

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 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.00pm IN PAVILION HOUSE, LANGURTHO ROAD, FOWEY

24/180 Present

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs L Simms
Councillors: Cllr Mrs F Day, Cllr A Dellow, Cllr Mrs R Finlay,
Cllr C Gibbon

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
2 members of the public (part)

24/181 Apologies

Cllr J Berryman, Cllr Mrs R Cooke, Cllr Revd Mrs C Edleston,
Cllr Mrs Y Patterson, Cllr A Harris-Guerrero.
Cornwall Cllr A Virr

24/182 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.

24/183 Public Participation & Questions

A member of the public advised that he had been a victim of domestic abuse and, in his opinion, the law should be changed so that all domestic abuse cases must be heard in the Criminal and not the Family Court. He asked FTC to lobby Cornwall Council about this as he had significant safeguarding concerns. The Town Clerk responded that the Criminal Court and the Family Court are two different entities; a case in the Criminal Court usually follows a charge by the CPS but the Family Court reacts to an application being lodged, usually by a parent (Private Law) or the Local Authority (Public Law). The Children Act 1989 is the basis of all work in the Family Court and the welfare of the child is paramount. Sadly, domestic abuse is often a feature of the cases and this is considered on a case-by-case basis with professional input as appropriate. The Town Clerk advised that Councillors could not make a judgement on the gentleman's request on the basis of the scant information available to them and suggested to the gentleman that he should approach the Local Authority himself and voice his concerns.

A member of the public had attended the meeting to object to a planning application as she had mistaken the time of the planning meeting. However, Cllr Finlay advised her that the Planning Committee had objected to the application at the earlier meeting in any event. The lady was advised to also lodge her objection on the CC Planning Portal.

A member of the public reported that a street light by the Masonic Lodge was not working and the area was dark and dangerous. Cllr Gibbon agreed to ascertain the number of the light and report this to Cornwall Council.

24/184 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th January 2025

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

24/185 Matters Arising not on the Agenda (for report only)

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had lodged an expression of interest with Cornwall Council regarding the devolution of Readymoney Car Park.

The troughs had been gifted to Lostwithiel Town Council

24/186 To Receive and note the Minutes (if any) of FTC Committees

Planning – minutes noted

Town Hall & Quay – no report

Finance – minutes noted. The Town Clerk referred members to the decision of the Finance Committee regarding the appointment of an additional member of staff and it was agreed that this vacancy should be published in the Fowey News.

Environment – minutes noted

24/187 To Receive Reports from Representatives on Other Bodies

Community Area Partnership. The Mayor reported that she had attended a meeting on 22nd January. As agreed in our January meeting I made an enquiry to Sarah Scoltock our Community Link Officer about making an application for a TRO to reduce the congestion on Hanson Drive /Tower Park due to car parking during the winter. She replied that the delivery of schemes from the last phase of the Highways programme is progressing but there is no confirmation of future funding and it is unlikely that there will be any funding this year.

24/188 To Receive the Mayors Report

The Mayor gave the following report

- My Consort and I were privileged to represent Fowey Town Council at the Mayor of Launceston's Civic Service which took place at St Mary Magdalene Church on Sunday 3rd of February.
- Along with Cllr Finlay, Cllr Day, Cllr Patterson and Town Clerk Sally Vincent I have attended a number of meetings with Cornwall Library Service. I have also been helping to plan the VE80 celebrations on May 8th and the Binic-Etables-Sur-Mer exchange visit on 27th June to the 1st July. More information will be presented in the later agenda items.
- In the next Mayor's Column I will be asking the public for nominations for the Spirit of Fowey Awards. Would Councillors let me know if they would like to make a nomination, please?

24/189 To Receive the Town Clerk's Report

- I have again chased up the work on the Town Hall gutters and the repainting of the disabled space lining on Town Quay. Hopefully the gutters will be done this week.
- I have set up the gov.uk email address system as you requested and have your addresses and initial passwords for you.
- I have been advised that 'Steve's steps' on the quay have deteriorated badly over the winter. I have spoken to a contractor who has experience of repairing sea walls and he would be prepared to undertake the repairs. However, this will not be a straightforward job and will be expensive. He did suggest that the steps be removed completely and

replaced with some galvanized steps but I doubt that this would be permitted in the Conservation Area. Cllr Dellow and Cllr Gibbon agreed to meet the contractor on site to discuss options.

- As reported at the last meeting, the surface of the quay is in a poor state
- The coinpay system on the disabled toilet on the quay is broken; new parts have been obtained and Russell will be doing the repair so that the facility can be re-opened.
- There has been a blockage in the Town Quay toilets today so the facility had been closed until it can be dealt with.
- I have received an update on the main car park toilets. It seems that my email confirming that FTC will reluctantly accept the devolution 'got lost' in the Cornwall Council system. However, having received my reminder email they have apologized and confirmed that this will be 'progressed for potential transfer.' In the meantime CC has asked if FTC will run the toilets until the transfer takes place. I have responded saying that given the facilities are not due to open until 1st May if we work together I can see no reason why the devolution should not be completed before that date.
- Cornwall Council notified me this afternoon that they have awarded a Pop-up-Site licence for an outlet in Main Car Park selling Dirty Greek Fries, Greek Gyros, Greek Salad, Greek Cakes and hot & cold drinks.

24/190 To Receive the Report of the Cornwall Councillor

Cllr Virr had advised that he had nothing of note to report.

24/191 Accounts for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that accounts to the value of £21,553.16 be approved.

24/192 Correspondence

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

24/193 Resolutions from Councillors

The Mayor tabled her resolution that FTC publicly agrees to and signs the 'Binic Accord' with the Mayor of Binic-Etables on behalf of FTC in line with the briefing note titled 'Fowey Binic-Etables Exchange' supplied by Ken & Ali Wittamore. This was seconded by Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED.

24/194 Pavilion House

The Mayor reported

On 5th February members of Fowey Town Council met with Sarah Marsh, Nastassia Player and Paul Evered (Cornwall Libraries), Annie Stuart (SFCC Director) and Judith Taylor (SFCC volunteer coordinator) to thank SFCC for providing the Fowey Micro Library Service to date and to organise the transfer of the service from SFCC to Pavilion House, where there will be an extended service available to users.

I am delighted to report that thanks to Judith Taylor, who is happy to support the transition of volunteers with the present timetable, the Library will open at the Pavilion on the 22nd of March. The continuation of the restricted opening day/times on Tuesday and Saturday are an interim measure until we recruit a member of staff and additional volunteers.

The 22nd March will also be an Open Day when the public will be encouraged to visit the library to see the new facilities, find out about the services provided and, if they wish, to

register to become a library volunteer. Current volunteers and Councillors are due to receive training on the new systems on 11th March.

24/195 Squires Field Working Group

Cllr Cooke had supplied the following report

1. The concrete pads have been laid and the benches and picnic benches installed the last week of January. They all look really good on site.
2. Plaques have been ordered for the benches; these will be added once they have all arrived. Cllr Harris-Guerrero will carry out a World Cup style draw to determine location of each plaque to ensure fairness. My thanks go to Cllr Harris-Guerrero for coordinating all these works on site.
3. The football goals and activity panel have been installed and look great. We have removed the net extensions as children were swinging off them; these are currently stored with the nets in the pavilion. We are going to try and get some more funding from the Community Chest fund to procure some more activity panels as the current one looks a bit lonely.
4. I had a site meeting with Nick Parker from Wickstead on Wednesday 29th January to discuss positioning of the new play equipment. They are going to be on site towards the end of March to install, with the works due to be complete by the middle of April.
5. Jasper is going to dig out and level the ground where the bank slide and tunnel currently are and then relay the turf over the top and fence round to let it bed in. The grass mats for the new play equipment will then be laid over the top.
6. Cllr Harris-Guerrero will update you on the MUGA.

24/196 Alldays Fields

Cornwall Council had confirmed that this asset had been transferred across to the National Trust.

24/197 FTC Policies

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that the amendments to the FTC Child & Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy should be approved.

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded Cllr Gibbon and RESOLVED that the FTC Lone Working Policy should be adopted.

24/198 Squires Field Car Park

Deferred in the absence of Cllr Harris-Guerrero.

24/199 Old Grammar School Garden

It was proposed by Cllr Finlay, seconded Cllr Dellow and RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Finance Committee in respect of the appointment of a contractor to repair the OGS walls should be approved.

24/200 Town Quay

Cllr Finlay noted that there were several benches in the OGS Garden that could potentially be moved to the quay when the OGS lease expired, although a few more would be needed. Cllr Finlay then proposed, Cllr Day seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should obtain 3 new benches from Glasdon.

24/201 Allocation of proceeds from Council Tax on second homes

Members discussed the position of Redruth Town Council that that Cornwall Council consider a fairer way of proportioning the proceeds of second home council tax premium so that all areas have equal benefit reflected in their precepts and not only those in busy tourist areas/wealthier areas which have a higher rate of second home ownership. However, they concluded that they could not support this and Cllr Day proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that Redruth Town Council should be advised accordingly.

24/202 VE Day 80

The Mayor outlined arrangements to date as follows

With the help of Fowey Town Council, Fowey Church, Fowey British Legion, Mount Charles Band, Lankelly Shout, the Town Crier and Richard Day, the following programme has been arranged for the Fowey VE80 celebrations on May 8th. I have registered this event on the Official VE80 website.

9.00am The Proclamation. 6.30pm Bell Ringing. 7.00pm Service on the Quay. 7.30pm Mount Charles Band. 8.30pm Lankelly Shout. 9.15pm The Council meets at the Church to process to the Town Quay. 9.30pm Beacon Lighting followed by The Proclamation, The Tribute and the community singing of 'I Vow to Thee My Country' led by Lankelly Shout.

24/203 Christmas Market 2025

Members discussed this event at some length and voiced particular concern that the dates proposed by Live Events South West, 14th, 15, 16th November, were so early. Cllr Dellow considered that there were other later dates when the tides were sufficiently low to accommodate the Market and the Town Clerk was asked to explore this with Andrew Weaver. Members noted that Andrew Weaver had reported that he already had 23 positive responses from businesses for sponsorship with 7 more awaiting sign-off from senior management. This funding had been committed on the basis of the November dates, Cllr Finlay considered that FTC's role in the Christmas Market should be solely to make the quay available and that the businesses in the town should be much more involved in the decision making. It was hoped that a Business Group could be formed as had already been mooted and this Group should make important decisions, such as dates. Having taken everything into consideration the Mayor proposed, Cllr Finlay seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should issue a licence for the quay for the Market on 14th 15th 16th November 2025, but only if a later date could not be identified. Cllr Dellow voted against the proposal.

24/204 Questions/Reports from Members

The Mayor reported that she had received a lovely card from the Mayor of Binic designed by schoolchildren working with an artist and focusing on bullying.

Cllr Finlay noted that there was a lot of low level crime, anti-social behaviour and rough sleeping happening in the town and voiced her concern that Fowey no longer had access to a Tri Service Officer. The Mayor agreed to raise this issue with the Community Area Partnership.

Date of Next Meeting 19th March 2025

Meeting Closed 8.20pm