

# LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

**AT A MEETING** of the **FACILITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30 pm there were present:

Committee Members – The Deputy Mayor Councillor Sandra Mitchell (Ex Officio), Councillors Ian Goldsworthy, Julian Smith, David Ambler & Christina Whitty.

Facilities Manager - Tony Misson

Members of Public – Representatives from the Community Treasure Chest: Samantha Constance & Paula Julian.

The Chair, Councillor Ian Goldsworthy, opened the meeting and advised those present of Housekeeping matters.

## **315/19 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors J Pascoe, R Brooks, S Hawken, A Clarke & T Powell.

## **316/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BOTH REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE**

None

## **317/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Councillor Ambler proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on the 10 September 2019.

## **318/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Councillor Mitchell introduced two members of the Community Treasure Chest, Samantha Constance and Paula Julian, and outlined the financial pressures which some residents of the town faced, and the choices they must make regarding feeding and clothing their family and providing for their sanitary needs. Councillor Mitchell also discussed a more general need for sanitary product dispensers within the Town Council facilities as a service for all members of the public.

Samantha and Paula reiterated these issues and informed the Committee of the current availability of sanitary products through their own, and other facilities in the town such as the Food Bank. The C.T.C. is keen to do more to assist those in most need but lacks funding and it was discussed that a grant application to the Town Council may be appropriate, which was encouraged by the Committee.

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**319/19**                      **Period Poverty Report**

Councillor Ambler thanked those, both within the Council, and outside bodies for their assistance in compiling his report and went on to expand on the contents of the report in the light of the information just presented by the C.T.C.

The Committee discussed and considered the contents of the Period Poverty report, and the submissions from the representatives of the C.T.C. The committee noted there was an expectation that sanitary products are usually available for purchase in washrooms and toilets and that there was a need to meet this demand.

- a) Councillor Ambler Proposed, Councillor Mitchell Seconded, and the Committee **APPROVED** the provision of SIX sanitary product dispensing machines at a cost of £160 + VAT each, to be sited in the ladies toilets at Dean Street, Westbourne Carpark, The Public Hall main toilet block, Public Hall Accessible Toilet, Public Hall Changing Places and The Foresters Hall Ladies toilet, with products offered as near as possible to cost price for a vending charge of £1. The installation of the dispensing machines to be financed from the consumables budget.
  
- b) Councillor Smith Proposed, Councillor Ambler Seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL** that it considers how the Council can support and assist activities to alleviate the financial pressure for those struggling to afford sanitary products, and to promote Period Dignity for the Town's residents.
  
- c) Councillor Goldsworthy Proposed, Councillor Mitchell Seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** that the Environment Emergency Working Group consider the environmental impact of sanitary products as part of their ongoing work.

**320/19**                      **FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Facilities Manager's report, as presented, was noted by the Committee.

**321/19**                      **BUDGET REPORT TO 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

The budget report, as presented, was considered by the Committee. Councillor Goldsworthy questioned the potential overspend on Public Hall electricity and the zero-amount recorded under Foresters Hall gas usage. The Facilities manager is to investigate and report.

**322/19      Facilities Budget Setting 2020/21 – 1<sup>st</sup> review**

A list of potential projects and larger maintenance items was presented to the Committee for consideration to be included in the 2020/21 Facilities budget.

Two large items were identified as a priority for the coming year; the scaffolding and general exterior re-decoration and maintenance of the Guildhall building at an estimated cost of £25,000 and the project to combine the Mayors Parlour and Members Room to create a more versatile space which is also suitable as a letting room to generate additional income. This project is currently being worked up by the Council Chamber and Mayors Parlour working group and is provisionally estimated at £5,000.

**323/19      PARKS AND OPEN SPACE WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE, INCLUDING THE CASTLE PARK STRATEGY DOCUMENT**

The amended draft Terms of Reference for the Parks and Open spaces, were presented by Councillor Smith for adoption by the Committee.

- a) Councillor Smith Proposed, Councillor Mitchell Seconded, and the Committee **APPROVED** the adoption of the Parks and Open Spaces Working Groups Terms of Reference as presented.
- b) The Committee considered and reviewed the draft strategy document for the Castle Park. Councillor Smith Proposed, Councillor Whitty Seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to refer the strategy document to **COUNCIL** for adoption.

**324/19      DISPOSAL OF REDUNDANT ASSET**

Extensive efforts had been made to find a suitable purchaser for the redundant transfer hoist, but these had proved fruitless. The Committee, conscious of obtaining best value for this equipment, considered the alternatives available to obtain a realistic and transparent value.

Councillor Goldsworthy Proposed, Councillor Mitchell Seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL** that the redundant transfer hoist be put for auction on a suitable on-line auction site.

**325/19            PROVISION OF SALT BINS WITHIN THE TOWN**

It was noted that Cornwall Council top-up the current 18 salt bins within the Town at the beginning of each winter, but additional supplies were then at the discretion of the Town Council. It was also noted that there is not currently a budget for this service and the need for top-ups was very variable and weather dependant, and additionally open to abuse. The possibility of obtaining our own supplies of salt was discussed but logistically it was felt that the use of a Cornwall Council on demand service was preferable.

Councillor Goldsworthy Proposed, Councillor Ambler Seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL** the creation of a new salt bin budget line of £2,500 per annum to provide for salt bin top-ups as and when required.

**326/19            Golitha Rise Play Area – Barratt Homes**

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to make further investigations into the proposals of Barratt Homes regarding the potential transfer of the Golitha Rise play area to the Town Council and report the findings back to this Committee.

**327/19            DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Facilities Committee meeting was to be 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 at 7.30 PM in the Council Chamber.