

**Minutes of a Meeting of St Ives Town Council
held on Wednesday 9 February 2022 in the Corn Exchange**

Present:

Town Mayor: Councillor P Hussain

Deputy Town Mayor: Councillor P Pope

Councillors: T Drye, S Mokbul, J Kerr, C Smith, J Tiddy, N Wells, N Dibben, A Dickinson, M King, J Pallant, R Fuller, Dr C Pegoraro

In attendance:

Locum Clerk: N Sewell

Democratic Officer: S Rawlinson

The Locum Clerk said Prayers prior to the start of the Meeting.

C165.00 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors R D'Souza (Personal) and D Rowe and J Parkin (health reasons).

C166.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item C168.00 – Councillor J Kerr – non pecuniary interest as a member of the FLAG group.

Agenda Item C175.00 – Councillor C Smith – non pecuniary interest as a member of the Active Travel Group.

Agenda Item C175.00 – Councillors P Pope and N Wells – non pecuniary interests as residents of The Broadway.

C167.00 POLICE MATTERS

Members welcomed Sgt Rob Savill, the new St Ives/Ramsey Sector Police Sergeant to the meeting.

Sgt Savill introduced himself. He was new to this particular post but had been a serving Police Officer for many years. He was keen to make the lives of St Ives residents better.

There were currently no major issues of note. Several drug warrants had recently been issued with good results.

He asked Members to contact him via email rob.savill@cambs.police.uk with any matters of concern. He would arrange to meet with Councillor Pope, the Council's Police Liaison representative.

C168.00 FLOODING

Hilary Ellis of Cambridgeshire County Council was unable to attend the meeting. The Locum Clerk had forwarded information received from her to Members. Ms Ellis would be meeting with the FLAG group on 23 February and would attend the March Council meeting. Members were requested to submit any questions they had to the Locum Clerk for forwarding onto her before the meeting.

C169.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Flooding

A resident presented Members with photographs of an area of Marley Brook choked with pond weed. Some of the logs previously removed had re-appeared in the brook. He had undertaken some clearance work at four congestion points but one area remained which was particularly bad and needed more manpower to clear.

He hoped that the Council would assist in progressing the clearance of this area.

Chairman's
Initials

The Town Mayor thanked the resident for his hard work in clearing debris from the brook which was greatly appreciated.

C170.00 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 December 2021 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

C171.00 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A schedule of the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor's engagements was received and noted.

Members requested that information about the Annual Town Meeting and Community Fair be sent to them.

C172.00 COMMITTEE AND GROUP REPORTS

The Minutes of the following committees were presented and consideration given to any Recommendations therein:

C172.01 Amenities Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2022 were received and noted.

C172.02 Planning Committees

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 8 December 2021 and 26 January 2022 were received and noted.

C172.03 Personnel Committee

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 December 2021 and 19 January 2022 were received and noted.

C172.04 Property Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2022 were received and noted.

C172.05 Norris Trust

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 1 December 2021 and 19 January 2022 were received and noted.

C173.00 LOCAL HIGHWAYS INITIATIVE FUNDING

C173.01 Speed Reduction, Houghton Road

Members were in receipt of correspondence from Project Engineer, Cambridgeshire County Council together with a feasibility study putting forward several options.

Of the options put forward, Members agreed that reducing the speed limit without putting in place any physical features would be the most cost effective and efficient.

RESOLVED: that the County Council be informed that the option for speed reduction without physical measures was the one preferred.

C173.02 Erica Road Footpath Improvements

Members received correspondence from Project Manager, Cambridgeshire County Council which gave an indication of the very high cost of delivering the proposed scheme.

It was agreed that the primary issue in that area was the lack of dropped pavements to improve access for wheelchairs, bicycles etc rather than a broader scheme which included widening.

RESOLVED: that the County Council be informed that the Council's priority was to have dropped kerbs rather than the full proposed project.

C173.03

LHI Panel Meeting

The Council had been asked to appoint one or two representatives to attend a virtual meeting of the LHI Panel on 2 March where the bids for Houghton Road and The Quadrant would be discussed.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Fuller attend on behalf of the Council, together with a resident with whom he had been working on the projects.

C173.04

The Quadrant

Members gave consideration to a feasibility study from Engineer, Cambridgeshire County Council.

Concerns had been raised by residents about speeding vehicles and the difficulty of crossing the road to the surgery.

It was noted that it might be easier to apply for 20 mph zones in the future and Members considered this would be a suitable place for a reduced speed limit.

RESOLVED: that this application be withdrawn with a view to gaining a 20 mph limit in future.

C174.00

FLOOD ACTION PLAN

Members received the draft Plan compiled by the FLAG Group. It was noted that further liaison with the County and District Councils and the Environment Agency was needed before the Plan could be put forward for adoption.

RESOLVED: that the Plan be updated and presented to the March meeting of the Council.

C175.00

ACTIVE TRAVEL PLAN

Members were in receipt of plans showing proposals for a cycleway in The Broadway. There were no notes with the plans to explain the proposals and the impact that changes to the layout of the road might have. Members of the Travel Plan group would request this.

Option 1 removed the herringbone parking from one side of the road to the other enabling a continuous cycleway from The Waits down to Crown Street which members considered was the favourable option.

RESOLVED: **C175.01** that the appropriate officer from the County Council be asked to attend a future meeting to explain the proposals more fully

C175.02 that Members had a preference for the option to move parking spaces to the other side of The Broadway be indicated to the County Council.

C176.00

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS FROM LOCUM CLERK

C176.01

Clerk's Report

Members received the Clerk's report indicating the tasks staff were undertaking. This had arisen from the 'one to one' meetings and was designed to aid communications between staff and council members.

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

- C176.02 Publicising Elections**
The Locum Clerk requested Members to give consideration to methods for publicising the forthcoming elections and to let her have any suggestions. She currently had templates to use for social media and press releases and there was a feature article in the latest Bridge.
- RESOLVED:** that the information is received and noted.
- C176.03 Asylum Seekers**
- RESOLVED:** that the report from the Locum Clerk is received and noted.
- C176.04 Updated Complaints Policy**
- RESOLVED:** that the Policy is received and adopted.
- C176.05 Standing Orders**
Members received updated Standing Orders.
- RESOLVED:** **C176.05.01** that the Standing Orders be received and adopted
- C176.05.02** that future amendments to policy documents have an indication of where changes have been made.
- C176.06 Covid 19 Risk Assessment**
- RESOLVED:** that the revised Covid 19 Risk Assessment be received and adopted.
- C176.07 Scheme and Scope of Delegated Powers**
- RESOLVED:** that the updated Scheme be received and adopted.
- C176.08 Jubilee Working Party**
Members received report of the last meeting and the Terms of Reference for the Group.
- RESOLVED:** **C176.08.01** that the information is received and noted
- C176.08.02** that the Terms of Reference be approved with the addition that the Working Party will consist of a minimum of six councillors, one of whom will be the Town Mayor
- C176.08.03** that agreement is given to the Group using the allocated budget when required without the need to refer back to Council
- C176.08.04** that some budget be allocated to publicise the event via posters or flyers.
- C177.00 REPORTS/INFORMATION FROM OTHER BODIES**
- C177.01 Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre**
The Organiser's report for October-December 2021 was received and noted.

C178.00 ROLLING PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: that the Rolling Programme is received and noted.

C179.00 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that the Orders for Payment schedule be received and noted.

C180.00 BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

RESOLVED: that the Statement be received and noted

C181.00 BUDGET

The Locum Clerk informed members that the overspend of £505.44 on Corn Exchange Repairs and Renewals was the result of urgent boiler repairs.

RESOLVED: that the budget be received and noted.

C182.00 CCTV REPORT

The Report emailed to Members was received and noted.

C183.00 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

In response to a query on the policy for providing dropped pavements, County Councillor Fuller responded that the matter was generally now handled under the LHI process. He asked Members to contact him with specific problem areas which he would look into. There was no County budget allocated for dropped kerbs but the Council could put in a collective LHI bid if it wished to.

C184.00 DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

No matters were raised.

C185.00 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting.

C186.00 VIRING OF FUNDS

Members was asked to ratify the virement of funds to cover a predicted cumulative overspend on the Staffing budget for 2021/22 which had arisen due to long term staff absence resulting in the need to incur additional expenditure.

RESOLVED: that virement of £11,611.00 from reserves, to include an additional £375 for an additional occupational health report be agreed.

C187.00 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and the Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

Town Mayor:

Dated: 9 March 2022

Chairman's
Initials