

## TORPOINT TOWN COUNCIL

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

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

**Also present:** - Acting Sargeant Ian Griffiths.

### **56-14 Apologies for Absence:-**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs C I A Trueman

### **57-14 Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda:-**

A disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) was declared by Councillor Miss J L Kinsman – Planning application 8(a) (as being an employee of the applicant).

Non registerable interest (NRI) was declared by Councillor E H Andres – Agenda item 12 (as a recipient of a reimbursement)

Councillor B Hobbs – Planning application 8(c) (as known by the applicant).

The Clerk reminded members of obligations and procedures with declarations of interest following a training session attended by himself and the Assistant Town Clerk.

### **58-14 Police Report:-**

Acting Sargeant Ian Griffiths was introduced to members. The Clerk then read the June report.

**30 crimes** in the town consisting of

**11** thefts

**8** assaults

**3** burglaries (2 outbuildings, 1 garage)

**3** criminal damage

**1** public order offence

**2** drugs possession

**2** animal related offence

Councillor E H Andrews asked if the police would furnish the council with a comparison with crimes from last year. The police confirmed that this would be arranged. The Clerk also informed members that the council had reported evidence of drug use at Antony Road toilets and on-going nuisance at the skateboard park. Acting Sargeant Griffiths confirmed that issues are being dealt with. Councillor J Tivnan reported that he had conveyed the council's debate on the tardiness in responding to 101 calls to the police but considered the council had to decide if this was a complaint from the council as a corporate body. After briefly discussing this matter it was **resolved** that the complaint would come from the council as a corporate body. Councillor B Hobbs again briefed members on the problems with the 101 service.

Councillor G J Davis informed the meeting of a spate of opportunist thefts in the town and asked if there was an update on the problem. Sargeant Griffiths replied that an offender had been identified and was now in Charles Cross. The offender that has been charged with one burglary was from outside of the area.

## **59-14 Minutes of the previous meeting:-**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014 was taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

## **60-14 Matters arising from the Minutes:-**

a) M A Watkiss – Rendel Park:-

Pursuant to minute 52-14(b) the Deputy Town Mayor asked if there is any progress on when the repairs to the river wall would be undertaken. The Town Mayor in his capacity as a Cornwall Councillor was unaware of any work being started and Cornwall Councillor Brian Hobbs concurred also noting that he had sent an email to the Bridge and Ferry Manager but had not received a reply. Following a brief debate it was **resolved** that this Council would write to the General Manager of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry expressing this Council's strong disappointment and to seek confirmation as when repairs to the river wall would commence and the target date for the park to re-open. In answer to a question from Councillor G J Davis the Mayor reported that the General Manager of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry had responded to Mr Watkiss and further that this Council had written to Mr Watkiss acknowledging the subsequent letter and was awaiting a report from Councillor Hobbs.

## **61-14 Mayors Communications**

### **Mayors Diary**

14th June - Torpoint Lady Singers - 22nd Annual 12 hour Singathon - After Starting them off at 9am we returned again at 8pm to hear the final hour and were there for the finish at 9pm in aid of Jeremiahs Journey – Well Done to everyone!!

14th June - The Coppola School of Performing Arts Storyland Showtime at the Council Chambers, All the performers were under 8years. Another great show!! Thank you very much for your donation towards the Mayors Charity.

Now looking forward to Disney's Beauty and The Beast show in October.

20<sup>th</sup> June – HMS Raleigh - 75th Anniversary Celebrations - it was a great day meeting with the past Captains of HMS Raleigh and watching the new recruits Passing Out Parade – Thank you Captain Bob Fancy and your staff for a great day.

22<sup>th</sup> June – Liskeard Civic Service.

23<sup>rd</sup> June – Raised the Armed Forces Flag with members of the RBL and Trainees from HMS Raleigh at Sparrow Park and The Council Offices.

26<sup>th</sup> June – Attended the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Stuart and Catherine Olufsen – Congratulations to you!!

26<sup>th</sup> June – Attended the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Alan and Mona Worth – Congratulations to you!!

26<sup>th</sup> June – Torpoint Community College – Presentation of the 3rd Annual 'CATS' (Community Action through Sport) awards. The evening celebrated the achievements of young people in the Torpoint and Rame area for positive community action. Congratulations to all the winners, nominees and staff members.

28<sup>th</sup> June - Plymouth Armed Forces Day on The Hoe and laid a wreath on behalf of Torpoint at the RAF and Allied Air Force 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial Service, then there were various displays etc during the day.

28<sup>th</sup> June – Mini Soccer BBQ and Presentations at the TAFC.

28<sup>th</sup> June - The Coppola School of Performing Arts Disco and presentation at the 200 Club. Congratulations to Kelly and all her performers.

5<sup>th</sup> July – Torpoint Carnival – Thank you to all who helped or took part in anyway, thanks to The Torpoint Town Band, Carbeile Junior School Field Gun Squad, Megan Davey, and The Coppola School of Performing Arts they all put on a great show.

Special thanks to Andy Martin for his sound system and staging, Declan Kelf (Electrics), Lorna & Dave White, Jenny & Steve Hughes who organised the refreshments and give all the profits to the carnival. The

procession was led by the Town Crier Clive & Julie O'Shaughnessy followed by Andy Martin and his great music maker, then with Tom and Fiona Harvey in their 1912 Hudson and then Bob White in his immaculate 1952 Austin FL1 then followed by the walking entries. A good day was had by all!! Thanks also to the judges: Captain Bob & Sarah Fancy, Steve & Lynn Murray, Clive & Julie O'Shaughnessy and to the MC John Crago. Thanks again to the road marshalls.

13<sup>th</sup> July – Civic Parade and Service - Thank you to everybody who made it a special.

### **62-14 Planning Applications:-**

a) PA14/04638 – HMS Raleigh, Trevol Road, Torpoint – Minor repairs to the jetty head with the installation of new floating pontoons to allow proposed ribs and personnel craft to berth alongside.

No objections or observations

(Councillor Miss J L Kinsman declared a prejudicial interest as an employee of this organisation and left the chamber whilst this application was discussed).

b) PA14/05382 – 30, Wellington Street, Torpoint – Proposed attic conversion with construction of two dormers.

No objections although members draw attention to the change in street scene as a result of this application.

c) PA14/05738 – 24, York Road, Torpoint – Erection of new dormer window to rear elevation of dwelling.

No Objections or observations.

(Councillor B Hobbs declared a non registerable interest as being known to the applicant and left the chamber whilst this application was discussed).

### **63-14 Minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 are received and the recommendations in minutes 32-14FGP (a) (Budget Monitoring Policy – both recommendations contained therein), 33-14FGP (a) (Revised Council Business Risk Management Plan), 34-14FGP (a) (Revised Financial Risk Management Plan) and 35-14FGP (a) (Torpoint Christian Fellowship – Request to use the Council facilities at no cost) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 35-14FGP (a) (Torpoint Christian Fellowship – Request to use the Council facilities at no cost) Councillor B Hobbs suggested that the Council should dispense with charges for Benodet Park other than if anyone hiring wished to use the facilities. The Mayor supported the call from Councillor Hobbs. The Clerk suggested that the Council firstly review this at Budget [precept] meeting in November when the hiring/letting charges are reviewed and if approved amend the Lettings policy at the next review in February. In the meantime any requests for use of Benodet [or Rendel Park] could be formally approved and would finally be dispensed with following the meetings highlighted above. Members **resolved** to implement the Clerks suggestion. It was also noted that although not a member of this Committee, Councillor L E Keise was also present. Pursuant to minute 40-14FGP (Review of Debtors – Confidential minute) the Assistant Town Clerk updated members and announced that the outstanding debts have now been brought up to date following which it was **resolved** to formally adopt both recommendations in the minute.

### **64-14 Minutes of the Asset Management and Operations Committee**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014 are received and the recommendations in minutes 34-14FP (d) (Health and Safety), 36-14FP (a) (Harvey Street Flats) and 39-14FP (Communication Strategy – both recommendations contained therein) are adopted and implemented. Pursuant to minute 34-14FP (b) (Any business that has been disclosed to the Chairman and members prior to the meeting) Councillor J Tivnan noted that he voted against the recommendation. Pursuant to minute 36-14FP (a) (Harvey Street Flats) (Election of Vice Chairman) receipt was reported of an email from the Council's contractor offering to sponsor the development of the garden and flower bed area of Sparrow

Park. Councillors Mrs. R A Southworth and Mrs. J M Martin both supported the proposal and called for the Council to support the initiative. After a brief discussion during which Councillor J Tivnan advised of an inappropriate reference by Cornwall Council to roundabout advertising, it was **resolved** to support the initiative and that delegation is given to the Clerk and the Town Mayor to pursue this project. Pursuant to minute 39-14FP (Communication Strategy) the volunteers to join the marketing and Communication Working Party were Councillors E H Andrews, J F Creek, G J Davis, Mrs. C A Jackson, L E Keise, Miss J L Kinsman and Mrs. J M Martin. Pursuant to minute 40-14FP (Council Chambers) in response to a question from the Deputy Town Mayor on air conditioning, Councillor J Tivnan informed the meeting that the air transfer ecological system produced heating in the winter and air conditioning in the summer. Pursuant to minute 46-14FP (Any Other Business) it was **resolved** that all Council members would volunteer to clear the dead weeds in the town following the successful weed spraying operation.

### 65-14 Financial Comparison

It was **resolved** that the May 2014 financial comparison (as circulated) is received and adopted.

### 66-14 Accounts for payment

PAYEE	REASON	GROSS	(VAT)	NETT
British Telecom	Phone Bill	274.17	45.69	228.48
Complete Weed Control	Weed Control Footways (48km)	1,267.20	211.20	1,056.00
Trebor Maintenance	Grounds Mainenance (June)	249.60	41.60	208.00
Cornerstone Vision	Tyhee Times	120.00	20.00	100.00
British Telecom	Telephone Bill	127.18	7.53	119.65
Cornwall Council	Non Domestic Rates (May)	1,111.00	0.00	1,111.00
British Telecom*	Phone Bill	10.20	1.70	8.50
BUNZL	Cleaning Materials	104.74	17.46	87.28
Artframe Gallery (M Southworth)	Frames Freedom/Gorsedh	180.00	30.00	150.00
Viking Direct	Labels	19.52	3.25	16.27
Cobblers and Keys (E H Andrews)	Freedom Engaving	17.98	2.99	14.99
British Gas	Gas Supplies	328.14	54.69	273.45
Cornwall Council	Salaries	22,701.25	0.00	22,701.25
British Telecom	Phone Bill	64.93	10.82	54.11
Torpoint Hardware & DIY	Maintenance Materials	18.85	3.15	15.70
Cornwall Council	Garage Rental	59.70	9.95	49.75
CORY Environmental	Wheelie Bin	95.64	15.94	79.70
M N Pearn	Mayoral Board Update	50.00	0.00	50.00
ITEC	Photocopies	126.01	21.00	105.01
EE & T Mobile	Telephones	72.48	12.06	60.42

### 67-14 Correspondence

a) Cornwall & IOS Employment and Skills Board – Apprenticeships Booklets.  
Noted.

b) Cornwall Council – East Sub-Area Planning Committee.  
Noted.

### 68-14 Reports

a) Cornwall Council:-

Councillor B Hobbs reported that he had forwarded the letter received from Mr Watkiss to the General Manager of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Committee. Councillor Hobbs reported that the Manager

would personally respond to the points in the letter. Councillor Hobbs was asked to provide this Council with a copy of the response from the Manager to Mr Watkiss. Councillor Hobbs also confirmed that he would be asking Cornwall Highways to look at the poor condition of the railings adjacent to the Harvey Street flats adjoining the A374. Councillor Hobbs also reported that the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum are to look at reviewing the "Bait Digging" bylaws covering the area of foreshore at Marine Drive. In response to this statement, Councillor E H Andrews sought to understand the enforcement process of those transgressing the by-laws. Councillor Hobbs confirmed that the Forum would be reviewing the enforcement capabilities as part of the process with the Deputy Mayor warning against punitive action to those digging bait for recreational purposes but supported targeting the commercial bait diggers. Councillor G J Davis drew attention to recently published documents that indicated Cornwall Council were applying for funding to install a jetty from Rendel Park suggesting that both Cornwall Councillors might wish to share any information on this. Councillor Davis reminded members that this Council were currently looking at regeneration possibilities at the lower end of the town and Rendel Park was a key constituent of the area. Councillor Hobbs reported that the application was a preliminary submission that might be considered before Christmas.

Councillor M N Pearn MBE reported receipt of a letter on the condition of the pathway between the bungalows and allotments in Sydney Road. Councillor Pearn informed the meeting that Cornwall Council were dealing with this matter as it was a principal authority responsibility. Councillor Pearn conveyed the ferry report.

DATE	EFFICIENCY %	CROSSINGS
w/c 16 <sup>th</sup> June	99.7% efficient	4 crossings lost (fuel problems)
w/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	100% efficient	0 crossings lost
w/c 30 <sup>th</sup> June	97.8% efficient	28 crossings lost (chain segment changes)
w/c 7 <sup>th</sup> July	99.7% efficient	4 crossings lost (loose segment bolts)

Councillor Pearn concluded that following a complaint a ferry chain is being replaced that might result in some disruption.

b) Torpoint Town Partnership (TTP):-

The Mayor reminded members that the Paint the Town Gold initiative will be underway in September. The Mayor also reported that students from the Community College would be creating a new mosaic for Benodet Park. The Mayor concluded that the Youth Club was having difficulty recruiting volunteers and would include this in publicity.

#### **69-14 Date of the next meeting.**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

#### **70-14 Adjournment of the Meeting**

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

Meeting closed at 8.45p.m. ....Town Mayor

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**OPEN FORUM**

M Howells – Asked if the footpath behind the bungalows in Sydney Road could be improved and also if Sydney Road could be adopted. The Clerk would respond to the question.