

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Services Committee held at the Guildhall on Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: R Bickford, R Bullock, J Dent, J Foster, S Gillies, S Lennox-Boyd, S Miller, J Peggs (Chairman), B Samuels, P Samuels (Vice-Chairman) and B Stoyel.

ALSO PRESENT: 2 Members of the Public, S Burrows (Town Clerk), S Webber (Service Delivery Manager) and D Joyce (Administration Officer)

APOLOGIES: Councillors G Challen, L Challen, M Griffiths, S Martin and D Yates.

53/22/23 HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Chairman informed those present of the actions required in the event of a fire or emergency.

54/22/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

a. To receive any declarations from Members of any registerable (5A of the Code of Conduct) and/or non-registerable (5B) interests in matters to be considered at this meeting.

None.

b. Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations prior to the start of the meeting for consideration.

None.

55/22/23 QUESTIONS - A 15-MINUTE PERIOD WHEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ASK QUESTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Town Clerk informed the Chairman of two public questions with regard to Agenda Item 9.

The Chairman informed Members that the two questions would be received under Agenda Item 9:

To receive a request to commemorate the passing of our late Queen Elizabeth II and consider any actions and associated expenditure.

56/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2022 AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.**

The Town Clerk informed Members that the link which accompanied Agenda Item 5 was incorrect. The link displayed minutes to be received as the 16th June 2022 and 26th July 2022.

The error was brought to the attention of the Town Clerk late in the afternoon and due to short notice was unable to be amended.

The Town Clerk advised the Chairman to defer the minutes to the next Services Committee meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to note.

57/22/23 **TO RECEIVE THE CURRENT COMMITTEE BUDGET STATEMENT AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.**

It was **RESOLVED** to note.

58/22/23 **TO CONSIDER RISK MANAGEMENT REPORTS AS MAY BE RECEIVED.**

No report.

59/22/23

TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE SALTASH AREA ROAD SAFETY MEETING NOTES HELD ON MONDAY 25TH JULY 2022.

Members discussed various areas which had been reported as problematic for speeding in Saltash, the areas included Callington Road and St Stephens Road.

Members expressed concern at the speeds in which cars are now traversing since the speed bumps have been retarmacked on the main high street. Concern was raised as the street is not deemed pedestrian friendly.

It was proposed by Councillor Foster, seconded by Councillor Bullock and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Note the minutes from the Saltash Area Road Safety and report areas of concern as dangerous to public safety due to excessive speed – Fore Street, St Stephens Road and Callington Road;
2. Delegate authority to the Town Clerk to report safety concerns in the Town to Cornwall Council Highways Department, including no speed signs on St Stephens Road and Callington Road.

60/22/23

TO RECEIVE A REQUEST TO COMMEMORATE THE PASSING OF OUR LATE MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.

The Chairman invited Mrs. Sue Hooper to speak in support of Agenda Item 9:

The whole world was in shock at the passing of The Late Queen Elizabeth II – who passed away so suddenly just a few weeks ago – particularly when only a few months before, the UK, Realms and Commonwealth were celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

Virtually the whole of Saltash partook in the nation's celebrations from all corners of the town – North, East, South and West and in the middle through the whole of Fore Street.

Thousands of local people were joyous – from individuals, community groups, charities, organisations, businesses, shops and public houses – flags bedecked all the streets – the atmosphere was ecstatic and Saltash celebrated so enthusiastically and unforgettably which has been well documented and recorded.

My request as a local resident and not as part of any local organisation or committee to everlastingly remember Her Late Majesty is sincere and taking into account the success of the Saltash Memorial Peace Garden and the community's sincere love of this peaceful community space.

I believe this could be achievable and could include a free standing story board with a heading, photographs and script of when our late Monarch visited Saltash in 1949 (Princess Elizabeth) and 1962 (Queen Elizabeth II) – and photos of when Saltash celebrated her Platinum Jubilee.

The Peace Garden hosts many memorial features including silent soldiers which have the Royal British Legion emblems engraved and of which our late Monarch was patron of the RBL – in keeping with the Legion's royal patronage in 1971 during its 50th anniversary.

Our Late Queen as Head of State has placed a poppy wreath at the London Whitehall Cenotaph every year of her reign – together with many of the senior members of the royal family – and the senior uniformed royals saluted as the Queen's coffin passed the war memorial.

Therefore, it is well documented the love and respect that the monarchy has for fallen, remembrance and memorials.

It is also a remarkable coincidence that the opening of the Peace Garden was on the 70th anniversary of the end of the second world war – and this request follows the 70th anniversary of our late Majesty's reign!!

A statement at the opening of the Memorial Peace Garden on Sunday 22nd November 2015 read: "this memorial is not just about the past. It recognises the future and has an additional meaning as well as remembrance.

"It embraces a garden, dedicated to peace, where we can combine our sentiments of remembering with hopes and prayers for peace in the future."

Here I rest my case Councillors and once again that this lovely Peace Garden so beautifully cared for by the Saltash Town Council's Service Delivery Team is kindly renamed as 'Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Peace Garden' – together with the idea of the story board in her honour.

Thank you very much indeed

The Chairman read Mr. John Brady's email against Agenda Item 9:

Dear Chairman & Committee Members Services Committee,

I refer to Item 9 on your Agenda, and the request by Mrs. Sue Hooper asking you to support the renaming of the Memorial Peace Garden. The proposed name put forward is The Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Peace Garden. Though her reasoning is laudable, I would ask you seriously consider my and other person's thoughts on this subject.

I took the Queen's shilling when I joined the Navy in 1962 but, and this is very important, I did not join the Royal Navy because of the Queen, I joined because my oldest brother encouraged me to. I served for 23 years leaving October 1985.

During my Service time I met the Queen on 3 occasions, one of which was at a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in 1983.

I too was a founder member of the Peace Garden with Mrs. Hooper and with others, and our mission was to provide a space where people could rest and reflect away from the hurly-burly of life in peaceful surroundings.

This happened, and after the Silent Soldier unveiling 04/08/2018 (I was Mayor at the time) attention turned from a child's idea using Pebbles to turn it into a Memorial Peace Garden.

This very act, in my view as well as others, turned the Peace Garden into a sacred place in memory of those from the 2 Great Wars, who gave of their lives, for our Country, family and friends.

Many of those, named in the Pebble Memorial were conscripted/mobilised and sent off to War. They received the King's shilling.

They did not, I am sure, go off to War because of the King?

There is no doubt in anyone's mind Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, was adored and loved by her people and always will be. Sadly, those named on our Memorials died in the Service of their Country before Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne.

Mrs. Hooper has not in her request letter mentioned how the various Committees involved with the Memorial Peace Garden have inputted to this request? I would suggest not.

The death of Queen Elizabeth II, has brought a surge in popularity for the Monarchy, but, and if you keep abreast of the news, there are many who would wish the Monarchy done away with, for many reasons?

Do Councillors really feel supporting this request is the right decision?

Mrs. Hooper in her request letter states the 'Corporation' are planning the planting of a tree in our late Queen's name. What Corporation and where?

Would it not be more sensible and less sensitive to rename say Jubilee Green and Plant a tree/trees in her name there. After all the Platinum Jubilee organisers, including King Charles III as well as Her Late Majesty supported this project.

Saltash Town Council must not get involved in knee jerk reaction and must listen to the Public and not adopt headline seeking suggestions which look good for the Council but upset the community.

I trust you will read my letter at The Services Committee Meeting on 04/10/22 and if nothing else suspend any support until a proper conversation on this proposal has been undertaken.

Members discussed the proposal and the suggested location for a commemorative area with accompanying storyboard dedicated to our late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Sue Hooper and Mr. John Brady for their contribution.

It was proposed by Councillor P Samuels, seconded by Councillor Gillies and **RESOLVED**:

1. To not rename the Memorial Peace Garden at this stage;
2. To investigate permission to use the term "Royal", "Queen Elizabeth II, and or "Queen";
3. That Members submit locations to the Town Clerk and to consider consulting with the public at the next Services Committee meeting to be held on Thursday 13th October 2022.

61/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SERVICE DELIVERY DEPARTMENT AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.**

The Service Delivery Manager (SDM) further updated Members on the report received.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and updates.

Members thanked the Service Delivery Team for their continued hard work.

Councillor Foster left the meeting.

62/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON WATER EFFICIENCIES AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.**

The SDM further updated Members on the report received.

Councillor Foster returned to the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to note.

63/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON ADOPTING A STREET AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE**

Members discussed the Litter Rangers scheme provided by Saltash Environmental Action (S.E.A).

It was proposed by Councillor Peggs, seconded by Councillor Foster and **RESOLVED:**

1. To support and promote S.E.A initiative – Litter Rangers;
2. To advertise the Town Council litter picking provisions available to community organisations;
3. To request regular reports from S.E.A to be received at future Services Committee meetings;
4. That the Town Council considers the provisions of support for S.E.A subject to a report being received.

64/22/23

TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON CHARGING OF PUBLIC TOILETS AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE

It was proposed by Councillor Stoyel, seconded by Councillor Dent and **RESOLVED:**

1. To note the report and to not pursue charging for use of the public conveniences;
2. To present details of the vandalism and reporting system to a future Services Committee meeting;
3. The SD Team continue to report vandalism to the Police and Safer Saltash.

65/22/23

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATED REPORT ON A DOG FOULING COMPETITION AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.

It was proposed by Councillor Peggs, seconded by Councillor Gillies and **RESOLVED:**

1. To approve the competition poster and criteria subject to final proof reading;
2. To approve the Terms and Conditions for the competition subject to final proof reading;
3. To approve the 21 proposed Cornwall Council, Churchtown Nature Reserve and Rugby and Football pitch approved locations for the installation of signage;
4. To appoint Company C for the provisions of signs at a cost of £550.00+vat allocated to budget code 6511 Tourism and Signage;
5. To provide delegated authority to the Administration Officer to confirm suitable dates and timescales liaising with the local schools, youth organisation's and the competition judging panel;

Members thanked the Administration Officer for her hard work on this project.

66/22/23 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:**

To resolve that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 the public and press leave the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

67/22/23 **TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS REFERRED FROM THE MAIN PART OF THE AGENDA**

None.

68/22/23 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:**

To resolve that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.

69/22/23 **TO CONSIDER URGENT NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN.**

None.

70/22/23 **TO CONFIRM ANY PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA RELEASES ASSOCIATED WITH ANY AGREED ACTIONS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MEETING.**

It was proposed by Councillor Lennox-Boyd, seconded by Councillor B Samuels and **RESOLVED** to issue the following Press and Social Media Releases:

1. Dog Fouling Competition;
2. Public Convenience vandalism;
3. Support for SEA's Initiative – Litter Rangers and the Town Council provisions for community groups use of litter picking equipment.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 13 October 2022 at 6.30 pm

Rising at: 8.21 pm

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____