

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 18 January 2010 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillors P C H Rendle (Chairman)
C A Dennis (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors R M Lawrence
R Lewarne
M Lovegrove
R A Mann
J Moreland
J Ruhmund

38. REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVE OF PENZANCE POLICE STATION

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Mark Sayers from Penzance Police Station who provided a brief report on police activities over the Christmas period and answered questions from the floor.

For the period 23 December to 2 January reported crime was down by 10% over the previous year and the number of reported incidents was down by 20%. It had been a relatively quiet holiday period and the processes put in place by the police (which included restricting officers' leave) appear to have been effective.

Sergeant Sayers informed the committee that with prior notice he would be able to provide more detailed crime figures and show the number of alcohol and drug related crimes and it was agreed that this would be useful for the next meeting.

Members also raised concerns over the number of incidents and accidents occurring at the Tesco roundabout.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Sayers for his report and he left the meeting.

39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from

Councillors F Granger and D Nebesnuick.

Absent without apologies: Councillor H Worth.

40. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

41. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2009

Having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED - that the Chairman sign the Minutes as a true and correct record.

42. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

(a) Town Flag

The Town Clerk reported that a quote for producing a town flag to replace the one that was stolen several years ago had been received and it was

RECOMMENDED – that this item be taken forward to the Finance & Property Committee meeting with the recommendation that the quote be accepted and a new flag commissioned. The Chairman would also make some personal enquiries to obtain some comparison prices. Quotes for the cost of a standard with the same design as the flag and also a St Piran flag would also be pursued.

Councillor Lewarne suggested that the Town Council Crest could be used on items such as t-shirts to promote Penzance.

Councillor Moreland raised a question concerning the flagpoles by the railway station that have not been used for several years. Initially, flags designed by local children were flown but they were destroyed or stolen by vandals and after the first two years they were not replaced.

As the railway station is one of the main points of entry into the town, it was felt that steps should be taken to enhance the outlook of the area and that the flagpoles should be utilised and it was

RECOMMENDED – that the Town Clerk should contact the various organisations having an interest in the railway station, e.g. Network Rail, First Great Western and Cornwall Council (Sally Newby), stating that the Town Council is interested in being involved in a partnership to reinstate the flags and generally enhance the gateway to the town.

43. BUDGET REVISION 2009/2010 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2010/2011 (see Appendix 'A')

The committee considered revised estimates for the current year and the proposed budget figures in respect of the financial year 2010/2011 and it was

RECOMMENDED - that the revised figures in respect of the current year and the proposed budget for 2010/2011 be approved.

The committee also wished to record thanks to the Committee Clerk, Teresa Fogarty, for the hard work and effort put into the organisation of rigging the new town centre Christmas lights.

44. ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (a) Detailed crime report from Penzance Police
- (b) Renovation of the railway station and bus station area
- (c) The proposed closure of the Cornwall Council offices at St Clare, Penzance.

(Due to the urgency of this matter, it would also be included on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting on 1 February).

The meeting closed at 8.13pm

Chairman
1 March 2010