

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held virtually by Zoom on Monday 19th April 2021 at 6 pm.

Present: Councillors S D Eva (Town Mayor), P A Minson (Deputy Mayor),
G G Chappel BEM, L Coley, G F Evans CC MBE, A J Gillett, A J Jewell CC,
M J Morgan, A Parker, J C Robinson, B M A Ross, D W Saunby CC, and
J M Spargo.

In Attendance: A M Williams (Town Clerk)
R J Gates (Town Manager)
Councillor J Kirkham (Cornwall Council – Smithick Electoral Division)
S Douglas (Falmouth Fire Station)
Cannon W Stuart-White (Mayor's Chaplain)

PRAYERS

Prior to the commencement of the meeting prayers were said by the Mayor's Chaplain.

C5421 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor O'Shea (ill).

C5422 INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

C5423 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Eva, seconded by Councillor Minson and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on
1st March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and
signed by the Chairman.

C5424 TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor thanked Councillors for their efforts and wished those that were re-standing luck at the coming elections. He was concerned at a spate of anti-social behaviour at Gyllyngvase Beach in the evenings and had requested Cornwall Council to address that. He reported on a successful commemorative event to mark the anniversary of the Raid on St Nazaire in 1942. He thanked his Chaplain for conducting that service and supporting the civic office during the municipal year.

C5425 DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT

The Deputy Mayor reported a successful community litter pick initiative at Bosvale. She noted that fly-tipping incidences were increasing. She thanked the Council for the honour and privilege of the Deputy Mayor appointment and thanked the Town Clerk and Council for their support.

C5426 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

C5427 POLICE REPORT

No report.

C5428 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND FIRE REPORT

Falmouth Fire Station was getting busier as Covid restrictions were being eased. The crew was only responding to callouts until 17th May 2021 and would then engage again with community aspects of work, including support the control of beach fires at Gyllyngvase.

C5429 COMMUNITY LINK OFFICER'S REPORT

No report.

C5430 CORNWALL COUNCILLORS REPORTS

No reports to comply with the pre-election councillor restrictions.

C5431 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Finance and General Purposes Committee Report dated 22nd March 2021 was presented by Councillor Ross, Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Eva and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 22nd March 2021 be approved.

The Planning Committee Reports dated 1st March 2021, 22nd March 2021 and 12th April 2021 were presented by Councillor Jewell, Chairman of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Jewell, seconded by Councillor Spargo and

RESOLVED that the Reports of the Committee dated 1st March 2021, 22nd March 2021 and 12th April 2021 be approved.

The Licensing Committee Report dated 7th April 2021 was presented by Councillor Morgan, Chairman of the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Gillett and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 7th April 2021 be approved.

C5432 TOWN MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Town Manager presented the Town Management Report that was duly noted and forms part of these minutes. Further he provided update detail of the anti-social behaviour experienced at Gyllyngvase Beach and surrounding areas.

C5433 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – PART I

The Town Clerk presented his report which forms part of these minutes. He also reflected on the municipal term which had set a good foundation for the incoming administration. He thanked Councillors for their efforts and commitment.

It was proposed by Councillor Chappel, seconded by Councillor Eva and

RESOLVED that the Council raises no objections to the Mawnan Neighbourhood Plan and noted that part of the plan coverage included Maenporth Beach.

C5434 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor Chappel, seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of contractual matters and personal information it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

COUNCIL MINUTES – PART II

C5435 COMMITTEE REPORTS – PART II

The Staffing Committee Report dated 12th April 2021 was presented by Councillor Robinson, Chairman of the Committee. Further she reported individually on the recommendations, which sought to better mitigate risk for the Council, and making the organisation better fit for purpose in line with the recent Peer Review recommendations.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Coley and

RESOLVED that the Report of the Committee dated 12th April 2021 be approved.

C5436 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – PART II

The Town Clerk reported that the Director of Cultural Services would present a project overview to the coming meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

There being no further business to transact the Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Signed..... Date.....



FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
19TH APRIL 2021
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT PART I

ITEM NO. 13

13.1 MAWNAN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mawnan Parish recently submitted its Neighbourhood Development Plan to Cornwall Council for Regulation 15 compliance. A small part of Maenporth is within Falmouth and the Town Council were omitted from the Regulation 14 consultation. The Council should now consider making a comment, or notify no comment, to enable the Plan to proceed. www.mawnan.org/ndp-plan

13.2 NEW COUNCIL ARRANGEMENTS

The prospective councillor candidates are now known to us, and Penwerris and Trescobeas will be uncontested. We shall shortly write to all candidates with the induction training requirements.

The new Councillors will meet virtually and informally on 10th May 2021 and work out governance arrangements, such as Mayor appointment, Committee seats etc. The Annual Meeting will then confirm those recommendations at its meeting on 17th May 2021. Which is the first meeting of the new Council. There will not be a Mayor-making ceremony.

Currently the Government have not extended the provision to meet virtually, that is being challenged legally. The Annual meeting is being planned as a physical one, either outdoors or in a large socially distanced space. The Council will then decide whether to proceed with physical meetings or a delegated system with virtual meetings.

13.3 COUNCIL OPERATIONS

As covid restrictions lift we have reopened the Falmouth Information Service from 12th April 2021 with limited opening hours of 1000 to 1300 Monday to Friday. The Library will continue to operate click and collect and revert to a browsing service when the Gallery is allowed to reopen on 17th May 2021.

The Council Offices have re-opened and staff will retain a mix of remote working and attendance at the office.

13.4 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The National Assembly have identified the following sector aspirations:

- To parish of the whole of England
- For the sector to be taken more seriously and its potential recognised by other tiers of government and the public sector
- To secure access to additional government funding

The top four steps to address these were:

- Improve councillor quality and representation through training and new standards regime
- Give more powers to local councils
- Review the General Power of Competence to enable more councils to benefit from it
- No capping or referendum principles

NALC's Policy Committee will discuss these aspirations as part of the work to refresh the current NALC prospectus.

Mark Williams FCG FSLCC
Town Clerk
April 2021



FALMOUTH

the spirit of the sea

Town Management Report to Falmouth Town Council 19/04/21

Covid next phase & town re-opening

It is clearly great to see the town reopen again and interest in the town being positive with people around. Obviously as we move into the next phase from 17th May all being well then the additional places will all reopen.

During this time there have been further grants being paid to businesses (some automatic) and we have ensured that this has been communicated as soon as information is available.

On top of the business grants there has also be the safely reopening towns grant which I am pleased to say we have been successful with. A big thank you to Ruth Thomas for applying for this and other people such as Emma and Simon for gaining quotes in advance to feed into it. You will not see much of this yet but it will develop during May and June. This will include additional safety measures such as stilt-walkers, various actors in the street, planters through the town centre making it greener (but displaying safety-messages). An online focus as well showing the measures and also broadcasting via e.g. FB live in a positive way. We are continuing as a Team to obtain permissions on vacant units, this as Cllrs may know can be a very lengthy and time consuming process. We do have the funds once further permissions are granted.

Volunteers and the Town Team have also cleaned a few of the key vacant sites such as the ex-M&S, Hawkshead, Moss Bros and others. Thank you to the Dracaena Centre for their help with this.

The work is carrying on after gutter cleans with flag installs, bunting as per previous years, except for 2021 there will be significantly more. In the near future you will also see the new sails canopy in Market Street and fingers crossed it should give quite an impact. Everyone loves the bunting fans such as Church Corner so this should add nicely to it.

So many businesses have worked hard during lockdown to improve their shop fronts, interiors, online presence etc etc and a big thank you must go out to them for all their efforts during such a challenging time. Just one of these great examples is Castle Sports that have actually expanded into a new site in Killigrew Street.

Trial starting 10th May

You will have seen from Mark's comms plus my emails and press updates on the detail but essentially: The Active Travel Fund trial will start 10th May with Market Street/Church Street and half of Arwenack Street closed to traffic daily 11-4pm as per last year. The difference is that this will not be paid by the Town Council, there will be lift out bollards at the start of Market Street (but still marshalled), new bike

racks/planters, more seating where space allows (such as Church corner, Grove Place, Market Street etc).

It may be that we put in a temporary closure such as 2020 before the 10th May date if the town becomes a lot busier but this is being monitored on a weekly basis. Currently it is working ok but obviously footfall numbers will increase.

Church Street car park

Linking in with the trial we have agreement from Cornwall Council to use the car park (Waterfront) as per last year but take it a stage further. As I have mentioned before events such as Falmouth Week will be located there as well as outdoor tables and chairs following the pattern of other areas such as Custom House Quay and Discovery Quay.

G7

A massive amount of work is going on with this feeding into Cornwall Council, the Foreign, Development & Commonwealth Office and the Police. Information is now starting to come out and I would expect a lot more over the next month or so as planning is confirmed with us fast approaching the date.

Shanty Festival/Falmouth Week/Tall Ships/Tour of Britain

I will cover more on events on future reports but a huge amount of work has and continues to go into all of these events with the numbers of volunteers helping continues to grow all the time.

PM visit

As I am sure you aware we had the Prime Minister visit the town briefly last week in the evening. There were various topics discussed such as how Falmouth will evolve and towns generally, keeping Vat in hospitality at 5%, business rates, support to help people get on the housing ladder in Cornwall and several other points.

Thank you

A final point to say a big thank you to all Cllrs for all your efforts over the last few years. If you are standing again then best of luck, if you are not then all the best.