



CAMELFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH OF CAMELFORD

THE ANNUAL MEETING WAS HELD AT CAMELFORD HALL,
CLEASE ROAD, CAMELFORD ON TUESDAY 5TH MAY 2009 AT
7.00pm

PERSONS PRESENT: Cllr B Lush Mayor, Cllr J Pearce Deputy Mayor, Cllr E McCormick & Mrs McCormick, Cllr Mrs Elford. Mr & Mrs Roger Hart, Mr & Mrs Finch, Cllr Mrs J Comber (member - Cornwall Council) Mr & Mrs Williams, Mrs B Grills, Mr & Mrs D Pearse. Mr B Groves – Town Clerk. Mr Besford-Foster and Mr C Sims, Cornwall Council

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Shaw, R Rotchell, Cllr R Ireland, and Cllr P Lessels.

Cllr Lush welcomed everyone to the meeting and commenced with the guest speaker.

GUEST SPEAKER.

Mr Steve Besford-Foster opened the speaking by introducing himself and saying his role was to co-ordinate all the community network managers to see that everyone gets the best. He introduced the Community Network Manager for Bude and Camelford, Mr Chris Sims, Cornwall Council, who takes up post on the 1st June 2009 but is keeping a 'watching' brief until then.

Mr Sims then produced his guide to 'Localism' in Cornwall, and he proceeded to go through the various headings particularly emphasising their commitment to support and strengthen local communities. He wanted the community to be driven locally and people to help themselves to improve their quality of life. He said that the system of community networks would be built on six building blocks and emphasised the need to incorporate the members of the voluntary sector and community networks in partnership. He said that in that way there would be a stronger voice in the way services are delivered and to look how we plan things together. It will help with the formal way of looking at the needs for Camelford, and any Town Plans can be upgraded to modernise the 'wish' list.

Mr Sims described the system which he said looked complicated on paper but should work in reality, the core of the process being undertaken by the Panel. The Panel would link into Town, Parish and the Unitary Authority to deliver

the service. A test 'Panel' would be set up to formalise the boundaries and to test the institution's workings. Mr Sims then asked for questions.

Cllr Pearce asked about happiness as it is mentioned in the paperwork and said his reply would be with the quality of life in the area. He sought the involvement of the Town Council in the funding issues for the Networks to ensure that Camelford received its fair share. He requested the involvement of the Youth Council in the 'Panels' decision making, so that the youth of the network area didn't feel left out.

Mr D Pearce asked about the present Camelford Town Plan and was told that the Plan could be revisited and brought up to date.

Mr Williams asked about the Market and Camelford Coastal Town's initiative which cost £25K to produce about 5 years ago and no notice has been taken of it since. Mr Besford-Foster said that all these plans and initiatives would be taken into account when the 'Panel' and the Managers get to work. He said that he did not want to see 'Death by 1000 Plans' and he hoped that the best would succeed. He added that there would be access to a community chest for projects and Councillors would again have their personal funds for their supported projects. Spending will be cautious but it will be available.

Mrs Finch asked if they had any sway with Doctors and Dentists as the whole situation was lamentable. Mr Sims said that it was hoped to involve the PCT with the work of the 'Panel'.

Cllr Lush asked if it had been decided where the Manager would work from, and Mr Sims replied that no decision had been made at this time.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 28th April 2008 – Acceptance and Matters arising. Cllr Lush asked if there were any questions upon the Minutes which were published on the Council's website. No questions were asked and the Minutes were accepted without a vote.

Mayor's Report on Town Matters. Cllr Lush read his report. It covered the areas of Enfield Park, the trees, the access to Opeways the Car Park line marking, the damage in the Children's play area, the various surveys carried out of the park, the collection of rubbish, the Dogs Order Consultation, the Allotment project, the footpath at Sportsman's for safe routes to school, and the direction finger posts, which he commended to the parishioners present.

Report from Cornwall Councillor Janey Comber. Cllr Comber read her report covering the areas of the Allotments, the Charter 750 Celebrations, the 30 mph speed limit through Tregoodwell, the safe route to school, and the Foyer. She concluded by expressing her thanks to Douglas Cleave the road sweeper who did an exemplary job, everyday, not only on the Cornwall Clean up days.

Clerk's and Finance Officer's Report. The Clerk reported that the accounts were still with the internal auditor as the figures had to be with the external auditor by the 25th May. He said that the Council had finished the year with an excess of income over expenditure by £487. The Council had overspent some £13K by virtue of setting up the allotments £4.2K, two elections 2.4K Major Tree Work £1.5K, temporary Clerk £3.3K and the exceptional expenditure of £10K on the industrial tribunal, which was explained to those assembled.

There had also been the generous donation of £5K which had been apportioned as £1.5K towards replacement Christmas lights which had resulted in an electric bill of £76 instead of the previous bill of £1556. The remaining £3.5K was set aside for the refurbishment of the river bank which will take place during summer 2009.

Despite a difficult year with a tight budgetary control and some unexpected additional income the Council made a small surplus and were able to increase reserves by £1134. Mr Williams asked why on the accounts each heading had a phrase Net expenditure over income, which really meant nothing and was confusing to the lay reader. The Clerk said he would mention it to Cllr Ireland who supervises the RBS solutions software to see if an appropriate change could be made.

Question Time.

Cllr Lush asked if there were any questions. Mr Pearse asked if the pre Council meeting question time could be increased to 30 minutes when on the rare occasions a matter of importance needed that extra time. Cllr Lush said it would be placed on the next Agenda for Full Council.

Mrs Grills asked if The Foyer accommodation was for local people only. Cllr Comber said that it was for local youngsters making their way in the world and was to build up their life skills before heading out. Cllr Lush strongly supported the scheme. Cllr Comber offered any and all present to meet the residents at the Bodmin Foyer and see how the accommodation worked.

Cllr Lush with regards to the Bypass mentioned that last year the diversion route was not put in place and Highways stated that they didn't have time to make the signs. Cllr Comber stated that she would deal with the matter this year, 2009.

Chairman's Conclusion and thanks. The Chairman thanks those attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

Brian Groves

Town Clerk