

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HELSTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE GUILDHALL, HELSTON
ON WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL 2025 AT 7.00 PM

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

R Williams
R J L Boase
Mrs F N E Boase
M H Thomas

J Martin
T Grattan-Kane
M Benyon
P M Webb

D Willey
M P Andrew
M Riley

Officers: Miss P J Lavelle (Town Clerk)
Miss A Retallack (Deputy Town Clerk)
Ms A Harris (Communications Officer)

330. Prayers

The meeting opened with prayers offered by Councillor Andrew.

331. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance was submitted by Councillor PE Williams. An apology for late attendance was received from Councillor Benyon.

332. Absent without Apologies

Councillor Greet was absent without apology.

333. Declaration of Interest

Councillor RJL Boase declared an interest in agenda item 18, vouchers 60, 70 and 71 as a member of the Christmas Light Committee. Councillors RJL and Mrs Boase declared an interest in agenda item 17 (7) due to their connection to the Sasso section of the Twinning Association.

334. Spring Thing Presentation

Councillor Benyon entered the meeting at 7.05pm.

Members of the Helston Place Shaping Board and the Spring Thing Project gave a presentation to Members and responded to questions.

335. Cornwall Councillors' Reports

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

- Attending the most recent CAP meeting;
- The Wendron Leats and Helston Kennels volunteer groups proposal to keep the Church Street kennel running on Flora Day;
- The Gateways Building's opening; and
- The installation of telegraph poles which had begun on Osborne Parc.

336. Minutes

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 20th March 2025 be approved and signed as a true record.

Voting: For – 10, Against – 0, Abstain – 2

337. Minutes of the Staffing Committee

On the proposition of Councillor Benyon, seconded by Councillor Grattan-Kane, it was unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 17th March 2025 be received.

338. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 27th March 2025 be received.

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

339. Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee

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

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meeting held on 3rd April 2025 be received.

340. Announcements

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the requirement to complete their expense declaration forms before the deadline and return them to Cornwall Council and that any Members in an uncontested ward could complete and submit the forms before the election if they wished.

The Mayor thanked Members for their support over his terms as Mayor.

341. Question received pursuant to Standing Order 6.14

The Town Clerk advised that a question had been received from Councillor R J L Boase, seeking an update on the progress of the procurement of the King's portrait.

The Town Clerk responded that the portrait of the King had been ordered immediately following Council's decision and had been taken to the framer once it arrived. The framer had informed the Town Clerk that he had a contact who is the King's valet and had mentioned that it may have been possible the contact could arrange for the King to sign the portrait. The Town Clerk advised Members that she had accepted this offer as she believed it would be welcomed

by Council. The Town Clerk had not previously reported this to Council as she did not wish to raise hopes. The offer delayed the framing of the picture as the approach could only be made when a suitable opportunity presented itself. Unfortunately, a positive response was yet to be received. On that basis the Town Clerk felt it was not possible to wait any longer and ensured that the portrait was framed and in position before the end of the term of office for the current Council.

342. Wendron Leats and Helston Kennels Update from Councillor Thomas

Councillor Thomas made mention of the report previously circulated to Members regarding the plan to keep the Kennel on Church Street running on Flora Day.

It was proposed by Councillor RJL Boase, seconded by Councillor Webb, and unanimously

RESOLVED – that the Town Council has no objection to the Church Street Kennel running over Flora Day 2025.

343. Report of the Projects Officer

Members considered the Report by the Projects Officer (circulated prior to the meeting). The report was noted and the Mayor expressed his thanks to the Projects Officer for all his efforts.

344. Report of the Communications Officer

Members considered the Report by the Communications Officer (circulated prior to the meeting). The Communications Officer gave a verbal update. The report was noted and the Mayor expressed his thanks to the Communications Officer for her work.

345. Report of the Town Clerk

(1) Neighbourhood Priorities Statement Pilot

This item was noted.

(2) Councillor Training

This item was noted.

(3) Special Full Council

This item was noted.

(4) Declaration of Acceptance of Office

This item was noted.

(5) Members Information Folder

This item was noted.

346. Requests for Dispensations

Councillor Benyon had submitted a dispensation for this meeting to remain in the meeting to take part in the debate, but not to vote, regarding agenda item 17 (6) the Low Carbon Information Event, as a member of the Helston Climate Action Group Steering Group.

On the proposition of Councillor Thomas, seconded by the Councillor Grattan-Kane, it was

RESOLVED – that the Town Council awarded Councillor Benyon dispensation for this meeting in relation to agenda item 17 (6) in order to take part in debate.

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

347. Report of the Town Clerk (Cont.)

(6) Low Carbon Information Event

Councillor Benyon left the meeting at 7.57pm

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

RESOLVED – that the Council assist Helston Climate Action Group and Community Energy Plus with the delivery of the Low Carbon Information Event.

Councillor Benyon returned to the meeting at 7.58pm

(7) Twinning Visit - Plougasnou

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

RESOLVED – that the Town Council provide a Cream Tea reception at the Guildhall on Friday 27th June 2025 at 2.30pm.

Voting: For – 9, Against – 0, Abstain – 3

348. Payment of Accounts

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

RESOLVED – that Account Nos. 1 – 100 inclusive, as listed and set out as an Appendix to these Minutes, in the total sum of £113,351.10 be certified for payment.

Voting: For – 10, Against – 0, Abstain – 2.

Councillor RJL Boase requested that his abstention from the vote be recorded.

Meeting closed at 8 pm

Confirmed

Town Mayor