

MINUTES OF PENZANCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING held in The Alverne Room, St John's Hall, Penzance on Monday 11 February 2019 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Councillor R B Cliffe (Town Mayor)
N C Broadhurst (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors D J Axford
K M Baker
A L Bates
S J Bosworth
N A Davis
J H Dixon
W Elliott
T L Halliday
J M How
B Jackson
J S Lambourn
R A Mann
N G Pengelly
N N Waller
C A C White
P Young

Also present: Hester Hunt (Town Clerk), Teresa Fogarty (Senior Administration Officer), Richard Hockin (Chair, Solomon Browne Memorial Hall Trustees), Natasha Matthews (Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator, Cornwall Council), Cllr Jim McKenna (Cornwall Council), 3 members of the public.

Before commencement of the meeting, Rev. Julyan Drew offered a prayer.

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor S M Cordel,

Absent without apologies: Councillor S J Reed

91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

92. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

(a) Solomon Browne Memorial Hall

Richard Hockin, Chair of the Solomon Browne Memorial Hall Trustees, spoke on the activities of the SBMH which included a social outreach programme aimed at tackling loneliness and isolation, as well as providing a venue for local

events. The facility was seeking to be self-sufficient and was applying for significant grants that would enable this. In the interim, it was recognised that help with running costs would be required for a period of six months until funding from the Big Lottery could be realised.

(b) **Safer Penzance**

Natasha Matthews, ASB Caseworker, explained the role of an ASB Caseworker and how the proposal for a jointly funded (Penzance Town Council and Cornwall Council) caseworker position for Penzance would benefit the local community by tackling the rise in anti-social behaviour in the town centre. The caseworker would be based in the Town Centre Hub and would cover an area from Lands End to Praa Sands. The person would be employed by Cornwall Council and the role would be evaluated after a 12 month trial period.

It was confirmed that they would be looking to recruit internally from the existing caseworkers but, if necessary, the post would be advertised externally.

93. CORNWALL COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Jim McKenna

- Super Surgery – Cllr McKenna confirmed that the ‘Super Surgery’ at the St Clare site had now opened and was working with Penzance Leisure Centre and West Cornwall Hospital to improve the health and well-being of the community. Members were offered the opportunity to visit the surgery as a group and this could be organised through the Town Council office.
- Polwithen House Development – the proposed re-development of the former Bolitho School site would soon be put before the Planning Committee for review and comment. It was noted that the developers had agreed to present to the Town Council on Friday 22 February 2019.
- Tour of Britain Cycle Race – Penzance was in a prime position to be the starting point for the race and, if successful, this would mean that the surface of the promenade would be repaired. A decision should be reached by the end of March 2019.
- Future High Streets Fund – Penzance was the preferred option for Cornwall Council to receive this funding and the deadline for the decision was 22 March 2019. Cllr McKenna thanked the Mayor for his hard work in partnership with others to obtain this funding which would be a great opportunity for Penzance.
- Penzance Heliport – on target to open in April 2020.
- Alverton School – Cllr McKenna was working with Cornwall Council and staff and pupils at Alverton School to reduce the incidents of dog fouling in the

Alverton area by raising awareness through publications in the school's newsletter. They were also looking to take enforcement action against irresponsible dog owners.

- ASB Caseworker – Cllr McKenna pledged his support for the recruitment of an ASB Caseworker based in Penzance and also mentioned that Penzance Town Council was getting a good reputation for effective partnership working.
- Former Councillors – the funeral of former Cllr Malcolm Lawrence would take place at 2.30pm on Thursday 14 February in Gulval Church. The funeral of former Cllr Keith Perry was yet to be announced.
- Pedestrian Crossing by Lidl Supermarket – Cllr McKenna confirmed that the crossing should be installed before Easter 2019.

94. TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted **Public Bodies [Admission to Meetings] Act 1960**

In respect of agenda items 15. (a), (b), (c) Confidential reports for decision and 16 (a) Confidential report for information, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – to exclude the public and press from the meeting.
(Proposed: Cllr Elliott; seconded: Cllr Mann.)

95. TO APPROVE WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

No requests had been submitted.

96. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS OF 10 DECEMBER 2018 AND 28 JANUARY 2019

The minutes of the meetings having been previously circulated, it was

RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 10 December 2018 and 28 January 2019.
(Proposed: Cllr Dixon; seconded: Cllr Davis.) 2 abstentions.

97. TO DEAL WITH BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

There were no matters to be dealt with.

98. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF WHICH PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE HAD BEEN GIVEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SO NO. 15

No questions had been submitted.

99. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items of Special Interest.

Penzance Harbour CCF Bid. Cornwall Council's Coastal Community Fund bid has been trimmed back in recognition that bids exceed available funds by over 100% and the full scheme submitted at Expression of Interest (EOI) stage would be difficult to deliver by the required deadline in 2021. The original bid, which included ferry terminal facilities, has effectively been broken into stages with the first phase being demolition and replacement of the Rank building in the Wet Dock. The project cost is £2.74 million, with £2.1 million requested from CCF and £610,000 match funding from Cornwall Council. The replacement building will substantially improve the storage capacity and usability of the building which will help reduce the vehicle congestion caused by deliveries having to be made on the morning the freight vessel sails. The new building will not be built flush with the outside wall of North Pier which means more quay space will be available for vessels in the outer harbour. There was a CCF site visit to assess the proposal on 31 January 2019 hosted by Cornwall Council, the Mayor and Susan Stuart. The bid was made possible by the Town Council funding the development of EOI stage bid with £30,000 from its original £50,000 match funding commitment.

Penzance Heliport ERDF Grant. Penzance Heliport Ltd has received an ERDF grant of £1.87 million towards the £4.31 million cost of the new Heliport which is privately funded. Construction work is due to start in April 2019 and take approximately one year to complete.

Penzance Night-shelter. The St Petroc's night shelter facility in Breadline, funded by Central Government, has been in continuous use since it opened in early November 2018. In the first 10 weeks of operation it was used by 20 individuals on 407 occasions (average of 6 per night). Seven users have been found permanent accommodation. There are known to be 8 individuals rough sleeping in the Penzance area who have refused to use the night shelter. The shelter has capacity for 9 (possibly 11) with overspill capacity available at the St Petroc's Truro night shelter.

St Clare Super Surgery. The new Super Surgery at St Clare has opened. Rosmellyn Surgery moved in to its new accommodation on 28 January 2019. The Alverton GP Practice moved in on 4 February 2019 and Sunnyside GP Surgery is due to move in on 11 February 2019. The Peasgood (Day Lewis) Pharmacy has moved its operations to the St Clare site.

100. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Planning Committee – 19 December 2018 and 16 January 2019

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 19 December 2018 and 16 January 2019 were presented and noted.

(b) Penlee House Committee – 14 January 2019

The minutes of the Penlee House Committee meeting held on 14 January 2019 were presented and noted.

(c) Leisure & Amenities Committee – 17 December 2018

The minutes of the Leisure & Amenities House Committee meeting held on 17 December 2018 were presented and noted.

(d) Finance & General Purposes Committee – 21 January 2019

The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 21 January 2019 were presented and noted.

101. REPORTS FOR DECISION

(a) Solomon Browne Memorial Hall

The Solomon Browne Memorial Hall Association (SBMHA) was looking to sustain and develop the services and events offered to the community and required further funding to enable this. An Expression of Interest had been submitted to the Big Lottery which, if successful, would provide funding of £25,000 per year for a 3 year period. A potential second grant request to the Big Lottery Partnership Fund could result in funding of £50,000 per year for 3 years.

The trustees hoped to make the charity 80% self-sustaining and were seeking to fund the remaining 20% through grants. They were therefore asking the Town Council to assist in supporting the monthly running costs of £1,400 per month for a six month period (March – August 2019).

Cllrs Davis and White put forward the suggestion that the Town Council should appoint a representative to attend meetings of the Trustees and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – to award a grant to the Solomon Browne Memorial Hall Association in the sum of £8,400 to cover the running costs for a period of 6 months and that the Town Council would appoint a member to represent the Town Council at future meetings of the SBMH trustees.

(Proposed: Cllr Axford; seconded: Cllr Pengelly.)

(b) Jointly funded ASB Caseworker for Penzance – 12 month trial

Cornwall Council had put forward a proposal for the creation of a new jointly funded Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Caseworker post for a period of 12 months to help tackle the problem of ASB in Penzance. It was proposed that the ASB caseworker would be based at the Town Centre Hub on Causewayhead (due to open within the next couple of months) and would cover the whole of the West Penwith Community Network Area.

Concerns were expressed by some Councillors about the proposal to fund this post from the Devolution Fund and also that this request did not form part of the recent budget-setting process.

It was noted that recent reductions in the policing budget nation-wide were part of the problem but the Town Council should be seen to be taking positive steps to address the social issues existing in the town.

Following further debate, it was proposed by Cllr Davis and seconded by Cllr Pengelly that:

“Penzance Town Council agree to jointly fund with Cornwall Council the creation of a new ASB Caseworker post for a period of 12 months, the post to be based in Penzance and to cover the West Penwith CNA. The £18.000 cost share (50%) to be taken from the Devolution Reserve”.

Cllr Pengelly requested a recorded vote, the result of which is as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

Cllr Baker
Cllr Bosworth
Cllr Cliffe
Cllr Davis
Cllr Elliott
Cllr Halliday
Cllr How
Cllr Jackson
Cllr Lambourn
Cllr Mann
Cllr Pengelly
Cllr Waller
Cllr White

AGAINST THE MOTION

Cllr Axford
Cllr Bates
Cllr Broadhurst
Cllr Dixon

Cllr Young abstained.

The motion was duly carried.

(c) Penzance Town Council Strategic Plan

Since Spring 2018, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairs and Vice Chairs of the 4 standing committees, the Town Clerk and senior officers of the Council had

attended two workshops facilitated by the Corporate Development Team Leader for Cornwall Council.

The resultant Town Council Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2021 was now put before Councillors for approval and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – to adopt the Penzance Town Council Strategic Plan 2019 - 2021. (Proposed: Cllr Davis; seconded: Cllr Cliffe.)

(d) **Penzance Town Council Communications Strategy 2019 - 2021**

The Council's Communications Strategy Working Group had formulated a draft Communications Strategy for the period 2019 to 2021 and this was presented to all Councillors for review and approval.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Penzance Town Council Communications Strategy 2019 – 2021 be adopted for use. (Proposed: Cllr Pengelly; seconded: Cllr Lambourn.)

(e) **Youth Services funding proposal**

The Youth Strategy Working Group (a partnership between Penzance Town Council, Cornwall Council and Your Way Partnership) had been established by the Town Council in order to improve the provision of services to young people under the age of 25 in the parish.

The provision of a budget/reserve fund would be required to enable the development of services both in the short and long term and member were asked to consider establishing a new Youth Strategy Reserve Fund.

Cllr Bates provided an update on the activities of the Working Group that included partnership working with other organisations and visiting other towns in Cornwall to see the youth services on offer in other areas.

It was then unanimously

RESOLVED – that the sum of £10,000 be allocated to a new Youth Strategy Reserve Fund (budget line 3995/9) for the year 2019-2020. (£10,000 to be funded with a virement from money remaining in the Social Issues Fund (3200)). (Proposed: Cllr Bates; seconded: Cllr Pengelly.)

(f) Devolution Programme – Phase 2

The Town Council's first major phase of devolution of property and services from Cornwall Council had comprised 6 public toilets that were officially devolved with effect from 1 April 2016.

During a meeting between Town Councillors and Cornwall Council officers in November 2017, the previously agreed priorities of Morrab Gardens, Alexandra Play Park and Princess May Recreation Ground were confirmed for the next phase of devolution.

At an informal Town Council meeting on 28 January 2019, members reluctantly accepted that no assets would be transferred to mitigate the cost of Phase 2 and it was agreed that Phase 2 should comprise the following:

- Alexandra Play Park
- Morrab Gardens
- Foxes Lane Play Area, Mousehole
- Princess May Recreation Ground

It had also been suggested that the Tennis Courts adjacent to Alexandra Play Park should be included in Phase 2.

Cllr White proposed, and Cllr Elliott seconded, that Princess May Recreation Ground be excluded from Phase 2 of the devolution programme. The result of the voting was 7 for the motion; 10 against; 1 abstention. The motion duly fell.

It was then

RESOLVED – that the Town Council

- a) confirm with Cornwall Council that the next phase of devolution (Phase 2), subject to receipt of satisfactory agreement and condition reports, comprise the property listed below:
 - Alexandra Play Park
 - Morrab Gardens
 - Foxes Lane Play Area, Mousehole
 - Princess May Recreation Ground(Proposed: Cllr Pengelly; seconded: Elliott.) 17 for; 1 against.
- b) request that Cornwall Council includes the Tennis Courts adjacent to Alexandra Play Park in the Phase 2 devolution programme for reasons of practicality.
(Proposed: Cllr Elliott; seconded: Cllr Cliffe.) 17 for; 1 against.

- c) accept transfer of property via a leasehold agreement or, exceptionally, establish a maintenance agreement for property, rather than demand freehold transfers in all cases.

(Proposed: Cllr Elliott; seconded: Cllr Davis.) 17 for; 1 against.

(g) Penlee House – transfer of funds from the Conservation Fund

The Conservation Fund had been put in place to enable conservation work to be carried out, when required and three pieces of art now required some conservation work. It was therefore unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council approves the virement of a total of £480.00 (four hundred and eighty pounds) from the Penlee House Conservation Fund (2995/1) into the Museum Exhibits: Maintenance budget (2095) in order to carry out restoration on the following paintings:

- Stanhope Forbes - *Self Portrait* – removal of historic scratch and surface clean. This painting is due to be included in the forthcoming *Artists by Themselves* portrait exhibition (23 March – 8 June 2019).
- Ernest Procter – *Porthgwarra* - surface clean.
- Stanhope Forbes - *Relubbus Bridge* – minor restoration to frame.

A quote had been obtained for this amount (£280 for the Stanhope Forbes *Self Portrait*; £140 for *Porthgwarra*; £60 for *Relubbus Bridge*).

(Proposed: Cllr Axford; seconded: Cllr Young.)

102. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

(a) Penzance Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Davis provided a verbal update on the activities of the Penzance Neighbourhood Plan group.

(b) Penzance Regeneration Partnership

Cllr Pengelly provided a verbal update on the activities of the Penzance Regeneration Partnership.

(c) Penzance BID

Cllr How provided a verbal update on the activities of Penzance BID.

(d) Penzance Civic Society

Cllr Cordel had provided a written report on the meeting of the Civic Society that took place on 6 December 2018.

103. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

(a) Penzance Football Club agreement

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update on the status of the Football Club lease review.

(b) Golowan Festival 2019 – update report from Golowan Festival CIC

A written report from the Golowan Festival CIC had been circulated to all members.

The public and press left the meeting.

104. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

(a) Health & Safety support

A review of the provision of Health & Safety services to the Town Council had been carried out and it was

RESOLVED – to approve the commissioning of the recommended organisation for the provision of Health & Safety services for the period 2019 – 2022 at an annual cost of £2,550.

(Proposed: Cllr Axford; seconded: Cllr Elliott.) 14 for; 3 against; 1 abstention.

It was further

RESOLVED – that the Council approve Cllr Axford continuing to serve as the Council's appointed H&S member for 2019 – 2020 to assist the Council with H&S matters.

(b) Penlee House – exhibition transport costs

Members were presented with quotations for the cost of transporting artwork for the next Penlee House exhibition "Artists: By Themselves" and it was unanimously

RESOLVED – to approve expenditure up to £8,200 on transport for the 'Artists by Themselves' exhibition (23 March – 8 June). Funds to be allocated from Penlee House's Council Run Exhibitions budget (2055).

(Proposed: Cllr Axford; seconded: Cllr Young.)

(c) Devolution Programme – Legal Advice and Services

The provision of appropriate legal advice in connection with the forthcoming devolution of services from Cornwall Council was discussed and the quotation reviewed.

It was noted that the Princess May Recreation Ground had not been included in the schedule of fees and this would be addressed at a future meeting.

It was then unanimously

RESOLVED – to approve the commissioning of the recommended organisation and the schedule of fees that would be taken from budget code 3995-4.
(Proposed: Cllr Cliffe; seconded: Cllr Davis.)

105. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

(a) Staff working hours over the Christmas period

A report on the payment for extra staff working hours over the Christmas period was presented.

106. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT ONLY

None.

The meeting closed at 9.32pm

Town Mayor
8 April 2019