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, 8th January 2019 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs P Wills (Mayor), Mrs J Warner (Deputy Mayor), Mrs L Jiggins, B Daniels, W Draper, Mrs B Rogers

In attendance: Mr M C Uren (Town Clerk), Mr Ian Gibson – Practice Manager of Petroc Group Practice (St Columb Major Doctor's Surgery) – for Item 561/17 only, and three members of the public.

560/17 **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.

561/17 **Mr Ian Gibson, Practice Manager of Petroc Group Practice (St Columb Major Doctor's Surgery)**

Mr Ian Gibson, Practice Manager of Petroc Group Practice (St Columb Major Doctor's Surgery) was welcomed to the Meeting. He spoke about our Doctor's Surgery. There have been quite a few changes recently. Two partners have left, and will be replaced by Drs. Hall and Smith soon. There are now nine partners – eight clinical. The Practice has recruited six additional doctors. The Practice undertakes a lot of training for medical staff, and now for student nurses (in conjunction with Plymouth University). Five trainees have since moved into the Practice. The computer system has been changed, which did cause some initial problems. The workload has increased considerably. Five years ago we were dealing with just under 100,000 appointments, now it is about 140,000. The Practice population is about 16,500. We are working more closely with Newquay Practices, and with ten other Practices in Mid-Cornwall. A "Question and Answer" Session followed. The following questions were asked, and answered accordingly:-
Mrs Ford spoke about the opening times of our Practice. In adjoining Practices they are open from 8.00am to 6.00pm on weekdays, and

Saturday mornings. Our Practice only opens from 8.30am to 4.40pm on weekdays. There would appear to be a shortfall of about two hours a day. Mr Gibson explained that there is an Emergency Service from 8.00am to 8.30am. Monday to Friday Surgery is open from 9.00am to 5.40pm. From 11.00am there are urgent appointments, and between 12.30pm and 3.00pm there are Doctors' home visits. He advised that from April 2019 we will not be part of extended hours access. He also confirmed that for workers, the Surgery is open on Wednesday mornings from 7.00am to 8.00am and Tuesday and Thursday evenings form 7.00pm – 8.30pm. These must be pre-booked routine appointments.

Mrs Smith asked why, when waiting on the telephone, you do not know where you are in the queue. Mr Gibson confirmed that this matter is currently being looked into.

Mrs Smith also mentioned about when a Doctor needed to make another appointment for you in four weeks' time, the computer would not allow this to happen. Apparently, three weeks is the maximum that can be booked ahead. Mr Gibson stated that this was not the case – Doctors can override this.

Mrs Webber asked how many Doctors there were in the Practice overal. Mr Gibson stated that there were 16 in total – 5 for Padstow and 4 or 5 for St Columb Major.

Mrs Webber also stated that, in her opinion, to have to wait for 2 to 3 weeks for an appointment to see a specific Doctor is not acceptable.

Mrs Ford stated that there should be more staff on the desk (especially early mornings).

Mrs Ford also asked why there were no Family Planning Doctors now at our Surgery. Mr Gibson confirmed that there were in fact, two Doctors who specialised in Family Planning, with a third one joining in February.

Cllr Mrs Warner spoke about parking outside the Surgery. Would extending the bay opposite the Surgery help? Mr Gibson confirmed that extra parking is always helpful. Another way of sorting out the parking problems, is to spread urgent clinic appointments across the day.

Cllr Wills asked about the number of appointments made from people who attend our Surgery from outside the parish. Mr Gibson stated that about 90,000 come from within the parish, with the rest coming from outside the parish. In practice, one Doctor is allocated 1,800 residents. There has only been a marginal increase in the Practice population (about 200 – 300 over the last five years).

Was the Surgery considered big enough, it was asked? Mr Gibson confirmed that it is at present. There are 13 consulting rooms, 2 treatment rooms, and 4 nurses rooms.

Cllr Mrs Rogers expressed concern that no-one answers the telephones. Mr Gibson advised that there are 11 incoming lines, and 4 receptionists who are supposed to answer the 'phones. She also explained, that as there is never any availability for routine appointments, you have to say that it is an emergency, whether it is or not. She firmly believes that

doctors should go out to patients more, and not to expect the very poorly ones to try to get into the Surgery, and then have to wait an inordinate amount of time to be seen.
She also advised, that where patients have a monthly blood check, and doctors request an additional appointment, this is not possible to arrange.
Cllr Draper thanked Mr Gibson for his very informative report, and for in general, the good service that the Surgery offers to its patients. He too mentioned about the answering of 'phones. He has actually been in the Surgery, with the 'phones ringing all the time, and the receptionists not answering them. This really is a problem that needs to be remedied. It is, basically, poor communication.
Mr Gibson advised that the Surgery is currently looking into texting reminders.
In answer to a question about the Patient Liaison Group, Mr Gibson stated that it is still running, after a fashion.

Mr Gibson was thanked for his attendance, and he subsequently left the Meeting.

562/17 **<u>Announcement and Diary Dates:</u>**

The Mayor's Report (also incorporating the County Councillor's Report) was presented by Cllr Wills:-

"Since our last Meeting, I have chaired a Pre-agenda Meeting of the Standards Committee at Cornwall Council, in my role as Chairman of that Committee. The full Committee meets on the 18th of this month.

St Columb played host to the recent Community Network Panel Meeting, which was held here in the Town Hall. I am pleased to say that the lowering of the pavement at the Cattle Market was approved, as was additional street lighting for Rosenannon. Those were the two projects given the go ahead from our electoral division. Since that Meeting, Highways has confirmed that, in fact, the lowering of the pavement will be done within three months, and this will NOT come out of the pot of money for the area. I will be looking to see if we can provide additional street lighting in some areas of the town with that money.

I attended an All Members Briefing at County Hall on Understanding Corserv, and the Council's Group of Companies

This two-hour briefing covered: -

Governance, performance monitoring, and roles and responsibilities between the Council and the Group of Companies; Who sets the standards; Progress to date, and future plans for the business.

The second half was all about "Workspace in Cornwall":-

An overview of the Cornwall property market; The future of workspace; An overview of the Council's business facing property assets; The need for public intervention in workspace in Cornwall, and development opportunities, including Enterprise Zones.

I attended a Meeting of Cornwall Council's Customer and Support Services Overview and Security Committee, of which I am a member. On the same evening, I attended St Wenn Parish Council Meeting.

I attended the Central Planning Committee Meeting, where the development of land at Station Road was discussed. As members are aware, I called this application into Committee for consideration. Sadly the Committee agreed with the Officers, and passed the plans.

I attended a Meeting of the Full Committee of Cornwall Council's Licensing Act Committee, of which I am the Vice Chairman.

I also attended a Meeting of the Cornwall Newquay Airport Consultative Forum. This body does not have any real power, but can make recommendations to Cabinet on any aspect concerning the running of the Airport. My real concern is the proposed Spaceport, and the amount of Cornish taxpayer's money, that supporters of this venture will request from Cornwall Council to move the project forward. Twelve million was the figure muted at the Meeting! I questioned the Spaceport Director, Miles Corden, on the recent "Memo of Intent" between Cornwall Council and "Virgin Atlantic". In answer to my question, it turns out the memo is NOT legally binding. I will be opposed to any further taxpayer's money being invested in this project, until there are concrete guarantees that we will see a return on YOUR money

I attended the Annual Carol Service at the Church".

563/17 **Public Forum:**

The Mayor invited the members of the public to address the Town Council on any issues, should they so wish.

Mrs Ford asked again for the Town Council to try to resolve the renovation of the Cabbage Patch. Cllr Wills gave an update on the situation. He had written to the Chief Executive of Cornwall Council regarding the matter,

and has recently received a reply. He had also contacted our MP, Steve Double, about the matter, and had received a response. However, it is a private property, and there is not a lot they/we can do, as the owner is abiding by all regulations. It is likely to be a very long, protracted case. However, the owner has been requested to remove the rubbish from the rear of the property within three weeks. If this does not happen, then the Enforcement Team will become involved.

Mrs Ford also asked about the latest position regarding the land off Union Hill, and whether any permission has been granted for the building of houses. The response was that this was for outline planning permission only, and to date we have not received anything further from Planning.

Mrs Webber asked about the problem of surface water at the bottom of Union Hill. South West Water will be fitting a land drain, which will, hopefully, solve the problem. Work is due to commence on 14th January 2019. Thereafter, Cornwall Council will be responsible for its ongoing maintenance.

564/17 **Report from 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; PC Lenton and PCSO Burgess off duty.

Reported crime in the last month – 11, same period last year – 12.
1. Using threatening words/behaviour
2-3 Assault by beating
4. Criminal damage

All four above relate to the New Year's Day Hunt. Under investigation. Basically, a couple of minor assaults, pushing and shoving. Damage to car headlight, and horse rider stopped by persons unknown.
5-6 Common assault
7. ABH – Actual Bodily Harm
All three above linked to one incident, involving neighbours.
8. Theft – Local retailer, but male offender possibly identified.
9. Communications Act – Ex-partner's mother sending messages via social media.
10. Assault – Ex-partner
11. Common assault – Domestic, related ex-partner

In general nothing to report over the holidays.

Aware of small fires being started in Rec. Ground and briefing article in Newquay Station from my Sgt., asking for patrols when able. I have also mentioned the foolish behavior in my recent press release.

Starting to fill in our diary for 2019. Please contact us with any visits/events that might benefit from our attendance.

Regards

Al Lenton"

Neighbourhood issues – 01637 880617
Immediate – 999; Non-emergency – 101;
E-mail: stcolumbmajor@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk"

565/17 **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Culley, Allen and Mrs Fuery (all unwell), and Cllr Roberts (not well enough to attend, following a Hospital Appointment late this afternoon).

566/17 **Members Declarations of Interest:**

Declarations of Interest, in accordance with the Agenda:
None

Declarations of gifts to the value of £25:
None

567/17 **To confirm Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting, held on 4th December 2018**

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting, held on 4th December 2018, were presented by the Mayor.

The Town Clerk advised that we have received monies from Cornwall Council, via the Transition Fund, for the Library.

Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Draper seconded, and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted. Cllr Mrs Rogers abstained, as she was not present at the Meeting.

568/17 **Payment of Accounts – Members to Approve the Payment of Accounts to the end of December 2018:**

The Mayor presented the Accounts, to be paid up to the end of December 2018.

The Town Clerk commented on the cancelled cheques, and explained about cheque 105912. Some of the paying in amounts were discussed, and reference was made again, to the two amounts received from Cornwall Council regarding the Transition Fund.

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

569/17 **Planning Matters:**

No planning applications had been received.

Cllr Wills spoke about the Central Planning Meeting he had attended, regarding the new houses on Station Road.
He also spoke about the planning application that was received a short while ago regarding Tresaddern. A compromise has been reached with the Planning Officer, and the application has now been approved.

570/17 **Neighbourhood Development Plan:**

Cllr Wills gave an update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Steering Group held their last Meeting the day after our last Council Meeting. The Survey had proved successful, with a 20% turn out, and a resounding percentage in favour of producing an N. D. P. (89.3% in favour). The next part of the project is to set up Workshops. Mention was made about a Grant, which is available for N. D. P's. . The maximum amount you can apply for is £9,000. A Grant for this amount was requested, and we have received confirmation that £6,751 has been approved. The Town Clerk explained about how the Grant was worked out, and how the money had been allocated to four areas. If any alteration to the areas which the Grant covers needed to be amended, then permission has to be sought. There is a time limit on the Grant, so the Steering Group needs to proceed as quickly as possible.

571/17 **Christmas Lights:**

Cllr Wills confirmed that Matthew Rodliff will collect the large tree. Cllr Draper advised that it is hoped the Christmas Lights will be taken down on Saturday 19th January. He proceeded to talk about what it is hoped will be

achieved in 2019, with, it is hoped, financial support from the Town Council. The idea, is that a Group will be set up, to oversee everything to do with the Christmas Lights. The control gear needs to be upgraded. Funds are needed to replace some of the lights, as they reach the end of their useful life. To this end fund raising is required. It is hoped that some members of Our Town will become involved in the Group. Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Mrs Warner seconded, and it was RESOLVED unanimously that the Town Council offers financial support for the Christmas Lights 2019. This will consist of paying for the fireworks, the marshalling, and the road closure. Cllr Wills thought it would be a good idea to invite a Band to lead the Procession in future years.

572/17 **Smallseum:**

Cllr Wills gave an update on the Smallseum. The idea is that the inside will have a pictorial history St Columb Major. We will be liaising with Our Town, and the Old Cornwall Society. A price of £400 has been obtained from County Signs, to undertake the work to the 28 small windows of the telephone box. This is for Councillors' information only, as approval has already be agreed, to undertake any such works to the telephone box.

573/17 **Lych Gate – Main Gates:**

The Town Clerk advised that the time will come very soon, when we have to consider replacing the main gates at the Lych Gate. Repairs have recently been undertaken, but it is considered that this really will be the last time we can repair them.

574/17 **Road Traffic Order:**

The Town Clerk advised that work on the Road Traffic Order will commence week beginning 21st January 2019, weather permitting.

575/17 **Moles in Closed Churchyard:**

The Town Clerk gave an update on the mole situation in the Closed Churchyard. The Contractor we use to eradicate the moles has suggested, that for £200 per month, he will visit regularly to check on the situation regarding the moles. His cost for a visit, is in the region of £250 - £300. Councillors agreed to continue as now – pay for individual visits, as and when required.

576/17 **Donation request from Newquay Surf Lifesaving Club:**

We have received a request for a donation from Newquay Surf Lifesaving Club. Cllr Wills proposed, Cllr Draper seconded and it was RESOLVED that we make a donation of £50 to Newquay Surf Lifesaving Club.

577/17 **Correspondence:**

The following items of Correspondence have been received:

a) RSN Rural Funding Digest – December 2018 Edition
b) CC – Latest Funding Information – 07.12.18
c) NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin – 07.12.18
d) The Rural Bulletin – 11.12.18
e) NALC Newsletter – 12.12.18
f) CC – Latest Funding Information – 14.12.18
g) NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin – 20.12.18
h) Adoption of the Cornwall Minerals Safeguarding Development Plan Document
i) NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin – 04.01.19
j) The Rural Bulletin – 08.01.19
k) Cornwall Hospice Care – letter of thanks for donation
l) Cruse Bereavement Care – letter of thanks for donation
m) CHICKS – letter of thanks for donation
n) Cornwall at War Museum – letter of thanks for donation

578/17 **Any Other Business:**

a) Cllr Wills spoke about the business rates we are being charged not only for the Town Hall, but also for the Library. We are currently being expected to pay in total, £14,400 per annum. This seems absolutely ludicrous. He has a meeting arranged with the Portfolio Holder next week, to try to sort this problem out.
b) Cllr Mrs Warner stated again, that we must keep our eye on what is going on, or not going on, at the Cabbage Patch.
c) Cllr Mrs Warner requested that the Environment Agency, be contacted to clear the river of debris, etc. from Bridge down to Whitecross. This matter will be dealt with accordingly.
d) Cllr Mrs Jiggins expressed concern regarding the state of the Eco Bus Shelters. The matter will be investigated further with Cornwall Council.
e) Cllr Daniels asked about what was going on at Wesley Place Car Park. It was confirmed that the potholes have been filled in, and re-tarmaced. It was considered that this was a Health and Safety matter and needed dealing with urgently. Fresh lining/markings will be undertaken later.
f) Cllr Daniels wondered where it was anticipated that additional street lighting might be installed. It was stated that it would be in Trelawney

Park. He considered that a more pressing need was for a pavement to be provided at the top of Highfield Avenue. Really, it would only be an extension to the one that is there now. Cllr Wills mentioned about the additional street lights in Rosenannon. It would appear now that some of the residents do not want these, due to light pollution issues.

g) Cllr Mrs Jiggins advised that there a number of loose cobbles in the Market Place road/pavement at the side of the Town Hall. These are becoming dangerous. This is due to traffic damage, and we will arrange for repair work to be undertaken.
h) The Town Clerk spoke about Community Governance Review. These can include changes to parish boundaries, varying the number of parish councilors, a change of parish warding arrangements, or the name of a parish. After some discussion, it was agreed that we do not wish to have a Review at the present time.
i) The Town Clerk advised that there is a Code of Conduct Training event to be held in Liskeard on 14th January 2019. Cllr Allen needs to attend such an event.
j) The Town Clerk spoke about the Sowenna Appeal. There is a big gap in the care of people between the ages of 16 to 18, and the new unit (Sowenna) being built in Bodmin will help to address some of these problems. Basically all town and parish councils are being asked to make a donation. Councillors agreed unanimously that we would not make a donation at this time.

579/17 **Date of Next Full Council Meeting**

The next Full Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 22nd January 2019.

580/17 **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 Daniels, and RESOLVED unanimously, that we now go into Closed Session

This part of the Meeting ended at 8.55pm

22nd January 2019 Signed: