

## TORPOINT TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Torpoint Town Council held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 7.00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, 4 York Road, Torpoint.

**Present:** - Town Mayor (Councillor T R F Moore), Deputy Town Mayor (Councillor M N Pearn MBE), Councillors E H Andrews, B Hobbs, M J Crago, G J Davis, C K P Fowle, Mrs C A Jackson, L E Keise, R Skelly, Mrs R A Southworth and Mrs C I A Trueman plus the Town Clerk.

### **01-13 Apologies for Absence:-**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs J Moon, Mrs J M Martin and E L Parkin.

### **02-13 Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda:-**

Councillor Mrs R A Southworth - Non pecuniary interest was declared on agenda item 14(a) as a member of the Friends of Thanckes Park Management Committee.

### **03-13 Police Report:-**

In the absence of a police representative there was no report to present at the meeting although the subsequently received report read:-

**31** – Crimes in the town between the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013 and 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013 of which

- **7** assaults
- **1** harassment
- **4** criminal damage
- **5** theft including shoplifting
- **1** possession of drugs
- **2** dwelling burglaries
- **2** communication offences
- **1** vehicle interference
- **8** theft from motor vehicles

Although we have had a number of crimes this month, we have been able to make a number of arrests and have a number of suspects charged with offences or on bail for offences.

Councillor M J Crago was given to understand that it is suggested that there will be a reduction in the number of PCSO's operating in the town. Councillor Crago sought re-assurance that this will not affect policing in the town. Councillor B Hobbs reported that following representations he now understands that an extra police officer has been appointed to serve in the town and that this should benefit policing activities.

### **04-13 Minutes of the previous meeting:-**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

### **05-13 Matters arising from the Minutes:-**

a) Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee:-

Pursuant to minute 157-12(b) the Clerk reported that he has visited the toilets accompanied by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and met with an officer from Cornwall Council to undertake a "snagging work" exercise on the recently refurbished toilets. The agreed "snagging list" has been taken by the Cornwall Council

Officer. It was confirmed that following the previous meetings decision to accept the "tenancy at will", the Council has now taken on the toilet management as from the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013 and the resolution of the snagging work will be undertaken by Cornwall Council as soon as is practicable.

b) Cornwall Council Report:-

Pursuant to minute 157-12(c) the Clerk is awaiting information from the Joint Committee on the amendments to the proposed management arrangement submitted by this Council. It was noted that one of the additions is that of litter bins in the park and it is assumed that these can also act as dog fouling receptacles. Councillor M N Pearn noted that it is intended to introduce signage with the wording "dogs on a lead". Pursuant to minute 166-12(a) receipt was reported of an email reply from Cornwall Council that the Clerk read to members. The email confirmed the current system of dealing with pot holes but that it was intended to use a "hot box" in the future to facilitate a more permanent arrangement. The email was noted. Councillor M N Pearn in his capacity as Cornwall Councillor remarked that he understood that further repairs are being instigated and confirmed that the repairs would be permanent. Councillor B Hobbs spoke on the current method of repairing the potholes and voiced concern at the dangers to motorcyclists. Councillor Mrs C I A Trueman drew attention to the issues at the junction of Fore Street and Quarry Street.

## **06-13 Mayors Communications**

- 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013 – The Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs R A Southworth and J Tivnan visited the Festive Lighting Company based in Taunton. The Company hires out festive lighting for events including Christmas Lights that the Council currently hires from the company. The current contract is scheduled for renewal so a visit was arranged to view the options available for the next three years. We were taken on a tour of the company premises and a choice of lights was made that the Mayor made most of the choices. The Mayor hoped that the townsfolk would enjoy the lights when erected for the next Christmas season.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2013 – The Deputy Town Mayor and I were invited to the Torpoint Mini Soccer Club to present the members Easter Eggs and watch the training programmes. The young footballers had a mini Easter egg hunt looking for mini Easter eggs hidden around the grounds that was followed by the presentation of Easter eggs. All those present enjoyed the event.
- 24<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Ann and I attended the Saltash Civic Service at the invite of the Mayor and Mayoress of Saltash Councillor Martin Gee and Mrs Maggie Gee. Other dignitaries invited included Portreeve and Portreyne of Callington Councillor Jeremy and Mrs Karen Gist, The Mayor and Mayoress of Launceston Councillor Rob Tremain and Mrs Patricia Tremain and the MP for South east Cornwall Sheryll Murray MP. The service was held in St Nicholas and St Faith parish church followed by refreshments at the Guildhall.
- 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013 – Ann and I were invited to attend a concert organised by the Keynsian Singers Choir and the Military Wives Choir that was performed to a sellout audience. In addition to the choirs, three young ladies performed solo renditions. The evening was compared by John Tivnan. The proceeds of the event were divided between the Military Wives Choir Foundation and the RBL Poppy Appeal.

The Mayor also reported receipt of a letter from the Torpoint Moorings Association in which the Mayor confirmed that the Association did not promulgate any issues with Councillor Andrews and indeed thanked him for his input into the long process. Councillor Andrews confirmed that he considered the matter closed as the Torpoint Moorings Association has already made this known to him. The Mayor considered that other matters were for the newly elected Council to consider and decide.

## **07-13 Planning Applications**

- a) PA13/02330 – 23, Lamorna Park, Torpoint – Conversion of garage and ground floor extension to provide relative's living accommodation.

No objection or observation.

- b) PA13/02673 – 4, Langdon Down Way, Torpoint – Proposed side extension over existing garage and utility room.

No objection or observation.

The Deputy Town Mayor reported that the application for the proposed wind farm at Mendennick Farm has been withdrawn and that an application for a Travellers permanent site opposite Tregantle Fort has been submitted by Cornwall Council. Councillor Hobbs reported that the principal reason for the development was to improve security.

### **08-13 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 3rd April 2013 are received and the recommendations in minute 05-13FGP (a) (Standing Orders), 05-13FGP (b) Financial Regulations), 08-13FGP (b) (Parish of Torpoint – Town Clock), 08-13FGP (d) (Torpoint Ferryboat Entertainers - Request to hire room 10) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 09-13FGP (a) (Planning Applications) Councillor Mrs R A Southworth confirmed that if an application for a development at Greenvew, St James Road [PA13/01304] is received she had received objections to the application. The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Mrs Southworth's comments had been passed onto the Forward Planning Committee that considered the application but members of the Committee still wished to consider and make their recommendations on the application. It was suggested that Councillor Mrs Southworth submit personal objections or observation to the planning authority on the plan in question.

### **09-13 Minutes of the Forward Planning Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013 are received and the recommendations in minutes 5-13FP (a) (Publicity Policy), 8-13FP (Town Council Development Plan), 10-13FP(a) (Policing in Torpoint) and 10-13FP (b) (CALC - Membership Subscriptions) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to 5-13FP (a) (Publicity Policy) Councillor E H Andrews detailed proposals on the future of the notice boards and servicing arrangements. Pursuant to minute 8-13FP (Town Council Development Plan), Councillor M J Crago warned of potential parking issues in and around York Road if vehicular based organisations occupied vacant rooms at the Council Chambers. Pursuant to minute 10-13FP(a) (Policing in Torpoint) it was resolved to invite the police force Head of Estates to either the June or July meeting of the Forward Planning Committee to address members on the forces plans for Torpoint Police Station.

### **10-13 Financial Comparison**

It was **resolved** that the March 2013 financial comparison is received and adopted.

## 11-13 Accounts for payment

PAYEE	REASON	GROSS	(VAT)	NETT
British Telecom	Telephone	25.26	4.21	21.05
Jim Courtier	Servicing Mower	20.00	0.00	20.00
Cornwall Council	Non Domestic Rates	823.72	0.00	823.72
Security Dynamics	CCTV System	315.00	0.00	315.00
TRF Moore	Mayors Allowance	131.78	0.00	131.78
ADF Plastics	Repairs to Shelter Promenade	3,691.00	615.20	3,075.80
A D Smith	Laundry	5.80	0.00	5.80
CORY Environmental	Wheelie Bin	84.17	14.03	70.14
Tamar Laundry	Emergency Light Repairs	67.45	11.24	56.21
ITEC	Photocopies	22.42	3.74	18.68
PWS	Cleaning Materials	320.24	53.38	266.86
British Telecom	Telephone	54.16	9.03	45.13
Abbey Garden Machinery	Spare Parts Lawnmower	112.44	18.74	93.70
Cornwall Council	Non Domestic Rates	149.43	0.00	149.43
Smiths of Derby	Maintenance	405.60	67.60	338.00
Orange	Telephone	35.03	5.99	29.04

It was **resolved** that the residue between the actual expenditure and budget that had accrued in the Mayoral Allowance cost centre would be used to assist the Christmas Lights project in the town.

## 12-13 Correspondence

a) Friends of Thanckes Park – Request for a Council Representative.

Noted. To be included at the annual meeting.

b) PEAR Technology – Digital Mapping.

Noted. The Clerk would consider further.

c) Cornwall Council – Local Maintenance Partnership (LMP).

Noted. It was **resolved** to re-join the scheme.

d) Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd – Geo-Environmental Desk Study – Proposed BMX Track, Thanckes Park.

Noted. The Clerk reported that the report had only been received some hours prior to the meeting and read conclusions from the report to members. The Clerk stressed the need for the report to be considered further before any conclusions are drawn by the Council.

## 13-13 Reports

a) Cornwall Council:-

Councillor M N Pearn presented the ferry report:-

Since the last council report the following weekly efficiencies have been achieved:

w/c 18 March – 100% efficient – 0 crossings out of 1292 lost

w/c 25 March – 99.9% efficient – 2 crossings out of 1292 lost – drive problem

w/c 1 April – 100% efficient – 0 crossings out of 1292 lost

w/c 11 March – 99.5% efficient – 6 crossings out of 1292 lost – hydraulic leak

Target is 99%. Average since last report 99.8%. Average so far this calendar year 99.4%.

Councillor Pearn announced that the library were to be given two books celebrating John Langdon-Down.

Councillor Mrs C A Jackson elaborated on the life and work of Mr Langdon-Down.

Councillor B Hobbs spoke on the paucity of funding available for the maintenance of parks and play areas in the county. Apart from being assured that the two poles in Cambridge Field would eventually accommodate

sings Councillor Hobbs warned that the only way further swings would be installed was from grant assistance. Councillor Hobbs concluded that he has enjoyed his 4 years on Cornwall Council and the six years on the Town Council.

b) Internal Audit and Systems and Procedures Working Party Report.

It was **resolved** the report of the meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 (as circulated and attached to these minutes) are received and the recommendations contained with the report are adopted and implemented. The Clerk confirmed that a contractor has been engaged to undertake the work as detailed in post 3 of the report dated 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 (see minute 166-12(c)).

c) Torpoint Town Partnership (TTP):-

The Town Mayor reported that the principal items discussed were the forthcoming Carnival and Gorsedh. It was reported that a group from the TTP consisting of the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor E H Andrews and Mr John Tivnan visited Penryn to shadow the Penryn organisers on the proclamation ceremony. Councillor Andrews confirmed the Grand Bard will be attending the June 2013 meeting of the TTP to expand on matters relating to the ceremony. Councillor Andrews also noted that it was intended to utilise groups and organisations in the town to enrich the ceremony. Councillor Andrews concluded by reminding the meeting that the ceremony is of Celtic origin and Celtic countries from the Atlantic arc were also welcome to participate.

#### **14-13 Date of the next meeting.**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 (Annual Meeting and Parish (Town) Meeting). The Mayor concluded by confirming that he is not standing for re-election and thanked the Council for their support during his year of office. The Mayor then made presentations to the Mayoress, Deputy Mayoress and the Clerk's wife. The Deputy Town Mayor then presented the Mayor with his past Mayors badge.

Meeting closed at 8.05p.m. ....Town Mayor

#### **OPEN FORUM**

J Tivnan – Spoke of the poor re-instatement work undertaken by the utilities on the junction of Antony and Trevol Roads. Councillor M J Crago reminded the meeting that the utility companies are responsible for appropriate reinstating of the road. Councillor E H Andrews offered to produce contact details for the utility company.

J Stockston – Sought a progress report on the proposed health centre at Trevol Business Park. Councillor B Hobbs reported that work has just commenced with an anticipated completion date of July 14<sup>th</sup> 2014. Mrs Stockston also spoke on the former Rowing Club and asked if there is a progress report. Councillor E H Andrews hoped that the community could use the building and spoke on the winding up meeting as a Rowing Club. It is understood that each member received £90 from the proceeds of the winding up sale.