



Annual Report 2011/12



June 2012

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Helston Town Council's Annual report for the Civic Year 2011/2012.

This year has been a very busy one for the Town Council, and I would like to thank the Town Clerk and his thoroughly professional and intrepid team of staff in the office, who have once again provided essential back room support for the Council. I would also like to thank our Community Network Manager, Mrs Charlotte Chadwick, and our Divisional Members on Cornwall Council, Councillors Mrs Judith Haycock, Alec Robertson and Andrew Wallis, for all their help and support during the year.

Last year, the Council said farewell to two Members, Councillors Mrs Vicki Matthew and Mrs Wendy Radford-Gaby, whom we thanked for their service and wished well for the future. Elected to serve in their places were Councillors Miss Justine Hornsby and John Martin, whom we welcomed in January.

It was a great pleasure to be present at the opening ceremony of the Furry Youth Café, and to see firsthand how the Peoples' Millions funds had been spent in creating a superb new facility for the young people of the town.

At the end of 2011, we said farewell and thank you to Mr Richard Dennerly, Town Centre Manager, who left us for pastures new, and we welcomed in his place Mr Jonathan Birkett in February, and Mrs Tanya Allen, his assistant, in May.



For me, it was an enormous honour and great pleasure in May to be elected Mayor of the wonderful and ancient town of Helston and, as I said in my acceptance speech, I intend to use my time in office to particularly celebrate the people of the town, without whose hard work in all sorts of voluntary capacities, our town would be greatly the poorer. I pledged myself to the service of the town and its people when I took office in May, and I take this opportunity to renew that pledge now.

The town had a wonderful boost earlier this year with the opening of the Old Cattle Market facility at the bottom of town. I would like to formally congratulate the Directors and staff of the South Kerrier Alliance for the successful delivery of such an amazing project. The visionary leadership of the Directors has had fantastic results and leaves a legacy for the town that will endure many years into the future. The offices are, as I write, fully let and the bookings for the halls on the ground floor are almost at capacity – not forgetting, of course, the Old Cattle Market houses the biggest and best monthly Farmers' Market Cornwall has ever seen!

Shortly after I took office, it was a great honour for the Mayoress and I to meet HRH The Princess Royal, the Mayor of London, the Deputy Prime Minister and various other dignitaries and celebrities, during the arrival of the Olympic Torch into RNAS Culdrose, and then to witness it passing through our town on the following morning. We are very much looking forward to the start of the Olympic Games themselves in late July.

One of our most notable landmarks, the Coronation Boating Lake, turns 100 years old next month, and I am looking forward also to the celebrations which are being planned to mark this momentous event. There will be posters around the town to advertise the events – keep an eye out for them and keep fingers crossed for good weather for the day! We are looking forward also to the summer evening markets, which are being planned by our Town Centre Manager for Meneage Street on Wednesday afternoons and evenings throughout August – watch this space!

Speaking of markets and matters commercial, it was an honour to be asked to be a Director of the Helston Business Improvement Partnership, a company (not for profit) set up by businesses of the Town to improve commercial viability and maximise the capacity of the town centre. I am certain the Helston Business Improvement Partnership and Helston Town Council will forge a strong working relationship. As I write, the first joint venture, the hanging baskets, are about to be erected, and I hope very much that the town will be a blaze of colour during the forthcoming holiday season.

I know that there is another very busy civic year ahead, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mike Thomas, the Chairmen of the various committees, and all my colleagues on the Town Council, for their continuing kind support. I look forward to working with them for the forthcoming civic year.

Councillor J P Radford-Gaby
Town Mayor

THE COUNCIL

Meetings of the Full Council are held on the third Thursday of every month and are open to the public. Time is set aside at these meetings for the public to ask questions or to make their personal views known. A representative of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary is usually present to report on crime statistics and to discuss issues as they arise. There is also an agenda item for the Cornwall Council Local Members and the Community Network Manager to give reports and they attend when possible.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

This Committee has responsibility for civic amenities, such as public seats and bus shelters, along with the Council's land and buildings to name a few. The Committee has also been responsible for organising the Saturday Street Markets in Coinagehall Street to increase footfall within the town. The Committee is Chaired by Cllr Mrs Susan Swift and met on eight occasions during the 2011/12 civic year.

HARVEST FAIR COMMITTEE

The Town Council assumed responsibility for the organisation of the Annual Harvest Fair in 2007 and formed the Harvest Fair Committee which consisted of six Town Councillors and six members of the community. The Committee then created a number of Working Parties to organise the individual events. The main Committee, Chaired by Cllr Mrs Boase, met on four occasions during the civic year with the final meeting being held after the Harvest Fair in October 2011. The event has now been returned to the community following the formation of an independent committee which is currently busy organising Harvest Fair 2012 to take place during the weekend of 8th and 9th September.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee, consisting of six Members was Chaired by Cllr Jonathan Radford-Gaby during 2011/12. The Committee meets on the first and third Thursday of every month and has delegated authority to consider all planning applications and to make recommendations to Cornwall Council - the Planning Authority. All Applications are categorised into those that are non-contentious (Category I) and those that require more in-depth consideration (Category II). Each Category II application is allocated to a Committee member who visits the site and contacts neighbours to establish a balanced view and to make a presentation and recommendation at the Planning Committee meeting. If a near neighbour of the application site cannot be contacted a letter is left giving the application details and how to contact the Committee member. The public are welcome to attend the meeting and again have the opportunity to express their opinions to the Members.

From June 2011 to May 2012, 29 Category I planning applications were considered and 80 Category II.

PLAY COMMITTEE AND PLAY & YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE

The Play Committee which consisted of six Town Councillors and a maximum of six members of the public was Chaired by Cllr Mike Thomas and met on one occasion at the beginning of the Civic Year. The Play Committee's remit included the maintenance of the Town Council-owned play area in addition to the provision of new play equipment. It was agreed by the Full Council to expand the remit of the Committee which led to the dissolution of the Play Committee and the formation of the Play & Young People Committee in June 2011. The composition of Play & Young People Committee continued to be six Councillors and a maximum of six members of the public and Cllr Mike Thomas was elected Chair. The Committee's responsibilities include the investigation and promotion of youth engagement in addition to seeking the provision of new play equipment and the Committee met four times during the Civic Year.

POLICY, FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Policy, Finance and Resources Committee, consisting of six Members, Chaired by Councillor Keith Reynolds, met on fourteen occasions during the year. The Committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month and its functions include the consideration of new policies, monitoring the budget and audit of the Council's accounts and internal controls.

Committee membership (2011/12)

Amenities Committee

Cllr R Williams
Cllr Mrs S M E Swift – *Chairman*
Cllr N J C Devenish ◇
Cllr K Reynolds
Cllr D C Swift
Cllr R R Pryor – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby **

Planning Committee

Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)
Cllr R Williams ◇
Cllr N J C Devenish – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr K Reynolds
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew *
Cllr M H Thomas
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby – *Chairman*

Play Committee

(Final meeting held 6th June 2011)

Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)
Cllr N J C Devenish
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew
Cllr M H Thomas – *Chairman*
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby

Harvest Fair Committee

(Final meeting held 12th October 2011)

Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew
Cllr Mrs F N E Boase – *Chairman*
Cllr M H Thomas – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby
Cllr W A Radford-Gaby

Policy, Finance & Resources Committee

Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs S M E Swift – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr N J C Devenish ◇
Cllr K. Reynolds – *Chairman*
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew *
Cllr Pryor ◇
Cllr M H Thomas
Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby **

Play and Young People Committee

Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor) ◇
Cllr N J C Devenish – *Vice Chairman*
Cllr D C Swift ∞
Cllr R R Pryor ∞
Cllr M H Thomas – *Chairman*
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby □
Cllr Mrs W A Radford-Gaby **
Cllr Miss J A Hornsby □

* Cllr Mrs Matthew resigned from the Council on 3rd November 2011

** Cllr Mrs Radford-Gaby resigned from the Council on 4th November 2011

◇ Appointed in November 2012.

□ Cllr J P Radford-Gaby stood down from the Play & Young People Committee in February 2012 and Cllr Miss Hornsby was appointed onto the Committee.

∞ Cllr Pryor and Cllr D C Swift stood down from the Play & Young People Committee in March 2012.

Attendance at meetings May 2011 – May 2012

	Full Council	
		Absent and no apology received
Number of Meetings	21	
Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)	21	
Cllr R Williams	19	1
Cllr Mrs S M E Swift	20	
Cllr N J C Devenish	19	
Cllr K Reynolds	16	
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew *	11/11	
Cllr D C Swift	18	
Cllr Mrs F N E Boase	21	
Cllr R R Pryor	18	
Cllr M H Thomas	20	
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby	20	
Cllr W A Radford-Gaby **	11/11	
Cllr J Martin ***	8/8	
Cllr Miss J Hornsby ***	8/8	

Committee	Amenities	Harvest Fair	Planning	Play	Play & Young People	Policy, Finance & Resources
Number of Meetings	8	4	24	1	4	14
Cllr R J L Boase (Town Mayor)		4	24	1	2/3	12
Cllr R Williams	6		11/12			
Cllr Mrs S M E Swift	8					14
Cllr N J C Devenish	4/4		24	1	3	5/6
Cllr K Reynolds	6		21			12
Cllr Mrs V J Matthew *		2/4	10/10	1		6/6
Cllr D C Swift	6				1/3	
Cllr Mrs F N E Boase		4				
Cllr R R Pryor	8				2/2	6/6
Cllr M H Thomas		4	22	1	4	13
Cllr J P Radford-Gaby		4	24	1	1/2	
Cllr W A Radford-Gaby **	3/4	3/4		1	1/1	5/6
Cllr J Martin ***						
Cllr Miss J Hornsby ***					2/2	

* Cllr Mrs Matthew resigned from the Council on 3rd November 2011

** Cllr Mrs Radford-Gaby resigned from the Council on 4th November 2011

*** Cllr's Miss Hornsby and Martin were elected onto the Council on 4th January 2012

FINANCE

Set out below is a summary of the Council's accounting statements for the financial year 2011/12.

	2010/11 £	2011/12 £
Balances brought forward	128,492	700,780
Annual Precept	188,670	189,490
Total other receipts	605,257	42,173
Staff costs	127,879	158,068
Loan interest / capital repayments	0	0
All other payments	93,760	148,758
Balances carried forward	700,780	625,617
Total cash & short-term investments	711,959	623,471
Total fixed assets & long-term assets	2,016,115	1,827,811
Total borrowings	0	0

During the year the Town Council gave financial support to the following organisations:-

ACT1	Helston Christmas Lights Committee
Carleen Community Church Care Centre	Helston Community Memory Cafe
Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust	Helston Flora Day Association
Coronation Park Centenary	Helston Harvest Fair Association
Diamond Jubilee Event	Home Start Kernow
Epworth Hall	Mustard Seed (SW)
Helston & District Carers Group	South Kerrier Alliance CIC
Helston & District Town Twinning Association	Victim Support Cornwall
Helston Bowling Club	

CURRENT TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES AS AT JUNE 2012

Bulwark Group	Cllr Mrs Boase
CCTV Group	Cllr D C Swift (Cllr Mrs Swift)
Cornwall Association of Local Councils	Cllr Mrs Swift (Cllr Pryor)
Helston Community College	Cllr Reynolds
Helston Framework Steering Group	Cllrs Radford-Gaby (Town Mayor), Williams, Devenish & Martin
Helston and The Lizard Community Network Panel	Cllr Devenish (Cllr Mrs Swift)
Helston & Lizard Health Board	Cllr D C Swift (Cllr Mrs Boase)
Helston Street Festival	Cllr Miss Hornsby (Cllr Mrs Boase)
Helston Welfare Trust: Nominated Trustees	Cllrs Williams, Mrs Swift & Devenish
Local Council Planning Forum	Cllr Reynolds (Cllr R J L Boase)
Loe Pool Management Forum	Cllr Williams
Mayor's Healthcare Campaign Partnership	Cllr Mrs Swift
Parc Eglos School Governors	Cllr D C Swift
South Kerrier Alliance	Cllr Miss Hornsby
The Furry Youth Café Steering Committee	Cllr Thomas
Victim Support West Cornwall Advisory Group	Cllr Reynolds

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES 2011/12

June	Beating of the Boundaries Civic Sunday RNAS Culdrose Freedom Parade
July	Helston in Bloom Competition
September	Harvest Fair
November	Remembrance Sunday Monthly Saturday Street Market
May	Mayor Choosing Ceremony Flora Day

Throughout the year the Mayor and Mayoress attended various events as invited.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Helston North Ward

	Home Telephone	E-mail
Mrs S M E Swift	01326 565120	s.swift@helstontc.com
R J L Boase	01326 573200	boase@helstontc.com
N J C Devenish	01326 561418	n.devenish@helstontc.com
R R Pryor	01326 561264	
J P Radford-Gaby (Town Mayor)	01326 560210	radford-gaby@helstontc.com
J Martin	01736 763814	martin@helstontc.com

Helston East Ward

R Williams	01326 572179	
K Reynolds	01736 762344	reynolds@helstontc.com
M H Thomas	01326 562947	thomas@helstontc.com
Miss J A Hornsby	01326 573864	hornsby@helstontc.com

Helston West Ward

Mrs F N E Boase	01326 573200	n.boase@helstontc.com
D C Swift	01326 565120	d.swift@helstontc.com

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Town Clerk	Mr Chris Dawson	Senior Caretaker	Mrs Jean Johns
Assistant to the Town Clerk	Miss Pamela Lavelle	Assistant Caretaker	Mrs Sam Goss
Mayor's Secretary and Administrative Assistant	Mrs Shelly Price	Street Stall Superintendent	Mr Steve Mole
Town Centre Manager	Mr Jonathan Birkett	Town Beadle	Mr Jim Moran
Assistant to the Town Centre Manager	Mrs Tanya Allen-Jeffery	Sergeants-at-Mace	Mr Fred Angove Mr Paul Cooke
Town Warden	Mr Craig Bowcutt	Flag Flyer	Mr Paul Upperton
		Tree Warden	Mr Martin Maylam

The Council can be contacted on **(01326) 572063** or e-mail **townclerk@helstontc.com**

Or write to:- The Town Clerk, Helston Town Council, The Guildhall, HELSTON, Cornwall, TR13 8ST

For more information regarding meetings and the latest news visit our web site **www.helstontc.com**