



PENRYN TOWN COUNCIL

PORT OF PENRYN WORKING PARTY

Tuesday 8 July 2014, 7.00 p.m., Penryn Town Hall

AGENDA

Councillors: Mrs G A Grant
K S Green
J Langan
Mrs M K May
M J Mullins
Mrs S Peters
E L Wilkes

Co-Optee: Mr B Sheppard (Chairman of Penryn River Users Association)

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
To elect a Chairman for the civic year 2014–2015
- 3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**
To elect a Vice-Chairman for the civic year 2014–2015
- 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PORT OF PENRYN WORKING PARTY HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2012**
To approve as a correct record minutes 1–7 of the meeting of the Port of Penryn Working Party held on 23 January 2012 [Pages 1–2]
- 5. UPDATE FROM CORNWALL COUNCIL'S MARITIME MANAGER ON PROPOSALS FOR A HARBOUR REVISION ORDER**
To receive an update from Andy Brigden, Maritime Manager, Cornwall Council on progress with proposals by the Harbours Board for a new Harbour Revision Order and its implications for Penryn
- 6. DEVOLUTION**
Update from the Town Clerk on previous discussions on the possibility of devolution of control of the Port of Penryn to the Town Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PENRYN TOWN COUNCIL'S PORT OF PENRYN WORKING PARTY HELD ON **MONDAY 23 JANUARY 2012 AT 10.00AM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PENRYN**

Present:

Councillors: E L Wilkes (Chairman), G K Mockett (Vice-Chairman), Mrs G A Grant, J Langan and M K May.

Others: Mr B Sheppard (Chairman of Penryn River Users Association), Councillor R Nolan (Chairman of the Harbours Board), A Brigden (Maritime Manager), S Sharples (Devolution Specialist), Lloyd Spencer (Senior Valuer) and Miss M Davey (Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Mrs M V Bennett, M J Mullins and Mrs S Peters.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PORT OF PENRYN WORKING PARTY HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Port of Penryn Working Party held on 2 November 2011 were approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs G A Grant and seconded by Councillor J Langan

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. THE HARBOURS BOARD

Councillor R Nolan advised that the general purpose of the Harbours Board was to bring all of Cornwall's municipal ports under one governing body with one voice and that Cornwall Council's Cabinet Member, Julian German, now had responsibility for the ports under his Portfolio. He added that localism was important to the Board, which included stakeholder spokesmen for each port and Local Cornwall Council Members. He advised that devolving control of the Port to Penryn Town Council was in conflict with the purpose of the Board, however, it was not for the Board to decide. In the meantime, he hoped that the issues of a feeling of a lack involvement on the part of the Town Council could be addressed through greater engagement with the Board.

5. DEVOLUTION

The Devolution Specialist advised that it was important to be clear on the reasons for wishing to take on the running of the Port, i.e. whether the issue was one of communication and information sharing rather than a desire to run the Port.

During discussion, a number of issues were raised including the following:

- meetings of the Harbours Board did not seem to focus on the Port of Penryn;
- it was likely to take considerable time to go through the devolution process;
- numerous requests for a slipway in Penryn had not come to fruition;
- Cornwall Council had gone beyond other authorities in forming a Harbours Board;
- the Town Council should have a seat on the Forum as a stakeholder;

- the Maritime Manager advised that he would be happy to provide written details of the boundaries of the Port of Penryn and its major assets;
- there may be an opportunity to split the Penryn and Truro stakeholder representation on the Board to allow one from each port;
- contact details of the Harbours Forum need to be displayed on the Town Council's website;
- a requirement for political proportionality had prevented every port from having a Local Cornwall Council Member representing them on the Board;
- investigating the possibility of devolving responsibility for the Port of Penryn could provide useful information, regardless of whether it resulted in devolution;
- meetings of the Harbours Board were open to the public, but it would be preferable if Town Councillors could be invited to take part in discussions;
- Town Councils could request items be included on Harbour Board agendas;
- historically, local authorities had been too focussed on harbour maintenance instead of management and ensuring the retention of sources of income;
- there was a need to be clear on the duties and responsibilities that would be involved in taking on responsibility for the Port;
- in response to a question, the Maritime Manager advised that the Board had decided against providing funding towards the Penryn River Study as it was considered that it was of no real benefit to the Port of Penryn;
- the Ports Masterplan for Truro and Penryn was available on the Port of Truro website; and
- discussions on the number of berths to be kept free for access to the pontoons were being carried out with stakeholders.

6. THE WAY FORWARD

The Devolution Specialist advised that he would need to take further advice from other officers at Cornwall Council before discussing the feasibility of devolution with the Town Council in more detail. It was also necessary to understand the implications for the remainder of the Ports run by the Board and this would also be taken into account by Cornwall Council before deciding whether to allow negotiations to begin.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that a date for the next meeting would be arranged once the necessary discussions had been carried out with the relevant Cornwall Council officers and the Devolution Specialist, with the meeting to be held in the evening.

There being no further relevant business, the meeting was declared closed at 10.55 a.m.