

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Saltash Town Council held in The Guildhall on Thursday 17th September 2009 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs S Hooper MBE (Chairman), R Bickford,
P Clements, G Ellison, D Holley, A Killeya, Mrs Merryn Killeya,
Mrs F Knight, C Oakes, B Reid, C Riches, P Stephens and D Yates

ALSO PRESENT PC S Fletcher
Reverend A Butler (Mayor's Chaplain)
Mr L Bradley (Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company)
Mrs M Small (Clerk to the Town Council)

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Gee and Mr S Swale (Community Network Manager)

PRAYERS

Prayers were offered by the Mayor's Chaplain.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillor Mrs Hooper reported that she had attended a meeting at the Theatre Royal to which the Lord Mayor of Plymouth had invited the civic heads of Devon and Cornwall; the 40th anniversary of Saltash Rugby Club; Air Force day on The Hoe; the Gorsedd which had been held over a weekend and she thanked Councillor Ellison and his team for all the work they put in to organise the event. Councillor Mrs Hooper had also attended Navy Days; two platinum (70 years) wedding anniversaries; the No Plastic Bags march in Saltash and she paid thanks to Saltash Environmental Action Group for all they do to encourage the community to be environmentally friendly, and she had also attended the prize giving of Saltash Camera Club.

Councillor A Killeya reported that he had attended the Rugby Club veterans' match and the registration of the youth and the tag rugby match. He had also attended three events as part of the Gorsedd and going to attend the RAF service of thanksgiving in Plymouth.

Councillor Mrs Hooper thanked Councillors A and Mrs Merryn Killeya for their support in attending events on her behalf.

POLICE REPORT

PC Fletcher reported that there had been 75 recorded crimes in the last month compared to 106 last year. There had been four thefts from vehicles, four damage to vehicles and one dwelling burglary. Saltash and area has been visited by travellers which caused some disruption, but they are now moving away.

Councillor Riches referred to the recent anti-social behaviour meeting and asked if anything had come of enquiries into underage drinking at Latchbrook. PC Fletcher reported that Councillor Riches had found a purse and the Police had returned it to the young lady concerned who says that, at the time she was in the area, there were no cans around the seat in the Latchbrook valley. Councillor Ellison stated that this is the second occasion on which many empty cans and bottles had been found in that area and asked if the young lady had been questioned as to where the drink came from. PC Fletcher stated that as she had said there were

no cans in the area at the time she was there and therefore the Police were not able to question her further. However, the Police now have it as an area where they will keep a watch.

Councillor Reid stated that in Culver Road, at the entrance to the station, a van is parked on a Monday and a Thursday or Friday and is causing traffic problems. Councillor Reid will make a note of the times of parking and pass to PC Fletcher to investigate.

Councillor Holley asked PC Fletcher to explain the recent operation to check the sale of alcohol to underage youths. PC Fletcher stated that a recent operation had been held where young people had gone into four pubs and all the off licences in Saltash to test purchase and he was pleased to report that all passed and did not supply the youth.

SALTASH GATEWAY COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY (CIC)

Mr Bradley reported that a final draft of the Fore Street regeneration study has been received by CIC and a meeting of the steering group will now be held to discuss the report. It is intended to make a presentation to the Town Council prior to the public consultation. The PL12 transport survey was completed in July. There were over 11,000 responses and now the data has to be entered and a report interpreted. The Saltash Gateway Area Community Strategic Action Plan review has now been completed and a workshop has been arranged for the end of September to prioritise projects. Following this a business plan will be produced.

Councillor Ellison asked that, now the mural in Silver Street is nearing completion, whether CIC has plans for an official opening and Mr Bradley stated that he would be pleased to discuss this with Councillor Ellison.

Councillor Holley enquired if the new arrangements for CIC headquarters are working out and Mr Bradley confirmed that they are pleased with the result. Councillor Mrs Hooper apologised for not attending the last directors' meeting but she had another engagement.

CORNWALL COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Riches stated that, because of the tightness of money, the Community Network Area meetings are not likely to happen as speedily as a formal process, but will initially meet informally. The funding available for each CNA is down to £10,000.

Councillor Ellison asked, if the CNA is ineffective at the moment, what are the CNA Manager and assistant doing. Councillor Riches stated that Mr Swale is an ideas man and he has suggested action which can be taken at Pillmere regarding disaffected youth undertaking a woodland project. Each CNA has been given free rein in that they set up the area as they wish, and in the Torpoint and Saltash CNA Councillors have decided that they will pool the money for the area and spend it where it is most needed. Councillor Killeya stated that the £10,000 that is now available works out to be only 30p per person, which is not a massive investment.

Councillor Holley stated that he had talked with two of the ladies at the library and also the Manager and he felt that Saltash was relatively lucky as the staff were excellent. Seventy per cent of the callers to the One Stop Shop are about housing benefits and, as the Manager was previously involved in this, he is still able to answer a lot of these questions. One of the problems is that the staff are not taking telephone calls as such. Councillor A Killeya stated that the Town Council was assured that library staff would not be used, that there would be regular surgeries on housing and benefits and they would be solving casework problems, not just giving a pointer to another number. Councillor Holley stated that the staff are being

proactive and once a query comes in they will try to resolve it. He stated that there are about 1000 more people using the library and there has been no impairment on the library with the One Stop Shop. Councillor Holley stated that the staff had received no planning training and were not aware that plans were held at the Guildhall, but they are now. Councillor Austin stated that it is early in the set up of the One Stop Shop and there is a planned programme to bring services in. The CNA get-together with Torpoint and the surrounding parishes is still planned for the 13th October. Councillor Holley pointed out that the Manager also undertakes some library work as well.

Councillor Killeya stated that the Council had asked him to write a letter regarding the One Stop Shop and it was **RESOLVED** by 11 in favour and two abstentions (Councillors Mrs Hooper and A Killeya) to defer writing the letter until after Christmas.

Councillor Holley reported that he has been put on a Planning Improvement Panel to look at the whole of the planning system, and he can take any planning issues to the meeting which Councillors might ask of him. Councillor Riches reported that he has been put on a Planning Policy Panel to scrutinise the Regional Spatial Strategy and a Local Development Plan for the whole of Cornwall, and this advises Cabinet directly on what would be good for the whole of the County. Councillor Austin stated that they had also attended a meeting of Mount Edgcumbe to decide on a new ferry from Plymouth to Millbrook and this had been awarded to Tamar Cruising from 1st October. This is the same company who run the ferry service to Saltash, which has now been stopped for the winter.

Councillor Mrs Hooper thanked Cornwall Councillors for their work and their report.

QUESTIONS

A representative of the Caradon Swimming Club asked Councillors what their views were on the proposal for the vetting of parents and the new proposed CRB checks. He stated that he thinks parents will shy away from helping clubs. Councillor Ellison stated that his personal view is that the Government is back-tracking. It was agreed by 12 in favour and 1 abstention (Councillor Mrs Hooper) that the Town Council add this to the Policy and Resources agenda to give a formal comment.

105/09/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors A Killeya, Mrs Merryn Killeya and D Yates declared a personal interest in the CIC report, if it related to financial issues, as members of the CIC and Councillors R Austin and R Bickford declared a prejudicial interest if there were any financial issues relating to the CIC report as directors of the CIC.

Councillor A Killeya declared a personal interest in minute number 110/09/10, relating to lighting improvements on the footpath near Bishop Cornish/Saltash.net Community schools, as he is a teacher at the Community school and Councillor D Yates declared a personal interest as a Governor of the same school.

Councillors P Clements, Mrs F Knight, P Stephens and B Reid declared a personal interest as an NHS patient at the dental surgery in minute number 117/09/10.

Councillors D Yates, Mrs F Knight, R Austin, P Stephens, D Holley and Mrs S Hooper declared a personal interest in planning application number 09/01346/Trecon by Dr R J Parsons as the applicant is known to them.

Councillor P Stephens declared a personal interest in planning application number 09/01363/FUL as he is using the services of Saltash Self Storage.

106/09/10 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meetings held on 20th August and 1st September 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to:

In minute number 94/09/10(a), delete “and had no further additions”, insert “but advise that the website states chairperson and not Mayor, there is no link to the CIC on the links page, on the Town Council page town plan just takes to the Town Council website, housing surgery at the Guildhall is not mentioned in Out and About Service details”.

In minute number 95/09/10, delete “correct” and insert “in quorate”.

In minute number 100/09/10, delete “and the proposed increases in the Tamar Bridge tolls”.

107/09/10 MATTERS ARISING

Questions Councillor A Killeya reported that he had made contact with Lidl regarding hours of delivery and they agreed to send to their transport department and ask about delivery times. This will be discussed at Industry, Commerce, Transportation and Tourism Committee.

98/09/10 With reference to the Meet the People actions, Councillor Holley stated that it used to be that the name of the person to do the action was recorded on the day, and Councillor Mrs Hooper explained that the ward name which had been written against each action meant the Councillor present for that ward would deal with the issue. Some issues were just for noting with no further action and some can go direct to a Committee agenda. The Clerk stated that the office kept a list of all actions and the name of the person actioning it and noted when the action was finalised, if this was known.

82/09/10 Councillor Oakes reported that he had looked into the land and property which was of no interest to the Town Council at the moment.

108/09/10 FINANCE

(a) The following receipts in August 2009 were noted:

£ p

Guildhall	1243.30
Burial Board	2152.00

2198

(b) The following payments in August 2009 were noted:

	£	p	£	p	
	Gross		Excl VAT		Remarks
Michael Spiers	90.00				Repairs to cup
J&M Garden Machinery	42.50				Strimmer line & air filter
IRQ Systems Ltd	6012.20		5228.00		Computers
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	218.50		190.00		Cemetery management course
Northcliff Media Ltd	153.53		133.50		Reception advert
J&M Garden Machinery	37.41		32.53		Tractor
Tartendown Nursery	917.93		798.20		Plants for ground maintenance
Consortium	95.13		82.72		Stationery & cleaning materials
Eclipse Internet	24.08				Broadband
Viking Direct	283.16				Ink & business cards
Petty cash	250.00				Petty cash
Sage UK Ltd	327.75		285.00		Accounts support
SLCC	55.60				CAB book
2 nd S Scout Group	400.00				Delivery of Messenger May 2009
J&M Garden Machin	24.00				Oil & plug for tractor
Morris Leslie Group	158.70				Bowser
D Guillin	2050.00				Ecological survey Elwell Woods
Post Office Ltd	239.05				Telephone
S Window Cleaning	45.00				Guildhall windows
Cornwall Council	667.00				Guildhall rates
Staff salaries	6,275.79				Staff salaries

109/09/10 PLANNING

(a) It was noted that Cornwall Councillors had voted upon the information before them at this meeting, but in the light of subsequent information received at Cornwall Council, Councillors may vote differently at that meeting. Councillor Mrs Hooper did not vote on any planning applications.

(b) Applications for consideration:

Date received	Application no.	Details of application
04.09.2009	09/01162/FUL	Mr L Rust - 17 Barrow Down, Latchbrook - proposed dormer window and single storey extension on front elevation. Installation of three velux roof lights on rear elevation. It was RESOLVED by 12 in favour and 1 abstention (Councillor Mrs Hooper) to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.
28.08.2009	09/01272/LBC	SJP Cornwall Ltd - 41 and 43 Lower Fore Street - listed building consent for internal alterations to convert two offices into one office. It was RESOLVED by 12 in favour and 1 abstention

(Councillor Mrs Hooper) to **RECOMMEND APPROVAL.** However, the Town Council would point out that appears to have started prior to this permission being granted as it is Listed Building Consent would request that it is checked.

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| 11.09.2009 | 09/01291/FUL | St Stephen by Saltash PCC - Church Hall, St Stephens Road, St Stephens - construction of building for church and community use (demolition of existing church room and garage/store). It was RESOLVED by 12 in favour and 1 abstention (Councillor Mrs Hooper) to RECOMMEND APPROVAL. |
| 11.09.2009 | 09/01346/TRECON | Dr RJ Parsons - Isafjordur, Forder - notification for consent to reduce the height by 3 – 4m and general thinning out by 10 – 15% of willow tree within conservation area. It was RESOLVED by 12 in favour and 1 abstention (Councillor Mrs Hooper) to RECOMMEND APPROVAL, provided that the County Forester approves of the way work is to be undertaken. |
| 09.09.2009 | 09/01363/FUL | Mr B Heffernan - Saltash Self Storage, Channon Road - construction of extension to existing store. Construction of offices and new storage building. It was RESOLVED by 12 in favour and 1 abstention (Councillor Mrs Hooper) to RECOMMEND APPROVAL. |

- (c) The Clerk stated that there were no planning applications to report that had been approved contrary to the recommendations of the Town Council.

110/09/10 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) A draft protocol for Parish and Town Councils on the planning application process was considered. It was **RESOLVED:**
- (i) To respond that in principle the Town Council welcomes the protocol fully and think it is an important change to up the powers of Parish and Town Councils, particularly the ability to request a planning application to be considered at committee and wait with interest to see how this works in practise.
 - (ii) The protocol for Saltash Town Council to follow is reviewed at the Policy and Resources Committee.

- (b) Cornwall Council invited comments on their intention to provide surface improvements and appropriate standard of lighting along the bridleway that links Bishop Cornish Primary School and Saltash.net Community School. It was noted that the path is used by school children and is a gathering point if the Community School alarm sounds.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council welcomes the improvements to the lighting on the path provided that it is not to the detriment of other footpaths in the Saltash area and they would appreciate the use of environmentally friendly lighting, which directs light downwards and does not light pollute.

- (c) A letter was reported from Mr Bond at Carkeel referring to the planning application for an hotel at Carkeel. It was **RESOLVED** that a response is sent stating the Town Council voted against this application and it was Planning East of Cornwall Council that approved the building of the hotel. Ward Councillor Derek Holley spoke against the application and the Town Council agreed with many of his sentiments (except Councillor Austin who voted for the application), but it was approved by Cornwall Council contrary to these views.

(Councillor Mrs Knight left the meeting.)

Councillor Holley pointed out that the road at Carkeel was a turnpike road and has been an important route for many years. There were ward members who worked hard to get what the villagers were looking to improvements for the above plus the Speed Visor and other traffic management schemes had been used, although temporary.

Councillor Austin stated that the speed of traffic through Carkeel has recently been mentioned in the Industry, Commerce, Transportation and Tourism Committee as it was felt that traffic had now slowed down through Carkeel to a much more comfortable speed.

111/09/10 INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the notes of the meeting held on 27th July and the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th August 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record and that the recommendations contained therein be endorsed.

112/09/10 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Killeya stated that, with reference to minute number 73/09/10(d), he had circulated an amended paper on long term financial planning for the Town Council and he asked that this amended paper is endorsed. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the amended long term financial planning paper is accepted and endorsed and that Councillors A and Mrs Merryn Killeya are thanked for producing the paper.

- (b) subject to the foregoing, the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 1st September 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record and the recommendations contained therein be endorsed.

113/09/10 CIVIC AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Councillor Holley stated that, with reference to minute number 96/09/10 regarding allotments, until recently there was no call for allotments and that is why some people were given more than one plot. It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Civic Amenities Committee held on the 2nd September 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record and that the recommendations contained therein be endorsed, subject to in minute number 94/09/10(q) delete “see if they will take part” and insert “after responses from Saltash Choirs” and in minute number 107/09/10 delete second paragraph and insert “It was agreed that the Chairman will raise at the next meeting of Chairmen the question of rearranging future meetings with a view to spreading them to one a week”.

114/09/10 BURIAL BOARD

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Burial Board held on 7th September 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record and the recommendations contained therein be endorsed, subject to the Clerk checking that the establishment of the new Committee can be undertaken in accordance with present Standing Orders. There was one vote against the recommendation to accept the quotation from Scott Signs for the supply of a notice board.

115/09/10 TAMAR BRIDGE TOLLS

A discussion ensued on the proposed increase in Tamar Bridge tolls. During the discussion it was noted that the Tamar Bridge still subsidises the Torpoint Ferry, but this is tied by the Act of Parliament. It was noted that the Joint Tamar Bridge Committee had borrowed for the addition of the cantilevers, the new ferries and the introduction of the tag system. There was feeling that, in the long term, consideration should be given to separating the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry and the possibility that the bridge should be taken on as part of the roads system.

It was **RESOLVED** by nine in favour and four abstentions (Councillors Holley, Riches, Austin and Mrs Hooper) that:

- (a) if there is to be such an increase, it must be a temporary increase to be reviewed in the light of changing economic circumstances and bridge traffic levels, and in any case, in not more than 18 months and that, in future, there should regular review of tolls.
- (b) The petition by the public to be sent direct to the Secretary of State.

(Councillor A Killea left the meeting.)

116/09/10 BERRY PARK

Councillor Mrs Hooper referred to problems of parking for the residents of Berry Park, particularly as there is a lot of activity with the builders coming in and out.

(Councillor A Killeya returned to the meeting)

Councillors also felt that Wain Homes should be contacted to inform them that there is indiscriminate parking and they should make sure that roads are also well washed down of mud.

Councillor Riches stated that he understood that part of the planning condition was that the developer would have Road Traffic Orders put in place to control the amount of parking in Berry Park, but Mrs Dickson from Cornwall Highways has stated that this is not so. The signs which were in place to protect the parking spaces have disappeared and Mrs Dickson and Mr McLoughlin from Cornwall Council are looking into this.

Councillor Mrs Hooper expressed concern that there are a lot of commercial vehicles parking at Berry Park. At the moment the road is being blocked by commercial traffic and building traffic and the indiscriminate parking in the parking bays.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The Town Council should write to the Housing Department with a copy to Councillor Riches asking them to reinstate the residents parking.
- (b) A letter is sent to Planning Development Control to ask them to keep an eye on the way the development is progressing and any movement is not to be to the detriment of those living in the area and asking that they also keep an eye on the amount of mud on the highway.
- (c) A letter is sent to Wain Homes asking them to manage the ways of parking and suggesting that they set aside a flat, metalled area on the site for their contractors to park.

(During discussion of this item, Councillors Bickford, Mrs Merryn Killeya, Ellison, Austin and Reid left the meeting and returned)

117/09/10 SALTASH DENTAL SURGERY

A letter was read from Mr Coelho at Saltash Dental Surgery stating why the practice has withdrawn from the NHS dental service.

Councillor Stephens stated that he understood the business problems because of the contracts, but the way in which this changeover has been handled has not been good. He was disappointed at the lack of support from the Primary Care Trust as, ten years ago, there was a call to build a dental practice in Saltash. There are now 17,000 people in Saltash and three dentists working out of that practice.

Councillor Clements pointed out that, although there are three dentists, it is the equivalent of 2 full-time dentists. He also pointed out that there is another dental clinic in Saltash, behind the Health Centre, which is equipped but there is no dentist. Councillor Killea stated that Saltash is now the largest town in Cornwall without an NHS dentist. Councillor Riches stated that he will ask Cornwall Council to put pressure on the Primary Care Trust.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council write to the Primary Care Trust with a copy to the MP demanding that the people of Saltash should have an NHS dentist within a town of this size.

118/09/10 **VISIT TO PLOUGASTEL**

Councillor Austin read a letter from Plougastel regarding a proposed visit in 2010. Dates available are 7th to 11th April. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Austin gather the names of Councillors who wish to go on the visit at their own expense and will report back at a future meeting.

119/09/10 **MEET THE PEOPLE**

- (a) Councillor Mrs Hooper reported issues raised at the last Meet the People and the actions arising there from.
- (b) Arrangements were made for the next Meet the People on Saturday 19th September and Councillors Clements, Yates and Riches will be in attendance.

120/09/10 **PRESS RELEASES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor issues press releases on the Tamar Bridge tolls consultation and the dental surgery.

121/09/10 **COMMON SEAL**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to all Deeds and Documents necessary to give effect to the foregoing Acts and Proceedings.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: 15th October 2009