

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

AT A MEETING of the **PROPERTY COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 12 May 2015 at 7.30 pm there were present:

Councillor Ian Goldsworthy - in the Chair

Councillors: Sally Hawken, Adam Hodgkins, Sue Pike, and Christina Whitty

Town Clerk - Mr Steve Vinson

Minute Clerk - Mr Stuart Houghton

Facilities Manager - Mr Tony Misson

Members of the Public - Mr Colliass

The Chairman advised those present of Housekeeping matters

828/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from The Mayor, Councillor Phil Seeva, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jane Pascoe and Councillors Hella Tovar and Joe Poulson.

829/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest, Declarable or Non-Declarable were made.

830/14 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2015

Councillor Pike proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded and the Committee **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 14 April 2015 were **APPROVED**.

831/14 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM THE LAST MEETING

Information from the previous meeting was contained in the Town Clerk's report, as attached.

832/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Colliass addressed the meeting. He said that he was concerned about the use of the play area and the fact that ownership of the boundary hedge was not recorded.

The Chairman explained that in these circumstances the ownership of the boundary would be in joint ownership, therefore the boundary was shared, to which Mr Colliass

stated that an employee of Cornwall Council had informed him that Cornwall Council owned the trees on the boundary.

The Chair replied that the Town Council did not own the land; it was leased from Cornwall Council, but in the interest of settling this matter the Town Council had agreed to carry out the work as recommended by the Cornwall Council Tree Officer.

Mr Colliass further commented about the use of the play area, he said that it was marked for basketball but youths played football in the area, this was why so many balls were going into his garden,

The Chair said that the cost of providing high level netting along part of the boundary was being investigated; the Football and Cricket Clubs at Lux Park have this type of netting.

Mr Colliass then asked about maintenance to the trees overhanging the boundary over his garden. The Chair replied that he was at liberty to trim the branches as he required. Mr Colliass circulated photographs of the trees and said that this matter had been unsettled for eighteen months.

The Chair stated that the Council had to follow due process, the matter was being discussed and advice that had been received would be followed, the work could not start until the restrictions imposed by the Hedgerow Protection Act had expired. When it had the Council would carry out the recommended work.

Mr Colliass stated that he wanted the work to be completed as soon as possible and left the meeting at 8.03pm.

833/14 BUDGET REPORT TO 30 APRIL 2015 and FINANCIAL MATTERS

A budget report was not available; the Accounts Clerk had been working on the year end reports.

Financial Matters

1. Solar Panel Specification

The draft specification had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments included

- The export tariff was index linked and would be operable throughout the term
- Connection to the grid was not thought to be a problem
- The panels should be the most modern available and have an aesthetic appearance
- The output of the panels would be guaranteed for their life
- Tenderers should be asked to include details of their previous work
- The opinion of our insurance company should be obtained about the panels

Councillor Hodgkins proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Committee

RESOLVED to **RECOMMEND** that the Council adopt the specification with the appropriate amendments.

A further comment was made that the scoring system should be altered to include 10% of the score for the aesthetic appearance, the price section should be reduced by this 10%.

Public Hall Booking Figures

The booking figures had been circulated. The Chair stated that the hire rates should be reviewed when setting the Precept for the 2016 - 2017 year.

PRS Licence Charges

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that in previous years the charge had been about £83, last year the charging category was changed which resulted in an increase to £711 for 2015/2016. An attempt to revert back to the category for last year had been made without success. The charges were paid in advance but were checked when the annual use figures were submitted to the PRS. Options included;

- The Council could absorb the increased charge
- Users could be charged the appropriate amount when booking, the use of music would have to be declared
- The cost could be spread over all bookings
- Investigate if individual users could pay the charge direct for their event, was it the user, not the building owner that was liable for the costs.

Members agreed that further information should be obtained for other Councils prior to making the final decision.

Public Hall CCTV

No action was required for this item

834/14 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Mr Colliass about the problems he had concerning footballs being kicked onto his garden, as he had explained earlier in the meeting. Members discussed the letter and the comments made by Mr Colliass earlier in the meeting.

It was said that the estimated cost of around £4k to provide fencing was a lot of money for one property, if this issue was resolved another might occur, there was no guarantee that this would finalise the issue. Mr Colliass had earlier refused to share the costs for this work.

Members agreed to follow the Cornwall Council Tree Officers recommendations, when the restrictions on working on hedges run out in the autumn, Mr Colliass could

take temporary precautions and the Council should ascertain if any other local residents thought that Anti-Social Behaviour was committed in the play area.

835/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 9 June 2015.

