mayor welcomed Mrs Mabyn Nicholls and Mr Jim Dann representing the Cuxhaven Twinning Association who gave a brief presentation on the work of the Twinning Association and the events planned for this year's visit from the delegation from Cuxhaven.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Mayor presented Mrs Nicholls with a cheque for £500.00 which represented this year's grant on behalf of the Town Council.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Other than the declarations of interest from the four standing committees, none were received.

36. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed as true and correct records the minutes of the meetings of

Council held on 13 July 2009 and 24 August 2009.

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

None received.

38. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor made the following announcements:

- It had been arranged for the annual Town Council photograph to be taken prior to the next full Town Council Meeting on Monday 16 November 2009 and members should arrive before 6.45 pm.
- Unfortunately, Councillor Judith Parkin was unwell at the present time and would not be able to attend meetings of the Council for the next couple of months. On behalf of the Town Council, the Town Mayor wished Judith well and hoped she had a speedy recovery.
- Paul Feast Service would be held on Sunday 11 October 2009 at Paul Church and all Councillors were invited to attend and should return their reply slips as soon as possible.
- Also, replies for the Trafalgar Service should be with the Town Clerk's Office by Friday 2 October 2009.
- Finally, it was asked if Councillors could please indicate to the Town Clerk's Office their attendance or otherwise in respect of the invitation to the Retirement Party of the former Town Clerk.

39. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 24

Councillor Lewarne asked the Mayor whether he intended to respond to the story that appeared in 'The Cornishman' newspaper on 17 September 2009 regarding the Council of the Isles of Scilly's support for Option A in respect of the Route Partnership.

The Mayor advised Councillor Lewarne that he and the Deputy Mayor did intend to respond to the article and would report back any response.

40. REPORTS FOR DECISION:

(a) **Risk Management**

The Town Clerk reported that one of the terms of the Town Council's Annual Audit was that Risk Management and areas of Self-managed Risk and Risk Assessment documents were revisited on a periodical basis to ensure the Town Council's exposure to risk was minimised.

Members considered the revised document attached to the report and it was

RESOLVED – that the areas of Self-managed Risk and Risk Management – use and insurance cover documents be approved and adopted.

(b) **Amendment to Final Accounts**

The Town Clerk advised that following submission of the Annual Return in July 2009, the Audit Commission had raised a number of queries regarding the Return.

Working with the Assistant RFO, the Annual Return had now been amended and the queries raised had been answered.

Members noted that Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were approved on 13 July 2009 and the relevant extracts were submitted with the Annual Return.

Further to consideration, it was

RESOLVED – that the amended audited accounts for the year 2008/2009 be approved and adopted.

(c) **Community Network Panels – A Call for Evidence**

The Town Clerk advised that, given the importance of integrating with Cornwall Council to achieve their aspirations of delivering localism, it was important that the Town Council made a full response.

To this end, the Town Clerk advised that he was proposing to hold a Special Meeting of the Council to be held on 21 October 2009 to consider this issue and respond by the deadline set by Cornwall Council. It was

RESOLVED – that Council approves convening a Special Meeting on 21 October 2009 to consider this matter.

41. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) **General Purposes Committee – 14 September 2009**

Minute 19(a) – Older People’s Champions

Members considered the request to support the Penwith 50 Plus Forum and, further to consideration, it was

RESOLVED – that Councillors M Freeman, R M Lawrence and R Lewarne be appointed as the Council’s Older People’s Champions.

Acceptance of the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 14 September 2009 was proposed and seconded.

(b) **Penlee House & Park Committee – 15 September 2009**

Acceptance of the minutes of the Penlee House & Park Committee meeting held on 15 September 2009 was proposed and seconded.

(c) **Planning Committee – 3 September 2009 and 16 September 2009**

3 September 2009 - Minute 16 – Household Waste Recycling Centre

Further to discussion of the household waste recycling centre, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Council could not support a proposal to use site 31 as a place for the waste recycling centre. If Cornwall Council had identified the need for an additional access road at this junction then Penzance Town Council would be minded to support independent works.

Acceptance of the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 3 September 2009 and 16 September 2009 was proposed and seconded.

(d) **Finance/Property Committee – 17 September 2009**

Councillor D Nebesnuick declared a prejudicial interest in minute 20 – Heritage Plaque Scheme and withdrew from the meeting during consideration.

Councillor Moreland requested that he be involved in the discussion regarding Wherrytown Skatepark at minute 21.

Acceptance of the minutes of the Finance/Property Committee meeting held on 17 September 2009 was proposed and seconded.

It was

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the above committee meetings be approved and adopted.

42. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – to exclude the press and public from the meeting to discuss matters of a confidential and sensitive nature in accordance with Section 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

43. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

(a) **Penlee House Car Park**

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding the operation of the car park and, further to consideration, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk seeks an independent Health and Safety Assessment of the operation of the lower car park.

Councillor Nebesnuick requested to have his name recorded as having voted against this decision.

(b) **Staff Honoraria**

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding honoraria for staff undertaking extra duties connected with the Golowan Festival and further to discussion, it was

RESOLVED – that the honoraria recommended by the Town Clerk be approved.

44. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE OF PENLEE HOUSE AND PARK COMMITTEE – 15 SEPTEMBER 2009

It was

RESOLVED – that the confidential minute of the Penlee House and Park Committee meeting held on 15 September 2009 be approved and adopted.

The meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.

Town Mayor
16 November 2009