

# 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), Mrs B Rogers, B Daniels, Mrs F McLeod, S Allen, Mrs F Fuery, E Culley, Mrs L Jiggins

**In attendance:** Mr M C Uren (Town Clerk)

### 263/19 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 I have attended an All Members Briefing on Corporate Safeguarding, Updates from Council Officers, and Cornwall Police. This is part of the Annual Members Development Plan, to ensure Members are kept informed, and are aware of their responsibilities around safeguarding. The Briefing updated Members, from the Police's perspective, on current topics, including doorstep crime, living safe and well (Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service) and safeguarding.

Plus - Planning Enforcement – Update on Activity: This Briefing provided Members with general information about the outcome of planning enforcement cases, and information about the outcome of any formal proceedings in the last 12 months.

I also attended a Meeting at Heartlands in Camborne, entitled "The Modern Cornwall Councillor". This was an opportunity to shape the way that the role of a Member is described in the future, which will hopefully help Cornwall Council establish and develop the Council's support arrangements for Members from 2021 and beyond!

I attended St Wenn Parish Council Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February.

As part of my role as Chairman of the Standards Committee, and at my instigation, I chaired a Working Party made up of Members of the Committee, to look at how Cornwall Council, as a corporate body, can offer more support to Councillors who may have become subjected to a concerted campaign against them, using threatening or anti-social behaviour, written or verbal, or social media, to spread falsehoods about these individual Councillors. How can Cornwall Council offer support to any Councillor throughout Cornwall, be they a Cornwall Councillor, a Parish or a Town Councillor, if they are under a perceived threat? A new document will shortly be approved by the Committee, and sent to all Councillors, which is a guide as to how to deal with such incidents of intimidation, threatening and/or anti-social behaviour, and dealing with social media threats.

I attended the NDP Meeting, held here in the Town Hall, where the final draft of the Questionnaire was looked at. They made no changes to the draft which I approved. It is going to the Printers this week.

I attended a Full Council Meeting at County Hall, where the budget for 2020/21 has been set, and bills will rise by 3.99%, which is 1.99% for essential services, and an extra 2% for adult social care. The Police and Crime Commissioner has requested another 12.5% rise in her precept, again stating the need for extra officers as the reason for such another steep increase. I questioned this during the debate, as we are yet to see any new officers on our streets, despite last year's 12.5% increase. That's 25% in two years!

I fully realise that it takes time to train officers, but surely by now we should be seeing many more officers on patrol, and that's without the provision of the 20,000 extra officers nationwide, promised by central government. If we do not see a sharp increase in officers, I will be asking the question, WHY?

It was a pleasure to unveil the new Hurling Board in the foyer of the Town Hall on Shrove Tuesday, assisted by Mrs Glanville, the President of the St Columb Old Cornwall Society. Well done to Tomasz, our Town Handyperson, who made the Board from scratch.

Also wonderful to see the Town Crier in attendance at Hurling, even though he has not been in the best of health recently. I thank Kevin and Mrs Roberts for being there. Well done to young Ben Ellery, who won the ball for Country.

I have had cause to contact several Officers, and a Cabinet Member, over concerns raised with me by residents, including concerns over the 93 Bus Route., which is not being axed, as some have been saying.

With regards to the Ford at Talskiddy, I have requested a Meeting with Adrian Drake and residents, to express their views on the situation, and also the wall at Trewan Farm, which is being hit on a regular basis by large HGV's and farm machinery".

**264/19 Public Forum:**

There were no members of the public present.

**265/19 Report from County Councillor and Police:**

The County Councillor's Report has already been given.

There was no Police presence, and no Report had been received.

**266/19 Apologies for Absence:**

An Apology for Absence had been received from Cllr Roberts (domestic problems).

Cllr Mrs Warner was not present.

**267/19 Members Declarations of Interest:**

**Declarations of Interest, in accordance with the Agenda:**

None

**Declarations of gifts to the value of £25:**

None

**268/19 To confirm Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020, and of an Extraordinary Full Council Meeting, held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020, were presented by the Mayor.

The V E Day Commemorative mugs have arrived.

The new CCTV cameras have been installed. Unfortunately, they are not all functioning properly yet. We have also had to replace the four original cameras in the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Allen seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the Minutes be accepted.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting, held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020, were presented by the Mayor.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs McLeod seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the Minutes be accepted.

The Minutes of the Closed Session of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting, held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were presented by the Mayor.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Rogers seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the Minutes be accepted.

**269/19**      **Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to the end of February 2020:**

The Mayor presented the Accounts, to be paid up to the end of February 2020.

A number of questions were asked, and answers provided, about cheques paid, and also monies received.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Allen seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously, to approve the payments of accounts up to the end of February 2020.

**270/19**      **Planning Matters:**

No Planning Applications had been received, and there were no Planning Matters requiring discussion at this time.

**271/19**      **Smallseum:**

As Cllr Mrs Warner was not present, there was no update available on the Smallseum. All that can be said is that it is progressing to schedule.

**272/19**      **Trekenning Road Car Park – Resurfacing:**

All seems to be going well. There is a Meeting to be held next Thursday with SMT Associates, the Contractor, the Mayor, and the Town Clerk. The Contractor intends to use a Gully Sucker machine this week, to see what exactly is happening with the gullies. If they can be unblocked, we may not need to install as many new soakaways as originally specified.

**273/19**      **Donation requests from Cruse Bereavement Care and Tanya's Courage Trust:**

For Councillors information, we gave a donation of £100 in January 2018 to Cruse Bereavement Care, and back in 2012, a donation of £50 to Tanya's Courage Trust.

After some discussion, Cllr Mrs McLeod proposed, Cllr Daniels seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to donate £50 to each Charity.

**274/19**      **Social Media Policy:**

Although not a legal requirement, a recommendation has been received stating that it would be a good idea for all Town and Parish Councils to have a Social Media Policy. After some discussion, the Town Clerk was asked if he would compile a Social Media Policy, and bring it to the next Full Council Meeting.

**275/19**      **Premises Licence:**

Cllr Wills spoke on whether or not we thought it was a good idea to apply for a Premises Licence. After some discussion, it was agreed to apply for a Premises Licence.

**276/19**      **SLA - CEO – Multi-skilled Officer:**

As Councillors were aware, we currently have a Service Level Agreement with Cornwall Council – Parking Services, for 2 hours additional cover per week. We could request a Multi-skilled Officer to undertake the visits, which would include fly tipping, litter picking, and dog fouling. We currently pay £36 a week. To employ a Multi-skilled Officer would cost £40 a week. Councillors agreed that we must obtain maximum coverage. To this end, it was agreed unanimously to enter into an SLA, with a Multi-skilled Officer, at the cost of £40 per week. It was also mentioned that a Multi-skilled Officer will visit, as and when, to walk around the Town with the Town Clerk, or Town Handyperson, to identify "hot spots". There is no charge for this service.

**277/19**      **Special Resolution:**

A Special Resolution has been proposed by Cllrs Mrs Warner, Wills, Mrs Fuery, Mrs McLeod, Mrs Jiggins, Roberts, Mrs Rogers, Allen and Culley to RESCIND the extension of the parking area opposite the Doctor's Surgery – Full Council Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Part of Minute 246/19.

Cllr Wills spoke on this matter. It would seem extremely unlikely that the Tree Officer will change his mind about the removal of any trees. A

number of alternative suggestions were made – “lateral parking”, for additional bays for instance. As Cllr Mrs Warner was not present, it was agreed to defer any further discussions until the next Full Council Meeting.

However, Cllr Culley proposed, Cllr Wills seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously, to rescind the extension of the parking area opposite the Doctor’s Surgery (Full Council Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Part of Minute 246/19).

**278/19      Operation London Bridge:**

The Town Clerk advised Councillors that Operation London Bridge concerns the Death of a Senior National Figure. All Councils should have a Protocol to deal with matter. A question was raised about the flagpole, which currently exists in the flower bed in front of the Liberal Club flats. A number of suggestions were given as to where we might site a new/additional flagpole.

The Town Clerk was asked if he would compile a Protocol for the Death of a Senior National Figure, and present it to the next Full Council Meeting.

**279/19      Correspondence:**

The following items of Correspondence have been received:

- a) Keep Britain Tidy – Is your Council taking part in Spring Clean 2020?
- b) Cornwall Council – Town and Parish Council Newsletter – February 2020.
- c) Cornwall Council – Coronavirus update.

**280/19      Any Other Business:**

- a) Cllr Wills spoke about the Town Council’s website. He asked how many Councillors have an e-mail address. The following Councillors would like to have an e-mail address – Cllrs Mrs Rogers, Mrs McLeod, Allen. Cllr Daniels would like to have his e-mail addressed renewed – it doesn’t work currently. Profiles also need to be updated.
- b) Cllr Culley spoke about Car Parking Permits in the Recreation Ground. There appears to be problems in actually being able to park, due to the volume of cars parking there.
- c) Cllr Culley also advised that one of the Allotment Holders is now parking her Mobility Scooter in a dangerous position. We will write to her about this matter.

- d) Cllr Mrs Fuery asked whether anyone had heard that Town and Country Café is up for sale. The answer was yes, the Café is up for sale.
- e) Cllr Mrs McLeod spoke about a number of very large potholes on the road to Rectory Mews. It is a Private Road – not adopted by Cornwall Council. However, we will look into the matter.
- f) Cllr Daniels asked about the Church Clock. It was confirmed that the Clock is now working again. We have also had repairs made to the window in the Tower, which could have been adding to the reasons why the clock kept stopping. We think water has been getting in, and this could have been a factor affecting the Clock stopping.
- g) Cllr Mrs Jiggins asked when “Go Bus” is to happen. It was confirmed that “Go Bus” should be commencing next month.
- h) Cllr Daniels expressed much concern regarding the state of the Bus Shelters at Trelawney Parc, and the Cattle Market. Internally they are in a disgusting state. The matter will be referred to Cornwall Council for urgent action.
- i) The Town Clerk advised that the Youth Club are still looking forward to welcoming Councillors to see “what they have done”. After some discussion, it was suggested that we visit the Youth Club immediately prior to the next Full Council Meeting, on 17<sup>th</sup> March.
- j) The Town Clerk spoke about Waste Collections, and Cleansing Contracts, relating to the Devolved Sites. It was agreed that we should not enter into a new Contract with Cornwall Council, after the current Contract runs out at the end of March 2020.
- k) The Town Clerk spoke about the bus stop in Newquay Road. We continue to have problems with the base in this bus stop. Would it be a good idea to have it tarmaced, or should we look to having it re-concreted? Cllr Culley promised to view the bus stop and make his recommendations.
- l) The Town Clerk advised that we have obtained a price to remove the dead tree in Rectory Mews, at a cost of £1,000. It was confirmed that it is not our responsibility. We really need to check to see whose land it is on. We could invite the Tree Officer to visit and give us his opinion. We could put a Notice on the tree, and see what happens. We will report back to the next Meeting.

**281/19**

**Date of Next Full Council Meeting:**

The next Full Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.00pm. Councillors will meet at the Youth Club at 6.30pm.

282/19

**Resolution:**

**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 the Resolution, seconded by Cllr Allen, and RESOLVED unanimously that we now go into Closed Session.

This part of the Meeting ended at 8.25pm

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Signed: