

## **TORPOINT TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES of a meeting of Torpoint Town Council held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, 4 York Road, Torpoint.

**Present:** - Town Mayor (Councillor M N Pearn MBE), Councillors E H Andrews, Mrs K Brownhill, J F Creek, G J Davis, Mrs C E Goodman, B Hobbs, Mrs C A Jackson, Miss J L Kinsman, R A Southworth and J Tivnan plus the Town Clerk.

### **01-14 Apologies for Absence:-**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of the Deputy Town Mayor (Councillor M J Crago), Councillors L E Keise, Mrs J M Martin and Mrs C I A Trueman

### **02-14 Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda:-**

None.

### **03-14 Police Report:-**

In the absence of a police representative there was no report to present.

### **04-14 Minutes of the previous meeting:-**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor subject to the addition of the word Legion (after Royal British) and inclusion of the words y/e 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 after the financial amount both in minute 160-13 and the deletion of the word Marie and insertion of the word Marine before the word Drive in minute 164-14.

### **05-14 Matters arising from the Minutes:-**

#### **a) Cornwall Council Report:-**

Pursuant to minute 159-13 (a) the Clerk reported that he has received a telephone call from the PA to the Chairman of Cornwall Council in reply to his letter to confirm that it is intended that the Chairman, Leader and possibly Chief Executive of Cornwall Council will try and meet with this Council during May.

#### **b) Minutes of the Forward Planning Committee:-**

Pursuant to minute 159-13(b) it was suggested that a notice on the doors of the Antony Road toilets detailing the location and availability of RADAR keys for the toilet for the disabled.

#### **c) Torpoint Town Partnership:-**

Pursuant to minute 168(b) Councillor E H Andrews reported that the entry needs to be completed by the 5<sup>th</sup> June and urged those interested members to volunteer. It was also reported that the rules had changed for eligibility of rowers to serving Councillors and spouses.

### **06-14 Mayors Communications**

#### **Mayor and Mayoress' Diary:-**

**21<sup>st</sup> March** attended the Torpoint Community College opening a new Rowing Suite for students. The suite was opened by international rower James Cash. Professor Dave Hopkins also presented the college with an Adventure Schools Accreditation plaque. I joined students to try out the new equipment.

**21<sup>st</sup> March** Presentation at the Fire Station - The Phoenix Passing Out which is a training programme given to the students from TCC in all various tasks to work as a team and by the end of the week they had a different outlook on life. Well done to all the instructors who are all from the Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service.

**23<sup>rd</sup> March** Saltash Civic Service

**28<sup>th</sup> March** Presentation to Katie Marie from the STC Club when she received £100 towards her trip to the World Scout Jamboree in Japan next year.

**30<sup>th</sup> March** Official commissioning of the Training ship 'Rame Head' at the Mill with Captain Bob Fancy. It is looking very smart and I wish them all the best for the future.

**4<sup>th</sup> April** TCC Opening of their newly refurbished Library by the well know author Tim Bowler.

**5<sup>th</sup> April** Torpoint Mini Football presentation of Easter eggs to the young players

**5<sup>th</sup> April** Mayor's Ball at The Wardroom HMS Raleigh. I think everybody enjoyed their self's and thank you to all who attended.

**12<sup>th</sup> April** Gorsedh Proclamation I would like to thank everybody who helped to make the Proclamation go off to a flying start ready for their September visit.

I would like make a special mention and congratulate Rosie Hortop 'The Lady of Flowers' who did a great job in representing Torpoint and learning to speak Cornish in that short time she was asked to take it on.

**12<sup>th</sup> April** Torpoint Bowling Club to roll the first wood to start off their season. I would like to thank all the members of the Bowling Club that made Captain Bob Fancy, Sarah and myself very welcome and also how as volunteers they keep the green and surrounding areas in a first class condition. Good luck to them in their coming season.

**16<sup>th</sup> April** Attended 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Norah and Norman Skinner Congratulations to them both. I would like to congratulate Mrs Anna Fryer and Mrs Lisa Fowle on saving the young lady who was in difficulty at the ferry slipway Devonport while waiting at Devonport for the Torpoint ferry home in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Congratulations to the **St Columba & Torpoint Rugby** club on winning the RNEC Cup at the Brickfields last night 20-5 against OPM's / Jesters.

## **Future Events**

Cancellation of our visit to Antony Estate on the 9<sup>th</sup> May a new date will be arranged, Sir Richard apologies. Visit of The **King's Troop** Royal **Horse** Artillery ~ there will be 22 Horses and 45 Officers and Troops for their holidays. They will be here from Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Sept There will be an open day at Maker Camp on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Arrangements are being made for them to come to Torpoint on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> there will be 8 Horses and Officers available. So I have previously accepted their visit on behalf of the council.

## **07-14 Planning Applications:-**

None.

## **08-14 Minutes of the Development and Localism Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 are received and the recommendation in minute 34-13DL (c) (Waste Disposal) is adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 34-13DL (a) the clerk reported that he was looking to improve the aesthetics in Benodet Park by incorporating some annual and perennial plants for the visit from the Benodet twinning group but that a long term planting strategy was required for all the parks. Pursuant to minute 34-13DL (c) (Waste Disposal) Councillor Mrs. R A Southworth sought assurance that any arrangements with Plymouth City Council would not result in double taxation. Councillor E H Andrews explained that the purpose of localism was to protect service delivery and to deliver in the most cost effective and efficient manner. Councillor Andrews reminded members that localism also included cross boundary co-operation and it did not make logical sense to transport waste some 30-40 miles to an incinerator at St Dennis when a similar waste disposal operation was situated a mile away. It was further noted that the incinerator in Plymouth is likely to become operable soon but that the residents of Torpoint would still have to pay landfill tax. Other examples of cross boundary projects and cooperation citing possible efficiency benefits and cost cutting programmes were noted. It was further suggested that this would commence with exploratory talks and

dialogue to look at feasibility of partnership working. Pursuant to minute 35-DL (Neighbourhood Plan) it was reported that the opening sentence referred to the Doctors Surgery to which the Mayor added that the Council had submitted the document seeking to register the premises as a community asset.

#### **09-14 Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 are received (with the exception of minutes 98-13FGP to 101-13FGP inclusive) and the recommendations in minutes 104-13FGP (a) (Standing Orders), 104-13FGP (b) (Financial Regulations – both recommendations), 104-13FGP (c) (Dignity at Work) and 104-13FGP (b) (CALC Membership) are adopted and implemented.

#### **10-14 Minutes of the Forward Planning Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014 are received and the recommendation in minutes 132-13FP (b) (Reconfiguration of the Annexe), 133-13FP (Policies reviewed by this Committee) and 142-13 (Any Other Business) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 132-13FP (a) (Hall Heating System) it is understood quotation of £3,300 for undertaking work in the toilets is additional to the main quotation. Following further discussion it was **resolved** that the quotation for £9,583 from All Gas South West Ltd be accepted subject to the usual terms of reference and also provided compliance to this Councils financial regulations is confirmed. Pursuant to minute 132-13FP (b) (Reconfiguration of the Annexe) the completion of painting to the remainder of the building was referred to the Forward Planning Committee for further consideration. Pursuant to minute 133-13FP (Policies Reviewed by this Committee) Councillor G J Davis sought to further amend the Publicity Policy. After a brief discussion it was **resolved** that whilst the Council accepted the current policy the matter would be referred back to the Forward Planning Committee and any recommendation from the Committee would be considered at the next meeting of this Council. (Standing Order 20(a) (also (b)) refers). Pursuant to minute 137-13FP (Council Communication Strategy) Councillor G J Davis announced that the first edition of the Tyhee Times had been finished although it would not be in printed format. It was noted that the Council would purchase additional space on the Town Council website to accommodate the publication. Councillor Mrs. R A Southworth suggested that a hard copy is printed off and placed on the Town Council notice boards. Pursuant to minute 140-13FP (Accounts for payment) the Clerk asked if the bench that was purchased by this Council as a memorial bench is to be included on the Town Council fixed asset register. The Mayor replied that it the family had reimbursed the council for the net amount and that the bench is located at the football ground. Following a brief discussion it was **resolved** to add the bench to the Council fixed asset register. Pursuant to minute 142-13FP (Any Other Business) Councillor J Tivnan observed that from the replies received from the officer at Cornwall Council he was not convinced the current strategy on Japanese Knotweed eradication was working. He insisted Cornwall Council were not answering the questions and urged the Town Council to press Cornwall Council on this matter. It was also noted that Japanese Knotweed had again appeared on the bank overlooking Benodet Park and it was suggested that cutting this bank was hindering the control and exasperating the situation. Pursuant to minute 142 13FP (Any Other Business) The Mayor reported that the Council should be aware that there might be possible issues with visiting clubs if a total ban on dogs is introduced. The Mayor suggested that a dogs on leads order might be more appropriate. Councillor Mrs. C E Goodman reported that the Rugby Club were vexed at the current situation and understood that this is a desperate step to take. The Mayor would contact the rugby club and report back at the next meeting.

#### **11-14 Financial Comparison**

It was **resolved** that the March 2014 financial comparison is received and adopted. The Clerk spoke on various items within the comparison.

## 12-14 Accounts for payment

PAYEE	REASON	GROSS	(VAT)	NETT
British Telecom	Phone Bill	26.40	4.40	22.00
BUNZL	Cleaning materials	100.56	16.76	83.80
BUNZL	Cleaning Materials	117.41	19.57	97.84
Tamar Laundry	Tablecloth Cleaning	74.23	19.57	54.66
British Gas	Electricity - Toilets Antony Road	18.49	0.88	17.61
Cornwall Council	Non Domestic Rates (May)	1,111.00	0.00	1,111.00
South West Water*	Water Supply - Antony Road Toilets	1,954.35	135.95	1,818.40
CORY	Duty of Care (Contract)	36.00	6.00	30.00
CORY	Wheelie Bin	92.62	15.44	77.18
British Telecom	Phone Bill	54.01	9.00	45.01
South West Water*	Water Supply - Council Chambers	525.52	0.00	525.52
ITEC	Photocopies	53.58	8.93	44.65
Cornwall Council	Salaries - Jan to March	22,413.91	0.00	22,413.91
Derrington Locksmiths	Lock Repairs - York Road	58.00	0.00	58.00
NDF Civils and Property	Grass Cutting Rendel Park	50.00	0.00	50.00
NDF Civils and Property	Grass Cutting Benodet Park	80.00	0.00	80.00

## 13-14 Correspondence

a) Torpoint Archives – Doctors Surgery and WI Fi Link.

Noted. It was **resolved** to allow the Torpoint Archives access to the Town Council Wi Fi network.

b) Torpoint & Rame Youth Partnership – Request for financial assistance.

Noted. It was further noted that this organisation is a company limited by guarantee. It was further observed that it appeared the accompanying information was last year's accounts and submission to the Charity Commission and was almost 10 months old. It was **resolved** to refer this item to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for further consideration with the suggestion that more information in line with the S137 notes is required together with current financial information. Councillor Hobbs as this Council's representative offered to find out more information.

c) Sheryll Murray MP – Peoples Millions 2014.

Noted.

d) Cornwall Council – East Sub Area Planning Committee.

Noted.

e) Zurich Municipal – LCAS Membership.

Noted. It was **resolved** not to be a member of this organisation as the Council could draw on the expertise of Councillor J Tivnan on Health and Safety matters.

f) Joyce Walsh – Use of the Hall for Charitable Purposes.

Noted. In line with the council's terms of reference Mrs Walsh confirmed that £672 had been raised on the day with more to come in through sponsorship and donations.

g) Cornwall Council – review of Polling Districts and Polling Stations

Noted. It was **resolved** to reply that the Council agrees with the current arrangements of using the Council Chambers for both wards.

h) CHAT – Acknowledgement of grant and CHAT Directory.

Noted.

## 14-14 Reports

### a) Cornwall Council:-

Councillor B Hobbs reported that he is pursuing the issues with drains in the town and informed the meeting that cameras are being put through them. The drains in question are at the junctions of Macey/Tamar Streets, North Road/Liscawn Terrace and also outside the Doctors surgery in Antony Road. Councillor Hobbs was confident repairs will be effected within 4-6 weeks. Councillor Hobbs reported that the TMA are considering foreshore improvements and will report potential projects with costs to this Council for consideration.

(Councillor Hobbs declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter).

Councillor E H Andrews observed as part of the Gorsedh proclamation ceremony the procession passed the promenade and he voiced his disgust and embarrassment at the condition of the boats that were stored on the structure. Councillor Andrews suggested that few if any were seaworthy and ventured that Cornwall Council should insist the boat owners should move them. Councillor Hobbs assured Councillor Andrews that this matter was in hand. Councillor Hobbs also reported that the pot holes at various locations had been repaired although Councillor Andrews drew attention to another pot hole in Fore Street. Councillor Hobbs also reported that the tyres have been removed from Town Beach. Councillor Mrs C A Jackson reported that Cornwall Council were no longer providing some local papers to the library and asked if this Council would like to sponsor a paper. Councillor M N Pearn reported that he would sponsor a paper out of his community allowance from Cornwall Council. Councillor Mrs C A Jackson also drew attention to the vacant 3 bedroomed house at Albion Court that has been empty for some 2 years and could have provided a home for a family. Councillor Hobbs spoke on the reasons for the house being empty and it was suggested that a letter from this council might focus attention on the matter. Contact details would be provided to whom the Clerk would address the letter. Councillor E H Andrews spoke on the recently approved application for development at the Garden and posited the observation that a cash injection of s106 money could benefit the town. Councillor Hobbs suggested that section 106 money is principally used for road improvements and the identified Adela Road as a possible project. In reply to the issue of the recently laid bitumen repairs in Antony Road, Councillor Hobbs ventured that the issues were down to a faulty batch of bitumen. Councillor M N Pearn reported that the problems with fly tipping in and around the Harvey Street flats were to be addressed by Cornwall Council. Councillor Pearn was anticipating that this issue would be addressed as soon as possible and urged the residents and local community to desist in depositing refuse and waste in this manner. Councillor Hobbs also spoke on issues in Harvey Street and cited examples of some problems being experienced. Councillor Pearn then presented the Ferry report. Since the last council report the following Ferry weekly efficiencies have been achieved:

DATE	EFFICIENCY %	CROSSINGS
w/c 17 <sup>th</sup> March	99.6% efficient	4 crossings out of 1292 lost
w/c 24 <sup>th</sup> March	97.8% efficient	2 crossings out of 1292 lost
w/c 31 <sup>st</sup> March	100% efficient	0 crossings out of 1292 lost
w/c 7 <sup>th</sup> April	99.7% efficient	4 crossings out of 1120 lost

Target is 99%. Average since last report 99.7%. Average so far this calendar year 99.5%

It is anticipated the third ferry will be back in service on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May although it was conceded that the ferry was 3 days late in leaving for the refit as a result of the weather. However since this date the weather has been good for painting and the time might well be made up. On the subject of the unavailability of Rendel Park for events, the Mayor reported that the Gorsedh proclamation was a one off event when permission was granted by the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Manager. However future events would be looked at if arranged prior to the park being re-opened.

### b) Torpoint Town Partnership (TTP):-

The Mayor announced that the next meeting of the TTP would be on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The Mayor also announced that the “Lady of Flowers” had learned the Cornish narrative in a very short period of time and he had sent a card expressing thanks.

**15-14 Date of the next meeting.**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014 (Annual meeting).

**16-14 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 minute is listed as confidential and appended to these minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.55p.m. ....Town Mayor  
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**OPEN FORUM**

R Pyne – Observed that entertainment for the passing out parade was being arranged at the China Fleet Club. It was confirmed that Rendel Park was closed pending repairs to the river wall.