



CAMELFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Annual Parish Meeting - 15 March 2022

Camelford Hall

In attendance: 25 people

1. Introduction and Welcome by Mayor.
2. Apologies: Cllrs Ackroyd-Johnson, Scawn and Bond
3. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 4 March 2021 were approved.
Proposed: Cllr Shaw Seconded: Cllr Burgis
4. **Presentation by Matt Baker, Rise Associates – Public Consultation**
Commissioned in early 2021. Task to develop a place making team. Included stakeholders of the town (residents, councillors, businesses). The aim: to create a blueprint for Camelford. As a result, over the coming month the Camelford Vision document was written. Went out to consultation November to February 2022. Difficult due to COVID restrictions, however, did manage to have some face to face meetings. Online survey. Attended the Winter Festival. Matt went through slide presentation. Outlined there is support for large and small community infrastructure interventions. Large interventions include bypass, connecting to Camel Trail, pedestrianisation of High Street, bakery, health, (including a dentist). Smaller interventions include more events, cleanliness, markets, food and drink. Camelford Town Council already has an excellent events programme that could be built on. People want to be involved. 70 people emailed to volunteer. Other factors aspiration vs inclusion. Appetite for Supermarket. Do not want Camelford gentrified. Want an authentic town which serves the community rather than for tourists. Full report available on the Camelford Town Council website. Next steps. Now Vision document complete, can be used to secure more funding (e.g. Shared Prosperity Fund (which replaces EU funding)). Projects could include major infrastructure like connecting Camelford to the Camel Trail which would be transformative. CIC also come out of this process. They can also apply for funding that Town Council not eligible for, and for smaller projects and crowdfunding. Important that Cornwall Council works with Town Council to apply for funding. Good signs from consultation. There is a healthy foundation for success – civic pride, people investment. Look at Wadebridge – bypass, Camel Trail has transformed the town. Cllr Shaw thanked

Matt for all the work done. Cllr Rotchell stated that this is just the start of the work not the end.

Member of public asked if there was a timeline for delivering the work? Clerk said that the report would be going to the Strategic Working Group. Working on a Plan to 2025, so planning will take place over the next few months ready for applying for grants. CTC will be working with Cornwall Council to put in investment plan to apply for Shared Prosperity Fund.

5. Paul Thomas, Camelford Regeneration Initiative Community Interest Co.

What we are doing. What it means. What we as Camelford will do. Only 5 of us so what can we do as a town. Outlined who involved. Members or directors of CIC. Camelford residents. Act independently. Might have commonality. All volunteers. What is a CIC? Listed in Companies House. Limited by guarantee. Not for profit. Run for benefit of community. Set up formally. Bank accounts set up etc.

How it started. Place shaping group working with Matt Baker. Ideas in Vision document came from that group. Developed a few ideas not in vision document. Have an aspiration to work with other groups and wider range of volunteers. Work with community and use strengths and experience.

How we do things as important of what. Transparent, fair and inclusive. Positive. Happy for constructive criticism. Competitive for Camelford. We want projects to benefit Camelford – residents, businesses and visitors. Work with existing groups, local businesses and CTC. Enhance Camelford's profile. Reputation low with CC. When CC announce funds, want them to think about Camelford. On the ball. Have the vision. Raise profile. Create compelling case for investment. CTC cannot do some work due to statutory obligations/not eligible. Bridge gap. Business – local authority.

Launching event at Bowood Golf Club in early May. More detail to follow. Shovel-ready projects/schemes the minute some funds are announced. Some CIC will do on own. E.g. Rob Rotchell brought together "Man Down" (group supporting mental health for men) 7 April Family Hub. Small discreet schemes to run. Will work with other groups like the Old Bank supporting/improving facility. Some activities include lobbying. Camel Trail. If pull together and keep Camelford at top of agenda.

Door always open. Any ideas contact Paul Thomas. Details will follow. Willing to try and learn. Monitoring/timeline – evaluate where we are. Targets for fund raising. Bid ambitiously. Tangible list of projects down to the CIC. Improved credibility and confidence. Will talk about how we will measure our success in 1 year time. Thanks for opportunity. Contact details on slide. Social media will be launched. Presentation will be shared on CTC website and social media.

Mayor thanked Paul Thomas for presentation.

6. Mayor's Annual Report

Past year challenges to council. Restrictions imposed due to pandemic. Work at Council continued. Thanks Clerk and team for first class work. Dealt with lots of issues last 12 months. Cllr Chandler resigned due to work pressures. Cllr J Thomson replaced. Live streamed meetings but issues with wifi so no recorded. Committees done via M Teams. Not missed any meetings – one of few in Cornwall that managed to do so. Budget – despite

increase in costs and decrease in funding, precept kept low. Reinstated events – Camelford in Bloom, Winter Festival and Halloween. Thanks to all involved. Enfield Park - extensive repairs to riverbank and path around pond. Cemetery work continues. Official opening OCM skatepark. Now facility Camelford can be proud of. Funders delighted with wide range of activities. More discussions bypass. Provided more information to Dft and Treasury. They now have all the information and await decision but no idea when. Commissioned consultation. M Baker/P Thomas. Cleave Car park devolved to CTC for £1. Relined, resurfaced and electric car charge points. No charges for car parking. Low number of planning applications due to phosphates leaking into water course. Donations to local organisations. Strategic and Staffing – Chair. Public consultation, Cleave car park and installation of EV charges. Visitcamelford website created and town maps. Place shaping group formulated. Successful to Cornwall Council Town Regeneration Fund £43k. Liaison with Town Trust. Staffing: replacing grounds manager, appraisals, staff handbook and policy and procedure.

7. Reports by Portfolio Holders

a. Cllr Shaw. Report Estates and Properties

Thanked ground staff and volunteers that carry out gardening projects. Efforts are much appreciated. General state of Camelford's estates is good. Enfield Park and play area. Brambles upper part will be cut back so pond and bird hide seen clearly. Bench seating needs replacing and general TLC. Pleased to announce riverbank work to stop further erosion. Slate path removed for H&S reasons around path. Broadwood bridge will have some of its boards renewed and repainted with refurbished poetry boards. Skate park opening well attended. Will be completed before Easter. Cemetery – CTC not opening site at present as no need. Save rate payer over £2k in rates. Orchard needs more maintenance (pruning, bracken removal etc). Programmed in more cuts. Over 100 trees and hedge rows around Camelford including specimen broadleaf lime in Enfield Park to celebrate 100 anniversary of the park (donated by the Tincombe family), planted 2 copper beach trees to commemorate the life of the Duke of Edinburgh, and the platinum jubilee of HRH Queen Elizabeth II. Still need plaques. Personally feels work should be done by grounds manager before it becomes a bigger job and having to get in contractors although realises that contractors needed for larger work (riverbank repairs, new footpaths etc). Lots going on in the Estates and Properties portfolio to mention today. Could go on longer.

b. Cllr Coombes – Report Finance Cttee

3 councillors plus mayor and Clerk. Dealing with public purse and spending wisely. Feel CTC have done that last 12 months. Lots of good things done. Clerk and Deputy worked hard to find grants to pay for projects so does not cost council too much money. Therefore more money for other things (park, riverbank etc as outlined by Cllr Shaw). Where to save money priority and using money wisely.

c. Cllr Ackroyd-Johnson not available to give report on Events Working Group.

However, Rob Rotchell outlined upcoming events which are posted on social media, website. Lots of events for Fun Week, Music in the Park and Jubilee. Also Centenary of Enfield Park in August.

8. Reports from Grant Recipients

Clerk reported that CTC gave out £15k in grants. Recipients are here to give an update on how the money was spent.

a. Jill – Citizens Advice Bureau

Donation £250 towards digital hub. Most of services before lockdown done face to face. Very hard to get out to places like Camelford. Know the most need comes from more rural areas and long been an ambition to get out to towns and villages. In 6 months from April – September 56 people came to see us from Camelford with 206 different issues. Housing (breakdown of relationships), loss of job. Debts. Work done with 56 people brought in addition £77,833 of additional income around 8.5k per client. 51% had long term health issue. So Bodmin not suitable. At beginning of journey to deliver digital hubs to generate more interest in people volunteering. Universal Credit and other benefits done online. Cost of living crunch will be people's ability to fund broadband and phone. Won't have ability to claim. Donations such as CTC, at Old Bank crucial. Will allow us to bring in specialists in energy, housing and finance. Face to face support.

b. John Pearce – Bells St Julietta, Camelford Hall toilets

7 years started restoration of church. CTC generous in giving grant first stage - roof and structure. Moved on to restoring bells. Grant from CTC helped with other matched funding. Managed to get over £60k to restore bells and £600k for restoring building. Only Grade I building in Camelford area. Also repository of local history so very important building. Hand out booklets available. Part of grant included a professional film. Will be a free public showing on film Saturday 26 March at Regal Cinema in Wadebridge 11am To get tickets contact John Pearce. Have handouts. Has phone number on it. Will be advertised in LoveCamelford and Friends of Lanteglos Church FB pages.

Whole project of bell restoration has been exciting. Much better than imagined it would be as managed to get John Taylors to restore bells. They appear on BBC regularly. Biggest and only bell company in UK. Best in world. Community trip and help with transport of bells to Loughborough. Had visit from 300 school children from Camelford Primary School. Hoping to get older children involved in bell ringing. Aim to get 20-30 people who can ring bells. First stage complete – training for bell ringers to train others. Got group of 8 people expressed an interest to become bell ringers. If anyone interested contact John Pearce. Hoping SJS will get involved as well.

Camelford Hall Toilets – Need lots of looking after. Has been some vandalism unfortunately. Tempting to shut down. Come through COVID which was difficult. Had volunteer cleaner who left and needed to look for other cleaners but now have 2 amazing cleaners for toilets and hall. Grant from CTC plays important role in keeping toilets open. Not just locals but delivery drivers. Thank you.

Rob Rotchell - Friday Night Behind the Postcard Hall for Cornwall. Contemporary life in Cornwall but not the picture postcard. Heritage and what makes Cornwall, Cornwall. Tickets still available.

John Pearce – There will be a Jubilee Service and hope will be a memorable event and CTC councillors will attend. Not sure when.

c. Debbie – Camelford Agricultural Show

Thank you for inviting us and thank you for the grant on behalf of committee. Camelford Show 113 years ran every year and had to miss. Midst of 114th show. Despite not having a show, annual costs still need to be paid out (insurances, storage costs etc). Focus of development plan was promoting agriculture in the area as well as heritage. Employment an issue. Finding jobs and apprenticeships difficult. Engaging younger generation/schools/colleges showcasing agriculture – key. Good day out and part of Camelford’s history and future. Grant set up on good footing to move ahead. Will go ahead marquees £10k one day show. Handicraft stall tent – engages with local primary school. Tourism – great day out. Fair. Big Top for children. All volunteers. Fundraising. Would like to pull in younger members – now got a representative – Chair of Camelford Young Farmers. Thank you. Rob Rotchell – posters to office. Will put on social media and website.

d. Peter – Camelford Leisure Centre

Fortunate to get grant from CTC. Gone into two projects. 1st – built 1992 so tired. Replaced wet side, 2 disabled toilets and 1 disabled toilets dry side. Thank you to M&M plumbing who do for free. Other projects – plant room. Big water tank which feeds toilets, showers etc. Pump work old and out of date. Ongoing project due to Brexit and COVID as issues with supplies. Hope to be resolved next few weeks. This year 10th year as a community facility. Pandemic tough. 40% of membership paid. Lost 60%. Last April opened built on. More users than ever had in the past. Very hopeful for future. 9 primary schools booked for swimming schools. Good poignant note – No guarantee will be there but looking sustainable unlike Wadebridge/Falmouth. Renewing and updating going forward. Q – Pool Olympic or 25m? No. Would need to look at different site due to classrooms. Would be desirable.

e. John Praoline – Christmas Lights

Thanked Camelford Town Council for grants over the years. CTC wonderful effort with charitable causes. Background. Involved for over 20 years. Council support imperative to maintain what we are doing. Would not be able to do what we do without CTC support. Last round of funding needed to tread water. Without funding could not do what we do. Passionate about town. Not all about Christmas lights. Support other events. Important to maintain tradition. Comes at a cost. Lights match funding by 90% and trying to find other avenues to support.

Rob Rotchell – Winter Festival great success and switching on of the lights a special part of it. 2020 saw a virtual light switch on. This year saw the best Winter Festival seen for a number of years. Thank you to you and team. Out in all weathers. Well done and long may it continue.

9. Invitation to public to raise any matters of interest

Clerk read out correspondence from Tracey O’Brien regarding speeding in Helstone. Cllr Rob Rotchell spoke to the question. There is funding for traffic measures. Will put for consideration. However, that is just one place within the Parish. As someone who volunteers for Speedwatch, speeding through Camelford also an issue. Asked that if anyone has issues with traffic flow, speeding to get in touch. Permanent cameras or warning signs expensive, so if it knows where the issues are within the parish, CTC can then put bid together. There is £22k in Camelford Network Area. 4 years ago put in Expression of

Interest regarding the narrows, bypass, speeding. Still outstanding. May be rectified in bypass. Any expressions of interest need to be in by next month. Worth noting that A39 major road so cannot put speed bumps. Cllr Hewlett mentioned "20 is plenty initiative". Helstone would be included in this scheme. Consultation taking place soon. All 30s will become 20.

No further questions. Mayor closed meeting at 8.55pm. and gave thanks to those who attended including grant recipients.

DRAFT