

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of St Ives Town Council
held on Wednesday 4 January 2023 in the Town Hall, St Ives**

Present:

Town Mayor: Councillor P Pope
Deputy Mayor: Councillor N Wells

Councillors: C Morgan, M King, L Valla, M Gleadow, J Tiddy, J Kerr, M Mallol Wright, M Burke,
R Chapman, C Smith, A Thompson, P Hussain

Absent: S Mokbul

In attendance:

Mayor's Chaplain: Reverend M Amey
Town Clerk: M Price
Democratic Officer: S Rawlinson

PRAYERS

The Town Mayor's Chaplain gave a prayer before the start of the meeting to commemorate the life and service of the late Councillor Brian Luter – a serving Council Member and three times Mayor of St Ives.

C133.00 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

C134.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations were made:

Agenda Item C136.00 :

Councillors M Burke, P Hussain and C Smith – non pecuniary interests as Chairman of Christmas Lights Committee and Committee members respectively. *[Councillor Burke would abstain from voting on grant funding matters].*

Councillor M Burke – non pecuniary interest as a trustee of the Burleigh Hill Centre.

Councillor C Smith – non pecuniary interest as a member of the Carnival Committee.

Councillors R Chapman, L Valla and M King – non pecuniary interest as members of St Ives in Bloom.

Councillor J Tiddy – non pecuniary interest as a member of the FESt Committee.

C135.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident objected that at such an important meeting to decide the precept, there was no information provided on the applications for grant funding nor any specific mention on the agenda. He considered that holding the meeting on this basis would be unconstitutional and he requested that it be deferred.

The Town Clerk responded that the precept form had to be submitted by 6 January so it would not be possible to defer. The meeting was not convened specifically to discuss grant applications but rather the entire Council budget and that there was no obligation to provide copies of grant application forms. An opportunity had been provided to groups seeking grant funding to address the Council to make a case for funding over and above the estimated amounts. He confirmed that the meeting had been lawfully convened and all relevant information had been provided in advance of the meeting.

C136.00 ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (deferred from Meeting 14 December)

The Town Mayor invited representatives from the community groups applying for grants to address the Meeting.

Chairman's
Initials

Carnival Committee

Councillor C Smith stated that the amount allocated in estimates was £7,000. The Committee had requested £9461.89 in order that the event could be improved on the previous year.

Festival Events (St Ives) FESt

It was stated that the Group sought an extra £350 above the budget estimate of £6,000. The illuminated boat parade would now be organised by the Town Team. Several new fund-raising events were planned for 2023.

Christmas Lights

Councillor Burke stated that the Committee had received just over £10,000 in recent years.

The cost of replacing outdated infrastructure, such as timers, had increased considerably and the works needed to be carried out by contractors.

St Ives in Bloom

Members were informed that St Ives had received a Gold Award in 2022 and the Group was hoping to repeat this success in 2023. Many improvements had been made over the past twelve months, including planting at the cemetery and planters sited at Kings Hedges, Station Road and the park and ride site.

There were plans to enter Ramsey Road for the Best Cemetery category in the Anglia in Bloom competition. £2,500 had been allocated in estimates and the group was seeking £3239.87.

Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre

A presentation had been given to the previous meeting so Members were aware of the services the group provided. Use of the Car Scheme had increased considerably and continued to do so.

The Centre was seeking £16,500 – the budget estimate was £13,000.

Town Team

The estimate was for £2,500 and the Group had requested £7,820.

£5,000 had been reserved towards the bandstand. £38,000 had been pledged by residents towards this but a further £5,000 was needed. Planning consent had not yet been granted but it was planned to call in the pledges once this was achieved.

Following discussion, the following was agreed:

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| C136.01 | Christmas Lights |
| | RESOLVED: that a grant of £12,500 be awarded. |
| C136.02 | Carnival |
| | RESOLVED: that a grant of £9,462 be awarded. |
| C136.03 | Town Team |
| | RESOLVED: that a grant of £7,820 be awarded. |
| C136.04 | Festival Events St Ives |
| | RESOLVED: that a grant of £6,350 be awarded. |

C136.05 Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre

RESOLVED: that a grant of £16,500 be awarded.

C136.06 St Ives in Bloom

RESOLVED: that a grant of £3,239.87 be awarded.

C136.07 RESOLVED: that a precept of £851,929 be set representing an increase of 1.7818% based on the 2022 tax base.

C137.00 CANCELLATION OF MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting scheduled for 11 January 2023 be cancelled.

Town Mayor:

Dated: 8 February 2023

Chairman's
Initials