

# 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, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), B Daniels, Mrs F Fuery, Mrs L Jiggins, Mrs T McLeod, S Taylor

**In attendance:** Mr J A Stuart (Town Clerk) & two members of the public.

144/23

### **Mayor's Welcome**

The Mayor, Cllr Wills, welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

i) **Housekeeping**

The Mayor addressed Councillors, gave advice on emergency procedures, and asked that all mobile 'phones be switched off, or turned to silent.

ii) **Diary Report from Mayor and County Councillor**

Cllr Wills presented his report:

"Since we last met, I have attended both St Wenn and St Mawgan Parish Council meetings.

I attended the Full Council Meeting held at New County Hall, where I asked the portfolio holder for planning why it has taken nearly three years and we are still awaiting a decision on the proposed development of Cornish Fresh at Mawgan Porth, and two years for a decision on proposed development at Trekenning Farm. The answer I was given was vague, to say the least. He went on about delays in responses from consultees or further information required from the applicant. This can delay the process. I also tried to ask a supplementary question concerning the lack of enforcement regarding planning, but was cut short as you are only allowed thirty seconds to ask a supplementary question, and so I bluntly asked does he have confidence in the enforcement system. He replied that he does. However, he is aware that people play the system to their advantage.

I laid wreaths at the memorials in St Mawgan church and St Wenn, while I laid a wreath on Saturday the 11th, Remembrance Day, in St Columb. I also led the parade for Remembrance Sunday, read a lesson in the church, as did the Town Clerk, and laid my wreath on behalf of the community. Refreshments were served in the Columba Centre afterwards. The event was extremely well attended.

I chaired a meeting of the Transport Appeals Committee at County Hall, where seven appeals were heard.

I held a private Teams meeting with planning officer Sam Fuller, in order to hear his views on the proposed Oceanside development at Mawgan Porth, so I could make up my own mind where I stand on this matter. I have since informed Mr Fuller that I am in full agreement with the local Parish Council.

I attended the Christmas Lights switch on, which was a great success, with only one or two minor issues to iron out. The streets were packed with people and the Lights Committee, and the local Rotary Club did an excellent job. Santa's sleigh led the procession of lanterns from the Academy, whose choir sang beautifully. The fireworks went down exceptionally well, and the snow machine used saw the children whooping with delight. Well done to all those involved.

I have dealt with questions and concerns from residents throughout the area covering many different matters, in person, by phone and email.

I have had daily contact with the Clerk and continue to help him to the best of my ability."

**145/23**

**Public Forum**

Colin and Lizzy Whiting spoke about their planning application,

**PA23/09361: Certificate of Lawful Development for an Existing Use of buildings A, B and C as 3 single dwellinghouses (Class C3). Sarah's Cottage, Killaworgy Mill, Black Cross, Newquay.**

Mr and Mrs Whiting explained that they intended to renovate the dilapidated properties, in order that they might be used to house a veterinary surgeon and nurses based at their practice in Summercourt. Cllr Daniels noted that the project would require significant investment to bring the properties up to a habitable standard.

**146/23**      **Report from Police**

There was no police presence, but PCSO Parry reported the following crime figures for the previous 30 days via email:

1. Assault reports x 5
2. Criminal damage
3. Theft/making off without payment
4. Domestic dispute

**147/23**      **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs S Allen (family commitment), T Coad (ill health), S Culley (ill health), S Whetter (ill health).

**148/23**      **Members' Declaration of Interests**

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

None

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

None

**149/23**      **To confirm Minutes of a Full Council Meeting, held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

The Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting, which was held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023, were presented by the Mayor.

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

150/23

**Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to November 2023**

The Mayor presented the Accounts, paid up to 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Taylor seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the payment of accounts, to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023, be approved.

151/23

**Planning matters**

- (i) **PA23/09361: Certificate of Lawful Development for an Existing Use of buildings A, B and C as 3 single dwellinghouses (Class C3). Sarah’s Cottage, Killaworgy Mill, Black Cross, Newquay.**

Cllr Wils proposed, seconded by Cllr Daniels, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to support the application.

- (ii) **PA23/09386: Erection of an agricultural livestock building. Land South East of Trekenning Farm, Trekenning, Newquay, Cornwall.**

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

- (iii) **PA23/08105: Construction of 3 residential dwellings, garages and access road. Field at OS Grid Ref 191633 63685. The Retreat, St Columb, Cornwall.**

Cllr Wills was concerned about the application, given the area’s flooding risk, while Cllr Daniels was alarmed by the prospect of construction traffic and parking in an area already plagued by heavy traffic.

Cllr Mrs McLeod proposed, seconded by Cllr Daniels, that the Town Council object to the application, on the grounds of environmental impact, the risk of flooding, improper access and egress on to Union Hill, the impact of construction traffic, and local overdevelopment. Council RESOLVED unanimously to object on these grounds.

- (iv) **PA23/05588: Class AA application to raise the eaves of existing bungalow to two storey building. Robena, Barn Lane, St Columb Cornwall.**

Cllr Daniels observed that access to the first floor of the property was via a flight of metal steps.

Cllr Wills proposed, seconded by Cllr Taylor, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the application be supported.

**152/23**      **Christmas Staff Bonuses / Gathering**

- i) Bonuses were agreed as follows: £30 for the cleaner, £30 each for the library staff, and £100 for the Town Handyperson.
- ii) Cllr Wills proposed, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fuery, and it was unanimously RESOLVED that the Town Council would pay for the Town Mayor, the Town Clerk, the former Town Clerk and the Town Handyperson to have a Christmas meal together.
- iii) It was agreed that the Councillors' Meal would take place in the New Year, on a date to be confirmed. Councillors would pay for their own meals.

**153/23**      **Appointment of an Internal Auditor**

The Town Clerk was delighted to confirm that Mrs Helen Dowdall had agreed to serve as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for the 2023/2024 financial year.

**154/23**      **Car Parking: Double Yellow Lines**

The Mayor explained that the proposed restrictions on waiting in Bridge Hill, Barn Lane and Station Road would be implemented as advertised. However, proposed restrictions in Union Hill, Treventon Rise and Trekenning Road would be reduced. Cllr Daniels was far from pleased about the amendments.

**155/23      Town Hall Windows Update**

The Clerk reported that the installation of the replacement windows had been delayed until the New Year.

**156/23      Town Hall Roof Update**

The Mayor was pleased to report that, following an investigation by Cllr Culley and Mr Paul Young-Jamieson, the roof appeared to be in a much better state than previously thought. The slates did not need to be replaced, but the gable end above the King's portrait required new lead work and sealing. Cllr Culley would be investigating who might be able to do the work, and advised via email that ridges on all four sides of the building ought to be leaded. Cllr Culley suggested that the total cost would be less than £20,000.

**157/23      Correspondence**

The Clerk had received no relevant correspondence.

**158/23      Any Other Business**

a)      Hurling Ball

The Mayor explained that the Hurling Ball missing from the Chamber cabinet belonged to the Old Cornwall Society, and was temporarily in the keeping of Mr Phil Ellery, who needed it for a lecture. Mr Ellery would return it to the cabinet as soon as possible.

b)      Derelict Building

Cllr Allen, via telephone communication with the Clerk, had expressed concern about the dilapidated house opposite the Cattle Market. The Mayor had been told that it was part of the Teagle Estate. Cllr Mrs Mcleod noted that it was one of a number of run-down buildings in the Town. Cllr Daniels was, however, pleased to report that the Cabbage Patch property was being developed into seven flats, which were due to be ready in May 2024. In reply to Cllr Mrs Fuery, Cllr Daniels explained that two car parking spaces would service the flats.

c) Footpaths

Cllr Mrs Fuery noted that footpaths between the Halloon and Trekenning Roundabouts were overgrown.

d) Halveor Close

The Clerk agreed to continue his investigation into responsibilities for the footpaths in the Ocean Housing development.

Cllr Fuery reported that an Ocean Housing bungalow in Halveor Close had become available.

e) Electricity Contract

The Clerk reported that, following the conclusion of the Town's contract with Drax, electricity would be provided by British Gas Lite, on a two year fixed-term contract.

f) Burial Records

The Clerk was pleased to note that burial and plot purchase records for the period 1953 to 1999 had been found.

**159/23**

**Date of Next Full Council Meeting**

The next Full Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The Meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Signed: