



Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AT  
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**Town Mayor: Cllr Ms D L Reeve**

**Town Clerk: P B Bennett**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Redruth Town Council Amenities Committee held virtually and remotely on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Present: Cllr Ms D Reeve Chairman  
Cllr S Barnes  
Cllr H Biscoe  
Cllr M Brown  
Cllr Mrs J Davidson  
Cllr Mrs B Ellenbroek  
Cllr C Garrick  
Cllr Ms C Page  
Cllr I Thomas From the point mentioned  
Cllr J Tregunna

In attendance: Mr P B Bennett Town Clerk  
Mrs J Pascoe Administrative Assistant  
Mr A Webb Facilities and Contracts Manager

PART I - PUBLIC SESSION

- 1398.1 **To confirm members can communicate with others at the meeting and to receive apologies for absence**  
Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Biscoe, Bishop and Broad (other commitments)
- 1398.2 **Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests (including details thereof) in respect of any item(s) on this Agenda.**  
Cllr Thomas upon joining the meeting declared an interest in item 7 of the Agenda, minute numbers 1386.14 and 1386.15.
- 1398.3 **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021**
- 1398.3.1 **RESOLVED** by Majority to accept the Minutes of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as a true and accurate record of proceedings [Proposed Cllr Garrick; Seconded Cllr Brown]. Cllr Tregunna abstained as he had not been present at the meeting.
- 1398.4 **Town Clerk's Report**  
A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Barnes advised he had made several visits to the Redruth Community Centre. He hoped to raise funding towards refurbishment partly through his Community Chest allocation as a Cornwall Councillor and through match funding. Cllr Barnes requested a Part II Private Session of the meeting be held following Part I, for further discussions regarding the Redruth Community Centre. Cllr Barnes further advised that the land in question at North Country was all Cornwall Highways, but no further progress had yet been made. The report was noted.

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1398.5 **To receive correspondence**

*Resident at Wheal Silver, Redruth – complaints about housing*

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Ms Reeve advised the resident had been in contact with her initially as she had assisted her during the first lockdown. Cllr Ms Reeve had informed the Community Link Officer and Cllr Barnes, and George Eustice MP's office had also been made aware of the issues raised. Cllr Barnes advised he had been in contact with the resident many times, who would have spoken at the meeting but did not have access to the internet. He stated the housing conditions were very poor and not good enough.

At this point Cllr Thomas joined the meeting. He confirmed he could both see and hear proceedings and gave apologies for his late arrival.

Cllr Thomas advised the item had been raised at the last CPIR meeting, and the Cornwall Council Housing Officer and Portfolio Holder would investigate further. Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek expressed concerns and stated it was unacceptable to blame the Covid pandemic for the lack of action to rectify the issues, particularly in social rented properties.

- 1398.5.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to write to Sanctuary Housing expressing the concerns and action taken; and to include the Cornwall Council Housing Officer, the Portfolio Holder, George Eustice MP, and the resident concerned [Proposed Cllr Ms Reeve; Seconded Cllr Barnes]

At this point Cllr Thomas updated the Members regarding item 7 on the Agenda – Litter Bin Request at Church Lane. He had corresponded with Mrs Jacka and identified the problem, but Cormac would not provide an additional bin as their contract was based on the number of bins already allocated. Cllr Thomas suggested an existing bin be moved to the location requested, but as an interim measure Cormac agreed for one of their staff to include the area in question on their route for litter picking. If the problem became unmanageable Cormac would then consider moving a bin.

*Jenny Rogers – Cornwall Rural Community Charity – Community Garden Project*

An email had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Ms Reeve advised the Climate Action Group would be happy to follow up the enquiry. It was suggested that Cornwall Council may have suitable land available. Cllr Ms Reeve would contact Ms Rogers to explore options, and Cornwall Council to request if access could be given to any of its land.

1398.6 **To receive a report on the work of the Facilities Departments Work**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The FCM further advised he had started to prepare for onsite Perspex screening in the Civic Centre in light of the Government guidance date provided of 21<sup>st</sup> June when restrictions would be eased. With reference to the Clock tower, action would be taken as suggested by the survey report. The FCM advised the cost of fixing the disabled toilet door at New Cut toilets would be £3,200. At East End Playing Fields, the ropework had deteriorated during lockdown and a contractor was being asked to replace it to make safe. The fallen tree limb at Raymond Road allotments had now been removed by Cormac, who had agreed the tree was on their land. A tree specialist would be looking at further potential problem trees in that area. Training was now in place for the Facilities Manager and also a universal Health and Safety training package agreed. The Town Clerk advised Livewest had acknowledged the leak from The Foyer into the Langman Room was their responsibility and would refund any expenses the Town Council incurred to rectify the damage. In response to a query from Cllr Biscoe, the FCM confirmed the ladies and gents toilets in addition to the disabled toilet were now

open at New Cut, with cleaning contractors Sparkles currently providing an enhanced service with extra cleans. No income was being generated as the damaged door could no longer be locked. Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek asked if it was the Town Council's responsibility to put the issues right at The Foyer or those who were renting it, and whether they were fulfilling their obligations. Rainwater goods on the building were the Town Council's responsibility, and the Town Clerk and the FCM would have discussions confirming all was being done to ensure the property was maintained in a fit condition. Cllr Ms Reeve thanked the FCM for his comprehensive report.

1398.6.1 Unanimously RESOLVED the report is noted and approval granted for necessary works, equipment disposal and purchases [Proposed Cllr Garrick; Seconded Cllr Mrs Davidson]

1398.7 **CPIR Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020-2030; a Consultation Document**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Ms Reeve advised the deadline for comments was 23<sup>rd</sup> March and a response as a Town Council would need to be formulated. Cllr Garrick enquired if the urban cycleways were useable for mobility scooters and pedestrians as well as bicycles. He further stated it would be preferable if all bicycles were fitted with warning devices, as many rode them without bells despite being fitted when new, resulting in pedestrians not hearing their approach. Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek agreed that the cycleways should be accessible for all and pushchairs should also be considered. The Town Clerk asked that any other comments to be included in the response be forwarded to him by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

1398.7.1 Unanimously RESOLVED that the Town Clerk, Cllr Ms Reeve and Cllr Garrick formulate a response from Redruth Town Council for the Consultation Document [Proposed Cllr Barnes; Seconded Cllr Garrick]

1398.8 **To consider improvements to Barncoose Roundabout**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk further advised the plan was to convert the roundabout to a wildflower site, with maintenance only being necessary twice a year. It was possible in years to come that Redruth Town Council would take on the site along with the other GI4G sites. An agreement would be made with Cornwall Council on the future maintenance of the roundabout. There was no intention of any central reservations to be transferred to the Town Council.

1398.8.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to approve the proposed wildflower layout to the Barncoose/Blowinghouse roundabout and then enter into further discussion with Cornwall Council about a future transfer of maintenance agreement along with other GI4G sites in the town [Proposed Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek; Seconded Cllr Ms Reeve]

1398.9 **To receive an update on the proposed multi-wheeled facility at East End Playing Field**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk expressed he was pleased the position was now moving forward. Cllr Thomas advised the revised design was now with the Redruth Skatepark Association who had consulted with a number of groups. The "bowl" had been removed from the original design, but a "mini-bowl" had now been put back in, and designs reflecting this amendment were awaited from Maverick. Cllr Thomas gave congratulations to Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek for agreeing the release of S106 funds for the facility, and with a contribution from Coastline Housing the viability of the project was now confirmed.

1398.9.1 Unanimously RESOLVED to approve the way forward for the build of the multi wheeled facility at East End Playing Fields as outlined [Proposed Cllr Thomas; Seconded Cllr Ms Page]

**1398.10 Town Council toilets in New Cut Car Park – a general discussion going forward**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The item was carried forward from a previous meeting of the Amenities Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The FCM advised the quotation of £124,000 from Healthmatic involved retaining the existing framework including the roof and provided gender neutral toilet cubicles plus a Changing Places facility, a requirement were the toilets to be remodelled. A storage area would be at the rear of the building which could be available for use by other organisations. The bulk of the building work could be done by a general builder, Healthmatic could supply specialist items required. The Town Clerk advised all options for the toilets were to be considered. He had written to Cornwall Council about funding opportunities towards the refurbishment but none were available. Potentially Redruth HSHAZ may be able to help towards funding in 3 years. The cost of £124,000 would have to be found over the next 4-5 years as it would take time to raise money through the precept. The Town Clerk shared with the Members a breakdown of income and expenditure for the toilets from 2017/18 to 2020/21, and discussions followed on the high costs involved for Redruth Town Council to run them. Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek asked if CCTV could be placed on the new building to deter vandalism and Cllr Barnes asked if roller blinds or the blocking of windows could be considered. In response the FCM advised the project to remodel the toilets into 4 or more individual cubicles meant the entire service was not lost if one was vandalised. Both Cllr Mrs Ellenbroek and Cllr Thomas spoke in favour of a Changing Places facility in the town. Cllr Biscoe asked that Portreath Parish Council be contacted in view of their recently constructed new toilets facility to help minimise costs. Further suggestions were made to inform the public via Facebook and social media of what it cost to run the toilets, and of looking into other funding options where the public could contribute. Cllr Garrick stated it was a good aspiration for the town even if it could not be done now. Members were in agreement going forward to continue with the proposal of remodelling of the toilets, and the Town Clerk therefore confirmed the original proposal still stood.

1398.11 To exclude the press and public from the meeting for the remaining item of business as their presence would be prejudicial to the public interest by virtue of the confidential nature of the subject matter (potential commercial contract), and on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the 1972 Local Government Act.

1398.11.1 Unanimously RESOLVED [Proposed Cllr Brown; Seconded Cllr Garrick]

Cllr Biscoe and the FCM left the meeting at this point.

**PART II – PRIVATE SESSION**

1398.12 **To confirm members can communicate with others at the meeting and to confirm that no unauthorised people are able to view or hear proceedings**

1398.13 **Redruth Community Centre – further discussion**

  
**Chairman**