

DRAFT MINUTES

At a future meeting the council will consider the accuracy of these minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes to that meeting to confirm whether or not they have been amended.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE 2024 AT 7.00pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

24/33 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr P Hughes
Councillors: Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke
Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr C Gibbon, Cllr A Harris-Guerrero
Cllr Mrs Y Patterson

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
2 members of the public

24/34 Apologies

Cllr A Dellow, Cllr Revd Mrs C Edleston,
Cllr Mrs R Finlay, Cllr S Griffin,
Cornwall Cllr Dr A Virr

24/35 Declaration of Interests

- α. Pecuniary – None.
- β. Non Registerable – None
- χ. Dispensations – The Town Clerk had extended a dispensation to Cllr Finlay to participate in any discussion pertaining to the Fowey allotments until 2025.

24/36 Public Participation & Questions

A member of the public queried the reason and the duration of the road works at the entrance to Fowey/Lambs Barn. The Town Clerk responded that a water pipe was being renewed and the works could potentially take 14 weeks to complete.

A member of the public asked what was happening about all the rubbish being stored at the back entrance of The Ship in Church Avenue. Cllr Harris-Guerrero responded that he had spoken to the Landlord and that he was intending to erect binstores to cater for this.

A member of the public stated that he understood that FTC had been given a donation to refurbish the Scout Hut and create a football changing room. The Town Clerk clarified that Wales & West Utilities had paid compensation to FTC when they had dug a trench across Squires Field. The members had subsequently agreed that the money should be earmarked for the Squires Field Working Group to use a match funding for grant applications, not specifically for the Scout Hut, although FTC could choose to utilise it there.

A member of the public asked if FTC were going to create a café in the pavilion. The Mayor confirmed that the current intention was to create a small facility there selling teas/coffees/cake and suchlike in conjunction with the library.

24/37 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 22nd May and the Adjourned Annual Meeting held on 23rd May 2024

Annual Meeting It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Patterson and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Adjourned Annual Meeting It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

24/38 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None.

24/39 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Town Hall & Quay – no report

Finance – no report.

Environment – no report

24/40 To Receive Reports from Representatives on Other Bodies

Forum Cllr Patterson reported that the Forum members had raised concerns about the amount of weeds growing around the town. The Mayor confirmed that the Environment Committee had arranged that certain areas would be sprayed in due course, as had been done in previous years. Cllr Patterson added that the Forum had asked that their thanks be extended to the Mayor and FTC for the excellent D Day celebrations in the town.

24/41 To Receive the Mayors Report

I was sad to hear of the death of Gill Histon and on behalf of Fowey Town Council I send condolences to her family and friends. Gill was a stalwart supporter of Squires Field Community Centre and with her determination and enthusiasm she inspired the board of directors to transform the former bowls club into a well maintained, airy space with updated facilities and a welcoming ambience. Among the projects she managed include the replacement of the roof and ceilings, a new kitchen, oak doors fitted to the main hall, larder and library room, the glazing of the entrance hall; this list is by no means exhaustive. At the Annual Meeting of FTC in 2023 Gill and her husband Ollie were presented with the Spirit of Fowey Community Award in recognition of their work in refurbishing and maintaining the Community Centre, alongside organising the many clubs and events. Gill also worked tirelessly to provide stock for the Larder as well as staffing it. She continued to work for the benefit of the community right to the end of her life and will be greatly missed.

I am pleased to report that the D-Day 80 commemoration events were well received. The Town Crier started the proceedings at 9.00am with the D-Day proclamation. At 4.00pm there was an impressive Sail By organised by Fowey Harbour Commission, Gallants and the Yacht Club. Bell ringing heralded the service on the Town Quay at 7.00pm which perfectly reflected the poignancy of the occasion. Jive music recreated a 1940 atmosphere and there was even some dancing. The evening culminated in the D-Day Proclamation by the Town Crier, the International Tribute made by Revd Carol Eldleson and the lighting of the Beacon by veterans John Adams and Graham Champion accompanied by the Last Post by cornet player Hannah Hawken.

My thanks go to Richard Day, Jenna Newcombe, Peter Robinson and Revd Carol Edleston, The Town Crier, Fowey Voices, Lankelly Shout, the Legion, the Church, Squires Field Community Centre, Fowey Town Council and the Mace Bearers for supporting the D-Day 80 commemoration. Special thanks go to John Adams and Graham Champion.

On the afternoon of Thursday 13th June I had the pleasure of visiting Fowey Primary School on the invitation of the School Council. Representatives from all years were present and keen to

find out about my role of Mayor and how the Council worked. They also asked if there was anything that they could get involved with, particularly concerning the environment. Everyone came prepared with a question. Their teacher explained that members of the School Council were taught to share their thoughts and experiences and to give presentations. We have some future councillors in the making!

24/42 To Receive the Town Clerk's Report

- There have been ongoing issues with the fire alarm in the Town Hall and this is being caused by the sensors in the aquarium. The engineers have advised that this is due to ongoing water corrosion and they have advised that the MCP in the aquarium is replaced with an IP Rated MCP due to the environmental conditions. The quote is for £712.50, plus vat. Cllr Harris-Guerrero queried the situation regarding a guarantee. The Town Clerk would ascertain.
- The fendering on the TQ steps was damaged in the recent storm making it impossible for boats to land. Due to the urgency of the situation I arranged urgent repairs.
- The Regatta Committee have requested permission to have a mobile food vending outlet on the quay during Regatta Week. At present they have not confirmed what kind of food would be sold but they have advised that they would not be looking to serve food until after 8.30pm so as not to interfere with other food outlets in the town.
- All the documentation has been sent off to the auditors for the final part of the process.

24/43 To Receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had supplied the following report

Readymoney Beach Bins Cornwall Council is currently devolving some of the waterside assets in Fowey to Fowey Harbour Commissioners and Fowey Town Council. This includes Readymoney beach, which is now the responsibility of FHC, with FTC being responsible for the slipway at the top of the beach. As Cornwall Council is no longer is the owner of these spaces, they have removed their waste bins from the beach.

Going forward CC will install a new fixed small bin for dog waste near the start of the Saints Way leading off Readymoney Beach and will increase the size of the bin at the top of Readymoney Road at the junction with the Esplanade.

The position of FHC and FTC is that they have decided not to continue a bin collection service on the beach and will instead erect clear signage to remind beach users to take litter home with them. The Beachshop provide a bin for any waste generated from their business. Given that over the previous few years the bin capacity has had to be increased due to the large volume of rubbish generated over the busy summer months, I have asked for a meeting in the autumn to ensure the new waste operating model for the beach is effective.

Please direct any concerns about rubbish on the beach to FHC and FTC.

Cllr Harris-Guerrero queried when Cllr Virr had last attended a FTC meeting. The Town Clerk checked back and confirmed that it was January 2024.

24/44 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Patterson and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £30,399.93 be approved.

24/44 Correspondence

Correspondence was left 'on the table' for Councillors attention.

24/45 Resolutions from Councillors

None

24/46 Squires Field Pavilion

The refurbishment was nearly complete and decisions were needed regarding furnishings. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would liaise with Cllr Dellow about suitable tables/chairs and also arrange a meeting at the Scout Hut for members to look at the shelving.

24/47 Squires Field Working Group

Cllr Cooke gave the following report

1. Flashman's Track and Trail started on site 05.06.24; they have removed all the play equipment in the top area and this week (w/c 17.06.24) they are starting to install the new pump track and walkways. These works will run concurrently and are likely to take 6-8 weeks to complete.
2. There has been a bit of back and forth with the CIL Funding Agreement as we tried to confirm funding claim dates. There was a bit of a misunderstanding as we were informed last week that we could only claim 36.1% of any given invoice over the project as a whole; however this was the first time we had been informed of this and this was not what was agreed back in November when we submitted our application. At that time we were asked what element of the project we would use the funding to deliver if our application was successful, to which we replied the pump track/walkways as this is Phase One. Following discussion with the CIL department we have amended the CIL Funding Agreement to show just Phase One of the works (pump track/walkways) against which the £80k will be claimed. This has been signed tonight and will be returned to the CIL department for sign off.
3. I would like to extend my thanks to Cllr Harris-Guerrero who had a very productive weekend up at Squires Field marking out the new pathways and football pitches for the contractor on site to ensure that they deconflict.
4. The SFWG meeting is 20.06.24 and we will be discussing signage and benches.

Cllr Harris- Guerrero reported

1. Most of the ground in the area where the new MUGA will be sited has been found to be unstable; the contractor has suggested the old surface is taken up and crushed and relaid with a rubber crumb surface on top. The original quote for the MUGA was iro £33K but the revised quote was now iro £40K. His suggestion was that the MUGA work was separated into 2 phases, each costing iro £20K. FTC had already approved expenditure of £3K and he suggested that this could be topped up to £20K by FTC and he would try to secure the remaining funding. Discussion followed about the possibility of leaving the project half completed, which members were concerned about. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item in July and that Cllr Harris-Guerrero would supply firm figures prior to the meeting.
2. He had spoken to a contractor about his idea of refurbishing the old Scout Hut to provide a café, public toilet and storeroom and had been advised that this would cost iro £80K. He considered that any potential future running of the building would need to reflect this. He also considered that the plans to provide a small café facility in the pavilion should be shelved as this would be competition for any future tenant. It was pointed out that the original intention was to provide a football changing facility in the Scout Hut and that any suggestion of leasing it out would need to be very carefully considered, not least because of the onerous overage conditions imposed by Cornwall Council. Cllr Hughes cautioned that FTC already had some major projects underway

and now had a great asset in the pavilion; the priority must be to get it up and running for community use. Members had already identified usage, *inter alia*, as a library, a basic café, a base for a part time admin assistant, an opportunity for Councillor surgery's and these plans needed to be expanded upon now that the build was nearly complete. The Town Clerk suggested that this could be looked at initially by the Finance Committee and recommendations made to full Council.

24/48 Alldays Fields

No update.

24/49 Readymoney Bins

The Town Clerk reported that there had been a recent meeting about the bin situation but she had been unable to attend due to another meeting commitment. She had asked Cornwall Council to put the meeting back 3 hours to enable FTC to be involved but they had been unwilling to do so, which was unfortunate. There had been a suggestion that the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor should attend in place of the Town Clerk but both had been working so this had not been possible. However, following the meeting Scott Sharples (Cornwall Council) had advised that CC are reviewing the location of the bins following their decision not to renew their tenancy of the beach and the reversion of land management to the owners of the beach itself (the sand), Fowey Harbour Commissioners. FHC would be erecting signage telling people to take their rubbish home and would be looking at collection arrangements for what is collected by the volunteer beach cleaners. Confirmation was awaited from Cornwall Council regarding the ownership of the land on the right hand side between the road and the beach; this was not devolved to FTC and is not owned by FHC. The land owned by FTC is leased out to the Beach Shop under a long lease negotiated by Cornwall Council prior to devolution. Under the terms of the lease the tenant is required to keep the area under her control clean and tidy and deal with waste generated by her shop, which she is doing efficiently. However, she is not obliged to deal with rubbish generated by beach users or dog walkers. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had suggested several times that a bin positioned at the bottom of The Parade (a popular route for dog walkers) would possibly help the situation, but CC appeared to be unwilling to consider this location.

Cllr Hughes noted that there were no bins at Mevagissey around the harbour and, whilst he had originally had doubts that the system would work, it was proving to be very successful.

24/50 Town Quay Pedestrian Zone

No update.

24/51 Questions/Reports from Members

Cllr Hughes reported on a very successful exchange visit to Binic in Brittany. The question of possible twinning between the town and Fowey had been raised again. This would be discussed further when Ken Wittamore returned to Fowey, although members considered that whilst they were supportive of the initiative it was not something FTC could take the lead on.

Cllr Berryman reported that the new tenant was erecting a deer-proof fence on the footpath between Trenant and Lankelly and because he was altering the fence-line the existing track was no longer usable. This would mean a new track being cut back, which could potentially prove to be expensive.

Date of Next Meeting

17th July 2024

Meeting Closed

8.45pm