

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

The **MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of **LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 16 December 2014 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

The Mayor - Councillor Phil Seeva - in the Chair

The Deputy Mayor - Councillor Jane Pascoe

Councillors: Rachel Brooks, Ian Goldsworthy, Adam Hodgkins, Roger Holmes, Sue Pike, Tony Powell, Anne Purdon, James Shrubsole, Lorna Shrubsole, Hella Tovar and Christina Whitty

Town Clerk - Steve Vinson

Minute Clerk- Stuart Houghton

Mayors Chaplain - The Reverend Mark Pengelly

Member of the Public - Ray Meadows, Denise Larner and Joe Poulson

Members of the Press - Viv Twornicki

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor invited his Chaplin to lead with prayers

The Mayor then convened the Council and informed as to Housekeeping matters

517/14 OPEN SESSION

The Mayor asked if any members of the public wished to address the meeting.

Ray Meadows asked for an update on the recording of Council meetings

The Town Clerk replied that he was looking equipment with a better specification, but had been unable, as yet, to arrange for a demonstration. The equipment would be provided as soon as possible.

518/14 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Cornwall Councillor Mike George

519/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, REGISTERABLE AND NON REGISTERABLE

None.

520/14 MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported that he had attended the High Sheriff's Civic Service at Truro. This had been an impressive event with much pomp and ceremony to which he had felt honoured to be a part of.

However, the next event was his Carol Service, and he found himself on the stage playing a tambourine with the Liskeard Silver Band.

The month continued to throw challenges at him, he was involved in breaking up a fight in Dean Street and planned to visit the old people's residential homes in the Town in the next week.

He would not have been involved in any of these events had he not been the Mayor and he was honoured to have had this opportunity.

521/14 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2014

Councillor Hodgkins stated that he had not attended this meeting and had offered his apologies.

Councillor Brooks commented on item 441/14, the draft response prepared by the Town Clerk had been agreed at the meeting.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council, held on Tuesday 18 November 2014, be adopted with the above amendments.

522/14 CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerks report had been circulated and was noted

The Town Clerk reported that Bert Briscoe was willing to come to discuss Cornwall Council's proposal for a 6% increase in car parking charges, if the Council had any proposals they should be prepared for discussion.

Councillor Hawken said that the closing date for the Parking Consultation was the 19 December 2014 which only gave the Town Council two days to prepare its response.

Councillor Powell asked what was the Town Council trying to achieve, the Town Council had no input into the raising of car park charges, it was Cornwall Council's responsibility. In his opinion the best way to improve the Town Centre would be to abolish car park charges and to revise business rates. He thought that Cornwall Council imposed its policy and there was no evidence that it would change its mind after the consultation.

Members discussions included;

- Cornwall Council needed to increase its revenue
- If the matter was fully discussed with Cornwall Council the revenue might increase without increasing the car park charges
- Cornwall Council faced a large financial challenge, if we joined the discussion it would be more likely to have a more pleasing result
- There was more than one way of skinning a cat

The Town Clerk was asked to collate ideas for discussion.

523/14 COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2014

The Deputy Mayor proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18 November 2014.

b) MUSEUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2014

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Purdon seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the Museum Management Committee Meeting held on Monday 24 November 2014.

Recommendation. Conservation of items stored in the Guildhall Store

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that costings should be obtained for a Conservator to advise on the condition of items in the store and any remedial action that might be required.

c) FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2014

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 25 November 2014, be adopted.

Recommendation. The Town Council renew its Insurance Agreement with WPS for a further two years with Aviva.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to renew its insurance with Aviva for a further two years through WPS.

d) PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2014

The Deputy Mayor proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 December 2014.

**e) COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2014**

Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the Communication & Engagement Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 December 2014.

f) PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2014

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Hodgkins seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the Property Committee meeting held on Tuesday 9 December 2014.

Recommendation. The Town Council accept option 2 for the Property Committee Budget for 2015/2016. Priority to be given to the installation of Photo Voltaic Panels.

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept option 2 for the Property Committee Budget for 2015/2016 with priority been given to the installation of Photo Voltaic Panels.

Councillor Powell asked for an explanation of Minute 505/14.

The Town Clerk gave a brief history of the proposal, put forward by the receivers of the developer that had ceased to operate, that it was no longer a viable proposition to provide the sports pitches.

Councillor Powell said that following previous negotiations, when the dentist surgery had been built, this area had been allocated as a children's play area. In response to a request to provide details of this he said that it would be recorded in the minutes of the Local Amenities Committee chaired by Councillor Barrett.

Councillor Hawken said that the conversation with Cornwall Council was ongoing and Councillor Goldsworthy said that the matter would be continued to be worked on to the benefit of the Town.

524/14 CO-OPTION OF TOWN COUNCILLOR

The Mayor described the interview process and the fact that the three candidates had been asked the same questions. The recommendation of the interview panel was that Mr Joe Poulson be co-opted onto the Council.

The mayor proposed, the deputy Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that Mr. Joe Poulson be co-opted as a Councillor.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Poulson on his election and invited him to join the Council at the table at 8.00 pm.

525/14 PRECEPT

The Town Clerk informed the Council that he had agreed with Cornwall Council an extension of time for the submission of our Precept; it could now be submitted after agreement at the Council meeting on 20 January 2015.

526/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

No report was expected

527/14 CORNWALL COUNCIL - PLANNING DECISIONS – FOR INFO ONLY

Noted.

528/14 ACCOUNTS – TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AS PER ADDENDUM NO.2 – AS CIRCULATED

Declarations of Interest were expressed by Councillors Goldsworthy and Holmes in items 101365 and 101373 respectively.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the accounts for payment.

529/14 OTHER REPORTS

None

530/14 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

531/14 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it was **RESOLVED** that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of Business.

Staff Committee Meetings Tuesday 30 October 2014 and Tuesday 9 December 2014

532/14 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 it was **RESOLVED** that the members of the Press and Public be re-admitted to the Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendations made in closed session that:

The confidential minutes of the Staff Committee meeting held on Tuesday 30 October 2014 be adopted.

533/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be on Tuesday 20 January 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, West Street, Liskeard.

10. Results of Town Council Co-Option Interviews

On 3rd December interviews were held with the three candidates that have put their names forward for co-option.

Following the interviews and a discussion about the relative merits of the candidates the unanimous recommendation of the Councillors was that Joe Poulson be offered the role of Councillor on the Town Council.

Recommendation: That the Council offer Joe Poulson the vacant Councillor position.

11. Precept 2015/2016

The Committees of the Council are working on their respective budget profiles for 2015/2016 financial year. These will be finalised at their January meetings. The 20th January meeting of Council will finalise the budget and set the precept.

Cornwall Council has been informed that the precept figure will be presented in January and they have confirmed that they are happy with this arrangement.

Recommendation: That Council notes progress with the budget setting process.