



Wadebridge Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 23 January 2019 at 7pm, Main Hall, Town Hall Wadebridge

Present: Cllrs; H Copper-Waite, J Fletcher, R Harris, J Leach, L Mitchell, P Mitchell (Mayor), A Pennington & I Welch.

Also Present: Cornwall Councillors Stephen Knightley (Wadebridge East) & Karen McHugh (Wadebridge West), representatives of Wadebridge Cricket Club and three members of the public.

In Attendance: Anne Minnis (Town Clerk) & Beverley Collins (Minutes)

Housekeeping – The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised of evacuation routes in case of an emergency (there were no hazards to note) and reminded all those present of the following:

- That the meeting may be filmed or recorded by a member of the public.
- That the meeting is being recorded by Wadebridge Town Council.
- Members and members of the public to turn mobile phones to silent.
- Should a Member or member of the public wish to film or photograph the meeting please sit in the 'Film/Photograph Area'.
- Members of the public, children or vulnerable persons who do not wish to be filmed or photographed please sit in the 'No Film/Photograph Area'.

886/19 Apologies were received from Cllrs; Gill & Gliddon.

- It was **RESOLVED** to approve apologies from Cllr Eric Gill due to illness.
- It was **RESOLVED** to approve apologies from Cllr Gliddon due to illness

887/19 Declarations of Interest –

- Pecuniary Interests** (*To declare those interests which have been declared on your Register of Interests relevant to the Agenda of the meeting. Whenever the item is being discussed, including public participation, Councillors must leave the room and not take part in the discussion and decision*) – None.
- Non-Registerable Interests** (*To declare non-registerable interests at the start of the meeting or whenever the interest becomes apparent. When the item is being discussed, including public participation, Councillors must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or decision*) – None
- Dispensations** – None.

888/19 Minutes of Last Meeting – *The Minutes of the meeting held on the 9 January 2019 were RESOLVED to be a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Mayor.*

889/19 Public Participation

- **Questions from members of the Public relating to items on the agenda** – **Danielle Stephens Rickard (local trader & Chair of Pubwatch Scheme)** addressed the meeting in relation to agenda item 8.b.vii. – correspondence regarding the public toilets (The Platt), the Rotunda and a Town Council representative to the Pubwatch Scheme.

Wadebridge Cricket Club – a representative for the club (Paul Bearham, South West Community Builds) addressed the meeting providing detailed information in relation to the proposed scheme to extend and improve the clubs current facilities. The Town Council were requested to submit the planning application on behalf of the club – Mr Bearham confirmed that South West Community Builds will upload the documentation and make payment.

• **Reports from Cornwall Councillors –**

- **Cllr Knightley** addressed the meeting providing details on the following points:
 - Climate Change** – motion has been passed by Cornwall Council.
 - Gonvena Hill cycle path** – Highways have assured that the works to remove the flower bed are scheduled for February half term.
 - Path located behind Egloshayle Road** – has been cut back and graffiti removed.
 - Retaining wall on Egloshayle Road** – this wall has been found to be failing and recent works have been abandoned. Highways are now involved and will ensure works are completed.
 - Goods Shed** – request for a representative from the Town Council to attend the meeting which usually take place twice each year.
 - Strategic Planning Committee meeting** – feels that the negative comments made about the Town Council at the meeting (10 January 2019) were unfair and unwarranted including those by a school representative which were misleading. Cllr Knightley praised Cllr Harris for her attendance and presentation.
- **Cllr McHugh** – advised the following :
 - Climate Change motion** – was happy to support the amendment to the carried motion.
 - Investment programme** – details were provided on Cornwall Council’s future plans, the difficulties of budget cuts and possible allocation of the monies.
 - Town Centre** - comments have been received regarding issues with the town centre. Cllr McHugh would like to explore possible funding schemes and has raised this with the Chamber of Commerce.
 - Wooden foot bridge** opposite the Cinema is due to be replaced in April.
 - Street lights** – broken lights have been reported and repairs are scheduled – lights should be working in the very near future.

890/19 Mayor’s Report – The Mayor provided details of recent events and appointments including Christmas visits to Highpoint Lodge and St. Breock Home. Points raised at the Mayor’s surgery held 19 January 2019 were relayed and Cllr Mitchell suggested holding a Town Meeting which would act as a forum for residents and local groups to voice their concerns on town matters.

- *It was **RESOLVED** to hold a Town Meeting.*

891/19 Clerk’s Report – The Clerk tabled a report and advised further details relating to a knife found by Town Council staff.

892/19 Finance

a. Accounts for payment (December 2018) –

Cllr Pennington noted the high business rate payments made to Cornwall Council drawing this to the attention of the Ward Members due to earlier comments related to the upkeep of the town.

- *It was **RESOLVED** to make payment of £53,413.30 as presented.*

Cllr McHugh agreed that business rates are high. Details of proposal to be in place for 2020 and the difficulties that Cornwall Council face were relayed.

Cllr Pennington reiterated issues with business rates and budget cuts which impact at a local level resulting in town and parish councils paying for more services which is unfair on residents.

893/18 Correspondence

- a. The following correspondence for information was **received**:
- i. **Business Cornwall** – Dec18/Jan 19; Issue 126.
 - ii. **Languieux** – Jan/Feb 2019; no 316.
 - iii. **South West Business Insider** – Vol.13 No.1; Jan 2019.
 - iv. **Cornwall Council (Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14)** - Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Guineaport Road, Wadebridge; 4 – 6 February 2019; 09:30 to 16:30.
 - v. **Cornwall Council (Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14)** - Temporary Prohibition of Traffic; Chapel Lane, Wadebridge : 4–8 March 2019; 24 hours.
 - vi. **North Coast Cluster Group** – Correspondence re Crantock Neighbourhood Plan situation (09/01/19).
 - vii. **Sowenna Appeal** – request for support from the Town Council.
- b. The following correspondence for response was **received** (information circulated with agenda. *It was RESOLVED to make the following responses :*
- i. **Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (Devon & Cornwall)** – Letter with regard to Police precept proposals for 2019/20.
 - *Members debated the proposals set out and felt the increase is not justified and is unfair to the council tax payer. Concerns with the lack of policing in Wadebridge and contact with local officers were highlighted.*
 - *It was RESOLVED to discuss the proposals with Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner) including the current status of policing in Wadebridge.*
 - *It was RESOLVED to invite Scott Mann MP to a meeting to discuss this matter.*
 - ii. **Cornwall Council** – Consultation on the 2019 Off-Street Parking Order (Piggy Lane & Goldsworthy Way Car Parks).
 - Members accepted the proposals set out within the consultation.
 - iii. **Devon & Cornwall Police** – Police Report for the period 13/11/18 – 08/01/19.
 - Members requested that a more detailed report specific to Wadebridge is made available.

For Information, Nigel Davey advised that the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (Devon and Cornwall) has invited representatives to a Councillor Advocate Seminar on Tuesday 12 February 2019, 2-4pm at Bodmin Police Station.

7.34pm, member of the public arrived.

Members debated current issues with the policing of Wadebridge.

Danielle Stephens Rickard advised that some local traders have experienced problems with Licencing Officers in relation to adherence and stipulation of their licence conditions and this has now worryingly resulted in some traders being afraid of contacting the Police in some cases.

Members noted the lack of response from the Police to the Town Council's previous requests for clarification and/or information – lack of communication and issues with contact continues to make the working relationship difficult from the Town Council's perspective.

- iv. **Wadebridge Cricket Club** – Request from the cricket club for the Town Council to submit the planning application for an extension to the Cricket Pavilion.
 - Cllr Pennington advised the meeting that her children are members of the club and noted her support for the proposal. Reference was made to the flood risk assessment requirements.

- It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk and Cllr Pennington have delegated authority to discuss the proposals with the club and refer back to Full Council.

- v. **Cornwall Council** – Invitation to discuss Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking (29/01/19).

7.40pm, Mr Bearham left the meeting.

- Members discussed the Town Council's position on this including as a venue hirer. The Clerk confirmed that Councillors do not require to be DBS checked and that a Safeguarding Policy is in place. It was **AGREED** that a member of staff should attend the meeting and advise if further action is required.

- vi. **Devon & Cornwall Police** – Request to the Town Council to enable the Police to receive the performance data provided for the Quarterly CCTV reports.

- It was **RESOLVED** to permit quarterly reports are made available as requested.

- vii. **Correspondence from Pubwatch Chair** – Items raised for the Town Council to consider in respect of the Platt Toilets, the Rotunda and representation from the Town Council at Pubwatch meetings.

- Members discussed the items as follows :
The Platt toilets – Issues with maintenance and the poor service provided by Cormac are being addressed and the Working Group is currently looking at refurbishment options.
It was noted that past attempts to employ a local contractor have proved difficult.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Danielle Stephens Rickard to the Toilets Working Group.

Working Group to investigate options to close the toilets in the evening.

For information, Nigel Davey advised that See Clean are contracted to clean the Egloshayle Parish Hall.

- **Rotunda** – The difficulties with installing a CCTV camera due to lighting were noted. Various options to help reduce issues in this area were briefly discussed and Members agreed the issues should be raised with the Police.
For information, Danielle Stephens Rickard advised she has a meeting with her Licencing Officer and the Police in the near future.
- **Pub watch scheme** – It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Philip Mitchell as the Town Council's representative.

- viii. **Cornwall Council** – Bus Stop Improvements (Wadebridge) – response required by 08/02/19.

- It was **RESOLVED** to support the proposals as set out.

- ix. **Wadebridge Business Owner** – Request for a meeting with the Town Council – It was **RESOLVED** to invite the business owner to a meeting as Members require further information.

- x. **Wadebridge Business** – Offer to sponsor a water fountain near the new skate park – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the offer on completion of the park.

- c. Minutes and Agendas from the following Outside Committee were **received** –

- i. **Padstow Harbour Commissioners** – Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 December 2018.

- 894/19 Committee meetings -**
- i. **Finance & General Purposes Committee (tabled)** – Minutes of the meeting held Monday 21 January 2019 were *received*.
Recommendation – Fin 158/19, Precept 2019/20
The Mayor provided a full explanation of the Town Council’s position including reference to expected income and expenditure in 2019/20.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation to accept a precept figure of £478,905 for 2019/20 (an increase of 13% on the 2018/19 precept figure of £423,810).
- 895/19 Egloshayle, St. Breock and Wadebridge Neighbourhood Plan**
- i. **Minutes of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 24 July 2018** – The Mayor advised that the minutes have not been received.
 - ii. **Update from the Mayor** – As item iii.
 - iii. **Minutes of the meeting held by Egloshayle and St Breock Parish Council and Wadebridge Town Council and Cornwall Council held on 28 November 2018 (circulated with agenda)** – The Mayor gave a verbal precis of the meeting including the work to be undertaken to re-write the main body of the Plan so as to reflect amendments previously agreed and comments submitted by the community. The Minutes of the meeting were *received*.
The Mayor confirmed that the Plan cannot be finalised and issued until all amendments have been completed.
- 896/19 Planning –**
- a. **Applications** – None.
 - b. **Decisions** – None.
 - c. **Information** – the following information from Cornwall Council was *received* :
 - **PA18/02958/PREAPP** : Land North West of Piggy Lane Car Park, Pre-application advice for use of land for 36 camping pitches and 145 car parking spaces. **CLOSED – ADVICE GIVEN.**
- 897/19 Wadebridge Library & Information Service** – The Clerk confirmed that a new member of staff has been employed and opening hours will now include Wednesdays. Members thanked the Town Clerk for her hard work throughout the Library devolution process.
- 898/19 Wadebridge BMX Skatepark** - The Clerk advised details received from the contractor regarding access to the site which is now expected to be Monday 28 January 2018. The first of the proposed design meetings is being held on 24 January - a local professional skater will be attending to provide input.
- 899/19 Community Governance Review (Information circulated with agenda)** – Information relating to the Town Council’s previous request for a review was discussed. The Clerk confirmed an initial expression of interest is all that is required at this stage.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to complete and submit an expression of interest.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to include the Town Council’s letter from March 2016.
- 900/19 Pedestrianisation of Molesworth Street** – Members discussed the advantages and benefits this would have for the town. Difficulties with access and deliveries were noted but also that various options are available for consideration.

Cllr McHugh referred to the health and safety issues and several recent incidents which have occurred and requested support from both the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council. Highways can be approached for possible solutions and a sensible scheme to put forward.

Danielle Stephens Rickard highlighted the importance of signage at the Chapel Lane end of the street to reinforce that vehicle access is not allowed – No Entry signs are required at this location.

For information, Nigel Davey advised that signage was removed at this area when painting works were undertaken on buildings – the signage has not been put back.

- It was **RESOLVED** to support a consultation.

8.29pm, The Mayor adjourned the meeting for a short refreshment break.

8.36pm, The Mayor reconvened the meeting.

901/19 Feedback from Town Council representation at Strategic Planning Committee (PA17/03835, Merriman Limited; Land North of Wadebridge Football Club, Gonvena Hill, Wadebridge) – Information circulated with agenda. Members debated the information provided by Cllr Harris (who had represented the Town Council at the meeting held Thursday 10 January 2018) and further information provided by Cllr Pennington regarding false comments made in relation to the Town Council's communication with Wadebridge schools. Members agreed that comments made by various attendees at the meeting, including Cllr Jackie Ball (St Austell Poltair) and Paul Renowden (Education Capital Strategy Manager) were negative, fabricated and/or untrue and have damaged the Town Council's reputation. Cllr Knightley stated that he has advised Cllr Rob Nolan (Chair of Strategic Planning Committee) of his displeasure with this matter. Further details of issues around comments made at the meeting were relayed and Cllr Knightley confirmed his support of the Town Council.

- It was **RESOLVED** to write to Cllr Rob Nolan, Chair of Committee and Kate Kennally, Chief Executive, drawing their attention to Officers of Cornwall Council who have misrepresented the wishes of Wadebridge Town Council and to write to Cllr Jackie Ball for an explanation of her comments which were misleading.

Members thanked Cllr Harris for attending the meeting.

It was **AGREED** to re-issue the Planning Protocol document to all Members.

902/19 Young Persons Services in Wadebridge – Members briefly discussed the current provision and opportunities for future provision. Cllr Knightley advised details of local groups who use the Goods Shed.

AGREED to agenda Town Council representative for next meeting.

For information, Nigel Davey advised of available space at the Egloshayle Parish Hall.

903/12 Town Council Summer Event for Children – Members briefly discussed the possibility of a Teddy Bears Pic-Nic event for the children of the Parish.

It was **AGREED** to forward this item to the Events working group. Members were asked to submit suggestions to Cllr Philip Mitchell.

904/19 Flowers in Town – The Clerk provided details of a proposal to erect hanging baskets on the Cornwall Council light columns during the Summer period to promote the town. The Clerk confirmed this would be a Town Council project and a budget has been agreed.

- It was **RESOLVED** to support the proposal.

905/19 Land at Keston Gardens (Information circulated with agenda) – Cllr Pennington queried the piece of land in question which appears to be the same land outlined in agenda item 21, Land at Talmena Avenue.

This item was deferred pending clarification.

906/19 Land at Talmena Avenue (Information circulated with agenda) – Item deferred pending clarification – Minute 905/19 refers.

- 907/19 Future High Street Fund (Information circulated with agenda)** – The Clerk advised new information in that the scheme is open only to towns with a parishioner level of 20,000 or more. Members discussed this information and suggested raising issues with Scott Mann MP as they feel that again North Cornwall towns are losing out to the larger towns of the County.
- It was **RESOLVED** to raise this matter with Scott Mann MP including funding options and support to regenerate Wadebridge town centre.

908/19 Working Groups - New members were appointed as required and detailed below. Updates from working groups were provided with relevant meeting notes being **received** and Members considered any recommendations made :

- a) Bins – None.
- b) Christmas Lights – None.
- c) Flowers for Wadebridge – Budget has been made available.
- d) Planning – None.
- e) Remembrance Parade – None.
- f) Signage – None.
- g) Toilets – None.
- h) Town Council Events – None.
- i) Town Hall Improvements – None.
- j) Wadebridge Library & OSS – working group to be removed.
- k) Website – None.
- l) Police Partnership – None.
- m) Christmas Panto 2019 – None.

909/19 Confidential matters – It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1.c., so that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because of the confidential personnel nature of the business to be transacted - Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

- a. **St Kew Parish Council Minutes (Minute ref. 5065)** – Information circulated with agenda. Members discussed comments made by a Cornwall Councillor in relation to resignations of Wadebridge Town Councillors.
 - The Clerk advised that Cllr Knightley had provided an explanation and that the Clerk of St Kew Parish Council supported that explanation.

- b. **Correspondence** – Members considered correspondence received from a hirer of Town Council premises.
 - The Clerk advised a grant application has been submitted.

9.36pm, Cllr Cooper-Waite left the meeting.

- c. **Staffing Committee (Minutes tabled)** –
 - It was **RESOLVED** to receive Minutes of the meeting held 4 January 2019 as a true record of the meeting.

- It was **RESOLVED** to receive Minutes of the meeting held 18 January 2019 as a true record.

Item for discussion - S240/19, Personnel Matters, iii. Revised Job Profile – Car Park Attendant

- It was **RESOLVED** to include the locking of The Platt public toilets by the Evening Caretaker on Friday evenings and the Car Park Attendant on Saturday evenings.

Recommendation – S240/19, Personnel Matters, iii. Revised Job Profile – Car Park Attendant

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation that a small CCTV camera is purchased and sited to view the front of the car park shed (and more aspects if possible) to ensure that both staff and Council property are safeguarded. This is in keeping with current policy where cameras are located at the Parks Department and in the foyer of the Town Hall.

- d. **Policy for Dealing with Abusive, Persistent or Vexatious Complaints/Request & Complainants/Requesters** – The Clerk provided details of ongoing issues with a local resident and confirmed that the Town Council has been cleared by the ICO of an allegation previously made by the resident.
- It was **RESOLVED** that the resident is advised that any future correspondence relating to; 1) the Neighbourhood Plan, 2) the reading of a letter on 10 August 2018 by The Mayor, 3) Register of Interests in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and 4) Matters with regard to Cllr Pennington will be dealt with in accordance with the Town Council's Policy for Dealing with Abusive, Persistent or Vexatious Complaints/Requests and Complainants/Requesters. A copy of the Policy is to be provided to the resident to ensure that they understand what the Policy means and Town Council procedure.
- e. **Town Hall** – Members considered the quotations received for scaffolding.
- It was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation 2 as presented.
- f. **Town Hall** – Members considered the quotations received for external painting. The Clerk advised it had not been possible to obtain three quotations.
- It was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation 1 subject to clarification of the items discussed.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to re-instate standing order 1.c.

910/19 Dates of Next Wadebridge Town Council meetings

- **Finance & General Purposes Committee** – Monday 4 February 2019
- **Full Council** – Wednesday 13 February 2019.

The Mayor advised that due to equipment failure the meeting had not been recorded.

Meeting closed at 9.52pm

Signed as a True and Accurate Account:

..... **Chair:**

..... **Date:**