

Councillors Present:

Mrs G A Grant – Town Mayor

Mrs M V Bennett, N S Ferris, Mrs B Hulme, Mrs C Hutchings, J Langan, Mrs M K May, G K Mockett, D A Prynne, G C Rickard and M Snowdon

Mark Taylor of Penryn Surgery attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding the opening of a pharmacy in the car park at Asda, Penryn. He advised that he and his colleagues were intending to request a judicial review should Cornwall Council decide not to carry out any enforcement action against Asda. They had also lodged a judicial review into the NHS's decision not to remove the pharmacy licence. He advised that Day Lewis in Falmouth would be operating under a 100-hour licence from March. Councillor Mrs M K May advised that she was expecting a decision on whether to take enforcement action the next day.

Gill Holliday and Veronica Carey attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding planning application No. PA12/10772 (Removal of Condition 7 of decision C1/PA01/0338/06/R to remove the requirement for planting at land to the rear of The Old Library, 15 Broad Street, Penryn). Concerns raised were that the applicant should provide an adequate scheme of planting prior to commencing work on the site, and that no such scheme had been submitted. Councillor Mrs G A Grant advised that she had consulted with the case officer and clarified that the condition related specifically to tree planting and that this was the issue under consideration. Councillor M Snowdon left the Council Chamber for the duration of the address to Council as he was the applicant.

There being no representative from Devon and Cornwall Police present, a police report was not given.

Councillor Mrs G A Grant led the Council in a minute's silence in honour of the Reverend Donald Forway, Town Mayor from 1978–1980, who had recently passed away.

89. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors K S Green, M J Mullins, Mrs S Peters, V Tullin and E L Wilkes.

90. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M Snowdon declared a registrable interest in Item 14 (Town and Country Planning Applications) as he was the applicant.

91. MINUTES

RESOLVED that minutes 78 to 88 of the Council Meeting held on 4 December 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor G K Mockett and seconded by Councillor G C Rickard

RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting of the Management Team held on 4 December 2012 be noted.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G A Grant and seconded by Councillor Mrs B Hulme

As there were two members of the public present who had raised concerns regarding an item later in the agenda, it was suggested that the order of the agenda be changed to allow them to stay and listen to the debate.

RESOLVED that Agenda No. 14 (Town and Country Planning Applications) be considered after Agenda No. 4 (Correspondence).

Proposed by Councillor J Langan and seconded by Councillor Mrs M K May

92. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Inspector Mark Richards of Devon and Cornwall Constabulary advising the Council of the new operational boundary and areas of responsibility which create a new sector covering Penryn, Falmouth and Helston. As a result of this, he would be returning to Truro and a new Inspector, Steve Lenney, would take responsibility for the new sector with a base at Falmouth. He thanked Council for its support during his time as Inspector for Penryn, Falmouth and Truro.

93. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ENGAGEMENTS

The list of the Town Mayor's engagements since the previous Council meeting was noted. Councillor Mrs G A Grant announced that the installation of the Reverend Father Stephen Wales as vicar of St Gluvias Church would take place at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 4 March. As all Councillors would be invited, the Council meeting due to take place that evening would now be held on Tuesday 5 March.

Councillor Mrs G A Grant advised Councillors that the Harbours Board had agreed to provide a grant of £2773 to the Town Council towards the cost of maintaining the public conveniences on Exchequer Quay. She thanked Councillor Mrs M K May for her part in supporting the grant as a member of the Harbours Board.

94. REPRESENTATIONS BY CORNWALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ATTENDING EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Cornwall Councillor Mrs M K May gave an oral report to Council and advised of the following:

- Councillor Tony Martin had given his apologies for the meeting, as he was attending another meeting.
- She referred to the decision of the Harbours Board previously announced by the Town Mayor.
- The Chief Executive of Cornwall Council, Kevin Lavery, would be leaving at the end of March.
- Cornwall Council's planned joint ventures had been amended and would not now include all of the services in the original proposal.
- She had met with the Cornwall Councillor for Penryn East and Mylor to discuss the planning application at Vinery Meadows and advised that there was an issue concerning the monterey pine.
- She was disappointed at the lack of action by planning enforcement officers at Cornwall Council in respect to the pharmacy at Asda and was expecting a final decision the following day.
- Welfare reform would affect local residents, in particular reforms to council tax, with a proposed 50% discount for refurbishments, two months exemption for sale of properties, and the removal of the discount on second homes.

- The yellow lines had been installed with the exception of Brown's Hill, which was due to vehicles not having been moved to allow the work to be carried out. Lining at Kernick Industrial Estate was almost complete, but the scheme would be consulted on again for additional lining. Yellow lines had also been laid at the bottom of New Street, Eastwood Road, and a small area on Truro Hill.
- The ticket machine had still not been installed in the train station car park.
- Two new railings had been installed by the river near Swallowcourt and at the bottom of Station Hill.

95. **REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

The Town Clerk presented a report on her attendance at meetings during the period 28 November to 14 December 2012 which was noted.

96. **ACCOUNTS**

The statement and list of payments made for the period 21 November to 20 December 2012 were presented.

RESOLVED that the list of accounts paid from 21 November to 20 December 2012 be approved.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs M K May and seconded by Councillor G K Mockett

97. **CORNWALL COUNCIL HOMECHOICE ALLOCATION POLICY**

The Council considered its response to the consultation questions on Cornwall Council's Homechoice Allocation Policy.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk respond to the questions put in Cornwall Council's consultation on its Homechoice Allocation Policy as follows:

1. Should only people who have a connection to Cornwall be allowed to register for housing?
Yes
2. Should homeowners with assets of more than £75,000 be restricted from joining the register?
Yes
3. Should people who earn over five times the relevant Local Housing Allowance level be restricted from joining the register?
Yes
4. Should applicants who have caused serious anti-social behaviour be restricted from joining the register?
Yes
5. Should transfer applicants with no reasonable preference be restricted from joining the register?

Yes

6. Is there any other group of applicant that should be restricted from joining the register?

No

7. Are there any other groups that should be awarded additional preference?

No

8. Do you think that downsizing should be a local priority?

Yes

9. Do you think that Parish Connection should be a local priority?

Yes

10. Do you think that low paid workers, key workers and people making a community contribution should be a local priority?

Yes

11. Is there another category of applicant that should be a Local Priority?

No

12. Do you agree that the Department of Work and Pensions Housing Allowance Standards should be used as the basis for assessing bedroom eligibility?

Don't know

13. Do you think any of the proposed changes to the Allocations Scheme would have a negative impact in terms of Race, Gender, Disability, Faith, Age, Sexuality and/or any other areas?

No

Proposed by Councillor G K Mockett and seconded by Councillor Mrs C Hutchings

98. COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT CIVIC CEREMONIES

Councillors considered a report on attendance at civic ceremonies which contained a suggested list of recommended official civic ceremonies and a proposal that Councillors undertake to support the office of Town Mayor by attending a minimum of three official civic ceremonies in each civic year from the list, when signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Concerns were raised at the lack of attendance at recent civic events and a number of Councillors also commented that it was not always possible to attend events due to other commitments. It was suggested that a compromise position might be to amend the wording to indicate that Councillors would endeavour to attend civic events. The Town Clerk advised that this was not too far different from the status quo.

RESOLVED that the following be agreed as a list of official civic ceremonies that Councillors are expected to attend:

- Remembrance Sunday parade and memorial service, St Gluvias Church
- Anniversary Service, Penryn Methodist Chapel
- Mayor's Civic Service, venue to be at the discretion of the Mayor
- Christmas Lights Switch On
- Penryn Fair Day
- Mayor Choosing Ceremony
- VJ Day
- Armistice Day.

Proposed by Councillor J Langan and seconded by Councillor M Snowdon

RESOLVED that the following clause be added to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

'I undertake to support the office of Town Mayor by endeavouring to attend official civic ceremonies to the best of my ability.'

Proposed by Councillor Mrs C Hutchings and seconded by Councillor Mrs M K May

99. COUNCILLOR DRESS CODE

As requested at a meeting of the Town Council on 5 November 2012, the Town Clerk presented a report outlining a draft Councillor Dress Code for approval, following a discussion at a meeting of the Management Team on 4 December 2012.

RESOLVED that the draft Councillor Dress Code, attached as an Appendix to the report, be adopted.

Proposed by Councillor G K Mockett and seconded by Councillor Mrs B Hulme

100. TOWN COUNCIL BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

Following an earlier decision by Council on 4 December 2012 to apply for a business charge card, the Town Clerk presented a report containing the terms and conditions of the charge card account in accordance with the requirement of the bank for a specific resolution of the Council as set out in the report.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Town Council applies to Lloyds TSB Bank plc for the issue of Business Charge Cards to authorised users as determined by the Town Council from time to time on the basis of the Business Charge Card Terms and Conditions, a copy of which is attached as an Appendix to the report and approved;
- (b) any two signatories from time to time are authorised to request the Bank to issue Business Charge Cards to certain authorised users and are authorised to sign the application form and any other relevant documentation on behalf of the Town Council;
- (c) the Bank is authorised to debit the Town Council's account number that is specified in the application form for the Business Charge Cards with all transactions effected under such Business Charge Cards together with any interest thereon and with any fees for the issue and renewal of such Business Charge Cards and that the Town Council will be responsible for any overdraft so created with interest;

- (d) the Town Council acknowledges that the authorised users will be able to access information about the Town Council's account when using the Business Charge Cards at an ATM, and consents to the disclosure; and
- (e) these resolutions will be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the country in which the Town Council's accounts with the Bank are held.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs B Hulme and seconded by Councillor J Langan

101. COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME

The Town Clerk advised that no questions from Councillors had been received. Councillor J Langan raised a concern and was advised that it was an issue for Cornwall Council that was beyond the scope of the Town Council to discuss. The Town Clerk advised that she would report a further concern regarding dog bins at Littleoaks. Councillor J Langan also raised a concern that an incident had occurred in Penryn River on Boxing Day which could have indicated a possible risk to human life and it had been extremely difficult to arrange the attendance of a police officer at the scene due to there being no officers available to attend. The Town Clerk was requested to write to Devon and Cornwall Constabulary advising them of the Council's concerns.

102. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Having declared a registrable interest in the item earlier in the meeting, Councillor M Snowdon left the Council Chamber for the duration and did not take part in the debate or the vote.

Application No. PA12/10772 (Mr Mark Snowdon – Land to the rear of The Old Library, 15 Broad Street, Penryn – Removal of Condition 7 of decision C1/PA01/0338/06/R to remove the requirement for planting) was presented to Council as a response was required by Cornwall Council before the next Planning Committee and it was not considered appropriate to delegate the decision due to the applicant being the Chairman of the Planning Committee. The Town Clerk advised that it was accepted that there was a breach of the condition as a planting scheme had not been submitted prior to commencing work on the site. However, she advised that this was not an issue for the Council to consider as a planning application had now been submitted for the removal of the condition. The issue for the Town Council was to decide whether that application should be approved. Councillors had heard the comments of two local residents earlier in the meeting and were advised by the Town Mayor that the condition referred specifically to tree planting. She further advised that she had visited the site and did not consider that there was sufficient room for the planting of a tree.

RESOLVED that the item be deferred to the meeting of the Planning Committee to be held on 21 January 2013 pending a site visit by Councillors.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs M K May and seconded by Councillor Mrs C Hutchings

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00 p.m.

TOWN MAYOR