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 April 2024 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), S Culley (Deputy Mayor), S Allen, B Daniels, A Dickens, Mrs F Fuery, Mrs L Jiggins, Mrs T McLeod & S Taylor.

In attendance: Mr J A Stuart (Town Clerk).

212/23 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 telephones be switched off, or turned to silent.

213/23 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

214/23 Report from Police

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

2x Possession of offensive weapon
5x Assaults
1x Drunk and Disorderly
3x Criminal Damage
1x Stalking
1x Vehicle Theft
1x Fraud
1x Malicious Communications
1x Kidnapping
1x Hare Coursing
1x Drink Drive
2x Theft
1x Supply Class A Drugs

PC Carthew noted that some of these crimes were linked to a single incident, which was being investigated.

215/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr S Whetter (family commitment).

216/23 Members' Declaration of Interests

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

None

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

None

217/23 To confirm the Minutes of a Full Council Meeting, held on 19th March 2024

The Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting, which was held on 19th March 2024, were presented by the Mayor.

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

Matters arising

i) Cllr Wills noted that his Facebook post concerning dog fouling had been shared to a community page and was well received.

ii) Cllr Wills reported that compliance with the new waste removal system had improved, while infringements were being investigated. Cllr Daniels noted that the refuse collection operatives were merely removing black bags by hand from the plastic bins before depositing them in the collection vehicles. He believed that the cost of the bins was thus a waste of money.

218/23 **Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to March 2024**

The Mayor presented the Accounts, paid up to 20th March 2024.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs McLeod seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the payment of accounts, to 20th March 2024, be approved.

219/23 **Library Report**

The Town Clerk reported that during the six months to January 2024 there had been, on average, 256 more Library visitors per month than between August and January 2023. The average number of new borrowers had risen by 10.

The Clerk also noted that the Library was hosting an array of popular events, groups and workshops, including The Laughter Crafters, A Taste of Cornish, Hall for Cornwall productions and Lego Club.

Library income for the eight months to March 2024 stood at £192.41, while donations totalled £70.

Cllr Allen conveyed his daughter's thanks to the Library staff for enabling her to volunteer in the Library for her Duke of Edindburgh's Award. She would be happy to volunteer in the future.

220/23 **D-Day Commemoration**

Cllr Wills reminded members that, given the prevailing financial constraints, it had been decided that the Town Council would not stage a large-scale event to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the the D-Day Landings. The Clerk would contact the St Columb Branch of the Royal British Legion and other local organisations about their possible organisation of a commemorative event.

Cllr Culley suggested that a flagpole from the Carnanton Estate might be available for the Town's use. It was agreed that a donated flagpole would be warmly welcomed. The Clerk would thus investigate the purchase of a D-Day commemorative flag.

221/23 **Correspondence**

No correspondence of note had been received.

222/23 **Any Other Business**

a) Academy Wall

Cllr Culley reported that a retaining wall next to the Academy was in very bad repair. Cllr Wills confirmed the wall was the Academy's responsibility.

b) Bridge Hill

Cllr Dickens noted that the wall at the top of Bridge Hill was crumbling, while sediment was encroaching on to the highway: vehicles were thus being parked ever further into the road. In addition, the obstacles had been causing problems for waste collection vehicles. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr Dickens in investigating the problem.

c) Town Mills

Cllr Mrs McLeod reported that she, Cllr Dickens and the Clerk had met to discuss concerns about the Town Mills development at Bridge. With the help of Cllr Culley, they would investigate the planning restrictions in place, before inviting the landowner to explain his intentions to Council.

d) Halveor Close

Cllr Mrs Fuery and the Clerk would meet to discuss the hazardous moss growing on pavements in Halveor Close.

e) The Cabbage Patch

Cllr Daniels observed that the development of the flats in the building formerly known as 'The Cabbage Patch' was progressing well; the building waste left adjacent to the property would be removed once it had reached a mass of one ton.

f) Union Hill Sycamore

In answer to Cllr Daniels, Cllr Culley reported that the state of the sycamore in Union Hill was satisfactory; the tree would require attention in approximately five years.

g) William Scott

Cllr Wills noted that Bill Scott's funeral would take place at 1 pm on Tuesday 9th April in St Columb Major Church.

h) Annual Meeting of the Council

Cllr Wills noted that nomination forms for the posts of Mayor and Deputy Mayor would be available at the Annual Parish Meeting.

223/23 **Dates of Next Meetings**

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 16th April 2024. The Annual Meeting of the Full Council would take place on 7th May 2024.

224/23 Cllr Wills proposed, seconded by Cllr Culley, and it was unanimously RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved 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).

225/23 **Street and Public WC Cleaning Contracts**

The Council RESOLVED unanimously to accept the contracts tendered by Mr A R Roberts.

226/23 **Town Clerk's Appraisal**

The Mayor read the Town Clerk's appraisal to members and recommended that Mr Stuart's salary increases be confirmed.

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the Town Clerk's salary should rise by one NALC spinal column point from 1st April 2024, and by an additional spinal column point upon his completion of CiLCA.

The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Dated: 7nd May 2024 Signed: