

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, 7th January 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), Mrs J Warner (Deputy Mayor), Mrs B Rogers, B Daniels, Mrs F McLeod, K Roberts, S Allen

In attendance: Mr M C Uren (Town Clerk)

206/19 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 chaired a Pre-agenda Meeting of the Standards Committee at County Hall. The full Meeting will be held on 17th of this month, again at County Hall.

I was asked to attend a Meeting at the Columba Centre, as a guest of the Oasis Centre. Members of the Diocesan Volunteers Board, which is run under the Bishop of Truro, met to look at the work of the Oasis Centre, and I was asked to contribute as to why I think the Oasis Centre does a great job in the community. I have always been a great supporter of the work they do within the Lann Pydar Benefice (that's the four parishes of St Columb, St Mawgan, St Eval and St Ervan), helping those with memory loss, loneliness, and many other issues.

It was a great pleasure to attend the Christmas Lights Switch-on, and present the new Lights Committee with a cheque for just over two thousand pounds, given by the former Chamber of Commerce. There have been issues with the lights not working several times over the festive period. This is down to the volume of rain we all experienced during a very wet December. I will be meeting with the Committee shortly, to discuss how we might be able to alleviate this issue. As

soon as I have a date, if you also wish to attend let me know, and I will inform you of the time and place of the meeting.

I attended a full Meeting of Cornwall Council, in which Members voted on "Spaceport Cornwall", and agreed a capital uplift of up to 12 million pounds, to make Cornwall Airport Newquay Spaceport Ready, with investment on infrastructure, such as new runway lighting, strengthening of the runway, etc. At the Council Meeting, I proposed an amendment to the resolution, asking Councillors to defer the decision on Spaceport until the rockets have been fully tested, which currently they have not, and until legislation is in place from Central Government, on how any Spaceports in the UK should be run, and what is required in order to gain a Spaceport Licence. This amendment seemed to me very responsible, considering no legislation is currently on the statute books, and the true cost is yet to be determined! Sadly, I lost the vote. Forty-four Councillors did, however, agree with me, but it was not enough! With the decision now made, I feel that I must now get behind the whole Spaceport Project, and give it my full backing. This does not mean that I will not question further decisions, before there are requests for more of our money, plus, I will keep a very close eye on what is happening, and the promises that have been made. If they fail to deliver on those commitments, heads should roll, from Senior Council Officers to Cabinet Members. They have pushed hard for this, so I sincerely hope they are right, and can deliver on "Spaceport Cornwall". I also believe that it is vital that awkward questions are asked, and Officers and Cabinet Members are brought to account as the project progresses (or not as the case may be). I have always been a firm believer that the future of the human race is outwards, not inwards, and space is the "Last Frontier", excuse the pun, but here in Cornwall, we need to be realistic regarding launches from our shores, and Cornwall's place in an already overcrowded market.

I chaired a Licensing Meeting at Camborne, in which we determined on the granting of a Premise Licence in Torpoint. I also attended a meeting of the Full Licensing Act Committee in St Austell, where we agreed the latest Standing Orders for the Committee.

I also attended a Meeting of the Cornwall Airport Newquay Consultative Forum, of which I am the Vice Chairman. We heard from the Airport Director, Al Titterington, who announced he is leaving in March, to become Airport Director at Manchester Airport.

The Clerk and I carried out Sue Jones' Appraisal. She is a member of the Library staff, and all of the Library Team's Appraisals will be with you in your Agenda Packs for the next meeting".

A number of questions were asked about the Spaceport. How does it affect the carbon footprint? What happens with this as Cornwall Council has now declared a Climate Emergency? The Cornwall Council proposal for a "Forest for Cornwall" was also discussed.

A question was asked about flights from Newquay to Heathrow. Cllr Wills confirmed that at the last Airport Forum Meeting, it was stated that these slots are guaranteed. However, according to the local news this evening, it was stated that the slots are only guaranteed until March 2020.

207/19 Public Forum:

There were no members of the public present.

208/19 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.

209/19 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr Mrs Jiggins (unwell), Cllr Mrs Fuery (unwell), and Cllr Culley (family commitment).

210/19 Members Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Interest, in accordance with the Agenda:

None

Declarations of gifts to the value of £25:

None

211/19 To confirm Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting, held on 3rd December 2019

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held on 3rd December 2019, were presented by the Mayor.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs McLeod seconded, and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted. There were two Members who abstained, as they were not present at that Meeting.

The Minutes of the Closed session of the Full Council Meeting, held on 3rd December 2019, were presented by the Mayor.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted. Two Members abstained, as they had not been present at the Meeting.

212/19 **Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to the end of December 2019:**

The Mayor presented the Accounts, to be paid up to the end of December 2019.

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

It was confirmed that we can now do “On-line banking”, and that we do now have a debit card.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Allen seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously, to approve the payments of accounts up to the end of December 2019.

213/19 **Planning Matters:**

PA19/10571 – Non-material Amendment to Application No. PA19/05288 dated 24th September 2019 for the erection of 334 holiday lodges, 32 units of staff accommodation and ancillary facilities building including new resort reception, adult and child swimming pools, Flowrider Artificial Surf Waver, restaurant and café, gym, function room, office space, convenience shop, cycle and buggy hire; additional associated works including car parking, comprehensive landscape scheme and infrastructure works with variation of Condition 1 (plans approved) of decision notice PA18/08287 dated 5th April 2019 are proposed (see proposed amendments to conditions table) for clarity and to ensure the updated plans and details are referred to. Variations to conditions 3, 7, 25, 29 and 30 of decision notice PA18/08287 dated 5th April 2019 are proposed to enable part discharge of conditions; and variation of condition 5 of decision notice PA18/08287 dated 5th April 2019 is proposed to allow additional flexibility namely to allow units to be swapped and widening of a pedestrian route to allow vehicular access – Retallack Resort & Spa, Winnards Perch, St Columb, Cornwall TR9 6DE – AG Retallack Ltd

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

PA19/09612 – Extend Parking Area – Land off Trekenning Road, St Columb, Cornwall – St Columb Major Town Council

It was agreed that the Town Council will make “No comment” on this Application.

PA19/10822 – Conversion of existing disused grain store to self-contained holiday unit – renewal of C2/08/00701 without compliance with Condition 2 (holiday occupancy) of decision notice PA12/09733 dated 19th December 2012 – Brooklands Farm, Tregaswith, Newquay TR8 4JG – Nigel Allen

Cllr Daniels stated that, in his opinion, it is a very simplistic Application. He finds it unclear and confusing. It basically needs more clarity of intent.

To this end, Cllr Daniels proposed, Cllr Roberts seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to offer “No comment” on this Application.

PA19/11185 – Application for Listed Building Consent for works to roof of dwelling to include removal of existing Delabole, scantle slate roof, replacement/treatment of any damaged roof timbers; re-felt and batten; re-roof. Remove redundant chimney over extension and addition of lead flashing. Replace flat roof on newer extension – Brooklands Farm, Tregaswith, Newquay - Georgina Bennett

It was confirmed that the roof will be re-roofed with Delabole scantle slate.

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

PA19/11006 – Proposed conservatory to side elevation – 1, Maple Close, St Columb, Cornwall TR9 6SI – Mr Crew

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Allen seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to support this Application.

**PA19/11273 – Works to trees in a Conservation Area, namely:
T1: Sycamore, large tree adjacent to East Street in decline - Fell
T2: Sycamore x 2, 2 trees overhanging Bridge Hill – Fell
T3: Sycamore, Ivy clad tree close to T2 – Fell – Penmellyn House, Lower East Street, St Columb, Cornwall TR9 6AX – Mrs Jennie MacDonald**

As this Application is for works to trees in a Conservation Area, it will be decided under Delegated Authority. There is no need to submit any comments to the Local planning Authority, as this communication is merely to notify that an Application has been received.

214/19 Neighbourhood Development Plan:

Cllr Wills advised that the Steering Group has not met since our last Council Meeting. They are due to meet tomorrow evening. It was stated that one member of the Steering Group has resigned. Cllr Wills will report to the next Full Council Meeting.

215/19 Smallseum:

Cllr Mrs Warner gave an update on the Smallseum. Basically, we are now waiting to hear from the Old Cornwall Society, to see what funding they will give. The total cost of the Project is just over £1,400. Cllr Wills confirmed that the Smallseum is still a Town Council Project. If there should be a shortfall in funding, the Town Council will make up the difference. It was thought to be a good idea to ask Andy Hucklebury to attend a Council Meeting, and show us exactly what he is intending to do.

216/19 Review Library's Opening Hours:

Cllr Wills stated that as far as can presently be ascertained, people appear to be quite content with the hours the Library is currently open. We will prepare a definitive breakdown of the responses to the Questionnaire for the next Council Meeting.

217/19 Trekenning Road Car Park – Resurfacing:

Cllr Wills gave an update on the resurfacing tenders for Trekenning Road Car Park. There has been a problem with the date for receiving tenders, as all Contractors were closed over the Christmas period. It has therefore been agreed, that the final date that tenders can be received will be now on Friday, 17th January 2020. It is anticipated that we should be able to report on the tenders to the next Full Council Meeting on 21st January.

218/19 Work to Bell Tower, Town Hall:

Cllr Wills advised that the previous Bell Tower was replaced with a new wooden structure about three years ago. There is a certain amount of maintenance and preservation work now required. To this end, scaffolding will be needed, to enable our Contractor to undertake the necessary works. We have obtained a price for the scaffolding from “M and M Scaffolding”, in the sum of £1,200. Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to order the

scaffolding, so that the necessary maintenance work can be undertaken to the Bell Tower.

219/19 **Set up Working Party, to consider Street Cleaning and Toilet Cleaning Contracts, with a view to merging both Contracts into a Town Council Full-time Position:**

Cllr Wills spoke on this matter. It was agreed that the Working Party will consist of Cllrs Wills, Mrs Warner, Daniels, Mrs McLeod.

It was also thought to be a good idea for the Working Party to look at the Grass Cutting, Footpath Cutting, and Verge Cutting Contracts, which come to an end at the end of March 2020. New Contracts will commence in April 2020.

220/19 **Correspondence:**

The following items of Correspondence have been received:

- a) C and IOS H and C Partnership – Long term plan update – 12 December 2019
- b) CC – Communities and Devolution bulletin – Budget Consultation
- c) Standards Committee – e-mail update
- d) C and IOS H and C Partnership – Long term plan update – 19 December 2019
- e) PSMA News – December 2019

221/19 **Any Other Business:**

- a) Cllr Wills advised that he has received correspondence from the Enforcement team regarding Polita Farm. Although they consider a breach of planning conditions have taken place, they will not be taking any further action. Cllr Wills has responded saying he is not happy, and that he requires an assurance that no additional work will be undertaken on this land.
- b) Cllr Mrs Rogers asked if David Juszcak could have a parking place outside his property in Trekenning Road Car Park after the resurfacing work. Cllr Wills and Cllr Mrs Warner will visit Mr Juszcak, and speak to him about this.
- c) Cllr Mrs Rogers asked if there will be toilets in Trekenning Road Car Park after the resurfacing has taken place. The answer was no.
- d) Cllr Mrs Rogers advised that the Church tower clock is not working. We are aware of this, and the matter has been referred to the Cumbria Clock Co.
- e) Cllr Mrs Rogers spoke about a Facebook page of old darts players from St Columb in the 1960's. Someone is trying to find out about the people in the picture. He has been told to write to the Town Council, who may be able to assist.
- f) Cllr Daniels expressed some concern regarding the number of black bin bags that appear around the Town Hall, immediately after

the weekly collection has taken place. There appears to be a problem with people in the Flats. They do, however, have an area where they are supposed to place their rubbish. The matter has been referred to the owner of the Flats.

- g) Cllr Daniels asked where the two new benches are to be placed. They will be placed in the car parking area opposite the Co-op.
- h) Cllr Roberts spoke about the Storage facility off Station Road. He thought it was supposed to be green containers. There now appears to be a large number of white caravans, and mobile homes, that use this area as winter storage. The matter has already been referred to the Enforcement Team, and they state that the owner is not in breach of any planning conditions, and intend taking no further action on the matter.
- i) Cllr Mrs McLeod stated that she has written to the Environment Agency again today, about the river. To check that there are no blockages, and also the state of the bridge at Bridge. She is still awaiting a reply.
- j) Cllr Allen expressed some concern regarding the state of some of the footpaths in the town. Some appear to be in a very poor state and there have been a small number of related incidents. Pavements are the responsibility of Cornwall Highways.
- k) Cllr Daniels spoke about the “dead” tree on Old Rectory Drive. The Town Clerk read responses he has received from Cornwall Council. They state that it is not their responsibility, but, in their opinion, it is the landowner who is responsible. Cllr Mrs McLeod wonders whether the tree and roots are rotten. Cllr Daniels wondered whether it would be sensible to lop off some of the top branches.
- l) The Town Clerk spoke about the query that was raised at the last Meeting, regarding the large bill we had received from South West Water, for water consumption at “the Cricket Ground”. On further investigation, this water supply was identified as the one used by our Handyperson, to fill the bowser during the Summer, to water the hanging baskets. The bill will only be large in the Summer, whereas the rest of the year will be negligible.
- m) The Town Clerk advised that we have received some photos from Phil Tremain of the Chapels. These will be incorporated into the form of a publicity document, that will be sent to all Funeral Directors in the area.
- n) The Town Clerk spoke about the flooding problems that are still occurring at the bottom of Union Hill. As Members were aware, South West water installed a French Drain, and an Agreement was supposedly set up with Cornwall Council to maintain this. However, having spoken to South West Water, who in turn spoke to Cornwall Council, Cornwall Council now state that the Agreement has still not been signed. The matter will be sorted. In the meantime, South West Water are arranging for their Contractor to carry out whatever remedial work is needed, to sort out the problem of flooding, at their expense.

- o) The Town Clerk was pleased to advise, that as we have made no insurance claims over the past twelve months, we have now received a Low Claims Rebate of £179.83 from our Insurers, WPS.
- p) The Town Clerk spoke about the poor condition of the Lych Gates. These Gates are Grade II Listed, and any repairs/replacement will need to have Listed Building Consent, and possibly a Faculty Notice. After some discussion, it was agreed that our Handyman should carry out any repairs needed now, and that he then makes new wooden gates, but to a slightly different design, in the not too distant future, subject to the previously stated conditions.
- q) The Town Clerk advised that Cllr Daniels and himself had carried out Georgina Barnecutt's Appraisal (one of the new members of the Library staff). A copy of the Appraisal will be in Members' Agenda Packs for the next Council Meeting.
- r) Cllr Mrs Warner thought it was about time we visited the Youth Club. Members thought this was a good idea. A date will be arranged. Some concern was expressed about the fact that the gate to the Youth Club building appears to be open most of time, and not padlocked. This security matter will be referred to the Youth Club.

222/19 Date of Next Full Council Meeting:

The next Full Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 21st January 2020 at 7.00pm

The Meeting ended at 8.35pm

Dated: 21st January 2020

Signed: