

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 15th
JANUARY 2025 AT 7.00pm IN PAVILION HOUSE, LANGURTHO ROAD, FOWEY**

24/157 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
Councillors: Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke, Cllr Mrs F Day,
Cllr A Dellow, Cllr Revd Mrs C Edleston, Cllr Mrs R Finlay,
Cllr C Gibbon, Cllr A Harris-Guerrero

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
1 member of the public

24/158 Apologies

Cllr Mrs Y Patterson
Cornwall Cllr A Virr

24/159 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.

24/160 Public Participation & Questions

None.

24/161 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th December 2024

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

24/162 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

None.

24/163 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

24/164 To Receive Reports from Representatives on Other Bodies

None.

24/165 To Receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor gave the following report

I was privileged to represent FTC at the Town Carol Service held at the Fowey Church on 22nd December, along with other representatives of the community who read during the service. It was good to see so many people in the congregation enjoying this joyful event.

On 28th December myself, Cllr Patterson and Cllr Day attended a wedding at the Town Hall to provide support for the wedding party and ensure that the legal proceedings were conducted appropriately. Family and friends of the couple created a celebratory ambience at the venue and the civic ceremony reflected the couple, including additional vows, readings from family and friends with live music. The Town Hall was chosen by the couple because of its history and location. We have access to photographs taken during the wedding and these will be on Cornwall Council's Wedding Collection to promote the venue.

As mentioned in my December report, responses to the survey about health services in Fowey and the surrounding area needed to be returned by 5th January. The following response from FTC was sent to the Deputy Director-NHS Kernow on 2nd January:

Further to our involvement in the Stakeholder Meeting and the Public Engagement Meeting about the future of the Fowey Hospital, Fowey Town Council is keen to explore options in relation to facilitating the promotion of improved health care provision in Fowey through our Library service.

As far as Fowey Hospital is concerned it is clear that NHS services are not viable at the site and that, sadly, it will be closed. We are, however, concerned that the land will be sold to the highest bidder and be added to the growing amount of expensive and unobtainable housing for local people. We consider that the site must be secured for our community, possibly as affordable or sheltered housing for our ageing population. Fowey Town Council would like to work with Cornwall NHS Trust to explore this option.

Please accept this as our response to the survey.

The Binic Exchange visit is happening between 27th June and the 1st July. There will be a Civic Reception at the Town Hall at lunch time on Saturday 28th June so would Councillors please put this date in your diaries. Exact times will be provided closer to visit.

24/166 To Receive the Town Clerk's Report

- I have finally sorted out the issue with npower and the pillar supply on Town Quay. This has taken over two years to resolve and npower have credited our account with £50 goodwill in respect of my wasted time.
- I have made some enquiries about the possibility of cctv to cover the pump track/playground. As a Town Council looking to install this equipment in a public place we have to abide under different, more involved criteria than a private individual. I have requested a quote and will include the possibility as an agenda item when I have all the details.
- Russell has undertaken some remedial work on the Town Quay slipway steps
- I was contacted by Wildernet earlier today as they are investigating offering free wifi to community organisations. I have given them all the details of the pavilion and also contact details for SFCC. Cllr Dellow confirmed that Wildernet had not been prepared to supply an internet connection when the pavilion system had been set up and the current service provider was British Telecom, although this was not on a long contract.
- I have been chasing up the work on the Town Hall gutters and the repainting of the disabled space lining on Town Quay.
- I have been in contact with highways about the poor state of the surface on Town Quay and have received the following reply.

Some defects have very recently been identified for repair on Webb Street. We have also nominated this section of road for surface treatment, for consideration against all other roads across the county requiring resurfacing. South Street is on the current treatment list for next financial year, however based on challenging budgets this is always subject to change. If there is an opportunity to include Webb Street into the scheme, we will endeavour to do so.

If Town Council requires a quote for resurfacing works for the extents it is responsible for, if you are able to provide a marked plan showing the areas and estimated m2 for each defective area, I can ask our surfacing team if it is something they are able to consider at a time when we're carrying out works in the area.

24/167 To Receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had supplied the following report

Damaged Bin Hansen Drive and Faulty Bench Fixings These have reported to Waste Services and Highways respectively and are awaiting repair.

24/168 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Patterson and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £30,535.25 be approved.

24/169 Correspondence

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

24/170 Resolutions from Councillors

None

24/171 Pavilion House

The Mayor reported that in December Cllr Finlay, Cllr Day, the Town Clerk and herself met with a team from Cornwall Council Library Service. Subsequently we received a detailed action plan of things to be done before the Library is open to the public, with an estimated opening date of 1st April. We will be meeting with Annie Stewart (SFCC) soon to discuss the transition. I included a call-out for additional library volunteers in my article in the Fowey News.

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke, seconded Cllr Day and RESOLVED that a desk including a drawer unit should be purchased for Pavilion House office.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Berryman and RESOLVED that the cost of transport to move equipment from the Town Hall to Pavilion House should be approved.

24/172 Squires Field Working Group

Cllr Cooke gave the following report

1. The football goals are going to be installed tomorrow by Andrew Inglefield. The activity board was installed last week and looks good.

2. One of the pump track drains has gone AWOL. Jasper has procured another one to replace it but I have asked him to suggest how we can better stop them going walk about. In the meantime Cllr Cooke proposed, Cllr Harris-Guerrero seconded and it was RESOLVED that the like-for-like replacement procured by Jasper should be purchased and installed.

3. We have received a quote from Andy Inglefield of £1697.34 to run a post and rail fence between the pump track and play area; I have asked for this to be considered at the next Environment Committee meeting. Cllr Harris-Guerrero has obtained a quote for circa £2500.00

+ VAT for a half round fence. It was agreed that post and rail is all that is required; Cllr Harris-Guerrero will go back and request a revised quote for this specification for comparison.

4. The next SFWG will be early February with the intention of working out how we are going to remove the bank slide, tunnel and mound prior to the new play equipment arriving.

5. On ordering the play equipment we have gone for the rural colour way (sandstone, beige and green) as this will fit in better with the existing equipment (as opposed to blue and red).

6. Cllr Harris-Guerrero reported that hopefully digging for the concrete pads will begin next week. The layout has changed slightly with some picnic benches and normal benches being concentrated over by the play area and pump track as this is where the majority of people will naturally be. They will not be under cover so hopefully this will discourage any anti-social behaviour.

7. The installation of the concrete pads and benches and the shortfall on the play equipment purchase has been made possible with the extremely generous sponsorship of £5k provided by Sir Chris Evans. We would like to take this opportunity to thank him profusely for enabling us to carry out these works to regenerate the space at Squires Field; it is very much appreciated.

8. The purchase of the benches has been made possible by the generous contribution from a number of local businesses in each sponsoring a bench; again we would like to extend our sincere thanks to them for their kindness.

Cllr Harris-Guerrero added that the benches/picnic tables had been made but, frustratingly, had yet to be installed. Hopefully the concrete pads would be laid down week beginning 19th January.

24/173 Alldays Fields

No update.

24/174 Appointment of Safeguarding Officer

Following the recent suggestion of an issue at Squires Field it was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that Cllr Edleston should be appointed as FTC's Safeguarding Officer. It was further proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Cooke and RESOLVED that the Safeguarding Officer should be authorized to act without prior approval from the Mayor/Town Clerk but only in an emergency situation. It was agreed that Cllr Edleston and the Town Clerk should review the FTC Child & Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy and recommend amendments (if any) to full Council.

24/175 Squires Field Car Park

Cllr Dellow reported that the cost of installing a PV system in the car park to subsidise the cost of maintenance was prohibitive as no big users are available to utilize the power generated. Furthermore, an approach to Community PV firms had been unsuccessful. He had concluded, therefore, that a system was not viable at present, although technology was moving forwards all the time. The Town Clerk reminded the meeting that the surface area of the car park was extremely poor and needed urgent attention. Members appreciated that this would be an expensive exercise and the cost could not be absorbed from reserves but considered that an ANPR system would be unacceptable to local residents. Cllr Harris-Guerrero considered that a Pay & Display could potentially be appropriate but only on the basis that the first 2 hours stay would be free of charge. Cllr Edleston considered that this may be a solution but she stressed that there would need to be very good communication with the community before any decisions was made; people would need to fully understand the options available to FTC. One suggestion was that the project could be approached by charging until the cost of surfacing was covered

and then reverting to a free facility. It was agreed that Cllr Harris-Guerrero would obtain more quotes for surfacing and drainage as a first step.

24/176 Old Grammar School Garden

Members noted the significant dismay expressed by the public following the decision of the Trustees to terminate FTC's lease.

24/177 Devolution

Following the decision by Cornwall Council to close the Main Car Park toilets it was proposed by Cllr Gibbon, seconded Cllr Berryman RESOLVED that FTC should open negotiations with Cornwall Council regarding the freehold transfer of the property to the Town Council. Cllr Finlay suggested that the site could be managed in the same way as the Readymoney and Caffa toilets by using some of the building for retail/office space. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had requested a cleaning quote but this was still awaited.

It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Berryman and RESOLVED that FTC should also request the devolution of Readymoney car park, following the recent suggestion by Cornwall Council that its management should be outsourced, potentially to Corserv, to enable the installation of a ANPR system.

24/178 Parking on Hanson Drive

Cllr Day reported that the congestion on Hanson Drive/Tower Park during the winter months was still obstructing access for the bus and that 24 hour/365-day parking restrictions were urgently needed. Following discussion, Cllr Day proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that an application should be made to the CAP Network Highway Scheme for a TRO to extend the existing summer parking restrictions on Hanson Drive/Town Park to a 24 hour/365-day restriction. Cllr Harris-Guerrero abstained from voting. The Mayor agreed to advise the CAP meeting scheduled for the following week of the decision.

24/179 Questions/Reports from Members

Cllr Berryman queried if FTC still wanted the old galvanized planters that were previously used on Town Quay as, if not, Lostwithiel Town Council had a use for them. The Town Clerk confirmed that the planters were in the old Scout Hut; members agreed to consider the request when they had had a look at them.

Date of Next Meeting 19th February 2025

Meeting Closed 8.17pm