12. Public Hall bookings - To receive a report regarding the booking of the Public Hall by charitable organisations.

The Facilities Team is asked from time to time to consider the possibility of making space available for free for certain uses e.g. charitable events. As an organisation we do have costs associated with letting of the main hall and meeting rooms including utilities bills and salary costs. Our charges have not been increased for several years and are not particularly high, for example:

Exclusive use of building (8.30am-10pm) £510/£247*

Main Hall (8.30pm-10pm) £243/£85*

Wheal Phoenix, Emily Hobhouse Rooms (8.30am-10pm) £51/£34*

Quimperle Room, New Liskeard Room, Chamber (8.30am-10pm) £49/£28*

* Discounted rate for local charitable organisations, volunteer groups and CIOs.

The logic of the current system is that all users pay something – this both supports the continued operation of the Public Hall and does not disadvantage other community buildings and meeting spaces in the town. Liskeard Lions are currently the only group that makes an annual grant application to offset the cost of the Panto, although it may be that other groups start to come forward in future. The current policy is clear and understood. It removes the risk of criticism falling on the person having to decide whether or not to make the use of the space free of charge and for these reasons I would recommend against offering free use of the public hall to charitable organisations.