

TORPOINT TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present: -, Deputy Town Mayor - Chairman (Councillor M J Crago), Councillors E H Andrews, Mrs K Brownhill, J F Creek, G J Davis, P Edwards, Mrs C E Goodman, B Hobbs, L E Keise, Mrs J M Martin, J Tivnan, Mrs R A Southworth and Mrs C I A Trueman plus the Town Clerk.

47-13 Apologies for Absence:-

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Town Mayor (Councillor M N Pearn MBE), Councillors Mrs C A Jackson, Miss J L Kinsman and the Police representative.

48-13 Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda:-

Non-Pecuniary Interests were declared on the following (this item was notified to members by the Deputy Town Mayor and Chairman for consideration):-

Councillor E H Andrews – Planning Application PA13/05917 As having a relation in the vicinity of the application.

Councillor G J Davis - Planning Application PA13/05917 As having a relation in the vicinity of the application.

49-13 Police Report:-

In the absence of a police representative there was no report to present to the meeting. The Deputy Town Mayor reported receipt of an email from Sargeant Crow confirming that she no longer had responsibility for supervising staff at Callington. Sargeant Crow also noted that the Inspector for South East Cornwall will shortly be moving to St Austell and the force is in the process of identifying a replacement. The Clerk then read from the June Policing Team Monthly Bulletin to detail the crime statistics for Torpoint.

28 crimes consisting of

8 thefts

8 assaults

7 criminal damage

2 public order

1 communication

2 breaches of court order

It was also noted that across the Torpoint and Rame area 18 domestic incidents were reported although no specific offences had occurred and 7 incidents involving children and vulnerable adults where help was required from other agencies.

Councillor J Tivnan reported that the previous week had witnessed a spate of marine thefts and that an incident of vandalism to a slide in the play area adjacent to Benodet Park had also been recorded.

Councillor Tivnan reported that the perpetrators had been caught and were being dealt with.

50-13 Minutes of the previous meeting:-

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2013 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

51-13 Matters arising from the Minutes:-

a) Cornwall Council Report:-

Pursuant to minute 36-13(d) receipt was reported of the proposed management agreement from the Bridge and Ferry Joint Committee Officer for consideration. The Clerk confirmed that he would forward a copy of the agreement to members for consideration and that a reply noting any suggested amendments is to be sent to the Clerk by Friday 25th July 2013 for consideration.

b) Town Clock:-

Pursuant to minute 36-13(f) it was reported that the Town Clock is now fully operational thanks to the efforts of a local clock engineer Mr Martin Thomson-Neall. It was **resolved** that the Council would write to Mr Thomson-Neall and thank him for his public spirited action in solving this outstanding problem. It was suggested that Mr Thomson-Neall is invited to undertake the on-going maintenance of the clock and the Clerk would make investigations on this matter.

c) Reports:-

Pursuant to minute 36-13(i) the Clerk reported receipt of an email (as circulated) from Cornwall Council suggesting that this Council might wish to sell seagull proof refuse bags. The Clerk spoke on the suggested purchase and selling price of the bags. Councillor E H Andrews suggested that the Council should proceed with selling the bags, although Councillor L E Keise was of the opinion that the council should consider giving the bags away free of charge and withstanding the purchase price. Councillor B Hobbs remarked that the bags had a 3 year life span. A proposal to conduct a costing exercise to possibly give the bags away free of charge was defeated with 4 votes in favour with 8 votes against. It was therefore **resolved** that the council purchase bags from Cornwall Council and resell at the recommended price was approved with 7 votes in favour and 4 votes against.

37-13 Mayors Communications:-

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor read from the prepared report.

Barclays Bank is now a food collection point for the Liskeard and Looe Foodbank that includes Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula. Staff member Lynsey Sullivan thought that the town needed a collection point. After contacting the Foodbank organisers, she then had to seek permission from her bosses. They wholeheartedly supported her idea and now food items can be left in the bank during opening hours. The Foodbank helps the needy in South East Cornwall. Congratulations to: Jago Deighton who has retained his British title in trampolining for the third year in a row. The 13 year old Torpoint student competed in the national finals at the LG Arena Birmingham in the Gymnastics and Movement for the Physically Disabled trampolining national A category.

Health Centre I have spoken to Community 1st Cornwall regarding the Health Centre and have been informed that they should get final clearance from the NHS shortly. Everything should be signed by now and a contractor should start on site soon.

The Mayor & Mayoress's Diary 22nd June – 18th July 2013

Saturday 22nd June The Coppola School Of Performing Arts Production of Peter Pan at The Council Chambers. It was a brilliant show. Congratulations to Kelly-Jane Brown and all her performers and thank you for the £411 donation to my Mayors Charity.

24th June Met with Councillors, The Captain of HMS Raleigh and Chamber of Commerce

26th June The Mayor choosing of Launceston.

27th June Sparrow Park to fly the Armed Forces Flag with members from HMS Raleigh and of the RBL. Torpoint Community College for the Cats Awards (Community Action Through Sport)

29th June Plymouth Hoe Armed Forces Day & Remembrance Service at the RAF & Allied Air Forces Monument.

30th June St Andrews Church Plymouth for the Sea Sunday Service to mark the 70th Anniversary of the battle of the Atlantic.

4th July Pelynt Church for the presentation of the Trelawney Plate by Lord Lt of Cornwall to Professor Alan Livingston for outstanding contribution and achievement in Higher Education in Cornwall.

6th July Presentation of the Arctic Star to Arthur Corbidge at Porte Rouge. Community School sports field for presentation of certificates and Trophies to the Torpoint Mini Soccer Centre officials and players.

10th July RBL presentation "Reflections on the Somme" by Mr David Scott from the Somme Heritage Museum Northern Ireland.

12th July Sparrow Park two minutes silence for Fusilier Lee Rigby. A Brave Young Soldier Who Lost His Life Serving His Country in the United Kingdom. On the day of his funeral, Torpoint remembered Fusilier (Drummer) Lee Rigby who was tragically killed outside his Woolwich Barracks in May.

13th July Torpoint Library Possibly Torpoint's most famous son was recognised and remembered with a plaque unveiled for him at Torpoint library. John Langdon Down was born on 18th November 1828 the son of a local chemist near to the library. He worked in his father's shop in Fore Street before going to London and becoming a Doctor, Physician and Superintendent of an asylum. He wrote a paper in 1868 classifying and identifying Down's Syndrome, the condition named after him. Myself and the CEO of the Down's Syndrome Association unveiled a plaque in his memory with the help of children from the Cornwall Association.

15th July Antony House to present the first Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards to Students from the Community College. The 10 students had worked for 2 years to achieve the Bronze Award.

16th July Visit to the portcabins for the HQ of the "RAME HEAD NAUTICAL TRAINING" Cadets at the Mill.

18th July 60th Wedding anniversary for Mr & Mrs Coles. 18th July Dinner at Trevol House with Captain Bob and Sarah Fancy and guest of honour Rear Admiral Westbrook.

52-13 Planning Applications

a) PA13/05917 – Land at Carbeile Road, North of 55-76 Maker Road, Torpoint – Construction of two detached houses.

The Deputy Mayor and Chairman pointed out that this item was not on the agenda and therefore members would be given 7 days until Friday 26th July 2013 to consider this item and to report any comments to the

Clerk. The proposed application would also be placed on the notice boards to allow members of the public to submit any comments.

(Prior to the Deputy Town Mayors announcement both Councillor E H Andrews and G J Davis both declared a non-pecuniary interest (as having a relative living near to the proposed site) and left the Chamber.

53-13 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held Monday 1st July 2013 are received and the recommendations in minutes 31-13FGP (a) (Budget Monitoring Policy), 31-13FGP (To consider the Council Risk Management Plan) and 36-13FGP (Accounts for Payment) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 32-13FGP (To Consider the Council Risk Management Plan), Councillor P Edwards was of the opinion that the plastic equipment within the cistern was not fit for purpose and that the Council should ascertain from Cornwall Council the specification of the equipment that is contained within the cistern. The Clerk confirmed that this council had now received a large proportion of the grant assistance from Cornwall Council. The Council confirmed that Cornwall Council should look at the deficiencies currently at the toilets with a view to rectifying them within the next month.

54-13 Minutes of the Forward Planning Committee Meeting

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 4th July 2013 are received and the recommendations in minutes 44-13FP (f) (Any Business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 34-13FP (a) Councillor Mrs. R A Southworth reported that the Customer Focus panel has been reinstated and that together with former Councillor T R F Moore would attend the meetings. Councillor E H Andrews suggested that the bus driver change-over in Trevol Road had improved although Councillor B Hobbs reported on an occasion when the bus had been left empty and this had been reported to the police. Councillor J Tivnan commented on the suggestion to move the bus stop. Pursuant to minute 34-13FP (d) (Heating System) Councillor P Edwards offered to assist the Town Administrator to progress obtaining quotations to renew the heating system in the main hall. Pursuant to minute 37-13FP (Health and Safety) the Clerk reported that both the Caretaker and Town Administrator had undertaken the dog fouling training. Councillor Tivnan expanded on merits of the SP50 fire extinguisher. Pursuant to minute 38-13FP (Town Council Development Plan) Councillor L E Keise observed that the tennis club were not looking to relocate to the community college but would discuss matters with the Forward Planning Committee if members considered that this would be beneficial. Pursuant to minute 39-13FP (Council Chambers) the Clerk reported that the quotations had been received by the Town Administrator who was pursuing this matter. Pursuant to minute 44-13FP (Any business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting) following discussion on the erection of the Trevol Road signs at Pennycross and the hatched area of the road outside of the redundant fire station it was **resolved** to write to Cornwall Council requesting that further works undertaken by Cornwall Council are advised to this council to prevent any further mistakes or perceived waste of money. Pursuant to minute 44-13FP (Any business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting) it was **resolved** to defer a decision on this matter pending further information from the Mayor to the Town Administrator so that this matter could be pursued. It was further **resolved** that member were given 7 days to respond to the information when received.

55-13 Financial Comparison

It was **resolved** that the June 2013 financial comparison is received and adopted. The Clerk answered questions from the financial comparison. The Clerk also confirmed that it is anticipated the Town Administrator was about to undertake financial training on a new software package and that it is intended that future financial comparisons should be operated on an accrual basis rather than the receipts and payments structure currently being illustrated.

56-13 Accounts for payment

PAYEE	REASON	GROSS	(VAT)	NETT
BTE Services	Nappy Unit/Rental/Service	167.78	27.96	139.82
British Telecom	Phone Line	25.26	4.21	21.05
CORY Environmental	Wheelie Bin	86.92	14.49	72.43
Cornwall Council	Non Domestic Rates (Aug)	1,033.00	0.00	1,033.00
Torpoint Computers	Laptop/Software/Setup	450.00	75.00	375.00
Torpoint Builders Merchants	Paint	27.36	4.56	22.80
Orange	Phone Bill	35.69	5.95	29.74
Natural Garden Solutions	Toilet Locking/Parks	554.00	0.00	554.00
British Gas	Gas Supplies	2,499.46	416.58	2,082.88
Cornwall Council	Salary Payments	20,510.47	24.00	20,486.47
Cornwall Council	Election Expenses	3,643.79	0.00	3,643.79
Trade Point	Signage etc	46.55	12.96	33.59
ITEC	Photocopies	23.71	3.95	19.76
Grant Thornton	Audit	480.00	80.00	400.00
SW Water	Water Supply	430.10	0.00	430.10
British Telecom	Phone Bill	57.28	9.55	47.73

It was confirmed that the Clerk would meet with the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to discuss salary apportionment and other financial matters.

57-13 Correspondence

a) Lloyds Martin Thomson-Neall – Town Clock.
Noted.

b) Grant Thornton – 2012-13 Audit.

Noted. It was confirmed that there was no matters reported from the auditor and the Clerk was thanked for his financial management.

58-13 Reports

a) Cornwall Council:-

Councillor B Hobbs confirmed that he has reported the loose coping stones in Sparrow Park to the Cornwall Council team. Councillor J Tivnan reported that the stones were still on site. Councillor E H Andrews spoke on the car parking charges in the town and plans to introduce a 40p charge. Councillor Hobbs spoke on the current proposals confirming that revenue had increased by 20%. Councillor Andrews replied that if this Council wished to take on the car parks the information should be available. Councillor Hobbs also spoke on the spiralling rent arrears in the county and that the hardship fund is being accessed. Councillor Hobbs urged anyone with a financial problem to submit an application to the hardship fund. Councillor Hobbs concluded by announcing that the Committees at County Hall have now been organised. The Deputy Town Mayor pressed Councillor Hobbs on the requirement to introduce box junctions at the exits of the "side" roads onto Antony Road. The Deputy Town Mayor reminded members of the issues created when ferry queues blocked exits from the roads. Councillor Hobbs confirmed that he has been in contact with the officers having produced detailed drawings of where the box junctions should be created. The Deputy Town Mayor then read the ferry report.

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

w/c 17 June – 96% efficient – 52 crossings out of 1320 lost (sheave and rubbing plate defects)

w/c 24 June – 99.5% efficient – 6 crossings out of 1320 lost (hydraulic leak)

w/c 1 July – 100% efficient – 0 crossings out of 1320 lost

w/c 8 July – 99.5% efficient – 6 crossings out of 1320 lost (hydraulic leak plus prow sensor replacement)

Target is 99%. Average since last report 98.8%. Average so far this calendar year 99.4%

The Deputy Town Mayor also read from an email that the Town Mayor had received on a possible contingency plan should the A38 be closed and traffic is diverted via the ferry. The report suggested three options with the third option that of a crew being on-call to come in at very short notice was deemed to be the preferred option. The report concluded that the Torpoint Ferry would attempt wherever possible to run an additional ferry to provide additional capacity to meet unexpected demand and in these situations overtime and ferry running costs are not an issue. In replying to the report Councillor Mrs J M Martin reminded members that the Working Time Directive is only a guideline and not mandatory. Councillor B Hobbs spoke on the level of training required to operate the new ferries and would investigate this matter further. On the subject of the Signpost Newsletter it was reported that Torpoint is not included in the newsletter and this matter would be investigated further.

b) Torpoint Town Partnership (TTP):-

In the absence of the Town Mayor, Councillor E H Andrews reported on the recent meeting. Councillor Andrews reported that the main topic of conversation was the Gorsedh and in particular the tasking list. It was further noted that around 20 organisations had been invited to the September meeting of the Partnerships to discuss this matter further. Councillor J Tivnan reported that the Cornwall in Bloom entry "Clearing up grot spots" will be judged on the 5th August. Councillor Tivnan voiced disappointment that damage has been caused to the Udal Garth grass verge. Councillor Tivnan concluded by announcing that he is still working toward raising more money to decorate this verge.

59-13 Date of the next meeting.

Thursday 19th September 2013.

60-13 Adjournment of the Meeting

It was **resolved** that the meeting stand adjourned until after the Public Forum. It was further resolved to exclude the Public and Press as items to be discussed involved staff and staffing matters (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960). The minutes are listed as confidential and appended to these minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.40p.m.Town Mayor

OPEN FORUM

R Pyne –Mr Pyne again spoke of the disappointment that Torpoint Police Station was closed and related a recent incident of an incident outside of a public house in the town and also the problem of sewage being transported to the treatment works at Ernesettle. The Deputy Town Mayor suggested that Mr Pyne put any concerns in writing to the council. Mr Pyne then spoke on cutting footpath 7 and the processes involved.