

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee of St Ives Town Council
held at the Town Hall St Ives on Wednesday 22 May 2019**

Present:

Town Mayor: Councillor D Rowe (ex officio) [in the Chair for Item A01.00]

Councillors: J Davies, M King, B Luter, J Pallant, C Pegoraro, J Tiddy, L Davies

In attendance:

Town Clerk: A Benfield

Amenities Manager: C Allison

A01.00 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR 2019/20

RESOLVED: that Councillor M King be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

A02.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor R Fuller (Personal).

A03.00 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR 2019/20

RESOLVED: that Councillor L Davies be appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

A04.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

A05.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Waterworth, a resident, addressed the Committee on the subject of the Horse Chestnut tree in Warner's Park which had been identified for possible felling.

He read a statement from HDC's Tree Strategy and a statement from our website stating that the team works for the community of St Ives and wants to make a difference to the town. He stated that he was passionate about saving the Horse Chestnut and requested that options other than felling be discussed.

A06.00 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Amenities Committee held on 17 March and 24 April 2019 are confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

A07.00 RoSPA ANNUAL PLAY AREA REPORT

Members were in receipt of report on the Annual Inspection. They were pleased to note that no high risk matters were featured and that the medium risk items identified could be dealt with in-house.

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

A08.00 ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD WALLING

Members gave consideration to a report detailing a recent survey undertaken on the Churchyard Wall.

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RESOLVED: A08.01 that the report be received and noted.

A08.02 that advice be sought from the Conservation Officer and tenders sought for the remedial works identified as a result of advice received.

A08.03 that the matter be brought back to a future meeting for consideration of tenders received and quotations obtained.

A09.00 WARNER'S PARK HORSE CHESTNUT TREE

Consideration was given to the removal of a horse chestnut tree in Warner's Park and its replacement.

Members expressed views both in favour and against the removal of the tree, although acknowledged that the results of the independent tests could not be ignored and that health and safety issues came first even if it meant the loss of a beautiful tree if there was any danger to the public. There had been no fault in the process undertaken, it was just unfortunate that the outcome was very unpopular. The expert view was that the tree was unsafe.

Mr Waterworth indicated that he wished to address the meeting further. On the basis that he might have misunderstood the protocol for Public Speaking he was permitted, on this occasion, to do so.

Mr Waterworth proposed that members take their time in making a decision and put the matter on hold whilst considering other options such as crowning, erecting surrounding hedging, cutting some limbs and propping the tree up. He stated that he was a member of the St Ives Tree Action Group.

The Town Clerk advised that the matter was on temporary hold as a bat survey had been commissioned due to concerns that they might be nesting in the tree. The Amenities Manager informed members that fencing had been erected around the tree in the interim period.

Members expressed their appreciation to staff for the work undertaken in this matter.

It was proposed, and duly seconded, that the proposals in the report be put forward. A recorded vote was called for with the following result:

For the Proposals	Against the Proposals	Abstention
Cllr M King	Cllr J Tiddy	Cllr J Davies
Cllr D Rowe	Cllr L Davies	
Cllr J Pallant		
Cllr Dr C Pegoraro		
Cllr B Luter		

It was therefore:

RESOLVED: A09.01 that the report is received and noted

A09.02 that the tree be felled at a cost of £2,800 by Global Tree Solutions Ltd

A09.03 that a new Horse Chestnut tree is purchased and sited in a suitable location within Warner's Park at an approximate cost of £132.

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A09.04 that members are kept informed of developments

A10.00 URBAN FOREST

Consideration was given to a communication received from a resident requesting that more trees be planted on Council land.

RESOLVED: A10.01 that the report be received and noted

A10.02 that the resident be thanked for their comments and informed of Council practices and initiatives.

A11.00 CEMETERY REGULATIONS

Members received updated Cemetery Regulations.

The Town Clerk advised that the only changes were to aid clarification and were contained on the first page. The most important matters were brought forward ie, pricing structure and the addition of a further family member onto Deeds of Grant. Imperial measures for sizing would be retained rather than conversion to metric.

RESOLVED: that the information be received and the updated Regulations adopted.

A12.00 ROLLING PROGRAMME

Members were in receipt of Rolling Programme. It was noted that there had been no room in the July 'Bridge' for inclusion of a cycle survey and this would now go into the Autumn edition. Councillor Pallant agreed to advise on cycle racks.

There had been no further progress on the ownership of benches but the Grounds Maintenance team had painted them.

RESOLVED: that the Rolling Programme be received and noted.

A13.00 BUDGET REPORT

RESOLVED: that the Budget Report be received and noted.

A14.00 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.

A15.00 MAUSOLEUM

Members gave consideration to further options for the delivery of Mausolea.

A proposal had been put forward by the contractors to build a larger mausoleum consisting of 24 chambers with a 32 niche provision for ashes in the middle. This would be more economical than building two separate blocks and finance packages could be provided by contractors.

This proposal would be aesthetically pleasing and more in keeping with the site. Any funding deficit would come from CIL funds.

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Members considered that there would be greater take-up in the future. It was noted that the original proposal was cost neutral but the additional facilities would provide the opportunity to extend the facility to non residents of St Ives.

RESOLVED: that the revised proposal be supported by the Amenities Committee and presented for consideration at the next Council Meeting.

A16.00

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.

Chairman:

Date: 26 June 2019

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