

CALLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Full Council Minutes
22nd June 2021 7.00pm Council Chamber

Public Session

Two members of the public were in attendance.

Hannah Ewing, new Chair of the Town Forum CIC, spoke to introduce herself. She reported that there is a new board of members who are now ready to start working for the community and with the Town Council. Cllr Long welcomed Ms Ewing and spoke on behalf of the Town Council saying that they were looking forward to working together with the new Town Forum. Cllr Moore echoed Cllr Long's support with a suggestion that Council reinstate a regular Town Forum item on the Full Council agenda going forwards. The Chair took Cllr Moore's suggestion as a proposal which was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed unanimously. Cllr Gold reminded everyone that this would need to be ratified later in the meeting.

Mr Steven Poh introduced himself as a local developer. He was happy to be working in Callington and added that if members of the public approached the Town Council with queries regarding the development at Moss Side then his contact details could be passed on. Mr Poh was interested in staying for the Neighbourhood Plan item.

1. APOLOGIES

CLLR MORGAN

PRESENT: CLLR COAKLEY, GOLD, TOLMAN, LONG, MOORE, SMITH, STENTIFORD, TAGG (CHAIR), CLLR WATSON

OFFICERS: TOWN CLERK , ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE OFFICER (TO SUPPORT THE IT)

2. MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of 18th May.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Tolman and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes as a correct record of the proceedings.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

None.

5. DISPENSATIONS – To consider any requests for dispensations.

None.

6. RATIFICATION OF ANY DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

To reinstate the Town Forum item on all Full Council agendas.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Tagg seconded by Cllr Tolman and unanimously agreed.

7. COOPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS – Interviews will be held in a Part II session of the meeting and a written ballot taken, with the results to be announced.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Moore and unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Pound and Miss Brooks as per the written ballot which took place in the Part II session prior to this meeting.

8. REPORTS

a) Planning Committee. To receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th June 2021.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Coakley seconded by Cllr Gold and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

b) Town Hall & Premises Committee. To receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th June 2021.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Moore seconded by Cllr Tolman and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

c) Outside Services Committee. To receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th June 2021.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Tagg and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

d) Finance & General Purposes Committee. To receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th June 2021.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Tagg seconded by Cllr Coakley and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

e) Any other reports [not for decision] from Councillors. – Cllr Smith updated the Council on the mining project at Kelly Bray and the tin/tungsten project. The project has slowed down partly due to the global drop in price of tungsten which is causing investors to be apprehensive. Attempts are being made to raise the £5m to launch the startup which would allow for the feasibility study and to allow for the planning. The merger with New Age Exploration is now complete. The parent company, Strategic Minerals, has recently bought a copper mine in Australia which they hope to have up and running very soon with the intention being to divert some funds to the startup in Cornwall.

Over £100k of funding has been secured to work with Camborne School of Mines and Exeter University in a project to map the underlying parts of the County with the intention of getting a clearer idea of what minerals lie in the ground without actually having to drill. If successful, this project will greatly reduce the amount of drilling that needs to take place and is much more targeted. The project is scheduled to last six months and will be mostly focused on areas which have not yet been mined.

f) Reports from Cornwall Councillors. Cllr Long has previously circulated his report and added:

- i) that entrance road signs to some of the estates seem to be missing. Cllr Long has chased this up with Cormac and is expecting to have answers very soon.
- ii) an update on the COVID situation in Cornwall
- iii) planned maintenance on the Tamar Bridge has started, with the sealing and waterproofing on the cantilevers along with some welding.
- iv) a workshop will be taking place in July/August to look at the future funding of the Tamar Bridge.

v) he is having talks with Cornwall Highways and the leader of Cornwall Council on how to proceed to reduce speed limits on housing estates around the Parish.

Cllr Watson reported on a Government produced document called 'Public Duty Consultation' which highlights making the public safer at publically accessible locations. He felt that this could have implications for local events such as the Sunday market and Remembrance Day commemorations and would add to the burden of organisers. He questioned Cllr Long about Cornwall Council's response to this consultation and if he could advice if the Town Council should make a response? Cllr Long responded that this consultation specifically revolved around terrorism, he believed that Cornwall Council was formulating a response and will ask the question to the Leader of Cornwall Council and if the Town Council can feed into that response. He suggested that the Portreeve and Deputy Portreeve have the power to act to respond if possible. Cllr Long will copy all Councillors in on the response from Cornwall Council.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Gold and unanimously agreed to give the Portreeve and Deputy Portreeve the power to act to respond to this consultation if permitted.

g) Reports for Kelly Bray.

Cllr Smith reported that Cllr Morgan has resigned as the Council representative on the Kelly Bray Residents Association and Cllr Smith has stepped in.

Many of the items have been dealt with under Cllr Long's report, namely the bus shelter demolition by Cornwall Council is in hand and the signage at Parson's Green and the speeding concerns. Cllr Long reported that Kelly Bray was successful in securing part of a bid from the Caradon Community Network Road Fund which included a flashing speed sign which is in the process of being installed and a portable flashing speed sign which can be shared around 8 parishes of the Community Network over the coming years.

9. FINANCE

a) Approval for expenditure as listed, and note the payments made since the last meeting. - None

- b) Clerk to explain the precept setting procedures and how as Responsible Finance Officer she will contribute to meetings going forward.

The Clerk had previously circulated budget monitoring information for the first quarter. She was content with how the first quarter has progressed and reported any variances. Overall each committee's current outturn was explained and no major concerns were reported.

The Clerk questioned, moving forward when she stepped into the RFO only role, if the Council were content with this level of reporting and monitoring provided quarterly with more detailed information provide to Chairs for their respective monthly committee meetings?

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Tolman and agreed to proceed with the monitoring and reporting suggestion as set out by the Clerk (8 support, 1 against)

- 10. FOR DECISION** – Cllr Tagg to explain what monies are currently held for youth projects by the Town Council, with a recommendation that it is transferred to the Foot Project Committee of the Town Forum. This would be on the condition that the monies are ring-fenced specifically for the youth of Callington and Kelly Bray.

Cllr Tagg explained that the Town Council was acting as caretaker for this money which belonged to the Town Forum and had been passed to the Council for temporary safeguarding reasons.

A lengthy discussion took place where the Clerk explained the origin of the monies and the restrictions imposed on it.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Gold and agreed to transfer the money to the Town Forum along with the funds previously committed for the LED project, as requested to be ring-fenced for the provision for the youth of Callington and Kelly Bray. The funders from the LED project had given consent that the monies could be reallocated for the Youth. (6 support, 3 abstain)

A further discussion took place as to the timing of the transfer of these monies.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Tolman and agreed that the Deputy Portreeve, the RFO and the Chair of the Town Forum, have power to act in relation to the timing of the transfer of the money. (6 support, 3 abstain)

- 11. FOR DECISION** - To discuss proposal of a 'Councillor For Art'; having been deferred at the May meeting.

Cllr Tagg had previously circulated information.

A lengthy discussion took place. It was felt that the role would be too large for one person to handle and an arts sub-committee should be formed to allow for more diversity. Should it be an 'arts and culture' sub-committee? Could it be encompassed by the already formed Mural Committee? Could an Arts and Culture sub-committee be linked with the Town Forum? It should be a fluid committee with specialists being called in dependent on the project.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Smith seconded by Cllr Moore and agreed to form an non-executive committee of the whole Council for Arts and Culture with it being able to co-opt members outside of the Council and with decisions ratified at Full Council. (8 support, 1 abstention)

- 12. FOR DECISION** - To receive the latest version of the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN, for submission to Cornwall Council for SA/SEA screening and officer feedback, to be led by Cllr Long.

Cllr Long reported on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan and its journey to date.

Darren Summerfield from LRM Planning spoke to the Council about the next stage of the process. The current draft will be submitted, once formally approved by this Full Council, to Cornwall Council for two ratifications. The first being the Strategic Environmental Assessment screening which is the first statutory stage where Cornwall Council will confirm whether or not the environmental impact of the proposed plan requires formal assessment. The second stage is officers providing informal feedback on the plan in its current form which will be useful before the final public consultation. Any amendments will be made, if necessary, and then it will be submitted again to Cornwall Council for independent examination. Once the examination is completed with any recommendations/changes

carried out, it will come back to the Town Council to progress to referendum.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Gold and unanimously agreed to formally support the draft of the Neighbourhood Plan to send to Cornwall Council for ratification. (9 support)

A question was raised about the timescale of this process. Cllr Long responded that this was under the control of Cornwall Council and the independent examiner.

- 13. FOR DECISION –** To receive notice from Callington Town Forum CIC; that revert their asset lock to the Town Council, to ensure that any funds will be held in the local community. Item to be led by Cllr Tagg.

Cllr Tagg explained this item. Cllr Long reported that this was a practical process for a CIC, if it ceases to trade their assets would be returned to the governing body being the Town Council. Cllr Watson queried whether this was in the CIC constitution to provide their assets in the event of their dissolution? The Chair of the CIC confirmed that it was and it was a requirement for them to have an asset lock.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Gold and agreed to receive notice to revert the asset back to Callington Town Council (6 support, 3 abstain)

- 14. FOR DECISION –** To discuss the principle of solar panels, on possible sites such as the Pannier Market roofs and Saltash Road car park or paddock, as raised by Cllr Watson.

Cllr Watson explained this item. As the Town Council had signed up to the Climate Emergency, now was a good time to investigate the feasibility and options of installing solar panels somewhere on Town Council properties. He was requesting approval to research options available and costings to be considered in the current budget setting period.

A discussion took place with regards to the safety of solar panels and locations where they could not be placed.

Cllr Long suggested that if the Town Hall premise were not a viable location then the Outside Services premises may be more favourable.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Tolman and unanimously agreed that Cllr Watson liaise with the Chair of Outside Services to assess the possibility of using Town Council owned land for solar panels and to report back to Full Council. (9 support)

- 15. FOR DECISION –** Suspension of Standing Order 3.H until a decision is made to change it, as raised by Cllr Coakley.

Standing Order 3H and 4 are in conflict with each other.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Coakley seconded by Cllr Long and unanimously agreed to suspend SO 3H until a decision is made to reinstate it. (9 support)

- 16. FOR DECISION –** To discuss the revival of the community events, as we ease out of lockdown, as raised by Cllr Gold, namely:

a) Saturday Afternoon Film Shows

Cllr Gold reported that she had spoken to members of staff on their feelings about restarting the Children Film Shows on Saturday afternoons. It was felt that they should not be started again this year. Trying to follow Government COVID guidelines with young children would be very difficult.

It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Long that the Saturday afternoon film shows do not restart until at least January 2022 (subject to Government advice) and to discuss in September/October if they are financially viable to continue.

Cllr Watson offered an amendment to this proposal as he was aware that other organisations were considering restarting events in the Autumn. His amendment was that the restarting of the Saturday afternoon film shows be reviewed in the Autumn.

It was proposed by Cllr Watson seconded by Cllr Moore that this item should be reviewed in the Autumn. (2 support, 7 against)

This amendment was not carried so the original proposition was further discussed.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Long that the Saturday afternoon film shows do not restart until at least January 2022 (subject to Government advice) and to discuss in September/October if they are financially viable to continue (7 support, 2 against)

b) Children's Discos namely Halloween and Christmas

Cllr Gold reported that the Halloween disco is extremely well supported and feels that, as with the Saturday afternoon film shows, it would be very difficult to adhere to COVID guidelines.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Tolman and agreed to suspend the discos for the rest of this year and review next year subject to Government COVID guidelines. (8 support, 1 abstain)

c) Christmas Preparations

Cllr Gold suggested that the Christmas event should proceed with Santa's grotto (with no holding room) and Christmas Fair in the Town Hall, following Government COVID guidelines. The Christmas fair would have fewer stalls allowing more space for the public to socially distance. A decision about whether to have refreshments could be made nearer the time. The light switch on would go ahead but there would be no outdoor evening market and no disco.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Long and agreed to proceed with the Christmas event as suggested by Cllr Gold. (8 support, 1 abstention)

17. ANY URGENT ITEMS

None

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.41pm