

## PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 February 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Station House, Station Road, Padstow**

**Present:** R Higman (Chairman), C Watson-Smyth (Vice-Chairman), F J Bealing, R Buscombe, A P Flide, K Freeman, A Rickard, Mrs A E Symons and D N Vivian

**In Attendance:** Mrs K Pemberton (Town Clerk) and Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and Minute Taker)

**2018/157 To receive apologies for absence and announcements:**

Apologies were received from Councillors H M Saunders and Mrs T Walter.

**2018/158 Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

**2018/159 Dispensations:** There were no dispensations.

**2018/160 Public Participation:**

i) Cornwall Councillor's Report: Councillor Buscombe updated that Cornwall Council (CC) had agreed an increase on Council tax of 3.99% for the year 2019/20. This consisted of a 1.99% general increase and a 2% increase for social care.

Councillor Buscombe advised that works to install a barrier system in the Link Road Car Park had been placed on hold. CC had not been aware of a legal right of way concerning a neighbouring property. Councillor Buscombe noted the comments made by Padstow Town Council regarding the scheme as outlined in the January Council minutes. A member expressed further concern that a barrier system would cause queuing issues unless the roadway was widened. It was noted that Councillor Buscombe would be attending a site meeting the following morning with a CC officer to discuss the barrier entry and he invited a Council representative to join them. Council considered that the Chairman should attend this meeting; which he was able to do.

Councillor Buscombe provided an update regarding the recycling units in the Link Road Car Park. It was understood that the units had been abused by commercial businesses. The future of the units was unclear and waste schemes generally were under review. It was noted that CC had recently resolved to declare a climate emergency which could also impact decisions related to recycling within the next 18 months.

ii) The Police report for the period 29/01/2019 – 25/02/2019 was noted. The report detailed 7 recorded crimes, being the same total recorded for the same period in the previous year. 13 incidents were recorded, a -18% difference when compared with the same period in the previous year.

Members expressed disappointment that the reports did not provide further details such as where the crimes occurred or whether there had been any subsequent convictions. Mention was made that the information shared with the Council didn't really say anything.

**2018/161 Minutes Tuesday 29 January 2019: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29 January 2019 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

**2018/162 Clerk's Report/Work Programme:** The agenda report was noted for information. The Town Clerk highlighted that the Skate Park and Railway Toilets were agenda items for the Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee meeting the following week. She also mentioned that despite chasing, nothing had come forward in respect of the creation of a CIC for the Coastal Sculptures. This was concerning. The Town Clerk would provide an update at the next meeting for Council on progress on this matter.

**2018/163 Committees/Working Group Meetings:**

a) **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 12 February 2019.

b) **RESOLVED** to adopt the notes and approve the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group meeting held on 6 February 2019 having been tabled and read.

c) **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and approve the recommendations of the i) Staffing Committee meeting held on 19 February 2019; and ii) the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 19 February 2019.

d) **RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor R Higman to the Leisure Tourism and Open Spaces Committee vacancy.

**2018/164 Finance: Monthly Accounts and Payments February 2019**

a) The monthly finance report was received and noted for information. One member commented that they felt little had been spent for benefit of residents despite having money in the bank. The Town Clerk highlighted that the Leisure Tourism and Open Spaces Committee and the Highways, Roads and Transport Committee would be progressing works from within the budget and business plan at their next meetings respectively.

b) Car park takings were noted.

c) It was **RESOLVED** to i) ratify accounts paid February (a) of £43,570.66 and standing orders/direct debits paid of £2,314.53; ii) ratify accounts paid February (b) of £3,198.66 and direct debits of £286.64; iii) ratify accounts paid February (c) of £819.67 and direct debits of £1,461.48; and iv) approve the addendum to accounts outstanding for payment of £398.54 and cheques written/direct debits paid since last statement of £121.84 having been tabled and read.

d) Risk Assessment Management Plan and Investment Strategy: Consideration was given to the two documents. Members considered that item 10 of the Investment Strategy required clarification as to the definition of "invest". Concern was expressed that as Council currently only spent on projects for which it had cash, borrowing was being excluded. Mention was made that many Councils were at present investing in business in order to make money to put back into their community. Torbay Council's recent purchase of a pastry factory in Bodmin was given as an example. It was noted as a controversial but legal method.

**RESOLVED** i) to approve the Padstow Town Council Risk Assessment Management Plan (February 2019); and ii) to defer the Investment Strategy to the March meeting of the Full Council in

order to seek clarification from the Responsible Financial Officer regarding the meaning of item 10.

e) Bank Reconciliation availability was noted.

**2018/165 Correspondence:**

a) Correspondence for information was noted.

b) (i) **Padstow Christmas Lights Committee Request:** It was noted that the deadline for Grant applications was the same each year. One member expressed caution at awarding a grant considering that it could set a difficult precedent and noting that in previous years requests received after the deadline had been declined, as per the Council's Grants Policy. It was raised by other members that the organisation was run by volunteers and that without funding it was probable that there would not be any Christmas Lights this year. Generally members were keen to see the Christmas Lights supported being a benefit to the whole community.

Mention was made that in the agenda report the Responsible Financial Officer confirmed that the 2019/20 Budget included a budget of £2,000 for Community Events. One member considered that the organisation should be awarded money from this budget but that it would be prudent to defer the decision until after an already scheduled meeting with the Christmas Lights representatives regarding another issue. They considered that at present it was unclear what the exact costs of installing and running the lights where and felt that a clearer idea of how the organisation operates was needed.

**RESOLVED** to defer a decision on the Padstow Christmas Lights Committee request until after the scheduled meeting with the group's representatives, following which the request be taken to the next appropriate meeting of the full Council.

**2018/166 Town Councillor Vacancy:**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Matthew Evans to the Town Councillor Vacancy (Padstow Ward).

**2018/167 Reports from Members/Outside Organisations:**

One member had attended the Memorial Hall AGM and reported that the Committee was in a sound financial position having doubled its income. Another member offered praise to the group for their demonstration of an effectively run organisation and success.

It was noted that the Chairman and Cornwall Councillor Buscombe had attend the recent Wadebridge and Community Network meeting. The Chairman had also attended a Camel Trail Partnership meeting noting that the main issues of discussion related to the Wadebridge side of the trail.

**2018/168 Meeting Dates:**

a) Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26 March 2019 at 7.30 pm and future meeting dates were noted.

b) 2019/20 meeting dates: **RESOLVED** to agree the meeting dates for 2019/20 subject to moving the April Full Council meeting to 23 April 2019 at 7.30pm.

c) Annual Parish Meeting: **RESOLVED** i) that the Annual Parish Meeting be held on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 7.30pm at Padstow School; and ii) that the following organisations be invited to address the community a) Padstow School, b) St Petroc's Group Practice, c) a representative or the users of the new Skate Park, d) Cornwall Councillor Buscombe, e) the local Neighbourhood Beat Team and f) Padstow Fire Brigade.

**2018/169 It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.**

**2018/170 Confidential Minutes Tuesday 29 January 2019: RESOLVED** that the confidential minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 29 January 2019, were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the chair.

**2018/171 Confidential Committee Minutes: RESOLVED** to adopt the confidential minutes and approve the recommendations of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 19 February 2019.

**2018/172 Lobster Hatchery Signage:** Members gave consideration to tabled images of the proposed options for the replacement of the Lobster Hatchery exterior signage. The Town Clerk confirmed that as far as she was aware the replacements were like for like in terms of placement and size with the exception of the colour and design. Members did not have a preferred option and were happy with either proposal.

**RESOLVED** to approve the changes to the Lobster Hatchery signage as per the tabled images and that the colour used be either blue or red.

**2018/173 Lease/Tenant Issues Update:** See confidential minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm