

## **SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Civic Amenities Committee held in The Guildhall on Wednesday 2nd December 2009 at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors A Killeya (Chairman), R Bickford, P Clements, G Ellison,  
C Oakes, C Riches, P Stephens ISM

**ALSO PRESENT** Mrs C Fulcher (Saltash Town Band)  
Mrs M Small (Town Clerk)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors R Austin, D Holley, Mrs S Hooper MBE (Civic  
engagement), M Down (Christmas Event)

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#### **152/09/10      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Stephens declared a personal interest in Minute No. 153/09/10 regarding the precept Festival/events budget as he is Chairman of the May Fair Committee which has received grants from the Town Council. Councillors Ellison and Bickford declared a personal interest in the same Minute No. as Chairman and Member respectively of Saltash Regatta which has received grants.

Councillor Ellison declared a prejudicial interest in Minute No. 157/09/10 regarding Elwell Woods as he is Vice-Chairman of Saltash Waterfront Residents Association (SWRA) which is leading the Elwell Woods project and will leave the meeting during the discussion of this item. Councillor Bickford declared a personal interest in the same Minute No. as he is a member of SWRA.

Councillor A Killeya declared a personal interest in Minute No. 158/09/10 relating to the allotments as he is on the allotment waiting list.

#### **153/09/10      PRECEPT 2010/11**

The Committee precept was discussed. It was **AGREED** by 6 in favour and 1 against to submit the Committee precept to the Policy and Resources Precept meeting for consideration, which included £5,000 for a roving blue collar worker to undertake tasks and repairs; £20,000 for CCTV and £7,750 for Phase 4 environmental works

#### **154/09/10      FEEDBACK ON CHRISTMAS EVENT**

- (a) It was **AGREED** that the appalling weather was the downfall of the event but, in fact, everything had gone according to plan if only events could have been held. The carol service was transferred to the Wesley church.
- (b) The Clerk reported that Mr B Carter had collected and returned the Cornwall Council caravan. It was **AGREED** to write to Cornwall Council to note that the caravan needs some work done on it, and that the Town Council feel it should be brought up to full specification, or a new caravan purchased.

- (c) A question was asked as to why the Christmas event is not run by an outside independent committee, rather than by the Town Council. It was felt that there are no Councillors with spare time to drive such a committee, but that if people want to move in a different direction, or expand the event, then this would have to come from an outside committee. Councillor Killeya will have an informal chat to Councillor Bruce Reid regarding the capacity of the Christmas Lights Committee to run such an event.
- (d) The use of the Town Council's PA system was very successful and a caretaker was shown how to set up and operate the system for another year.
- (e) It was **RECOMMENDED** that the following payments are made relating to the event:
  - (i) Hijack - £300, as they performed for twice their booked length of time and entertained throughout the afternoon.
  - (ii) B Carter - £50, transport.
  - (iii) Maurice Huggins Room - £50.
  - (iv) Brunel Harmony Chorus - £75.
  - (v) Elfic - £200.
  - (vi) Elaine Davis Select 4 - £250.
  - (vii) Air Force Cadets and Fire Service Cadets - £100 each
  - (viii) Scouts (hire of marquee) - £150
  - (ix) St John Ambulance - £99.36
  - (x) B Melling for operation of sound equipment £50.
- (f) It was **NOTED** that stalls have been provided by Shelley and that a cheque had been received for £150.

#### **155/09/10     TOWN MESSENGER**

- (a) A draft of the January Messenger was circulated showing space available. It was **AGREED** that Councillor Killeya add a piece to the planning guide on judicial review, Councillor Ellison will write an update on Elwell and Councillor Bickford will write a small piece on the new dentist.
- (b) The Committee **NOTED** that SRUG will be asking the Scouts to deliver the new rail timetables and they will bear the cost.

#### **156/09/10     SPONSORSHIP OF TOWN COUNCIL ROUNDABOUTS**

It was **AGREED** that, in the absence of Cornwall Councillors who were obtaining information about signs permitted on roundabouts, the question of sponsorship will be considered at the next meeting.

#### **157/09/10     ELWELL WOODS**

Councillor Ellison explained his progress report to the Committee. It was **RECOMMENDED** that:

- (a) The Town Council send a letter of support for the location of the Celtic cross, which it is proposed to relocate back to the more prominent position in the pocket park, and will require planning permission and negotiations with the Highways Agency and Tamar Bridge. This does not imply that the Town Council is giving an opinion on anything connected to the planning permission.
- (b) The Town Council sends Saltash Waterfront Residents' Association a formal letter of agreement and completes the landowner permission form.

**(Councillor Ellison left the meeting having declared a prejudicial interest)**

- (c) In principle, the Town Council pay invoices to sculptor/artist, Simon Thomas, £1500; structural engineers, BSW of Bristol, £2500 + VAT; materials (composites) engineers, High Modulus of Bristol, £2480 + VAT; CDM contractor space design, to be charged on an invoiced hourly rate to a maximum of £1500; arboriculturalist, Abbey Forestry, £475 + VAT; landscape architect/quantity surveyor, David Wilson Partnership, phase 1 £2000 + VAT, phase 2 £2000 + VAT.

It was noted that, if the stage 2 bid to Community Spaces is successful, then these costs can be claimed as part of the overall costs and recovered. If unsuccessful, the Town Council will still bear the cost, but the information could be used for a scaled down renovation of the woods.

- (d) A meeting is held between Councillor Ellison, the Chairman of the committee and the Clerk to look further into the invoicing, the VAT and ownership of the project and the possibility of using some of the Town Council money set aside for Elwell Woods and then discussed further at the Town Council meeting, following the meeting to clarify issues.

## **158/09/10     ALLOTMENTS**

Councillor Killea reported that the Allotment Sub-Committee had met prior to this meeting to discuss arrangements for the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> January. Councillor Killea will chair the meeting. Mr Pearce will be invited to the meeting to explain what he is planning and Alison Gibson to speak on the benefits of having an Allotment Association. Saltash Environment Action Group also will be invited and the Plymouth Allotment Association gentleman. Letters will be sent out between Christmas and the New Year inviting all on the waiting list and those with allotments, including Wearde Road allotments, to attend the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Miss Turner will be invited to the next Allotment Sub-Committee and also the Chairman of the Wearde Road Allotments to discuss allotments.

It was **AGREED** that the report be noted.

## **159/09/10     A38 TUNNEL APPROACHES**

It was noted that the meeting with the Highways Agency had still to be arranged.

**160/09/10      STREET LIGHTING**

- (a) An e- mail was considered from Russell Hale of Cornwall Council asking if the Town Council would maintain two lights at Jubilee Close, as the Police feel that a second light would be beneficial. It was **AGREED** that the Town Council take on future maintenance and power costs of two new lights at Jubilee Close.
- (b) Consideration of a street light on the footpath between Longmeadow Road and Hillside Road was deferred until Councillor Holley is present.

**161/09/10      COMMUNITY TOILET SCHEME**

Councillor Ellison stated that he felt that, now the London Inn was no longer taking part in the scheme, the toilets at the Guildhall should be used under the Community Toilet Scheme. The Clerk stated that the staff could have an issue on security and, therefore, it was **AGREED** that:-

- (a) The toilet on the ground floor is the only one permitted for use by the public.
- (b) Stickers are purchased for the Guildhall doors and details are added to the sign in Alexander Square stating that there is a public toilet at the Guildhall.

**162/09/10      WATERSIDE PUBLIC HOUSE**

It was noted that the plaque regarding the oysters is missing from the Waterside public house and that the Mayor had informed the Police who were now investigating.

**163/09/10      FOOTPATHS**

The Clerk stated that she had a choice of four dates for the next meeting and it was **AGREED** that these dates are circulated by e-mail.

**(Councillor Oakes left the meeting.)**

**164/09/10      BUS SHELTERS**

On looking at the revised bus shelter waiting list it was **AGREED** that:

- (a) In the New Year, a meeting is set up with Pill Ward Councillors and Rebecca Dickson to look at sites for a bus shelter both in Carkeel village and Callington Road, south side.
- (b) The Clerk to make an initial enquiry with Adshel to see if they would be willing to put a shelter on the west side of Callington Road, opposite Lidl.

**(Councillor Oakes returned to the meeting.)**

**165/09/10      ON-GOING REPORTS**

The following issues are ongoing and it was **NOTED** that there was no further information to report at the present time:

- (a)      Problem with weeds in the town.
- (b)      Community Showcase 20<sup>th</sup> February 2010.
- (c)      Dog fouling.

**166/09/10      PRESS RELEASES**

Loss of the plaque on the Waterside public house.

**167/09/10      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

6<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Dated:      17<sup>th</sup> December 2009