



HAYLE TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2015

Minutes of the Hayle Town Council Meeting held at the Hayle Community Centre, Hayle on Thursday 15 October 2015 commencing at 7.15pm with a **Public Participation Session**.

PRESENT

Councillor G Coad (Mayor)
Councillors J Bennett, B Capper, D Cocks, J Coombe, N Farrar, I Lawrence,
 B Mims, J Ninnes, O Philp, C Polkinghorne, J Pollard, A Rance and
 B Wills

Clerk Eleanor Giggall

7.15PM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Robert Jones spoke regarding the response Hayle Town Council (HTC) had received from Simon Mansell at Cornwall Council (CC) relating to the planning permission for the new dwellings adjacent to 2 Caroline Row (Minute 111a refers). In his opinion the answer given was wrong and the question regarding the high tide had still not been answered; Cornwall Council was either incompetent or its officers did not know about working in tidal flood zones. He claimed CC's own website procedure had not been followed and that they had refused to fulfil his Freedom of Information request.

There followed a discussion between Mr Jones and a Hayle Town Councillor regarding the National Planning Policy Framework and whether the planning application in question would have been refused under its rules, or even been referred to the Environment Agency (EA) as it was not in a flood zone 2 or 3 and only areas with critical drainage problems in zone 1 fell within its remit. It was agreed that the site was in a flood zone 1, but there was a disagreement regarding whether the EA's own map put the site in a critical drainage area and required a flood risk assessment.

[7.23pm Cllr Capper joined the meeting.]

Geoff Pooley spoke regarding his concerns for the Cornwall library service and Hayle library in particular (see Appendix C).

Mike Witheridge spoke in support of Mr Pooley's comments and commended HTC's resolution at its previous meeting to write to CC regarding the importance of libraries and its statutory duty to provide a library service. Mr Witheridge spoke passionately about the wide value of libraries to the community and their importance as a beacon of civilization. He said that he understood that cuts had to be made, but that libraries were a soft target and surely there were other savings which could be made by CC. He said that if libraries were closed they

would be unlikely to open ever again and it would be shameful cultural vandalism. He finished with, "When the barbarians are at the gates, one saves what manuscripts one can."

Paul Pellegrinetti congratulated HTC and CC for the Strategic Planning Committee's refusal to grant planning permission to Linden Homes for the proposed development at Penpol. He asked what was happening with Isis Gardens and also said that the new bollard on Penpol had not made any difference to parking on the pavement there as he had seen a van parked for a considerable length of time. He was informed that Councillor Coombe had approached the driver of a van, who had claimed he had been unloading. With regard to Isis Gardens, he was informed that Councillor Coombe had chased the issue four times in the last month, that Dyer and Butler had handed the job to CORMAC, that the matter was in hand and that some of the delay was due to a nearby cycleway, which had to be taken into account.

7.37PM THE MEETING COMMENCED

107 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (For Information Only)

It was announced that the Amenities Committee meeting would be held on 22 (not 29) October 2015.

108 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

109 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillors Coombe and Pollard declared an interest in agenda item 11a (Minute 117a refers) and made the following statement: - 'In commenting on these applications I should make it clear that my comments are based on the information currently available and do not commit me to taking the same position if the matter is discussed at the Cornwall Council Planning Committee and full information is available.'

110 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING 1 OCTOBER 2015

It was resolved that the minutes of the Full Council meeting 1 October 2015 be taken as a true and accurate record, the Mayor signing each page before placing them in the record book

111 TO DISCUSS MATTERS WHICH WERE RAISED DURING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION 1 OCTOBER 2015

- a) To consider Robert Jones' concerns regarding the planning permission given by Cornwall Council for the new dwellings adjacent to 2 Caroline Row (Planning Applications: PA12/09161, PA13/01763 & PA14/07889)

The situation regarding Mr Jones' concerns to date was summarised. Although HTC had supported Mr Jones' concerns regarding access at the site, it had been agreed that this was a civil matter and the Town Council had advised accordingly. Councillor Pollard had asked the Planning Department at CC to deal with Mr Jones' concerns and had received the advice that at the time that this application had been decided, Mr Jones' claims would not have been

applicable. Regarding the two questions the Town Council had asked CC on the matter, a definitive statement had been received from CC, which repeated that it did not agree with Mr Jones. It was reported that Mr Jones had been to the Standards Board, and Cornwall Councillor Loveday Jenkins had found that Mr Jones' argument was with the Environment Agency, not with CC.

Comments were made by some Hayle Town Councillors, who agreed that Town Councillors were not professionals in the matter and had done all they could regarding the flooding issue. They had received an acceptable reply from CC, which they did not have the expertise to challenge, and were satisfied that Robert Jones had had a fair hearing.

It was resolved to move next business.

112 REPORTS OF OTHER COMMITTEES FOR APPROVAL

There were none.

113 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM NEIL FARRINGTON REGARDING TIDAL ENERGY OPTIONS FROM BOTH CARNSEW AND COPPERHOUSE POOLS

Neil Farrington gave his presentation (See Appendix B), having introduced himself as having worked for ten years across Cornwall with communities to reduce energy usage. Of the many issues that needed to be considered it was important that any project be of benefit to the local area, with any energy generated being used locally. It was also emphasized that grant funding was available for the feasibility study and development stages of any project.

Mr Farrington was advised that the Hayle Neighbourhood Plan could identify the provision of renewable energy as a legitimate use of the Community Infrastructure Levy. It was also suggested that as any project would be within the marine renewables enterprise zone tax breaks could also be available.

Mr Farrington finished his presentation by informing the Town Council that if it supported the initiative, he and Community Energy Plus would go ahead to obtain tenders and find funding for a feasibility study.

It was resolved to strongly support a feasibility study regarding Tide Mill energy generation at Carnsew Pool in Hayle.

The Mayor thanked Mr Farrington for his presentation.

114 TO DISCUSS WAYS TO PROTECT, AND TO RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE THREAT TO, HAYLE LIBRARY AND ITS SERVICES FOLLOWING CUTS TO THE LIBRARIES BUDGET BY CORNWALL COUNCIL

Many issues regarding Hayle library and the Cornwall library service were discussed, including funding issues and the role of the national government, which had cut its funding to CC, which in turn had to make cuts amounting to 33% across the board in the next four years, including a 44% (£1.8 million) cut to its libraries budget. Raising local awareness of the cuts to libraries and the potential loss of Hayle library was considered.

The following issues were identified as being most important to address: the extent to which the people of Hayle

- used the library,
- valued the library,
- were aware of how much it cost and
- would be willing to sacrifice other services instead.

It was also pointed out that it was not just an issue of numbers using the library, but also about the vulnerability of the population that did use it. Although it was true that many members of society now had access to purchasing books, either in hard copy or digitally, some poorer people in Hayle did not have such access and relied on the library for borrowing books and for access to the internet via computers and broadband supplied by the library.

Councillors were asked to think of ways the library could be used by the whole community, for example if the building could be used differently when the library was closed on a Tuesday, and how the community could support the library service function.

In answer to comments that Cornwall Council had its priorities wrong when it supported a Stadium for Cornwall above its Library Service, the meeting was informed that these were served by two different budgets. The first was served by the capital budget and the second by the revenue budget.

It was resolved to petition the people of Hayle to gain their views and to present the petition to George Eustice MP asking him to use his influence to lobby central government to secure funding for Hayle library.

It was further resolved to form a working party, including Councillors Farrar, Ninnes, Rance and Wills and Mr Geoff Pooley and Mr Mike Witheridge, to raise public awareness of the threat to Hayle library and to collect as many signatures as possible from the public.

It was noted that the issue of cuts to Hayle library was only one of many issues regarding cuts to important services in the town that would arise in the light of the current economic climate and that the Town Council would have to fight as hard for all such issues when their time came.

115 CONSULTATIONS

- a) To consider and complete Cornwall Council's survey regarding the 'Move to Paperless Applications'

It was resolved to delegate this to the Clerk to complete. (A copy of the completed survey can be found in the Town Council offices – filing reference 1.7.16.2.)

- b) To consider and comment on Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service's Fire, Rescue and Community Safety Service Plan 2016-2019 Consultation

It was resolved to complete the online survey as per the attached Appendix D.

116 HAYLE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

It was reported that policies were being written, the plan was being edited for redundancy and everything was on track as expected.

117 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) To consider Planning Applications: PA15/08517; PA15/08640 and PA15/08910

For the resolutions on individual planning applications see Appendix A attached.

- b) To note the results of previous applications

There were none.

[9.27pm Cllr Capper left the room.]

It was agreed that the Cranford application, which was due to come before CC's Strategic Planning Committee on 19 November, be placed on the agenda for the meeting of Full Council on 5 November and that the planned venue should not be changed.

118 FOOTPATHS

- a) Maintenance Update

There was nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Approved by the Council as a true record, at its meeting 5 November 2015

Town Mayor

Date