

# LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

**AT A MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30 p.m. there were present:

The Mayor – Councillor Rachel Brooks – in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Sandra Mitchell,

Councillors – David Ambler, Ian Barlow, Simon Cassidy, Anna Clarke, Ian Goldsworthy, Sally Hawken, Sue Shand, Julian Smith, Naomi Taylor, Tony Powell and Christina Whitty.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Mayors Chaplain – Apologies

Members of the Public – John Hesketh (Liskeard in Bloom), Lin Moore (Liskeard Traders), and Justinne Bennison (Liskeard business – Bean).

The Deputy Mayor led the council and members of the public in prayers.

**375/19 APOLOGIES** – Councillor Jane Pascoe.

**376/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE –**

Councillor Ambler in Agenda Item 10 Schedule of Payments Debit Card Payment Dell Computers £529.

**377/19 MAYOR'S REMARKS** – “As all the councillors know, Tyler Bennetts has had to resign from the council for health reasons. I’m very sad to see Tyler go and I’d like to publicly thank him for his contribution to the Town Council and to Liskeard. We’ll really miss his warmth and humour and common sense and we wish him all the best for the future. A card is going round for everyone to sign.

Since we last met we’ve had the remembrance events and I’d like to thank you for taking part in those.

Thanks too to our swimathon team of Christina, her grandchildren Cameron and Phoebe, Julian, David and Naomi’s son James. They did 40 lengths and raised £568 for the British Heart Foundation.

I know the Lights Up and Nadelik Lyskerrys events were very successful and lots of people enjoyed the Santa trains, family trail and party as well as the parade. It was a pleasure working with Lights Up and Golden Tree to deliver them. As ever, Mandy Hancock was an absolute star in organising things and sweet talking people into freebies. Thanks to all the councillors and their families who helped and a special thanks to Simon who filled in for me at short notice.

I and other councillors have been involved in other pre-Christmas events include appearing on Liskeard Radio, a lovely Christmas concert at the Echo Centre, the Eventide Christmas Fair, the St Petrocs carol service in Truro cathedral and, of course the Methodist and town council carol service last Sunday which was great. Several people told me afterwards how much they appreciated including the Cornish carol from Nadelik Lyskerrys.

I wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful and fulfilling new year.

**378/19 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 29TH OCTOBER 2019 COUNCIL**

**MEETING:** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 29th October 2019.

**379/19 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 7TH NOVEMBER 2019 SPECIAL**

**COUNCIL (RIFLES) MEETING:** – Councillor Cassidy proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 7th November 2019.

**380/19 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 7TH NOVEMBER 2019 SPECIAL**

**COUNCIL MEETING:** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Powell seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th November 2019.

The Mayor reminded the meeting that there were three projects currently being progressed as part of the phase one regeneration of the former cattle market site.

1. The workspace centre being developed by Cornwall Council and the subject of a pre application consultation.
2. The Town Council container-based workspace and businesses support proposal referred to as the Cattle Market Makers Project.
3. The Events Area proposal – which was being proposed by the Town Council on a 3 year lease basis.

**381/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

– This item was brought forward on the agenda. The circulated correspondence noted that as the events area proposal did not impact on the disabled and car parking spaces in the way some correspondents feared, it was possible that they had mistaken the site shown as market stalls on the pre application for the Cornwall Council workspace centre as being the same as the Town Council event area.

The Town Clerk advised that he had been in receipt of one e-mail which he had not placed in the written report as he thought that an element of its content might be considered libellous. It was considered that item of correspondence should be considered in PARTII.

Councillor Hawken proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to go into PART II.

**382/19 PART II - 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, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of Business:

An item of potentially libellous correspondence.

**383/19 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, the Press and Public were readmitted to the meeting.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would investigate the comment regarding bullying.

Lin Moore and John Hesketh asked questions related to the Cattle Market developments.

**384/19 TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE – ITEMS FROM THE 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019 COUNCIL AND 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

**FREEDOM OF THE TOWN SCROLL** – Noted that a Liskeard Town scroll was being produced from the template provided by the Rifles.

**EVENTS AREA NNDR FEEDBACK** – It was noted that Falmouth Town Council, Launceston Town Council and Truro City Council all confirm that NNDR is not paid by them for the operation of events areas. Cornwall Council has confirmed that as landlord, they would cover the cost of any NNDR liability should there be any. This would be indicated in the lease.

It was considered that the NNDR situation now being clarified, the previous Council minute gave full approval (Minute 313/19 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 “to approve the events licence, but on a 3 year lease with a break clause at the end of the first year; and subject to clarification that the Town Council will not be charged business rates on the area.”

**385/19 CATTLE MARKET MAKERS PROJECT – COMMUNITY LEAD LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

**(CLLD) (Judith Hann Programme Manager – CLLD)** – Judith Hann provided an update which included:

- Following our submission of the Expression of Interest funding had been ring fenced towards the project.
- The local Community Lead Local Development group considered applications on a monthly cycle.
- An application of the size proposed by the Council could take 3 – 4 months to assess. It was one of the largest applications to be received. It was the only application from a Town Council.
- There was an ability to make a cashflow loan at 0% rate of interest to assist projects (if the Town Council were to purchase rather than lease the containers this would be necessary.)
- There was a CLLD budget from which Cornwall Council could support the project (for example, should the project be more easily delivered as a 45% rate of grant an outright purchase and Town Council ownership rather than a 72% rate of grant on a lease of a Cornwall Council owned set of container units.)
- Other projects were known to being developed by various parties, whilst the Programme Manager thought that a more complete application and spreadsheets could be worked on when meetings had taken place with ISO spaces and Cornwall Council and submitted in January, later in the year applications timescales would start to get too short to deliver with the programme period.

In discussion it was noted,

- VAT advice would be needed in regard the various options.
- Would Corporation Tax be levied if the Town Council made a surplus?
- As some of the hours of the Town Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer and Accounts Clerk could be booked against the CLLD project this might help the Council in budget and precept setting. (although if the Council employed someone to backfill this would be cancelled out.)

Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to express support for the submission of the bid and to ask for a special meeting late in January to fully consider it. The draft 'narrative' would be circulated to councillors for consideration. The spreadsheets would be worked up further following meetings with ISO spaces and Cornwall Council and the Programme Manager.

**386/19 COMMITTEE MEETINGS – MINUTES:**

**a. PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**b. COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – Councillor Clarke proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**c. FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**Motions: i) Minute 319/19b. – 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. – It was noted that the inclusion of Agenda Item 11 provides for the consideration of this motion.  
**ii). Minute 323/19b.** Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Castle Park Strategy (attached to the agenda 8.c.ii).  
**iii). Minute 325/19** Councillor Shand proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to create a salt bin budget line of £2,500 per annum to provide for salt bin top ups as and when required.

**d. FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the Finance, Economic Development & General Purposes Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**e. PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019** – Councillor Whitty proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

## **RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO) REPORTS 9-10**

**387/19 DRAFT 2020/2021 BUDGET AND PRECEPT SETTING INFORMATION (circulated 29th November 2019)** – Following discussion, Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to refer to the January committee cycle, the draft budgets with the target of a 0% or standstill budget pro-rata for each committee, with each service committee supplied with details of the relevant nominated reserves.

**388/19 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule of payments.

**389/19 GRANT APPLICATION – COMMUNITY TREASURE CHEST – PERIOD POVERTY**  
Councillor Ambler proposed, the Deputy Mayor seconded, that a grant of £500 be approved. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Hawken seconded an amendment, that the project include some reusable items with information on how to use them. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve a grant for £500 towards the cost of the project, with the requirement that they include some reusable items with information on how to use them.

**390/19. ENVIRONMENT EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP (see attached minutes 12a and draft workplan 12b)** – Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to declare a climate emergency and note the draft work plan proposed by the Environment Emergency Working Party.

**391/19. “MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE” UPDATE** – Councillor Cassidy proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT** the “Making Space for Nature” project.

Councillor Cassidy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **PRIORITISE** the Castle Park project within its preferred list of potential sites for inclusion into the project and offers any supporting feedback to the Making Spaces team.

**392/19 CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – noted.

**393/19 CORNWALL COUNCIL COUNCILLOR UPDATES – Sally Hawken –**

Workspace Centre Project – Cornwall Council had formally signed off on the release of their capital funding contribution to match with the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) element of the workspace centre project.

Community Governance Review – Sally had successfully put forward an amendment to include land at Tencreek likely to be the subject of a planning application early next year within the Liskeard parish boundary for the forthcoming public consultation. All three Liskeard Cornwall Councillors have been supportive of the Town Council position.

OFSTED – have rated Cornwall Council’s children social care services as Outstanding. This places them in the top 10% of Council’s nationally and the best of the Council in the South West region.

**394/19 CORRESPONDENCE** – Brought forward in the meeting.

**395/19 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30 pm.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to move into PART II.

**396/19 PART II - 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, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of Business:**

**18. LAND AT WELL LANE – Minute 311/19 19.a Solicitors Letter 19.b HM Land Registry**

**Guidance Note** - to receive and consider the advice of the Council’s Solicitor regarding the Land at Well Lane.

**397/19 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, the Press and Public were readmitted to the meeting.**

**398/19 LAND AT WELL LANE** – That the Council notes the advice of the solicitor that the Town Council is not in a position to claim the land and the priority is the repair of the drainage issue.