

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Civic Amenities Committee held in The Guildhall on Wednesday 1st July 2009 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors A Killeya (Chairman), R Bickford, N Challen,
P Clements, G Ellison, C Oakes

ALSO PRESENT Mrs F de Reijke-Winter (Minute no 59/09/10)
Mrs A-J Thomas (Administration Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors M Gee, Mrs S Hooper MBE (Mayoral engagement)
Mr M Down (Christmas event), Mr E Jacobs (Christmas event –
illness)
Mrs M Small (Town Clerk, Annual Leave)

57/09/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Oakes declared a personal interest in Minute no 66/09/10 as he sits on the Mount Edgcumbe District Scout Committee.

Councillor Killeya declared a personal interest in Minute no 61/09/10 as he is on the allotment waiting list.

Councillor Bickford declared a personal interest in Minute no 66/09/10 as the Scouts have delivered leaflets for SRUG of which he is a member.

Councillors Bickford, Clements, Ellison and Killeya declared a personal interest in Minute no 59/09/10 as they are members of the project team for Elwell Woods.

58/09/10 CHRISTMAS EVENT

The Administration Officer reported that Mr Jacobs was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and Burraton School had been unable to send anyone to the meeting. The following update was given to the committee:

- (a) Laurence Reed has been contacted regarding turning on the lights which he believes he is available to do. However, before this can be confirmed he asked that his Deputy Editor, Daphne Skinnard is contacted and a reply is awaited from her.
- (b) Elaine Davies of Select 4 (formerly the Jazz Band) has been provisionally booked.
- (c) The event is on both the Mayor's Diary and the Events List on the website.
- (d) No other acts have yet been booked at this time.

Councillors felt that it was difficult to make a decision on which acts should be booked until it was known what involvement there would be from the school children this year. In the circumstances it was **AGREED** to wait until it is known what part the school children will take in the event this year before

booking any acts but it was **RECOMMENDED** that Elfie the Jester is booked as it may be difficult to secure a booking if delayed.

59/09/10 ELWELL WOODS PROJECT

Councillor Ellison reported that work on the bid is progressing. Alan Ibbotson is now on board and helping with the bid. Tim Smit is also supporting the bid and is planning to visit the site on a date to be confirmed. Councillors Ellison, Holley and Riches recently met with Kevin Lavery, the Chief Executive of Cornwall Council to ask for the support of the Council for the project.

The artist, Simon Thomas, has recently taken the model of the Celtic Cross from the Guildhall to repair. He is currently investigating possible materials for making the Celtic Cross for Elwell Woods. There is a possibility of working with a local company if he opts to use certain materials.

Groundwork has now produced the visual posters showing the proposals for the site that will be used in the planned public consultations and Councillor Ellison had brought these to show the Committee. Councillor Bickford asked if these are available in electronic format and Councillor Ellison said that he would ask Groundwork. The consultations will be at Ashtorre (run by Saltash Waterfront Residents Association) and in Fore Street on one of the Councillors Saturday mornings. Councillor Killea asked Councillor Ellison to bring the posters to the next meeting of the Town Council to enable all Councillors to see them.

Mrs de Reijke-Winter asked Councillor Ellison if a species survey had been undertaken of all the trees in the wood. Councillor Ellison confirmed that this was currently being done and Cornwall Wildlife Trust would also be contacted as part of the bid process.

Councillor Killea noted that he was currently on the project team as a private individual, and asked councillors to clarify whether it was their wish that he join it as the Town Council representative. It was **RECOMMENDED** to appoint Cllr Killea as town council representative to the Elwell Project Team.

60/09/10 BUSES

- (a) A quote is awaited from Cormac for moving the Fairmead Road shelter.
- (b) Shelter at Carkeel – as previously discussed, a consultation will be done in September.
- (c) Councillor Clements asked if the shelter at Yellow Tor Road could be left in position as the bus route has now changed and it is now needed where it is. He also asked if a new shelter could be provided on the other side.
- (d) It was **AGREED** that an article is put in the next issue of the Town Messenger asking for suggestions for sites for bus shelters and that the

priority list for bus shelters be subsequently reconsidered by the committee.

61/09/10 ALLOTMENTS

- (a) Gardens for Allotments Scheme
Councillor Ellison reported that there has been slow progress but there are now three agreements in place although feedback has been mixed.
- (b) A date has to be arranged for the Allotments sub-committee to meet but it was **AGREED** that only members of the sub-committee and the Town Clerk will be at the first meeting.

62/09/10 PAINTING OF WAR MEMORIAL RAILINGS

The painting of the War Memorial railings has now been completed and the Chairman thanked Councillor Oakes for his work which he did not charge for. Councillor Oakes reported that much of the paint had been donated by Travis Perkins and Focus of Saltash and a discount had been given by Rabart of Plymouth so the cost to the Town Council was much reduced. This was noted with thanks.

Councillor Oakes reminded Councillors that the seals now need to be returned to the gates. The office is asked to arrange this.

63/09/10 WELCOME TO SALTASH SIGN

The Chairman asked that thanks are recorded to Councillor Yates for cleaning the Welcome to Saltash Sign.

64/09/10 WEEDS

Councillors had submitted names of roads in Saltash that had problems with street side weeds. It was apparent that there was a problem throughout the town. The treatment of weeds is the responsibility of Cornwall Council and it was **AGREED** to:

- (a) Send a letter to the former Operations and Technical Services Department at Luxstowe House asking that the situation is given urgent attention and asking for a meeting to discuss the problem.
- (b) Ask the Cornwall Councillors to pursue the matter.

65/09/10 TINCOMBE NATURE RESERVE

Councillor Holley is to be asked to report back to the Committee on his meeting with the schoolchildren.

66/09/10 **DELIVERY OF TOWN MESSENGER**

A letter was reported from Mr John White of the 2nd Saltash Scout Group asking that the Town Council consider increasing the payment for delivering the Town Messenger from £400 to £450 as the town has grown and it now takes longer to complete the delivery. Following a discussion it was felt that more information was required before a decision could be made.

It was **AGREED** to write to Mr White apologising for the delay in making a decision and that a reply will be given before the next Messenger delivery is due.

67/09/10 **WATERING**

The Chairman reported that following the hiring of the bowser, the contractor had informed the Clerk that the hand pump was not suitable as this would require a second person to water the plants and thus increase the costs. It was noted that the contractor had been asked to look at the bowser to ensure it was suitable but he had not done so until the day before the hire period started. The contractor asked the Town Council to purchase an electric pump but he was told that this purchase would have to be authorised by the Committee. The contractor then purchased the electric pump and a hose and reel himself.

The Clerk had advised that the Committee had the option to purchase the items from the contractor at a cost of approximately £320 + VAT and allow him to use them for watering or to hire the items from him at an additional weekly cost. It was noted that if the items were purchased from the contractor it would not be possible to reclaim the VAT.

After a discussion it was **AGREED** to defer making a decision on the pump, hose and reel until the next meeting and to invite the contractor to meet with the Mayor, Chairman of the Committee and the Town Clerk to discuss the situation.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that in view of the increasing costs that the watering contract was put out to tender next year and to invite the current contractor to quote.

68/09/10 **MURAL LIGHTING**

A quote was reported from Cosgrove Construction Ltd to fabricate and install flood light guards and grills to protect the flood lights at the Waterside Inn.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the quote for £399.00 + VAT is accepted.

69/09/10 **HERITAGE LOTTERY GRANTS FOR RESTORATION OF PUBLIC PARKS (LONGSTONE PARK BANDSTAND)**

In the absence of Councillor Austin it was **AGREED** to defer consideration of this item to the next meeting.

The Chairman asked Councillors to please give as much detail as possible if they wished to put items on the agenda and forward this information to both him and the Town Clerk.

70/09/10

FOOTPATHS

Councillor Clements reported that he has recently attempted to walk all the footpaths in Saltash. He was unable to gain access to some areas and he will ask one of the Cornwall Councillors to take a copy of his report to Cornwall Council.

He reported that the European Court of Justice has turned down a Farmer's challenge to having to maintain Public Rights of Way on his land. Farmers receive funding for this through an arrangement known as "Cross Compliance". The Rural Payments Agency is responsible for making these payments and has requested that all infringements are reported via the Highways authority. Cornwall Council has produced a form that members of the public can use to report any infringements.

It was **AGREED** to:

- (a) issue a press release to make the public aware of this and that they can report infringements either via the Cornwall Council website, by post or at the One Stop Shop.
- (b) Write a letter to Cornwall Council asking that they ensure that all reported infringements are passed on to the Rural Payments Agency.

71/09/10

BOUNDARY STONE

When Councillors recently "bounced" Mr Herbert Davy on the boundary stone near the Holland Inn it was noticed that the stone was in need of cleaning and the lettering needs re-defining. Councillor Clements stated that this was the only boundary stone in need of this attention.

It was **AGREED** to obtain quotes to clean the stone and re-define the lettering and report to the next meeting

72/09/10

PRESS RELEASES

Councillor Clements will issue a press release on reporting infringements on Public Rights of Way.

73/09/10

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 5th August 2009 at 7.00pm. Councillor Killeya offered his apologies for this meeting as he will be on holiday.