



Wadebridge Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 22 May 2019 at 7pm in the Victoria Room, Wadebridge Town Hall

Present : Cllrs; T Clare, H Cooper-Waite, J Fletcher, E Gill, R Harris, M Hollamby, J Leach, L Mitchell, P Mitchell, A Pennington, I Welch & T Wiltshire.

Public Present : Cornwall Councillors Karen McHugh (Wadebridge West) & Stephen Knightley (Wadebridge East) and one member of the public.

In Attendance : Anne Minnis (Town Clerk) & Beverley Collins (Minutes Clerk).

Housekeeping – The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised of evacuation routes in case of an emergency (there were no hazards to note) and reminded all those present of the following:

- That the meeting may be filmed or recorded by a member of the public.
- That the meeting is being recorded by Wadebridge Town Council.
- Members and members of the public to turn mobile phones to silent.
- Should a Member or member of the public wish to film or photograph the meeting please sit in the 'Film/Photograph Area'.
- Members of the public, children or vulnerable persons who do not wish to be filmed or photographed please sit in the 'No Film/Photograph Area'.

1020/19 Apologies were received from Cllr Gliddon.

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr Leah Gliddon due to sickness.

1021/19 Declarations of Interest –

- a) **Pecuniary Interests** (*To declare those interests which have been declared on your Register of Interests relevant to the Agenda of the meeting. Whenever the item is being discussed, including public participation, Councillors must leave the room and not take part in the discussion and decision*) – None.
- b) **Non-Registerable Interests** (*To declare non registerable interests at the start of the meeting or whenever the interest becomes apparent. When the item is being discussed, including public participation, Councillors must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or decision*) –
 - Cllr Pennington declared an interest in items 9.b.i. & ii., Cricket Club as her children are members.
 - Cllr Louise Mitchell – Minute 1028/19.b.iii. refers.
- c) **Dispensations** – The Clerk awarded Cllr Philip Mitchell a dispensation to speak on item 9.b.iii, Allotment Society in order to advise details of the request to the meeting.

1022/19 Minutes of Last Meeting – *The Minutes of the meeting held on the 8 May 2019 were RESOLVED to be a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Mayor.*

1023/19 Public Participation

- Questions from members of the Public relating to items on the agenda – None.
- Reports from Cornwall Councillors –
Cllr McHugh (Wadebridge West) addressed the meeting on the following points :
 - Food container development on Goldsworthy Way – details regarding an opportunity to feedback comments to the Enforcement Officer were discussed. Cllr McHugh has received complaints regarding the development and asked Members if they wished to submit further comments.

It was confirmed that a decision had been made by Wadebridge Town Council as a corporate body and any councillor wishing to make a further comment would be doing so personally as a resident not as a member of the Town Council.

Cllr McHugh advised she would submit her personal comments.

- Cornwall Council Planning Committee meeting held Monday 20 May 2019 – Cllr McHugh discussed her frustrations with the outcome of an appeal to lift holiday home regulations at Hustyns Resort. She referred to the lack of lateral thinking by Cornwall Council, its Officers and Cllr Rushworth regarding the application which is within Cllr Rushworth's division. Details of the application were relayed and the negative impact it will have to Wadebridge as a town. Cllr McHugh confirmed she has relayed her thoughts and frustrations to Cllr Rushworth. Similar examples were briefly referred to and Cllr McHugh's opinion of why such regulations should not be lifted.

The Mayor thanked Cllr McHugh for attending the Cornwall Council Planning Committee meeting and there was a brief discussion relating to a precedence being set and a Radio Cornwall interview.

There was a short discussion regarding the mixed opinion of the food container development including the advantages to local business and the visual impact / aesthetics of the site.

Cllr Knightley (Wadebridge East) – None.

1024/19 Mayor's Report – Cllr Mitchell provided a verbal report of recent events attended.

7.19pm, Cornwall Councillors left the meeting.

1025/19 Clerk's Report – deferred to next meeting.

1026/19 Staffing Committee for 2019/20 –

- *It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Julia Fletcher to the committee for 2019/20.*

1027/19 Finance:

- a. Accounts for payment - *It was **RESOLVED** to make payment of £91,417.37 as presented.*

1028/19 Correspondence

- a. The following correspondence for information was **received**:
 - i. **South West Councils** – Associate Member News (April 2019).
 - ii. **Langueux** – no. 318; May 2019.
 - iii. **Cornwall Council** – Draft Notes of Wadebridge & Padstow Community Network Panel meeting held on 4 April 2019.
 - iv. **South West Business Insider** – Vol.13, No.5, May 2019.
 - v. **Business Cornwall** – Issue 130, May 2019.
 - vi. **Department of Transport Report** – Traffic Signs Manual (2018).
 - vii. **CALC** – News Round Up 25 April 2019.
- b. The following correspondence for response was **received** and considered (information circulated with agenda). *It was **RESOLVED** to make the following responses :*

7.22pm, Cllr Pennington left the meeting.

- i. **Cricket Club** – to request permission from the Town Council for the erection of a marquee and portaloos over the bank holiday weekend (24-27 May 2019).
 - Members noted the late submission of the request and felt this should be discussed with club.
 - *It was **RESOLVED** to permit the request as presented.*

- ii. **Cricket Club** – to request permission from the Town Council to site a storage container (20ft x 8ft) to be located temporarily at the Cricket Club.
- It was **RESOLVED** to permit the request temporarily for the current season and subject to the following conditions :
 - i. That the container is levelled appropriately without being dug into the bank.
 - ii. That the container is visually and aesthetically acceptable to the location.

7.33pm, Cllr Pennington returned to the meeting.

7.33pm, Cllr Louise Mitchell declared an interest as a member of the Allotment Society Committee and left the meeting.

- iii. **Allotment Society** – to request if beehives could be introduced at the allotment.
- Cllr Philip Mitchell spoke on behalf of the Society to provide relevant information to the meeting (dispensation awarded – Minute 1021/19.c.).
 - It was **RESOLVED** to permit the request subject to the apiarist's approval.

7.37pm, Cllr Louise Mitchell returned to the meeting.

7.37pm, Cllr Amanda Pennington left the meeting.

Member of the public left the meeting.

- iv. **Rugby Club** – in accordance with the lease, with regard to subletting, to request Town Council consent that a physio business named Evotherary is permitted to operate from the Rugby Club premises.

- Members queried how long the business has been operating and why the club do not approach the Town Council as Landlord on such matters.

It was confirmed that the club is aware of the process required.

There was discussion around the club's comment regarding the land being gifted for rugby provision without rent being paid. The history of this was discussed. The Clerk confirmed she is awaiting information from Cornwall Council Archive, but this may take time as the facility is currently relocating. It was agreed that this matter should be addressed.

- It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Clerk meet with representatives of the Rugby Club to discuss the rent review and any associated matters.

7.40pm, Cllr Pennington returned to the meeting.

- v. **Devon & Cornwall** – to request that the Town Council give authority to the Police to change the holding position of all CCTV cameras in Wadebridge when required.

- The Clerk confirmed that the police were consulted on the current camera positions. There was discussion around the positives and negatives of this request. The Clerk emphasised the importance that the Town Council is made aware of any camera repositioning by the police and that there is a process available for Tolvaddon to do this. The expected details and figures from the Police relating to the use of the cameras has not yet been made available.

- It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the request subject to Tolvaddon informing the Town Council of any changes to camera positions and that the Town Council is not charged for this.

Cllr Pennington abstained.

- c. The following Minutes and Agendas from Outside Committees were **received** for information. There were no actions required :

- i. **Padstow Harbour Commissioners** – meeting minutes from 21/03/19.

ii. **Padstow Harbour Commissioners** – meeting minutes from 18/04/19.

1029/19 Committee meetings –

- i. **Planning Committee** – *It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held Friday 17 May 2019.*
Councillor Pennington, Chair of Committee to sign with the Clerk.

1030/19 Egloshayle, St. Breock and Wadebridge Neighbourhood Plan – None.

1031/19 Planning –

- a. **Applications** – None.
- b. **Decisions** – The following decision as received from Cornwall Council was noted :
- i. **PA19/02422** : Indalo, 13 Treneague Park, Wadebridge, PL27 7PZ, Construction of single storey extension. **APPROVED.**
- c. **Information** – None.
- d. **PLANNING COMMITTEE** – Cllr Philip Mitchell provided feedback from the Cornwall Council Planning Committee meeting held Monday 20 May 2019. Several issues with the lack of planning enforcement were highlighted.
In relation to PA19/00558, Cllr Mitchell advised that members of the Cornwall Council committee had been under the impression that the application had been called-in to committee due to Cllr Stephen Knightley's interest in the application (as Architectural Technician) and were not aware of the contentious issues and strong objections to the application including those related to the Wadebridge Conservation Area document.

Cllr Pennington reminded Members of the five-day protocol process that should take place when a Planning Officers decision differs from the comment submitted by the Town Council. The Planning Officer for this particular application did not adhere to that protocol and the process is therefore flawed. Issues with the working relationship between the Planning Officer and Wadebridge Town Council were referred to.

There was lengthy discussion on the following points :

- Lack of awareness by the Cornwall Council Planning Committee members.
- Correct planning process – specifically as this application is within a conservation area and an historic orchard has now been lost.
- Lack of planning enforcement and awareness of the Conservation Area document.
- The current lack of consideration generally by Cornwall Council in relation to planning issues within Wadebridge.
- The planning appeal process.
- Concerns with how a conflict of interest is dealt with when Cllr Knightley has an interest in an application.
- The current situation is undermining the Town Council's role within the planning process.
- Environmental vandalism.
- The outcome of this application does not encourage due process and sets a negative precedence for the future.

The correct process for complaint was discussed.

- *It was **RESOLVED** to make a complaint against the Planning Officer for not invoking the five-day protocol process.*
- *It was **PROPOSED** to write to the Local Government Ombudsman as due process has not been followed.*
*Proposed and seconded – **VOTE NOT TAKEN.***

There was further discussion around the enforcement procedure which is not proving effective and the loss of trust that this and recent events has created including that of an elected member for Wadebridge.

It was suggested to discuss this matter with Laura Jones, Senior Tree Officer.

The Mayor asked that it is formally recorded that Wadebridge Town Council is very disappointed with the outcome of the meeting and the decision and Members do not understand why the Conservation Area document is not being adhered to.

Concerns raised that Cornwall Council and Cllr Knightley appear to be uncaring of the negative impact of this application.

- *It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to make a formal complaint within the correct procedure to include the Chief Executive of Cornwall Council in the first instance and the Local Government Ombudsman if applicable.*

The following queries were highlighted :

- *How does Wadebridge Town Council put forward their views and try to build on relationships in the planning department and/or make it known that it is not being supported by a locally elected councillor.*
- *Why was the Conservation Officer not consulted or listened to in respect of this application?*

Members discussed issuing a public statement.

8.33pm, Cllr Pennington left the meeting.

8.35pm, Cllr Pennington returned to the meeting.

Discussion continued including how to move forward with the loss of trust that Wadebridge Town Council now has in Cllr Knightley as an elected member. Suggestion to include this in the formal complaint letter.

- *It was **RESOLVED** to make a public statement regarding the outcome of the appeal, Wadebridge Town Council's disappointment with this and the action it is taking.*

1032/19 Wadebridge Library & Information Service – The Clerk advised details of the planned birthday celebrations.

1033/19 Wadebridge BMX Skatepark – The Clerk advised that the Planning Officer has been contacted regarding any issues which might have arisen – response is awaited. Details of some minor amendments to the scheme were relayed and it was confirmed that planning determination date is Monday 27 May 2019.

It was noted that the Planning Officer is also the Officer for PA19/00558.

1034/19 Community Awards

- Community Awards Scheme – It was **RESOLVED** to introduce a Community Awards Scheme for Wadebridge.*
- Delegated Responsibility - It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk has delegated responsibility to work with the Mayor and bring back to Full Council how this scheme would operate.*

1035/19 Working Groups- *It was **RESOLVED** to appoint new members were required.*

Updates from working groups were provided with relevant meeting notes being **received** and Members considered recommendations made :

- a) Car Park Machines** – A possible amendment to the recommendation made was briefly discussed.
 - *It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation received to purchase four new machines.*

The Clerk advised that agreement will be required from the Co-Op and the related costs are :

Co-Op car park - three replacement machines at a cost of £9,450. Installation costs and carriage will also be incurred. Costs will be shared equally with the Co-Op store.

Egloshayle Playing Fields car park – one replacement machine at a cost of £3,150. Town Council to bear entire cost.

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept the costs as confirmed by the Clerk.

b) Christmas Lights – None.

c) Christmas Panto 2019 – Next meeting.

d) Flowers for Wadebridge – Cllr Fletcher advised that the competition details are being finalised. There was a query as to whether permission has been given for bikes to be planted - the Clerk advised a record is required and this should come to the next meeting for approval. Cllr Fletcher to circulate the relevant notes.

WORKING GROUP SEMINAR - The Clerk advised that a short seminar session will be arranged so that working group members can establish a process so that all relevant notes and recommendations are dealt with.

e) Remembrance Parade – None.

f) Toilets – Notes of meeting held 8 May 2019 were tabled. Minute 1036/19.b. refers.

g) Town Council Events – None.

h) Town Hall Improvements – None.

i) Website – None.

j) Police Partnership – None.

1036/19 Confidential matters – It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1.c., so that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because of the confidential personnel nature of the business to be transacted - Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 –

a. **Community Governance Review** – Notes of meeting held 15 May 2019 were **received**.

The Clerk provided information received from Cornwall Council regarding the proposed questionnaire. The Community Governance Advisor has advised that the current questionnaire is not appropriate and consideration to the consultation process should also be given. Guidance on this had been provided.

- It was **RESOLVED** to invite the Community Governance Advisor to meet with the Working Group and the Clerk to discuss this matter.

b. **Public Toilet Cleaning** – Quotations received were considered. The Clerk confirmed that a contract could not be awarded for more than a 12 month period.

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation 3 and award a cleaning contract for The Platt and Egloshayle Road public toilets until the end of financial year 2019/20 at which point a tender process will be applied.

- It was **RESOLVED** to re-instate Standing Order 1.c.

1037/19 Dates of Next Wadebridge Town Council meetings

- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 7pm; Monday 3 June 2019
- Full Council – 7pm; Wednesday 12 June 2019

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed as a True and Accurate Account :

Chair :

Date :