



# CAMELFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk: Esther Greig

6 Market Place  
Camelford  
Cornwall  
PL32 9PB

01840 212880

[clerk@camelford-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@camelford-tc.gov.uk)  
[www.camelford-tc.gov.uk](http://www.camelford-tc.gov.uk)

## Annual Parish Meeting – 18 April 2017

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Camelford Hall, Clease Road, Camelford on 18 April 2017, at 19:30.

Cllr Rotchell noted that Cllr Lessels passed away this morning. Cllr Rotchell repeated the citation for the honoured citizens awards in recognition of the contribution Cllr Lessels made to Camelford and its Council.

Cllr Rotchell asked all to stand for a moment's silence

### **Persons Present/Apologies**

In attendance: Cllr Rotchell, Town Mayor  
E Greig, Town Clerk.  
24 members of the press/public.

### **Minutes of the last Annual Meeting – 25 April 2016**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Proposed: Andy Shaw**

**Seconded: Alan Burgis**

**Unan**

**Matters Arising.** None.

### **Report of the Town Mayor covering the activities of the Town Council**

Cllr Rotchell reported on: Market Place - redevelopment of the parking spaces, between the Town hall and Darlington Inn. Kissing gate being reinstalled but the slate disappeared before Easter. River Bank, lost 1m of bank – time and money to make good. New Staff Administration Assistant and Clerk. Camelford show, AQM report – toxic levels working on alternative solutions, grants to various local organisations. Cemetery layout has been agreed. Health and wellbeing hub; handled finances. Honoured Citizens awards. General Power of Competence, sufficient elected councillors, and qualified clerk. 38 planning applications from trees to a developments of 100+ houses.

### **Town Trust**

Francis Bennett made a resume of what it stands for. Set up in 1832, the Trust has 9 members and a clerk. Owns land in and around Camelford – held for the benefit of Camelford and its people. Pockets of land, include town hall. Hoping CTC will continue the library. The Old cattle market – home to the community minibus, Skatepark and scouts hut. The grass triangle is also owned by the Trust. Assets include a 50cm mace held at the Royal Cornwall museum, and various old documents. The town stocks are in the cellar in Methodist Church.

### **Memory Café**

Jane Moore reported that it started over a year ago started at the leisure centre, now meeting in the Hall. CRCC donated £1000 for set-up and they have done some fundraising, good volunteers. Purple angel café. Began in 2011, raising awareness for dementia. Then did all the outlying shops and business in the area – over 700. Now gone global in over 40 countries. Leaflet available regarding living with Dementia. Cllr Rotchell noted that Jane was a recipient of the Honoured Citizen award 2017.

### **Library**

Cllr Rotchell spoke about taking over the running of the library from CC. 3 consultations events were held in 2016 - 97% respondents wanted the service to continue. Plan is that it will be seamless transition, optimistic negotiations will go well. One member of the public noted that it is incredibly important to the town. CTC will be writing to the surrounding PCs for contributions, but budgeted for it to be run from our own precept. 9-10

other parishes that use the service. One member of the public noted as CC withdraw from services; they need to be run as a network area.

### **Post Office**

Shirley Goodman reported that the PO is in public consultation; so all can write with their views about the proposed changes. Customers will still be able to access all the services inc. banking. Won't be able to do the passport checking. Lottery might stay in the Spar. Bonnie Grills reported that the PO approached Stephens hardware, and, as didn't want to lose the PO (as the postmaster was thinking of retiring), entered into negotiations. Invited to interview in Plymouth in October – 3 hours. Interview was successful, finally signed contracts at the January this year. 2 days left on consultation. Could be July for the PO remodelling. Major moving around and jiggling, will be closed for about 3 days. Will trade for longer hours. Also, taking on the postal service to be relocated to Highfield industrial estate – renovations going on up there. PO will be purely commission based – use it or lose it. No longer a salaried position. Help to drive footfall into the shop and increase turnover. Mr Lush noted that it is hard to get out of Mill Lane, PO vans on that side of the road could be a traffic hazard. Bonnie Grills thought that there would not be a change to the positions of the parking on the other side of the road. Cllr Rotchell wished her good luck.

### **Events Working Group**

Kirsty Ferguson reported on the successful 2016 fun week, several hundred in the park finale, pumpkins on parade gets better each year. This year's events were noted. Securing a small grant for arts. Easter eggstravanza. A small team of Cllrs and volunteers that always welcome extra help.

### **Old Bank**

Claire Hewlett reported that such a prominent building shouldn't be left empty, so after speaking to Jonathan and Ruth, it has been a rollercoaster year; only been open since September! Thank CTC for their financial support. She advised to look at website, facebook and posters in the windows for events and organisations that use the space. Plastering has been done, Sacha did the website, painting to do.

### **Devon and Cornwall Police.**

PCSO Mike Dodd attended. He reported that he and Jo Annear are based at Camelford, Terry does light duties. Also 1 response PC and 1 response Sergeant, but they also cover Bude, Bodmin, Launceston etc, Neighbourhood Beat manager often elsewhere. Crime in March and April was 17.4% lower than last year. One member of the Public noted that this might be due to the Foyer closing, another noted it was never properly funded. Speedwatch is starting properly in Camelford. An extra 53 warning letters have gone out this month. Speeders are nearly all locals and repeat offenders. Spending a lot of their time looking after vulnerable adults. Parking is dealt with County Council, not a police matter. Public noted that parking is an issue in various places Chapel street etc. £45 per hour to employ a traffic warden – to keep the traffic following. Cllr Rotchell noted that CC couldn't guarantee the service when it was required. Delabole and St.Breward increased precept to employ somebody. Clerk to add to agenda for CTC.

### **British Legion**

Julian Harman noted that the RBL was set up to safeguarding the interests of those who serve or have served and their families in 15<sup>th</sup> May 1921. Also working actively for peace. First Poppy appeal held in 1921. RBL received royal status in 1971. Anyone can become a member; not just ex-forces. Camelford branch has monthly meeting and was formed in 2001 – 40 members' with average attendance of 20. Lots of camaraderie and friendship at this branch. Anyone welcome to come without commitment. Always fundraising - £7000 raised for the poppy appeal for the network area. Struggling with volunteers for collections though – if anyone can spare a few hours – very welcome. Remembrance service very popular – exceptionally well attended. High Sheriff attended too. Walk up to Roughtor – wreath laid at the memorial. Last year advertised it, grew and grew- over 100 attended. A great event will get bigger and better. Had to stop the county organisers taking it over! Second Thursday of the month in the conservative club. Relaxed meeting – all welcome. It was noted that some folk had difficulty getting to the top – transport is being arranged for next time.

### **Leisure centre.**

Peter Hemilton-Tooley spoke. 5 years under community management. Thank you to CTC for the yearly grant. Plant maintenance issue last year, ran at a deficit. Far more successful this year – increase in footfall with corporate membership, a healthy swim school of 120 children, increased footpath, expanded retail outlet, primary schools - all 8 feeder secured. Blisland School, Sir James Smith School. Have young volunteers, as it is hard to find swim teachers and leisure centre staff, training them now. Aiming to use have a facility for non-members to donate. Hoping to work with the new Health and wellbeing centre. Gain extra customers by tackling inactivity, referring to them through the NHS and doctors surgery. Provide 6 exercise classes, new local instructor for Pilates etc. Launching a pool based activity soon. Cllr Rotchell noted that it would only stay open if people use it.

### **Camelford Historic and Archive Trust**

Diane Taylor noted that when Sally Holden retired from the North Cornwall museum and sold the property, she approached Phillip to ensure the assets stayed in Camelford. A container at Tregath was donated and Camelford's history was saved. Found thousands of photographs. Jo Old offered the other ex-bank offices – the community rallied around we now have a new museum – will continue to do so. Closed at the moment due to building work going on. Oral histories have been collected. Belongs to and can be accessed by all. Have secured a clock made by John Hocken. Raised the £300 in order to purchase it. Will have a bit of a do when the museum reopens. Hopefully get the bench back in front as many people stop outside.

### **WI**

Diane Taylor spoke. Membership of 30 local ladies. Do lots of things. National organisation that lobby hard. Camelford meet every third Monday of the month with guest speakers, outings, get involved with the chapel, flower show, Camelford show. Will provide biscuits and teas wherever needed. Most important is the friendship. Proud to be involved.

### **Brownies.**

Peggy Ellison reported on a recent trip to Legoland, Windsor castle, and some other sightseeing. 2 years for fundraising. They had a wonderful time – stayed in a guide hut. Only 8 came with them, 10 choose not to go. Hopefully in 2 years they'll be off to Disneyland Paris. 4 nights away for only £80 each. Always there to help only need to ask. A great team of adult leaders. Want to give the girls every opportunity.

### **Speedwatch**

Kirsty Ferguson reported on this new initiative for the town. 4 people have done training so far. Caught one motorist doing 48 mph in the 30mph zone. One of those 10 caught on the first session didn't have MOT. They are endeavouring to remind folk to reduce speeds. Next step is to be vetted by Police. They will be targeting different spots at different times of day.

### **Town Team**

John Pearce noted it has come to a natural end. Forum, council and the chamber of trade came together to promote Camelford, and to use a £10,000 grant. Developed a town logo, showing charter 1259, rebranded as 'gateway to bodmin moor' on the highways signs. Installed poster cases promoting things going on in Camelford. Registered as a 'walkers are welcome' town. Does make a difference in the UK. Bags and leaflets, brown signs for restaurants, leisure centre, free parking, ancient buildings, signs saying town centre, signage to the moor. It may continue in one form or another.

### **Camelford Hall.**

John Pearce reported that it was recently decorated but still damp in places, done a lot of sealing off to try to resolve the problem. Income £17,000 from the letting. Maintenance is a significant cost, phone, heating etc. New boiler and new floor in the main hall. Need more chairs. 17 trustees, local organisations using hall get a discount. Executive committee, current vacancy for a secretary. Biggest space in the area, plenty of competition, but making sure that things don't clash. Needs a looking after. Massive steps forward to reassure showcase event at the hall – all the users 20<sup>th</sup> May advertised 2-4pm.

## **5. Questions from the public.**

Worrying that there is only one banking machine, heard anything about it closing? Cllr Rotchell noted that you can draw from the PO. He confirmed that it will stay open, and that there is a cash point at the garage too.

General wish that the school would become more involved in the community events. Pastoral link needs improving. Discussion took place.

Cllr Rotchell thanked all for attending.

**The meeting closed at 21:00**