

ST COLUMB MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council Meeting of St Columb Major Town Council, held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, St Columb Major, on Tuesday, 2nd October 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), Mrs J Warner (Deputy Mayor), Mrs L Jiggins,
Mrs F Fuery, B Daniels, W Draper, K Roberts

In attendance: Mr M C Uren (Town Clerk), five members of the public, and a
Reporter from Newquay Voice.

497/17 Mayor's Welcome:

Cllr Wills welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

Housekeeping:

The Mayor addressed Councillors and members of the public, giving advice on emergency procedures, asking that all mobile 'phones be switched off, or turned to silent.

Announcement and Diary Dates:

The Mayor's Report (also incorporating the County Councillor's Report) was presented by Cllr Wills:- "Since my last report, it has been a busy period. I will go through what I have been doing, in chronological order:-

We have had several meetings regarding the Devolution of the Library, and you are all no doubt aware that this very morning, was the first full day in which St Columb Major Town Council has run the Library - we officially took over responsibility on Monday. It's been a long journey, but we have finally made it. I would like to thank the Council for its commitment to this project, and we have now secured the long-term future of this valuable service. Also, the Clerk, Deputy Mayor and I, conducted interviews for the two posts we advertised as Library and Information Assistants. Mrs Susan Jones, from St Columb, has been appointed on the 8 hour contract and Ms Georgina Barnecutt, from St Merryn, the 4 hour contract.

I chaired a Meeting of Various Groups, concerning the forthcoming Commemorations to mark the end of World War One - the RBL, RAF, Choir, Band, and others attended the briefing. Shortly, posters will go up, and tickets to the Concert will be available from the Clerk's Office during opening hours, as of 15th of October. Each Councillor will be allocated two tickets, should they wish to have them.

I attended an All Members Briefing, at NCH, on Counter Terrorism, Crime and Disorder, and Serious and Organised Crime: An overview of the Council's duties, and work being carried out under key legislation relating to crime, and keeping communities safe, in line with the Crime and Disorder Act, and the Counter Terrorism and Security Act. Cornwall Council is the responsible authority under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Also, Cornish Minority Status - Ian Saltern of Azook, brought Members up to speed with the recognition of the Cornish as a National Minority in 2014, under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Will Coleman, creator of the Man Engine, and director of Golden Tree, guided us through the on-line version of the Cornish Embassy, or 'Tick Box Bus'. The Bus itself was on site at *Lys Kernow* - all Members and staff were encouraged to get on board, explore their inner-Cornishness, and earn their own Cornish Passport.

I attended a full meeting of the Licensing Act Committee at St Austell, and a full meeting of Cornwall Council, where I got the support of most Councillors regarding the new name for our electoral division, come 2021. The proposed new name, put forward by the Electoral Review Panel, was "St Columb Major and St Mawgan". The new name being put forward to the Boundary Commission, will be "St Columb Major, St Mawgan & St Wenn". I made the very forceful point, that I was not happy that St Wenn Parish was NOT included in the proposal as presented, and that I would not sit by and once again see the good people of St Wenn disenfranchised. Cornwall Councillors agreed with me, and voted overwhelmingly to include St Wenn in the new name. That now must be approved by the Boundary Commission.

I voted in favour of Cornwall Council gaining a "Foundation Living Wage Accreditation", showing that Cornwall Council is committed to ensuring that all those who undertake work via contracts to Cornwall Council, are on at least the "Living Wage". I also supported the motion to commit the Council to try and eradicate low pay in Cornwall, in comparison to other areas of the country.

We debated the Parliamentary Boundary Review, the so called “Devonwall” seat. I supported the motion to fight against this proposal, although I did point out to fellow Cornwall Councillors, that I very much doubt that it will make any difference, because it’s a numbers game for the Boundary Commission.

We debated again the proposal to merge Devon and Cornwall Police with Dorset. I made my views very clear, that I will never support this idea. It will add a further 2% (£18.00) a year on every council bill in Devon and Cornwall, as our Police Precept is made the same as those in Dorset. It now appears that the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner is not in favour of the merger.

I asked the Leader of the Council, how ready is Cornwall Council for Brexit, considering we are less than 200 days away from leaving the EU, and is Cornwall Council ready in the event of a “No Deal Brexit”? His answers were very long-winded, and can be heard on-line at the Cornwall Council website.

I attended the St Wenn Parish Council Meeting, on the same evening as Full Council. The following evening, I attended the latest meeting of the Steering Group, who are working on our NDP. I have the Minutes of that Meeting, if anyone wishes to see them. I can inform you that Jeff Muir has put together a leaflet/questionnaire, which will be delivered to all households within the parish.

The Car Park Working Party has met twice. In fact, we met again today with Mr David Powell, and this is an Agenda Item, which we will discuss later.

I chaired a Pre-agenda Meeting of Cornwall Council’s Standards Committee, and a few days later hosted Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Standards in Public Life, who visited us in Cornwall, as part of their ongoing review into how the Standards Regime is working throughout England and Wales. Cornwall is being held up as an example of how it should be done. With 65% of complaints thrown out in the first instance. I attended the Community Network Panel Meeting, held in St Mawgan, where amongst other things we discussed the Highways Projects, and I’m pleased to report the lowering of the kerb at the Cattle Market has passed Panel Scrutiny, and will now go forward for costing. Our Link Manager, Esther Richmond, met with myself, and the Clerk, to discuss devolution of areas around the parish, from Cornwall Council to the Town Council. This is an Agenda Item, and we will discuss it later in the meeting.

I attended a second All Members Briefing on the Budget and Business Plan. This was to launch the public consultation process, and Cabinet announced their draft budget proposals for the 2019/20 financial year, and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2019/20 to 2022/23, following a review of the latest position. This session also gave Members the information they need, to support them in considering Comprehensive Impact Assessments (CIAs), as part of the Council's decision-making process, using the budget setting process as an example.

Cllr Roberts and I met with the new Chair and Secretary of the Youth Club Committee last evening, and again this is an Agenda Item which we will discuss later.

I have today officially opened the Library, as the first full day with the Town Council in charge”.

498/17

Public Forum:

Abi Hearn introduced herself as the newly elected Chairman of the Youth Club Executive Committee. She proceeded to introduce other members of the Committee – Gemma Duffield, Sophie Clews and Stacey Orchard. She stated that they are looking forward to working together with the Town Council. We need to focus on the positives. In answer to a question, she confirmed that they are waiting for confirmation from the Vicar, that the Youth Club can use the Church, while the Youth Club Building is closed. Cllr Wills stated that the Town Council were not aware of an asbestos inspection having been carried out in 2011, and had never seen the report. He hopes that all the necessary remedial work will be undertaken soon, and the building should hopefully be able to be used again by Christmas.

Richard Hooton stated that he has a non-pecuniary interest in the Youth Club. He offered his services free of charge, on anything to do with Health and Safety.

499/17

Police and County Councillor:

The County Councillor's Report has already been given. There was no Police presence, but a Police Report had been received. The Town Clerk read the Police Report –

“Apologies, St Columb Major staff not available.

Reported crimes last month 16 – same period last year 10

- 1-6 Thefts – Three shopliftings – the offenders are known, and are to be interviewed. Batteries from traffic lights, and tools from van
- 7 Burglary – Tools taken from out building
- 8-10 Criminal Damage – Attempt made on car – telephone glass smashed and padlock on gates interfered with
- 11 Drink Driver
- 12-15 Assaults – Brothers fighting after drinking – incident at Pub (male arrested) and sexual assault
- 16 Communications – Harassing texts

There have been two reported thefts linked to tools. I would encourage everyone to secure such items as best they can, and mark/record tools in case they are stolen.

We have been targeted by some shoplifters from out of town. We are pretty sure of their identity, and will be endeavouring to arrest them soon.

Regards

PC Al Lenton

500/17 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr Mrs Rogers (unwell), Cllr Culley (on holiday), Cllr Allen (unwell). A letter of resignation has been received from Cllr Jenkin. We will now need to go through the process of advertising a vacancy on the Town Council.

501/17 Members Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Interest, in accordance with the Agenda:

None

Declarations of gifts to the value of £25:

None

502/17 To confirm Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting, held on 18th September 2018:

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held on 18th September 2018, were presented by the Mayor.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Daniels seconded, and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted. Cllr Roberts abstained, as he was not at the Meeting.

503/17

Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to the end of September 2018:

The Mayor presented the Accounts, to be paid up to the end of September 2018. Some explanations were given regarding payments to Tomasz Dalgiewicz, CDA, PR Weldhen, and M and M Scaffolding. Since the finance statement was prepared, we have now received the bank statement, and this shows that half the precept has gone into our account (£113,965.34), along with the last rent, up to December '18, from Cornwall Council for the Library (£1,759.00).

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to approve the payments of accounts up to the end of September 2018.

504/17

Planning Matters:

PA18/07768: Regeneration of existing tourism asset through a change in use of land to provide 10 static and 80 touring pitches of holiday accommodation with variation of condition 2 (in accordance with approved plans) of decision PA15/09939 dated 20.10.16 to enable the change in siting of the static caravans – Springfields Pony Centre & Fun Park, Ruthvoes, St Columb, Cornwall – Mr S Taylor

There are no comments from residents. The Application was originally approved in 2016. The location of the caravans has now been moved to a north/south alignment.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Daniels seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to support the Application.

PA18/08394: Conversion of barn and stables to form dwelling – Land South of Town Mills, Bridge Hill, St Columb, Cornwall – Matthew Hill, Trewan Hall Limited

Cllr Daniels raised the question of trees overhanging the road. This matter will hopefully be sorted out by County Highways, or the applicant.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to support the Application.

PA18/08451: Erection of timber shed as hobby room and storage. Timber balustrades at sides, plastic guttering and rain barrels for garden use. Alterations to existing shed – Lower Tregamere Road

from Junction South of Rosevanion to Junction West of Tregamere, Tregamere, St Columb – Annette Taylor

There was no information available on the Planning Portal regarding this Application.

Cllr Daniels proposed, Cllr Wills seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to offer “No Comment” on the Application.

505/17 Library Devolution:

Cllr Wills gave an update on the Library Devolution. The Town Council; took over the running of the Library on 1st October 2018. There are some small teething problems with IT, which are being resolved. Interviews were undertaken last week, and two new members of staff were appointed. There will now be a “settling in” period. In the not too distant future, we may consider amending opening times, etc. Cllr Roberts stated that he had visited the Library today, and was very impressed by the “lovely ambience” about the place. Cllr Wills explained that he has made it known that the Self-service Kiosk, which has recently been installed, is there to assist staff, not to replace them. There are two Work Experience people attending on a Saturday at present.

506/17 Devolution Projects:

Cllr Wills gave an update as to where we actually are with regards to the Devolution Projects. The County Council will make a contribution of £12,500 towards the cost of all the Projects. Basically, this will assist us in the resurfacing of the Trekenning Road Car Park, but the contribution is for the overall package. Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Draper seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to accept the County Council’s offer of £12,500.

507/17 Ideas for Precept 2019/20:

Cllr Wills advised that we need to concentrate on the Devolution Projects. In his opinion, it would be wise to keep the Precept the same next year as this year. It looks, at the present time, that we could have a surplus of about £60,000 at the end of this financial year. We would be able to earmark this surplus into areas where monies will be needed next year.

508/17 Wesley Place Car Park Lease:

Cllr Wills spoke on this matter. The Working Party has met on two occasions, and today, in fact, met with Mr Powell, Director of Wesley

Place (St Columb) Ltd. He was very informative and supportive. After talking with him, it was seen that we are not utilising Wesley Place Car Park to the best of its potential. Mr Powell was happy for the Lease to “roll on”, without the need for a new Lease to be drawn up at this stage. Basically, we need to make Wesley Place Car Park work for us. In his experience, no-one (apart from us) makes a loss on car parks. We need to increase the cost of parking in the Car Parks, and when we take over Trekenning Road Car Park, make this a Pay and Display also. The question of issuing more Car Parking Permits was discussed. It was considered that the cost of the Permits is currently very low. The cost needs to be increased. It was explained that if we increase the costs and extend the time limit to three hours, then we will need to issue a new “Off Street Parking Order”. If we alter just the costs, then a “Variation” will suffice. We will, obviously, need to issue a new “Off Street Parking Order” when we take over Trekenning Road Car Park, so any increase/extension could be included at the same time. It was agreed that, at the current time, we should just increase the cost of parking to £1 for one hour and £2 for two hours and to not extend the time limit. This should give us a 40% increase in takings. Members unanimously agreed that we should rescind the previous approval. After some further discussions, Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was agreed that we should allow the now expired Lease on Wesley Place Car Park to continue to be applied.

509/17

Christmas Lights:

Cllr Draper advised that he has now obtained two quotations for electrical work needed for the Christmas Lights. Quote A - £1,820.68 (no VAT) Quote B - £7,685 (including VAT). The first quote does not include the need for new control gear, but the second one does. Cllr Draper confirmed that there is no need to have the control gear replaced this year. At the present time, we do not have any volunteers to help with putting the Christmas Lights up. It was again remarked that perhaps the Young Farmers may be able to help with this. We do need to do a recruitment drive. After some further discussion, Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Roberts seconded, and it was RESOLVED to accept Quote A.

510/17

Allotments:

The Town Clerk advised Councillors that membership of the National Allotment Society comes with a raft of benefits, from discounts on horticultural products and seeds, through to a quarterly members' magazine, initial legal advice, and horticultural expertise. After some discussion Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED not to renew the membership. There were two abstentions.

511/17 Trees in Closed Churchyard:

The Town Clerk gave an update on this matter. Having spoken to the Diocesan Board, it is unlikely that we will need to obtain a Faculty for having this tree work undertaken, just approval from the Archdeacon. The Diocesan Tree Officer will be visiting on 16th October, and following his assessment, the matter will be able to proceed to a Planning Application.

512/17 Correspondence:

The following items of Correspondence have been received:

- a) RSN Rural Funding Digest – September Edition
- b) NALC Newsletter – 05.09.18
- c) NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin – 07.09.18
- d) The Rural Bulletin – 11.09.18
- e) NALC Newsletter – 13.09.18
- f) NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin – 14.09.18
- g) Latest Funding Information – 14.09.18
- h) The Rural Bulletin – 18.09.18
- i) NALC Newsletter – 19.09.18
- j) Latest Funding Information – 21.09.18
- k) The Rural Bulletin – 25.09.18
- l) NALC Newsletter – 26.09.18
- m) Latest Funding Information – 27.09.18

513/17 Any Other Business:

- a) Cllr Mrs Warner advised that leaves need to be swept away from the entrance to the Cemetery. This is part of Tony Roberts' contract with the Council, and he will be spoken to about this matter.
- b) Cllr Mrs Warner spoke again about The Cabbage Patch. It was confirmed that we are pursuing the matter with Cornwall Council.
- c) Cllr Mrs Warner asked about whether dogs could be banned from the Closed Churchyard. The Church were offered the opportunity to ban dogs when we took out a Dog Control Order about five years ago. At that time, they did not want to operate a ban. Hence dogs can go into the Closed Churchyard now, but they must be on a lead. The Church/PCC can issue a Dog Control Order, should they so wish.
- d) Cllr Daniels asked about the weed spraying. As far as we are aware, the weed spraying has been completed.
- e) The Town Clerk stated that Cllr Allen has requested as to whether we could investigate the possibility of having a Community Bus. This

matter has been looked into before, and Councillors were of the opinion, that we should not pursue the matter again at the present time.

- f) Cllr Mrs Jiggins expressed some concern, regarding the fact that there appears to be an amount of grass left on some headstones in the Cemetery, after grass cutting. The matter will be looked into.

514/17 Date of Next Full Council Meeting

The next Full Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 6th November 2018.

515/17 To consider the following Resolution: That the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972)

Cllr Wills proposed this Resolution, which was seconded by Cllr Mrs Fuery, and RESOLVED unanimously, that we now go into Closed Session

This part of the Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Dated: 6th November 2018 Signed: