

**Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of St Ives Town Council
held on Thursday 8th February 2024 in the Town Hall, St Ives**

Present:

Town Mayor: P Pope

Councillors: M Burke, J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, J Spencer,
A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

In attendance:

Locum Clerk: L White BEM BA(Hons) FSLCC
6 Members of the public

C201.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hussain (personal).

Absent: Cllr Riddell

C202.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Spencer noted a personal interest in item C205.08.

Cllr Tiddy noted a personal interest in item C205.01.

Cllr King and Cllr Chapman noted personal interests in item C205.09.

Cllr Morgan noted a personal interest in item C205.04.

C203.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Mokbul arrived at 7.03pm

Resident asked questions of the council on the proposed budget and grants to be discussed within the meeting, specifically why the Council is asking for an extra £180,000 to agree for a recorded vote and what reserves are in place which was confirmed as £124,000.

A brief speech was provided on the work undertaken by Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre.

C204.00 ST IVES CARES

The paper presented by the Personnel Committee was considered by members. It was proposed by Cllr Kerr, seconded by Cllr Burke to employ the St Ives Cares Co-ordinator on a years contract.

RESOLVED: the St Ives Cares Co-Ordinator be employed on a fixed term contract for one year with effect from 1st March 2024, SCP19 at 22.5 hours per week. It was **noted** that it is hoped that the council will be able to obtain grant funding to pay for the role in the future.

Carried, 1 abstention

C205.00 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS

The following grant applications were considered by members with all votes being recorded:

C205.01 FESt

It was noted that the form submitted had two different amounts on it. After a brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Tiddy that a grant of £6,350 be given. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan,
P Pope, J Spencer, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: R Chapman

C205.02 St Ives Carnival and Music Festival

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Members noted that there is a large increase in the funding requested from previous years and they noted that they are looking to reintroduce the parade. Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Mokbul that a grant of £9,462 be given. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, M Gleadow, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: J Kerr, R Chapman

C205.03 Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre (HVC)

Standing orders were suspended to be able to ask some questions of the charity members in attendance. After a brief discussion and having reinstated Standing Orders it was noted that councillors would like to see more specific information on the journeys made by St Ives residents in future applications. They would like to see more support from other local councils with a more proportionate offering.

Motion 1: It was proposed by Cllr Cantwell and seconded by Cllr Wells that £12,000 be provided to HVC.

Motion 2: it was proposed by Cllr Mokbul and seconded by Cllr Thompson that a grant of £8,250 be provided which is half of the grant requested and that they seek alternative revenue streams.

In favour: M Burke, S Mokbul, A Thompson, J Tiddy

Against: J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, L Valla, N Wells

Motion 2 was defeated.

The discussion reverted to the original motion 1 proposed by Cllr Cantwell, seconded by Cllr Wells.

In favour: J Cantwell, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Against: S Mokbul

Abstention: M Burke, R Chapman, A Thompson

Motion 1 was therefore carried.

Councillors expressed their thanks for the amazing work undertaken by the group.

C205.04 St Ives Town Team

After a brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Cantwell that a grant of £2,000 be given. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, P Pope, J Spencer, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: C Morgan

C205.05 Hemingford Voluntary Organisation

Councillors noted that this was a new applicant for 2024. It was commented that it is a great event which draws in people from all around and that St Ives residents benefit from the display that the group put on every year. It was proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Mokbul to provide £600 in funding towards improvements in their fencing. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

C205.06 Fitness Rush Community CIC

It was noted by councillors that the organisation was a company. It was proposed by Cllr Thompson that though what they are doing in the community is really worthwhile, that no funding be provided at this time. This motion was

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seconded by Cllr Kerr who stated that there is funding available through the district council and the town council could point them in the right direction. The proposal was carried with a unanimous vote

C205.07 St Ives Dementia Friendly Group

It was proposed by Cllr Mokbul, seconded by Cllr King that this application be declined as there is funding available through the St Ives Cares funding. It was noted that the group are aware of the funding being available through this separate stream. The proposal was carried with a unanimous vote

C205.08 KICK Youth

Cllr Thompson noted that £500 was given to them in the previous year and now they are looking for 60% of their costs. Cllr Thompson proposed that £925 be given to contribute to the instructor at the event they proposed to put on. This motion was seconded by Cllr Morgan. The proposal was carried with a vote as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, P Pope, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: J Spencer

C205.09 St Ives in Bloom

Councillors commented on the beautiful floral displays created by the group and that by the group having been included in the national Britain in Bloom it is hoped that this will increase footfall into the town and help businesses. It was proposed by Cllr Mokbul, seconded by Cllr Kerr that a grant of £3,500 be given. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, A Thompson, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: R Chapman

C205.10 Neotists CIC

Councillors noted that the work proposed by this group would duplicate work being carried out by the St Ives Hub. It was proposed by Cllr Kerr, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the grant be declined but offer that they can link to the St Ives Hub site. The proposal was carried with a unanimous vote.

C205.11 Citizens Advice Rural Cambs

Cllr Gleadow noted that there are vulnerable members of the community who would benefit from the support the organisation can provide. Cllr Kerr suggested that it would be possible to provide space free of charge at the Burleigh Hill Community Centre. It was proposed by Cllr Valla, seconded by Cllr Burke that a grant of £7,580 be given. The proposal was carried with voting as follows:

In favour: M Burke, J Cantwell, R Chapman, M Gleadow, J Kerr, M King, S Mokbul, C Morgan, P Pope, J Spencer, J Tiddy, L Valla, N Wells

Abstention: A Thompson

C206.00 2024/25 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

C206.01 The proposed budget for 2024/25 was considered by members. The initial figures provided included the grant figures requested from community groups. These figures were amended to take into account the agreed figures as per item C205. Having

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considered the changes members looked at other areas where money could be saved. The Locum Clerk explained that the figures for the 2024/25 had been taken from the 'actual' figures for 2022/23 due to some anomalies still in the 2023/24 accounts. These proposed figures included some expenditure which was not required as they had been a one off in 2022/23. After a lengthy period of debate it was proposed by Cllr Pope, seconded by Cllr Burke that the budget as amended at the meeting be approved and adopted. The proposal was carried with a unanimous vote.

C206.02

To agree the Precept Request to be submitted to Huntingdonshire District Council. It was proposed by Cllr Kerr, seconded by Cllr Thompson that a precept request of £931,549 be sent to the precepting authority. The proposal was carried with a unanimous vote.

RESOLVED: that the precept request of £931,549 be sent to Huntingdonshire District Council.

The meeting concluded at 9:06pm.

Town Mayor:

Dated: 13 March 2024

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