

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.00 PM

Councillors: M J Kenchington (Town Mayor) in the Chair

R Williams	J Martin	M P Andrew
R J L Boase	M Benyon	P E Williams
Mrs F N E Boase	P M Webb	S Greet
M H Thomas	D Willey	M Riley

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)
Miss A Retallack (Deputy Town Clerk)
Mr R James (Projects Officer)

273. Prayers

The meeting opened with prayers offered by Councillor Andrew.

274. Apologies

An apology for non-attendance was submitted by Councillor T Grattan-Kane.

275. Cornwall Councillors' Reports

Cornwall Councillor Thomas gave a report during which he made particular mention to:

- Cornwall Council's Business Plan for 2025 – 2030 and next year's budget with a proposed £49 million in cuts;
- The Forest for Cornwall event on 18th February;
- Coastline Housing and the resident's response to correspondence regarding the fencing at Trengrouse Way; and
- An Openreach proposal to install telegraph poles on Osborne Parc and resident concerns as to the necessity.

Cornwall Councillor Foreman gave a report during which he made particular mention to:

- Cornwall Council's budget being given consideration on the 25th February;
- The 20-mph consultation for Helston and the need for people to respond to the consultation through proper channels, not just on Facebook;
- Improved recycling rates since the introduction of the new collections.

276. Public Participation

A member of the public commented on recycling bags and bins being left on Church Street and their displeasure at the lack of action that has resulted from their reports to Cornwall Council (not including Cornwall Councillor Thomas).

277. Minutes

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was:

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th January 2025 be approved and signed as a true record.

Voting: For – 12, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

278. Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Martin, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meetings held on 9th January 2025 and 6th February 2025 be received.

279. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23rd January 2025 be received.

Voting: For – 12, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

280. Announcements

The Town Clerk informed Members that there would be a second Meet a Town Councillor event for members of the public to find out about being a Town Councillor.

The Town Clerk further informed members that confirmation had been received from St Michaels Parochial Parish Council confirming that they would take over responsibility for and organisation of Beating the Boundaries.

281. Carbon Emissions Balancing

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

a) the Town Council balance a portion of its over budget emissions (totalling 70 tCO₂e) by supporting the following Helston Gateway projects:

Project 1: Thermal Massing Project — £10,000

Project 3: Electric Vehicle charging points — £4,000

subject to a stipulation that both projects benefit the local community, by contributing to the heating of the community space in Helston Gateway, and providing the EV charging to a community charging scheme; and

b) further recommendations on Project 2 and other balancing options be deferred until after the election in the new civic year once further information is available.

Councillor Benyon left the meeting at 7.42 pm.

282. Report of the Projects Officer

Members considered the Report by the Projects Officer (circulated prior to the meeting).

283. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Grants

(a) Determination of whether a grant would be awarded

It was agreed to award a grant to each of the following organisations:

- i) 3 (Helston) Sqn Air Training Corps
- ii) HCAG – Community Larder Project
- iii) Kerrier Male Voice Choir
- iv) Precious Plastic Kernow CIC
- v) The Sparkle Foundation UK

It was agreed to not award a grant to Helston Sandokai Karate and Roll the Dice CIC.

(b) Determination of amount of grant funding awarded

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Willey, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that under the General Power of Competence the following grants be awarded:

1. The sum of £500 to 3 (Helston) Sqn Air Training Corps towards replacing Laptops.
2. The sum of £1,530 to HCAG towards the Community Larder Project.
3. The sum of £1,279.76 to Kerrier Male Choir towards a replacement keyboard.
4. The sum of £500 to Precious Plastic Kernow CIC towards purchase of a ruler mould.
5. The sum of £2000 to The Sparkle Foundation UK towards provision of mental health groups.

(2) May Planning Committee Meeting

On the proposition of Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Willey, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Planning and Licensing Meeting for 1st May 2025 be moved to 24th April 2025.

(3) Working Party Membership

This item was noted.

(4) Fly the Ukrainian Flag

On the proposition of Councillor R J L Boase, seconded by the Mayor, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council purchase a 6 x 4 sewn Ukrainian Flag and it be flown from the Guildhall.

Voting: For – 11, Against – 1, Abstain – 0

Councillor Riley stated that she supported the flying of the Ukrainian flag but was of the opinion that a different style of flag should be purchased.

(5) 20 mph Speed Limit Consultation

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk respond to the consultation supporting the proposals but strongly encouraging Cornwall Council to include Trengrouse Way and Meneage Street up to the roundabout by Spar in the 20mph zone.

Voting: For – 11, Against – 1, Abstain – 0

Councillor R Williams requested that his vote against the Motion be recorded.

(6) Standing Orders

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Andrew, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the revised Standing Orders be adopted.

(7) Litter Bins at Roundhouse Way

On the proposition of Councillor Greet, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk request that Coastline Housing provide a bin on their green space at Roundhouse Way and that the matter be brought back to Full Council in March.

(8) Salt Bins

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Clerk respond to Cornwall Council as the Highways Authority to advise that they retain the responsibility for road safety.

Voting: For – 11, Against – 1, Abstain – 0

Councillor R Williams requested that his vote against the resolution be recorded.

(9) Town Plaques

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Boase, seconded by Councillor Thomas, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council purchase 10 plaques at a cost of £720 plus vat.

(10) Kennels and Leats

On the proposition of Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Thomas, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Council endorse the Memorandum of Understanding for the Wendron Leats and Helston Kennels Stakeholder Group.

284. Payment of Accounts

On the proposition of Councillor R Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 694 – 785 inclusive, as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £76,525.42 be certified for payment.

285. Exclusion of the Press and Public

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Andrew, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

286. Cultural Quarter Project

On the proposition of the Councillor Andrew, seconded by Councillor R J L Boase, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that:

1. the advice and analysis from Stephens Scown be released to the Place Shaping Board;
2. Stephens Scown be instructed to contact Cornwall Council to establish ownership; and
3. other than determining number 2 above the Town Council withdraw from the project.

Meeting closed at 9:14 pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor