

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 17th JULY 2024 AT 7.00pm IN FOWEY TOWN HALL

Minutes taken by Cllr Berryman and written up later by the Town Clerk

24/52 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr P Hughes (part)
Councillors: Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke, Cllr Mrs F Day,
Cllr A Dellow, Cllr Revd Mrs C Edleston, Cllr R Finlay, Cllr C Gibbon,
Cllr A Harris-Guerrero, Cllr Mrs Y Patterson

In Attendance

12 members of the public

24/53 Apologies

Cllr S Griffin,
Cornwall Cllr Dr A Virr

24/54 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.

The Mayor welcomed everybody to the July Meeting of Fowey Town Council and directed the following

‘Before starting this public session, I would like to remind you that you must speak to the meeting through the chair and that you need to be respectful of each other. In addition, please speak loudly and clearly because at the moment I can’t hear very well. We are keen to hear from members of the public, but we have to ensure that there is enough time for the meeting, and so we may not be able to hear from everyone. Once the meeting is in progress members of the public should not interrupt or intervene.’

24/55 Public Participation & Questions

Andrew Weaver (LESW) explained the basic concept of running the Market and stated that without some financial concession from FTC he would in all probability be unable to financially to run the 2024 Market as it was not currently viable. Cllr Berryman responded that FTC was responsible for dealing with public money and asked if it would be possible to see LESW's accounts to enable the members to justify a decision. Andrew Weaver responded that he would be happy to supply a breakdown of expenditure but would not release his income figures as these were business sensitive.

Four business people trading in the town spoke on how important the Christmas Market was to their businesses, as it provided a substantial boost in their income to carry them through the winter until Easter. Another business owner queried that if LESW considered that Market was

not financially viable, would it be possible to down size it to allow for this. Andrew Weaver responded that this would not work due to the economies of scale; he needed the turnover to successfully operate the event.

24/56 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th June 2024

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

24/57 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None.

24/58 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted
Town Hall & Quay – no report
Finance – no report.
Environment – minutes noted

24/58 To Receive Reports from Representatives on Other Bodies

Fowey Forum Cllr Patterson reported that the Forum had noted the following

1. The Town clock is not chiming correctly
2. There were overhanging tree branches on Hanson Drive

24/59 To Receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor gave the following report

- Since our last meeting I have had the privilege of representing Fowey Town Council at a number of events the highlight of which was the service for the presentation of the Trelawny Plate at the Parish Church of St Nun Pelynt on the 4th of July. This award is made every two years to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Cornish life. The plate was presented to Edward Richardson by Colonel Sir Edward Bolitho Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall in recognition of his inspirational work with” Farm Cornwall” a charity which provides essential support for Cornish farmers. The service which was attended by nearly 200 people was conducted by the Rev Richard Allen with the Rt Rev Hugh Nelson Bishop of St Germans who led the prayers.
- I am very much looking forward to the 2024 Fowey Regatta which runs from the 18th- 24th August. I already have plans to attend the Crowning of the Carnival Queens Ceremony at Place Grounds at 6.30pm on 19th August and will present the awards at the Classic Car Show on Thursday 22nd August. See the Regatta website for more event details.
- You will have seen the email sent by Claire Hoddinott that the Harbour Commission are ask for letters of support for a funding application for a pontoon at Caffa Mill. If you agree, a letter of support will be sent to Paul Thomas on behalf of Fowey Town Council

24/60 To Receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had supplied the following report

Saints Way I was contacted with concern regarding a new electric fence on the Saints Way. Here is the response from the Countryside Team:

“Thank you for bringing the fencing to our attention which has been erected along the Saints Way between Lankelly and Penhale. This was recently brought to our attention and has been inspected by the Countryside Officer. The landowner here has been undertaking a large amount of work on the land here which amongst installing the fencing, includes drainage work and re-

establishing forgotten orchards and ponds. Whilst the owner has erected fencing along the boundary of part of the footpath, it would appear that this is not actually encroaching on the width of the path, but it would appear that the side growth on the opposite side has been left to grow in such a way that a new worn route has been established which is the route walkers are currently using. We will now be looking to clear the surface growth which will then leave an average width of approx. 5metres which the public will be able to use. We would like to arrange for the full clearance to be undertaken as soon as possible, however, with bird nesting season upon it, we may only be able to undertake some minor clearance – enough to widen the path for the time being, and undertake the rest of the clearance once bird nesting season is over. The Countryside Officer also spoke to the landowner about the current condition of the deer fencing, who will arrange for the bottom section to be fixed so that it no longer presents a trip hazard to walkers. She also spoke to the owner about the use of electric fencing on the footpath side of the fence. This will now be moved so that it will run landward side of the fence – away from the public.”

Passage Slip Following a report of concern from a member of the public I arranged for Cornwall Council Highways to jet wash Passage Slip to ensure safety for the public using the slip.

Bins Readymoney I have met with Cornwall Council’s waste team and have agreed that a small dog waste bin will be fixed to a post on the entrance to the coastal path when leaving Readymoney Beach. Also a larger bin will be installed at the top entrance to Readymoney Road. The responsibility for waste on the beach remains with both Fowey Town Council and the Fowey Harbour Commissioners. A number of residents have spoken to me hoping that these organisations will review their decision not to pay for bins/waste removal on the beach.

General Election Thanks to Steve Double for his support to me in my role as Cornwall Councillor over the past 7 years. I look forward to meeting Noah Law MP and getting his support with issues affecting our area.

Following the Mayor reading Cllr Virr’s report, Cllr Berryman asked that it be recorded that Fowey Town Council has no responsibility for rubbish generated on Readymoney beach.

24/61 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Patterson, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £116,332. 81 be approved.

24/62 Correspondence

Correspondence was left ‘on the table’ for Councillors attention.

24/63 Resolutions from Councillors

None

24/64 Fowey Christmas Market

The Mayor directed that this item be moved up the agenda

Cllr Hughes read a statement to open the discussion and, despite several interruptions from the public, pointed out, *inter alia*, that FTC had retained control of the Town Hall to support local artists and makers, who could not afford to have a stand in the main marquees.

Due to the interruptions Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be closed to allow the public further time to speak.

Andrew Weaver then spoke to correct some points that he considered Cllr Hughes had misstated. Four businesses owners then re-emphasised the importance of the Christmas Market to businesses in the town.

Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that the meeting should reopen.

After discussion, Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Gibbon seconded and it was RESOLVED that it be recorded that FTC fully supports in Christmas Market in principle. Voting was 10 in favour and 1 against.

At this point Cllr Hughes stated that he could not support the Council in this and that he wished to tender his resignation from FTC.

Cllr Hughes left the meeting.

Councillors discussed how and if FTC should respond to the request from LESW. Andrew Weaver had previously asked for control of the Town Hall or a contribution from the local traders operating there towards his costs. During this discussion there were continual interruptions from the public and the Mayor warned that if there were any more outbursts she would adjourn the meeting.

Cllr Finlay reminded the meeting of the options Andrew Weaver had suggested

1. The Town Hall is 'given' to LESW as part of the overall Fowey Christmas Market

OR

2. The Town Hall Market 'contributes' the costs, signage, marketing and organisational costs similar to local businesses, who he asks to sponsor the Christmas Market. He suggests £750.00 + vat.

Cllr Finlay then suggested that a resolution should be passed as follows 'In the spirit of the Xmas market and the importance of it to the town Fowey Town Council supports option 2.'

Cllr Harris-Guerrero asked if it would be possible to close the meeting again to enable Andrew Weaver to indicate which option he would favour.

He then proposed, Cllr Patterson seconded and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be closed again to allow this.

Andrew Weaver confirmed that he had no preference.

Cllr Berryman proposed, Cllr Patterson seconded and it was RESOLVED that the meeting should reopen.

Cllr Harris-Guerrero then proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded that for 2024 the hire charge for the Town Hall stallholders should rise from £45.00 to £60.00, which, if there were 15 stalls, would generate the £900.00 requested by LESW; the money raised should be used as a donation to LESW to support the 2024 Christmas Market. There were no amendments and it was, therefore, RESOLVED. Voting was 9 in favour with 1 abstention.

24/65 Squires Field Pavilion

Cllr Dellow reported:

- 4 tables and 20 chairs have been ordered and awaiting delivery
- The internet is now live in the Pavilion
- Charge for car charging will be 50p/kw/hr
- Members expressed a desire to hold our next Council meeting 18th September in the pavilion

24/66 Squires Field Working Group

Cllr Cooke gave the following report

1. The pump track is progressing well on site - it should be finished in about a week and a half's time. The walkways will then take about a week after that. I met Sally on site on Friday to discuss the interface between the walkway and the pavilion.
2. We have submitted our first claim to CIL to recover the funding for the pump track/walkways; this has been processed and we are awaiting payment. The next claim will be at the end of July.
3. I found out today that we have been successful in our application to Cllr Virr's Community Chest Fund and have been awarded £700 towards the purchase of 2 x senior football goals. We did ask for slightly more (£851.25); however £700 was the amount that was left in the chest. FTC have provided match funding of £283.75 so there is a slight shortfall of £151.25. We have £86.40 left over from our previous community chest application so this leaves a shortfall of just £64.85.

Request for Funding, Cllr Cooke/Cllr Harris-Guerrero

Council had before it the quote from Flashmans Tack n Trail and after a discussion, during which Cllr Berryman as Finance chair explained that Council could meet the cost, primarily from the Squires Field Earmarked Reserve. It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded by Cllr Harris-Guerrero and was RESOLVED that Fowey Town Council accepts the quote from Flashmans Track n Trail of £33,890 net of vat for the construction of the new MUGA facility

24/67 Alldays Fields

No update.

24/68 Town Quay Pedestrian Zone

No update.

24/69 Questions/Reports from Members

None.

Date of Next Meeting 18th September 2024

Meeting Closed 8.45pm