

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Padstow Town Council held on Tuesday 28 September 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms, Church Street, Padstow

Present: C Watson-Smyth (Chairman), J O'Keefe (Vice-Chairman), Mrs J Dawe, A Flide, K Freeman, R Higman, A N Rees, M Rickard, D N Vivian and Mrs T Walter

In Attendance: Mrs K Pemberton (Town Clerk), Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and minute taker), and 1 member of the public (speaker under agenda item 8).

2021/69 To receive apologies for absence and announcements:

Apologies were received from Councillors J Fidler and Mrs A Symons. There were no announcements.

2021/70 Declarations of interest from Members: There were no declarations of interest.

2021/71 Dispensations: There were no dispensations.

2021/72 Public Participation: There was no public participation.

Cornwall Councillor's Report: There was no report.

Police Report: The Police report for the period 01/09/21 to 26/09/21 detailing 27 recorded crimes, being an increase of 80%, was noted. Comment was made that members did not find the document particularly informative without any accompanying explanations. It was noted the office would feed this back and request explanations for the September report.

2021/73 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 27 July 2021** be signed as a true record.

2021/74 Clerk's Report/Work Programme: The report was noted for information. The Town Clerk added that an update on the Community Governance Review had been received. Cornwall Council had advised that subsequent to them contacting the original proposers of boundary changes asking them to reaffirm, the proposal for changes to the Padstow/Trevone boundary had been withdrawn by the proposer.

In response to a member query, the Town Clerk confirmed that Cory toilets had remained closed having been identified as a "hot spot" in the COVID risk assessment. She confirmed that the only works remaining on these was a lock which was being progressed by the team and not the contractor.

- 2021/75 Committees/Working Group Meetings: RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes and approve recommendations (if any) for the meetings of
- i) Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee held on 10 August 2021; and
 - ii) Staffing Committee held on 10 August 2021 and 21 September 2021.
- a) **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on i) 10 August 2021 and ii) 14 September 2021.

2021/76 Enterprise Car Club: At the invitation of the Chairman, a representative of Enterprise Car Club was invited to present their proposal for a Car Club in Padstow on a 6 month trial. Members were referred to the proposal in the agenda report and in response to member questions the following points were made:

- Enterprise had started the Cornwall scheme with Bude Town Council, meeting up with some other Town Councils had been impacted by COVID;
- Consideration had been given to running the scheme across Cornwall Council car parks, but they had found it difficult to meet with Cornwall Council regarding the same and been told that CC would want them to tender for the opportunity;
- They requested that the dedicated parking bay have a plaque or reserved sign to avoid it being used by other motorists. If at any time the Enterprise vehicle was parked in the wrong space, a member of the Enterprise team would come out and move the vehicle back to the dedicated bay;
- Gains for the town would be the £30,000 investment in a hybrid, co2 friendly vehicle on a 6 month trial that would hopefully drive second car use out of the town;
- Uptake in Bude had been around 75-80% but that had been through the tourist season. It was expected that this would reduce to around 50%;
- Fuel charges were based on mileage. The vehicle would have low emission co2 and would be charged at 21p per mile with fuel purchased via a fuel card kept inside the vehicle;
- The scheme was a bay to bay model;
- The Railway car park had been chosen for its links to the Camel Trail and the bus stop location. An alternative location such as the Lawns car park could be looked at instead if more beneficial;
- Regarding town locations, tourist "hot-spots" were being looked at first;
- They were currently negotiating with Newquay Airport for 20 car clubs;
- Enterprise has 4 branches in Cornwall with 800 cars and 27 car clubs across Cornwall and Plymouth;
- Request was for a free dedicated space on a 6 month trial as a return on the investment in the community with a view to looking at revenue at the end of the trial.

2021/77 Emergency Scheme of Delegation Decisions: RESOLVED to note the decision made via the Emergency Scheme of Delegation as detailed on agenda page 22 having been previously circulated and read.

2021/78 Finance: Monthly Accounts and Payments September 2021

- a) The monthly finance report was noted. The Chairman of Finance commented that he was pleased to see that the car park takings were increasing.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to ratify payments made i) July (a) of £8,961.28, standing orders or direct debits (regular payments of the same amount) of £10,162.21, direct debits of £12,489.42 and to note wages paid (gross including contributions) of £21,879.25; ii) July (b) of £1,340.99, direct debits of £249.19 and grants awarded of £21,000; iii) August (a) of £5,673.11, standing orders or direct debits (regular payments of the same amount) of £10,162.21, direct debits of £12,293.62 and to note wages paid (gross including contributions) of £23,040.99; iv) August (b) of £686.48 and direct debits of £741.48; v) August (c) of £16,631.59 and direct debits of £2,834.35; vi) September (a) of £9,459.36, standing orders or direct debits (regular payments of the same amount) of £10,162.21, direct debits of £3,749.85 and to note wages paid (gross including contributions) of £22,497.98; vii) September (b) of £3,242.37 and direct debits of £6,677.39.
- c) Car park takings were noted.
- d) The clear External Auditor Report from PKF Littlejohn was noted.
- e) The availability of bank reconciliations for inspection was noted.

2021/79 Correspondence:

- a) Correspondence for information was noted. Councillor Higman requested further information on item j, road closure notice Trevone Road.
- b) Crib Box Request: Members gave consideration to the request to extend the outside seating arrangement at the Crib Box until the end of December 2021 on the same principles as before.

RESOVLED to approve an extension to the outside seating arrangement at the Crib Box on the basis that i) the outside seating area does not hamper access on the walkway from the car park across the platform and is in the same position as previously; ii) the posts of the retractable cover stay in place for the duration of the temporary period allowed. After which when the structure is removed the holes left in the ground are made good to the satisfaction of the Council; iii) permission is only being granted due to COVID19 and is therefore for a limited time but extended to the end of December 2021 at no cost; iv) the insurance and risk assessments are still in place, as per the satisfaction of Councils' insurers and H&S advisors seen previously; and v) the tenant ensures it be clear of litter and the Council reserve the right to remove this permission if there are any concerns that cannot be addressed by the tenant to the satisfaction of the Council.

2021/80 Memorial Request – Padstow Cemetery: Members discussed the request for permission to place a new memorial and kerbing outside of the cemetery regulations on an existing family plot in

Padstow Cemetery. Council noted the request was to match exactly the first 3 occupied graves within the family plot. It was felt the intention for the family plot was made clear when the first 3 memorials were erected and that the new memorial was following the precedent already set thereon, despite changes made to the cemetery regulations in recent years. As such the request should be approved.

RESOLVED to approve the memorial request in respect of grave space K99 in Padstow Cemetery on the basis that i) the new cross and kerb memorial match exactly the existing memorials on the family plot; and ii) that the internal kerbing does not impact the number of plots remaining behind row K, being a further 3 rows of 3 graves.

2021/81 Polystyrene Surfboards: There was much discussion on this item. One member commented that if the Council was going to do something about the matter it "should get on with it". They had hoped to lead the way on this matter but that any action now followed Cornwall Council's letter to all Councils. They considered that the Town Council should write out to shops selling polystyrene boards, asking them to reconsider as well as making use of the local Facebook groups and potentially approaching St Merryn to team up in respect of Harlyn. They felt the Town Council was better placed to identify relevant retailers than Cornwall Council.

Concern was expressed that the Council did not have the right to "tell people what they can and can't sell", and preference was expressed by some for pursuing a social media route instead. In response one member commented that someone should be saying it to businesses and that a Town Council in Devon that had done so had received a lot of praise.

The Town Clerk referred members to the agenda report outlining the meeting with the Beach Guardian and whether the Council would like to work together on this issue. The Town Clerk felt the meeting had been positive and had discussed education of the issue. A member commented that the letter to retailers would not be about telling them not to sell the boards but would ask them to consider alternatives and would advise them about the pollution they caused to the environment and the food chain.

Some members expressed a desire for the Council to support the Beach Guardian's approach via their social media campaigns whilst also writing as a Town Council to relevant retailers. The Town Clerk requested that Councillors let the office know of retailers they are aware of in the Parish that sell them so a letter could be drafted and sent.

RESOLVED to i) write to proprietors in the parish selling polystyrene bodyboards asking them to desist and sell alternatives;

and ii) to work with Beach Guardian to promote the issue on social media.

2021/82 Gorsedh Kernow: The Town Clerk referred members to the agenda report. It was noted that Padstow's name had been put forward for the 2022 location and that a member of the Old Cornwall Society was happy to organise the event but that Gorsedh Kernow first required the Town Council's approval. It was noted that 2022 would be a busy year in respect of the Queens Jubilee and potentially visitor numbers could be extremely high as seen this year. Concern was expressed by a member that there may not be a venue large enough to seat 150 guests. The Town Clerk advised she had spoken to Bude who confirmed there had been a lot to do leading up to the day and that this would involve not just the Town Council but the community. It was noted, as detailed in the agenda papers that the event should fund itself and at least break even but that the Gorsedh would cover any losses in terms of finances. The Town Clerk welcomed the Council's view in this matter.

In general, it was felt that it was too much to take on for 2022 especially with the Queen's Jubilee and also planning would need to begin in October. It was thought a good idea was to ask that the Old Cornwall Society lead on such an event in Padstow and for a representative of both organisations to speak to the Council at a future meeting with a view to considering it for 2023.

RESOLVED to i) thank Gorsedh Kernow for the interest in Padstow but decline the offer to hold the event in 2022; and ii) engage in conversations with both Gorsedh Kernow and the Old Cornwall Society about 2023 and invite both to speak at a future meeting of the Full Council.

2021/83 Reports from Members/Outside Organisations: Members noted the agenda report by Councillor J O'Keefe regarding the Police Community Engagement Surgery held in September.

Councillor K Freeman provided an update on the One Padstow meeting he had attended. He noted that Cornwall Council Officer Kevin Brader advised Padstow to follow St Ives lead in introducing a prohibitive trading area around the quay and introducing a dedicated permit-controlled area for street traders, enforceable by Cornwall Council enforcement Officers. It was noted that it had taken St Ives 4 years to implement the scheme because they had first had to prove to Cornwall Council's legal team that the street trading constituted anti-social behaviour.

2021/84 Dates of Council Meetings: Date of the next meeting, Tuesday 30 November 2021 at 7.30pm was noted. Future meeting dates, including budget meetings for the Highways, Roads and Transport

Committee (moved from 5 October to 19 October) and the Leisure Tourism and Open Spaces Committee (19 October) were noted.

- 2021/85** It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.
- 2021/86** **RESOLVED** that the **confidential minutes** of the full Council meeting held on Tuesday 27 July 2021 be signed as a true record.
- 2021/87** **Committees/Working Group Meetings: RESOLVED** to adopt the confidential minutes and approve recommendations (if any) of the Staffing Committee meetings held remotely on i) 10 August 2021; and ii) 21 September 2021.
- 2021/88** **Lease and Tenant Updates:** Members noted the verbal updates from the Town clerk – see confidential minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.12 pm