

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Station House, Station Road, Padstow

Present: C Watson-Smyth (Chairman), R Buscombe, M Evans, K Freeman, R Higman, J O'Keefe, M Rickard, Mrs A E Symons and Mrs T Walter

In Attendance: Mrs K Pemberton (Town Clerk), Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and Minute Taker) and 3 members of the public.

2019/127 To receive apologies for absence and announcements:

i) Apologies were received from Councillors H M Saunders and D N Vivian.

ii) Announcements:

a) The Chairman welcomed new Councillors J O'Keefe and M Rickard;

b) Government Boundary Review: The Town Clerk advised that notification had been received from Cornwall Council (CC) stating that the review had recommended no change be made to the Padstow area at this time whilst noting that the CC's Panel would give consideration to any feedback on this decision during stage 3. Stage 3 would be a public consultation open until the 24 March. CC had provided details of consultation events, it was noted that Wednesday 27 February in Wadebridge was the closest event to Padstow; and

c) It was **RESOLVED** to take agenda item 11 Padstow Harbour Commissioners Letter and agenda item 12 Bandstand Requests after agenda item 4 due to public interest.

2019/128 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

2019/129 Dispensations: There were no dispensations.

2019/130 Public Participation:

i) Public Participation: 2 members of the public addressed the Council in respect of agenda item 11 Padstow Harbour Commissioners Letter - Public Meeting Christmas Events. Comments included:

- They noted that the letter from the Harbour Commissioner was a request for the Council be involved with a public meeting with the Christmas Festival and wished to state that the Christmas Festival is a private limited company registered with Companies House.
- They felt the Council should consider carefully whether it should be involved with a public limited company;
- They commented that the Christmas Festival use the Town Council crest on their website and identify the Town Council as sponsors of the festival. They considered that this gave added kudos to the Christmas Festival;

- Nadelik Lowen was a not for profit organisation, for them to work with a private limited company would go against what Nadelik Lowen had been set up for, this being an event for the people of Padstow. Working with the Christmas Festival would not be appropriate.
- ii) Cornwall Councillor's Report: Cornwall Councillor Buscombe updated that following a tender process from DEFRA, funding had been secured to improve the area from Stile Field to St Georges. He noted that there was no detail yet but he considered that neighbouring landowners would be contacted in this regard.

The recent CC consultation regarding dogs on beaches was mentioned. The consultation had been widely responded to and 78% of respondents had been residents. Changes to dogs on beaches would be to harmonise permissible times on beaches except where a beach has blue flag status.

Councillor Buscombe advised that CC had resolved to increase the precept by 3.99% for the year 2020-21. This was made up of a 2% increase in social care and a 1.99% increase towards general finance.

In response to a query Councillor Buscombe advised that the recent fine imposed on CC and discussed in local news related to transactions undertaken by the previous County and District Councils.

2019/131 Padstow Harbour commissioners Letter – Public Meeting

Christmas Events: Members were referred to the letter from the Padstow Harbour Master. The Chairman expressed that despite not being a Council matter, it was his opinion that it would be a mistake for the local Council not to be involved in a public meeting. Members expressed support of this opinion. One member commented that it may have been beneficial to hold the meeting prior to PHC giving approval to the festival organisers.

RESOLVED to i) support a public meeting held by Padstow Harbour Commissioners in respect of Christmas events outlined in their letter of 15 January 2020; and ii) that the Town Clerk and Chairman liaise with the Harbour Master in respect of his request for suggestions as to ways in which the meeting could be conducted.

2019/132 Bandstand Requests: Members gave consideration to the bandstand requests during the Christmas period and in light of the public meeting to be held by Padstow Harbour Commissioners concerning Christmas events it was **RESOLVED** to defer both requests for use of the Bandstand in December to the next appropriate Council Meeting following the Harbour Commissioners' public meeting.

2019/133 Public Participation Police Report: The Police report for the period 25/11/2019 – 25/01/20 was noted. The report detailed 20

recorded crimes, a difference of 33.3% for the same period in the previous year. A total of 40 incidents were recorded, a 5.3% difference when compared with the same period the previous year.

2019/134 Minutes Tuesday 26 November 2019: RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2019 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

2019/135 Clerks Report/Work Programme: was noted for information. The Town Clerk added that in respect of the works to the Lawns Car Park, she had met with the site foreman who had until now managed to keep the car park partially open. Following a recent site visit with the foreman and due to the amount of areas affected in the car park and current operations the car park would be closed from Wednesday 29 January for a few weeks. The Town Clerk had notified the social club in respect of deliveries which would still be allowed. It was further noted that the steps to the car park would also be closed for 1 week due to work in that area also.

The Town Clerk advised that 3 quotes were being sought in respect of the 3 Stile Field wall slips. The slips were not large however cones and safety measures had been put in place and it was hoped these would be fixed as soon as possible. It was noted that the repairs would be funded from the Grounds Maintenance Ear Marked Reserve.

It was noted that the Harbour Master had reported an issue with the dock wall, the Town Clerk had contacted the project manager who would be attending on Friday. The project manager could pull together a list of possible contractors in order to progress.

The Town Clerk reported that there had been further slips to the cliff below Stile Field on to the beach. She had looked at the slip and could see that it was still within the safety area and that appropriate signage was still in place. It was mentioned that the fence may need to be moved further back at some stage but she would seek advice on this. The Town Clerk had also informed Council's health safety advisor of the current situation. The project manager would inspect when down on Friday. In response to a member query the Town Clerk advised that she hoped to have an idea of fence costs to take to the LTOS committee, if required.

A member raised that they had noticed 3 or 4 small slips along the stretch between Watersedge flats and Chidley Pumps. It was not thought this was Town Council land but the Town Clerk would clarify and refer accordingly.

2019/136 Committees/Working Group Meetings:

- a) **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and approve recommendations (if any) for the meetings of:
 - i) Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee held on 3 December 2019; and
 - ii) Highways, Roads and Transport Committee held on 3 December 2019.
- b) **RESOLVED** to adopt the notes and approve the

recommendations (if any) of the Neighbourhood Development Steering Group Meeting held on 17 December 2019.

- c) **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14 January 2020.

2019/137 Committee and Working Group Vacancies: Members gave consideration to the committee and working group vacancies.

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following appointments i) Councillor J O'Keefe to the Leisure Tourism and Open Spaces Committee; ii) Councillors M Rickard and Mrs T Walter to the Highways, Roads and Transport Committee, iii) Councillors M Evans and J O'Keefe to the Planning Committee; iv) Councillor M Rickard to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and v) Councillors K Freeman and R Higman to the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group.

2019/138 Finance: Monthly Accounts and Payments January 2020

- a) The monthly finance report was received and noted for information.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to i) ratify accounts paid December (a) of £53,052.62 and direct debits paid of £10,651; ii) to ratify accounts paid December (b) of £28,552.31; iii) to ratify accounts paid December (c) of £3,235.40 and direct debits paid of £1,492.60; iv) to ratify accounts paid January (a) of £31,902.08 and direct debits paid of £11,953.68; v) to ratify accounts paid January (b) of £2,540.09 and direct debits paid of £1,448.62; vi) to approve the accounts outstanding for payment of £1,833.48 and direct debits of £101.40; and vi) to approve the addendum to accounts outstanding for payment of £2,523.24 having been tabled and read.
- c) Car park takings were noted.
- d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve i) the Investment Strategy; and ii) the Risk Assessment Management Plan.
- e) Bank Reconciliation availability was noted.

2019/139 Correspondence:

- a) Correspondence for information was noted.

b)(i) Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments Consultation: Members gave consideration to the consultation. Mention was made that a strong legal line should be taken in this regard. It was **RESOLVED** that a response to NALC in respect of the Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments Consultation be delegated to the Chairman and Councillor R Buscombe in consultation with the Town Clerk.

(ii) Padstow Rowing Club – Land Use Request: Consideration was given to the request from Padstow Rowing club for permission for their sponsored run to go through Stile Field. Members considered that it would be better if runners used the tarmac path and noted the insurers comments that the uneven nature of the route be made clear.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Padstow Rowing Club's land use request for access across Stile Field for the purpose of a sponsored run taking place on Sunday 29 March 2020 between 9am – 11am subject to i) the route making use of the tarmac path; ii) receiving satisfactory public liability insurance details; and iii) receiving a satisfactory risk assessment acknowledging the uneven nature of the route.

2019/140 VE Day 75th Anniversary: As discussed at the November Full Council, members generally felt that something should be done to mark VE day. It was noted that as per Council's request, the Church, Padstow Royal British Legion and Padstow Sea Cadets had all been contacted and had confirmed they had no plans for the occasion but would be happy to support the Town Council in an event.

The Town Clerk advised, as per the agenda report that the Church were currently in a transition period with no Rector and therefore if the Council wished to do a special service, had asked that they be notified as soon as possible. It was further noted that the Church rooms were already booked for the VE day weekend.

Comments were made in support of ringing the church bells, the sounding of the Last Post on the bandstand, possibly by the young sea cadet from remembrance day and the Nations' Toast. A member of the public suggested a street party in Netherton Road.

It was suggested that the Chairman and the Town Clerk arrange a meeting with key people to begin an initial chat regarding VE Day celebrations. With regard to the Nation's Toast, it was felt this could be a nice thing to happen in all the local pubs, one member offered to put the idea on the local Pub Watch agenda.

RESOLVED that the Chairman and the Town Clerk invite the following to an initial meeting to discuss possible collaborative VE Day 75th Anniversary celebrations i) St Petroc's Church; ii) Padstow Royal British Legion; iii) Padstow Sea Cadets; iv) local publicans; v) Padstow Lions; vi) the Buff Lodge; and vii) Padstow School.

2019/141 Tommy Stile Field: Members noted that the Tommy had again broken due to weather. Suggested alternative locations that might be less exposed were the Churchyard or Padstow Cemetery, being a war graves cemetery. Generally, members were keen that the Tommy stay in Stile Field if possible. It was suggested that the possibility of a flexible base be investigated and if not feasible then he be moved back against the wall.

RESOLVED to investigate the possibility of adapting the Tommy to include a flexible spring base and further should this not be possible, the Tommy be moved back against the wall in Stile Field.

2019/142 Reports from Members/Outside Organisations: Cornwall Councillor Buscombe provided an update on a recent Street Trader meeting he had attended with the Town Clerk. He noted the following, i) Local MP Scott Mann had indicated it would be unlikely that time would be found in the House of Commons to pass primary legislation for at least 2 years and so this route would be ineffective in the short term; and ii) Scott Mann was in talks to see whether powers to address the situation could be passed to Cornwall Council as part of the next devolution package.

The Town Clerk added that there had also been discussion about a possible local solution looking at what the Harbour Commissioners could do on their land under their own bye-laws. It was noted that their land included the area around the quay and the bandstand and that there was a shared interest in the possibility of jointly funding an enforcement officer. She further added that they were currently having conversations to see if the byelaws could be used to prevent the problem being simply pushed onto other areas such as Cory Shelter. The Town Clerk would update the LTOS Committee when more information was forthcoming.

2019/143 Meeting Dates: Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 February 2020 at 7.30 pm was noted.
Due to quorum for the meetings on Tuesday 4 February 2020 it was **RESOLVED** to make the following amendments to the schedule of meeting dates i) postpone the Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee meeting of 4 February to 6.30pm on Tuesday 11 February 2020; ii) the Planning Committee Meeting of 11 February 2020 be moved to 7pm or on the rising of the Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee, whichever the latter; and iii) postpone the Highways, Roads and Transport Committee Meeting of 4 February to Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 7.30pm or on the rising of the Planning Committee, whichever the latter.

2019/144 It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

2019/145 Confidential Minutes Tuesday 26 November 2019: RESOLVED that the confidential minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2019, were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the chair.

2019/146 Sealife Safaris: Lease Issue Request: See confidential minutes

2019/147 Lease and Tenant Issues and Updates: See confidential minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.33pm