

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

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13 May 2008

TO: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dear Sir/Madam

I hereby give you notice that the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held at **The Church Rooms** on **Wednesday 21 May** at **7.30pm** under the **Chairmanship of Councillor A Rickard**.

All Members of Council are hereby summoned to attend.

Yours faithfully

Marian Sedgwick
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

To **ACCEPT** apologies for non-attendance.

2 GUEST SPEAKER - MRS KATHY PEMBERTON OF THE 'ONE CORNWALL' TEAM - CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

To receive a presentation from Mrs Kathy Pemberton of the 'One Cornwall' team at Cornwall County Council. The topic will be how the Unitary Council will affect local communities.

3 POLICE REPORT

To receive a police report from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary's Neighbourhood Beat Team for Padstow.

4 MINUTES – TOWN MEETING 24 MAY 2005

The Chairman will adjourn the meeting to allow the public to read the minutes of the Town Meeting held on Tuesday 24 May 2005 (copy enclosed).

5 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

To receive the Chairman's Report.

6 OPEN FORUM

To receive and respond to any matters arising from the floor.

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 17 APRIL 2007

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Tuesday 17 April 2007 at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms Padstow

Present: Padstow Town Council (PTC):
Councillor K Freeman (Chair)
Councillors Mrs P Davis D Edwards Mrs C Evans
M J Hunt Mrs K Seaber Mrs A Symons D N Vivian
Mrs T Walter C Watson Smyth

Devon & Cornwall Constabulary:
Inspector Ian Marshall
Sergeant Robin Moorcroft
Police Community Support Officer Liz Whitehall

Speaker: Padstow & Trevone Parish Plan Steering Group:
Sian Howells

In Attendance: Approximately 32 members of the public
Ms M Sedgwick (Town Clerk/Minute Taker)
Ms J Hudspith (PA to Town Clerk/Minute Taker)

MINUTE NUMBER:

584/2006

APOLOGIES

The Council accepted apologies from:
Cllr Mrs J Reynolds – leave
Cllr A Rickard – illness

585/2006

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

PRECEPT

Following the Council's Finance Committee Meeting in December 2006 the budget was set for the financial year 2007/08. The Council continued to be self-funding and no precept had been raised.

DONATIONS

£23,750 was granted to organisations in 2006 and in 2007 the Council had allocated £30,690 for grants to local organisations.

.....Chair

CAR PARKING CHARGES

These remained the same as 2005 and 2006:

Summer:

1 hour 50p
2 hours £2
4 hours £3
12 hours £4.50
24 hours £7
Coaches/lorries £6
Season Tickets £300

Winter:

1 hour 20p
24 hours £1
Coaches/lorries £4

PLANTATION

The Council had set up a working party to restore the plantation to its former recreational status. Grants had been applied for and the project was ongoing.

CHIDLEY PUMPS

The Council had agreed to join forces with Padstow Harbour Commissioners to repair the steps at Chidley Pumps and it was hoped that it would be carried out in the near future.

FOOTPATH RIVERSIDE

The Council had approached Cornwall County Council (CCC) requesting that the footpath from the north end of the Railway Land to Padstow Harbour Commissioners' land was continued. The Commissioners had kindly offered a small portion of its land for this to be carried out. It was envisaged that the works would take place before the start of the summer season.

RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME

Cornwall County Council was still deciding on whether to re-consult the public about a Residents' Parking Scheme. Usually before implementing a scheme the public were consulted at least twice.

TRAFFIC WARDENS/PCSOs

There were no longer Traffic Warden posts; these were being replaced by PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers). The Town Council was sponsoring two PCSOs, one to start in June and one in July (to replace PCSO Liz Whitehall who was moving to another parish) at a cost IRO £59,000 a year.

.....Chair

AGENCY CONTRACTS

The Council continued its contracts for grass cutting and footpath maintenance with CCC and public convenience cleansing for North Cornwall District Council (NCDC).

HANGING BASKETS

Hanging baskets for properties around the quay had been ordered and were due to be in place prior to Whitsun.

PADSTOW MUSEUM

The Council continued to communicate with the Museum to help support it in its search for suitable accommodation.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S 'HALF PIPE'

The Council had been working for the last two years on the legalities of providing a 'half pipe' for the young people of the parish. Money had been budgeted for the equipment, which had been chosen by the young people's representatives. The difficulty had been in finding a site to install the 'pipe'. It was intended to position it in either Wheal Jubilee Parc or Spritty Meadow. The Millennium Green Commission had disallowed it being placed in Wheal Jubilee Parc. However it was hoped that following a visit by Natural England auditors something more positive might be forthcoming.

Meanwhile NCDC's mobile skateboarding ramps had been budgeted for six sessions by the Town Council. Padstow Primary School allowed the ramps to be situated in the school grounds. The first three sessions had been well attended.

PET CEMETERY

The Council was still investigating the possibility of a pet cemetery in the parish.

MEMORIAL SEATS/TREES/SHRUBS

Memorial seats continued to be installed in Wheal Jubilee Parc. However, there was a limit on the number that could be placed there due to constraints imposed by Natural England.

Trees and shrubs could still be purchased as memorials to be placed in either Wheal Jubilee Parc or the memorial garden at Padstow Cemetery.

.....Chair

ITINERANT TRADERS

There was an ongoing strategy by Devon & Cornwall Constabulary, NCDC, the Town Council and the Harbour Commissioners to control illegal street trading. The Easter period was successful with only two traders. The police would update on this matter.

ELECTIONS

There would be no elections for the Town Council in May due to the fact that only the present Councillors had applied to the District Council. There being no new candidates the Council was returned to serve the Wards of Padstow and Trevone for another four years.

The Chair adjourned the meeting to allow the public to read the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 9 May 2006 which were ratified at the July 2006 full Council Meeting with the amendment that Cllr Mrs T Walter was in attendance. There were no questions from the floor.

586/2006

POLICE REPORT

Inspector Ian Marshall gave an annual police report from 1 April 2006 to 20 March 2007:

There had been a total of 794 incidents compared to 1,203 in the previous year.

There was a 26% reduction in recorded crimes during the last two years and 115 offences less than previous year.

Inspector Marshall asked for questions from the floor:

Question: How many crimes had been solved? If there were figures for recorded crimes were there figures for crimes solved?

Answer: Government set a target annually. In 2006 it was 27% and 30% for 2007. The estimated figure for Padstow was 40%.

Question: Council Tax payers' contribution towards policing had increased and PTC paid £59,000 for the employment of two PCSOs. On that basis why were the Police so short of money and vehicles. The public saw £60,000 Range Rovers being driven by police – where was the money spent?

.....Chair

Answer: Range Rovers were for the Traffic and Fire Arms Departments and were justified because of the fast response that was needed. Vehicles were often discounted. From March 2008 there would be no Traffic Wardens. A unitary authority might be unwanted by some councils but PTC's forward thinking had safeguarded the posts of the two PCSOs. They could be utilised in PTC Car Parks generating more revenue. A presence on the streets could only be for the good.

Question: Did Devon & Cornwall Police allocate the budget in a sensible way?

Answer: £7.5m needed to be saved by March 2008. 70% of the budget was spent on wages; therefore 30% had to cover many items including police overtime.

Question: Did that mean that the police were given more funding thereby raising Council Tax?

Answer: The Government decided on savings that had to be made – better housekeeping meant efficiency savings.

Question: Was the grant to the Police Authority cut by the Government whilst the Police still had to save £7.5m?

Comment: £11.5m might be saved by CCC's unitary status.

Answer: It would be the same level service for less money.

Question: Would this efficiency saving have an adverse effect on enforcement of parking restrictions and illegal trading?

Answer: People should telephone the police to give details of those situations.

Question/Comment:

People did telephone the police but nothing was done. There was a car parked illegally in the same place daily and despite being reported nothing had changed. Also there were problems with Market Strand which was a pedestrian priority road. There were several vans parking there that belonged to people who were working. The Traffic Warden had been spoken to asking him to move the vehicles on. The Traffic Warden advised that he could not do this because of an error in the names of the roads/streets and this meant that the law could not be enforced.

Answer: Errors had been made that meant the Traffic Regulation Orders could not be enforced. They had now been amended.

.....Chair

- Comment: County Highways stated that it was a police matter. The police stated it was a Highways matter.
- Answer: This problem had occurred in a number of Cornish towns but all errors had now been corrected.
- Question: What about illegal parking in New Street? Elderly people and parents with pushchairs had to walk in the middle of the road because of obstructions caused by parked cars.
- Question: Mill Road by the Golden Lion was also blocked by vans. Pedestrians had great difficulty in manoeuvring through. Was this a matter for the police or County Highways?
- Answer: The foreman of the building site had been spoken to because of access issues. He assured the PCSO that the vans would be moved following delivery of materials. County Highways would be closing Mill Road on 18 April for 8 weeks – there would be access only for residents. Once the road was closed officially no TRO could be enforced. The police would check on patrols to ensure an awareness of situation.
- Question: PCSO Whitehall was asked how she had been received at Padstow and Trevone noting people were pleased to have her around.
- Answer: People had been very welcoming. PCSO was patrolling 6 – 7 miles. Had a good rapport with the public and was trying to educate some of the younger people with behaviour issues.

587/2006

PARISH PLAN STEERING GROUP

Sian Howells introduced herself as a member of the Parish Plan Steering Group and gave a presentation of the Parish Plan to date:

- The Steering Committee was formed in August 2006 from a list of volunteers selected by PTC.
- Members for Padstow were: Cllr Mrs Pauline Davis, Elaine Ead, Cllr David Edwards, Sian Howells, Mike Huntley, Barry Kinsman, Dan Thomas and Cllr Neil Vivian.
- Members for Trevone were: Tony Doherty, Julie Reynolds, Tim Stafford and Mary Winch.

.....Chair

- The Parish Plan was an accurate reflection of Padstow and Trevone's residents' views and was required to justify any actions taken. The Plan could help secure funding.
- The process had begun with Planning Events in October 2005 leading to the formation of the Steering Committee in 2006. Two Prioritisation Events in December 2006 had contributed to the production of a Draft Plan in April 2007. The Plan would have to be ratified by the Town Council before being presented to the parish to enable projects from the Plan to commence.
- The Draft Plan was split into categories identified at the Planning and Prioritisation Events:
 - Local Economy
 - Traffic & Transport
 - Housing & Development
 - Healthy Active Lifestyle
 - Leisure & Recreation
 - Retail Outlets
 - Environment
 - Youth
 - Community Safety
 - The Future
- It had been compiled with the assistance of Cornwall Rural Community Council (CRCC).
- Whilst being a mix of the reflection of the residents it had to conform to the government template to ensure that legal requirements were met.
- The Plan gave an idea of what Padstow and Trevone were like now, what residents wanted done and how to achieve those goals.
- It also listed the partners they would work with to achieve those goals, e.g. CCC, Highways, NDC etc.
- In order to achieve those goals committees would be formed to complete actions.
- Those new committees would be lead by members of the main Steering Committee and would incorporate other members of the parish utilising local expertise and experience.

.....Chair

- Anyone wishing to volunteer and get involved should contact the Town Clerk.
- The Parish Plan was the first time residents had been consulted and given the chance to make a difference to their parish.
- Once the Draft Parish Plan had been ratified by the Town Council there would be the first Annual General Meeting to allow all members of the public to vote on the constitution and to formally elect the members of the Committee. All residents would be kept informed by leaflet drop outlining the main points of the Plan. Those who wished to see it in full would be able to do so at the Council Offices, the Library or on line from PTC's website.

Ms Howells asked for any questions from the floor:

Question: Was there a time frame from production of the Plan to projects being carried out?

Answer: Once the Draft had been ratified some projects could start but others would not have target dates.

Question: Would the District Council use the information in the Plan i.e. would it feed upwards into Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Answer: It was her understanding this was the case.

Cllr K Freeman thanked Ms Howells for her presentation.

588/2006 OPEN FORUM

Question: Would there be double decker buses in Dennis Road this season?

Answer: Possibly.

Question: Why was there 100% of support for the Planning Application for the development in Crugmeer an AONB? Cllr C Watson Smyth had been spoken to but it was considered that some Cllrs were not aware of the specifics of the site. Having such a business development in a hamlet was not appropriate. What were the Council's views?

Answer: It would encourage new business to the area.

.....Chair

- Question: The footpath near Chapel Stile was in a very bad state. Mud had washed off the fields onto the path and the general surface was very uneven. The area was the access to the Town Beach and needed to be managed. Young girls could be in danger from people hiding behind the overgrown bushes.
- Answer: The Footpaths Officer from CCC and Cllr Watson Smyth had checked the area since the footpath ran through Cllr Watson Smyth's land. The matter was in hand and as the weather became drier the mud would be moved and the path would be rescalped. However it was a footpath and not a highway.
- Comment: The whole area needed to be properly resurfaced.
- Comment: The Museum's Curator thanked PTC for supporting Padstow Museum in its search for accommodation.
- Question: Would it be possible for the PTC website to be regularly updated with Agendas and Minutes?
- Answer: The Council staff had a very heavy workload and the Council was short staffed hence the delay but would prioritise the updating.
- Question: A resident of Trevone had a Cornish Key Card to travel on the bus but there was still no bus to Trevone and asked why.
- Answer: The Council had been advised by the bus company that the bus was not allowed to turn in the privately owned car park and there was nowhere else for it to turn. H&S restrictions meant that the bus could not drive down into the village. Western Greyhound had also commented that the service was barely used. However discussions were ongoing although it was pretty much a stalemate at the present time. Pressure needed to be put on the bus company by would-be service users.
- Comment: The Council's Transport Committee Representative would pursue the matter with the committee and was aware that there was a service whereby a minibus could be dialled on demand.
- Comment: Thanks from St Petroc's Church were offered to those concerned for the way in which the Churchyard and Cemetery were maintained.

The Chair thanked the Police and Ms Howells for their contributions and the Council staff for all their work.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

.....Chair