

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Emily Hobhouse Room on Tuesday 28th April 2026 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty – in the chair

Councillors – Graham Berry, Sylvia Berry, David Braithwaite, Rachel Brooks, Kerry Cassidy, Jane Pascoe, Lori Reid, Martin Symonds and Naomi Taylor.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson.

Mayor's Chaplain – Mark Wade.

Members of the Public – Cornwall Councillor Kevin Grey Liskeard Central, Joe Barr – Trustee Cornwall Breathers, Keith Goldsmith Trustee Cornwall Breathers (See Agenda Item 6) – Mark Stevens – Reporter Cornish Times.

Mayor's Chaplain – Mark Wade lead the Council and members of the public in prayer for peace around the world.

The Mayor and Council welcomed Martin Symonds and congratulated him on getting elected to the Town Council. The completion of the "Register of Interests" was in hand to complete the process.

516 / 25 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors David Braithwaite, Kerry Cassidy (late arrival), Simon Cassidy and Tony Powell.

517 / 25 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – The Mayor indicated they were a member of the RNA Agenda Item 19.

518 / 25 **MAYOR'S REMARKS** – The Mayor updated on the following:

- Saturday 4th April 2026 – The Mayor joined Councillor Reid and the Town Traders for their Annual Easter Bonnet judging.
- Friday 10th April 2026 – I joined Councillors Pascoe and Braithwaite for the opening of the soft play area at Lux Park.
- Thursday 23rd April 2026 – I joined the Rainbows for their St Georges' Day celebrations.
- Friday 24th April 2026 – I went along to the opening of the Clay Heaven pottery units in the cattle market.
- Sunday 26th April 2026 – I joined family and friends to help Eileen Lyn celebrate her 100th birthday at Eventide. I have known Eileen since we lived in Dobwalls many years ago and following her fall at Xmas she is looking extremely well and enjoyed all the fuss and her card from the King.

519 / 25 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 31st MARCH 2026 COUNCIL MEETING** – It was noted that the request to include the Devolution as a standing on the Council agenda had not been recorded. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council agreed to defer the minutes of the 31st March 2026 meeting.

520 / 25 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Police Update – April Monthly Comparison 2025/2026** – had been circulated - along with an apology from the Police for not being able to attend owing to operational commitments. Joe Barr – Cornwall Breathers – spoke to the excellent work of the doctors and nurses on the specialist ward on which many Liskeard residents were treated as patients. The project which was the basis of the grant application would make all the difference those Liskeard residents and their families.

521 / 26 **GRANT APPLICATION – CORNWALL BREATHERS** – it was confirmed that the application included the additional screen not on the quote and hence was £700 in total. Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor S Berry seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a grant of £700 to cover the cost of the Cornwall Breathers project in the relevant hospital ward.

The Town Clerk indicated that the consultant from the Local Council Consultancy (LCC) who was reporting on the agenda item 31 Staffing Review – Job Evaluation was online.

The Town Council **RESOLVED** to go into **PARTII**

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:

31. Staffing Review – Job Evaluation (Phase 2 Report – (page 6) – attached, Pay Grading Banding Appendix D, Appendix C) – To approve the Staff Committee recommendations as they relate to the need to adopt to the recommendations of the consultant (Appendix D) to introduce the “New SCP Grade” bands at the new “SCP” for existing staff to be backdated to 1st April 2026. To adopt the revised Town Council establishment (page 6) from 1st May 2026.

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.

522 / 25 Councillor G Berry proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the consultants’ recommendations regarding the “New SCP Grade” bands at the “New SCP” for existing staff to be backdated to 1st April 2026 and to adopt the revised Town Council establishment (page 6). Confirmation was needed on where the 3 new posts would be accommodated. It was agreed to circulate the job description for the “Events & Communications Officer” to clarify what was included in this role.

523 / 25 **TOWN CLERK’S UPDATE** – following discussion, Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to refer consideration of the draft Events Policy to the Facilities Committee.

524 / 25 COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:

- a. Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor G Berry seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7th April 2026.

116 / 25

- b. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Reid seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communication & Engagement Committee held on 16th April 2026.

525 / 25 **RFO REPORTS – (FOR INFORMATION - BANK BALANCES, INTERNAL AUDIT, RECEIPT OF THE PRECEPT)** – Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council noted the report.

526 / 25 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – There has been builders works to the Foresters Hall which might have increased the Suez Trade Waste bill. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule of payments totaling £62,458.29.

527 / 25 **BUDGET MONITORING 2025/2026** – Councillor Reid proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to receive and **ACCEPT** the budget report to 31st March 2026 for monitoring purposes.

528 / 25 **EXTERNAL AUDITOR - BDO LLP** – Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council confirmed the annual declaration that there are no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP.

529 / 25 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS AND RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS 2025/2026** – Councillor Reid proposed Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to review and confirm the effectiveness of the internal controls and risk management arrangements for 2025/2026 as set out in the statement of internal control and the financial risk assessment.

530 / 25 **CORNWALL COUNCIL – PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS AND RE-INTRODUCTION OF WEED TREATMENT (ATTACHED, - INITIAL CONSULTATION AND FOLLOW UP)** – It was noted that there had been an extensive debate at Cornwall Council with criticism of the late release of the consultation after the Town & Parish Council had set their budgets. There was concern from some groups and citizens on that type of treatment. Councillor K Cassidy proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to refer the item to the Facilities Committee which holds the budgets in relation to this function.

531 / 25 **CORNWALL COUNCIL – EQUALITY ACT 2020 – INCLUSION STRATEGY FOR CORNWALL “BELONGING IN CORNWALL”** – Councillor K Cassidy proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note that the Cornwall Council consultation runs until 6th May 2026. It relates to their services, property etc. Elements of which might be directly applicable to the Town Council.

532 / 25 **LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL – CENTRAL WARD – NOTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR (ATTACHED)** – Noted that Councillor Martin Symonds has completed the necessary paperwork (including the “Register of Interests” and “Declaration of the Acceptance of Office”) and is now a Councillor on the Liskeard Town Council.

533 / 25 **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE – SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (ATTACHED)** – Following consideration, the present requirement that a Mayor is not be permitted to serve concurrently as the Chair of a Committee, is suspended (although not in the case of the Planning Committee). Councillor Pascoe proposed Councillor Reid seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the suspension of the restriction. 117/25

534 / 25 **NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2026/2027 CIVIC YEAR (ATTACHED)** – Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor G Berry seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of Councillor David Braithwaite for Mayor for the 2026/2027 Civic Year. Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor G Berry seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of Councillor Sylvia Berry as the Deputy Mayor for the 2026/2027 Civic Year.

535 / 25 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – COUNCILLOR GRAHAM BERRY** – Councillor Reid proposed, Councillor K Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the addition of the Planning Committee to Councillor Graham Berry's membership of the Staff Committee and Facilities Committee.

536 / 25 **LISKEARD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (LRP)** – The minutes of the 4th March 2026 meeting were noted.

537 / 25 **FREEDOM OF THE TOWN – LISKEARD BRANCH – ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION (RNA) – (ATTACHED)** – It was noted that a quote of £1,414.55 had been obtained from "Diverse Events Traffic Management". This was slightly less than the estimate in the report (£1,444.11). The St Johns Ambulance quote had not been received. Councillor K Cassidy proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** £2,100 to cover the cost of staging those elements of set out in the report to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Liskeard branch of the Royal Naval Association (RNA) on Sunday 23rd August 2026 when they intend to exercise the "Freedom of the Town" that the Town Council has granted them by the holding of a Parade.

538 / 25 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Cornwall Councillor Report Liskeard South and Dobwalls - Councillor Jane Pascoe - Cattle Market Car Park – Season/ Resident parking permits.

Further to my discussions with the Head of Car Parks following residents contacting me, I can confirm that residents who had previously had a permit in the Cattle Market and may have been moved to Westbourne during the construction work will be allowed to apply for a permit in Westbourne Car Park when they need to renew.

The problem had occurred due to the change to the Cattle Market Car Park becoming "Short Term" and the Cornwall Council Policy that short term car parks do not qualify for permits.

Public Realm Weed Treatment – You will see at Agenda Item 14 that a motion to Pause the commencement of chemical weed treatment until a meaningful public consultation process has been completed, came before members at Cornwall Council last Tuesday. It was a long debate and not only about the chemical substance but also about the way the Parish Councils were given short notice and after they had set their receipts. It was agreed that this was an unacceptable way to treat our Parishes who work hard for the County.

The motion was passed.

I have received complaints about the unkempt state of the gateway to Liskeard via Plymouth Road. The roundabouts have broken fences and old banners. Can the Town Council help?

The South East Cornwall Community Area Partnership meeting held at St Pinnock Band and Community Hall in East Taphouse was well attended. St Pinnock Band gave an excellent presentation and outlined the music academy which encourages young people to come along and try out an instrument and learn to play.

118/25

Representatives from the 29 Parishes swapped copies of Parsh newsletters/magazines and they discussed how helpful these publications were informing and connecting with residents. Updates were also received re: A38, Tamar Crossings.

CHIP -Highway improvement plan scheme – 33 projects were submitted and on the 16th April these were reviewed by Cllrs and the Highway Manager. Cost and technical details will now be considered and we hope to achieve as many as possible on the list.

I am part of the working group for the new Cornwall Local Plan and information is being gathered strategically. It is important the plan acknowledges the important and essential infrastructure for SE Cornwall across the river in Plymouth such as Health care, Employment, Education and Leisure .I also attended a meeting with the CC lead officers, initially discussing the structure within the MOU to include the offer of SE Cornwall for transport, employment/ skills, housing and leisure. We identify this as a timely opportunity to promote the area and to attract inward investment.

I was unable to attend the launch of the pottery by our first tenant in the newly refurbished units , but I visited her yesterday and wish her every success in her new venture in Liskeard. Construction work is reaching a conclusion, the ISHub has some internal technical work to complete and the bus terminal will soon be operational.

Liskeard and District Twinning Association. – A visit has been arranged by the Liskeard Chess Club with Quimperle Chess Club. They will be welcoming 9 visitors, 2 adults and 7 young people from Quimperle on 7th – 9th May.

The Liskeard Twining Association AGM will be held in the Quimperle room, Public Hall on 15th May at 7.00pm.

539 / 25 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted.

540 / 25 **CORRESPONDENCE** – St Keyne & Trewidland Parish Council – 20th April 2026 – Santander branch closure. They had been updated on the Post Office external ATM request. Cornwall Wildlife Trust 16th April 2026 request to object to the consultation. They were updated that The Town Council had already requested more time to respond.

541 / 25 **DIARY DATES FOR COUNCIL EVENTS** – To note the dates of forthcoming Council events – Sunday 10th May 2026 11.00am Roman Catholic Church Service. 10th May 2026 War Memorial VE Day. 2.00pm. “Beating the Bounds” 17th May 2026 all day. 1st June 2026 – Mayor Choosing, Sunday 23rd August 2026 – “Freedom of the Town” – Civic Parade – to mark the 40th anniversary of the Liskeard branch of the Royal Naval Association (RNA).

542 / 25 **DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** – 26th May 2026 at 7.30pm

543 / 25 Councillor K Cassidy proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to go into **PART II**

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119 / 25

28. Sports Pitches and Associated Infrastructure Project at Roundbury – To receive an update and propose next steps. That the Town Council engage with Cornwall Council / Persimmon regarding the use of Section 106. APPROVED.

29. Employment Tribunal – (attached) – NOTED.

30. Honoured Burgess – Nominations (attached) – To receive and approve the recommendations of the Honoured Burgess Panel which met on the 24th April 2026 to consider the 5 nominations. APPROVED – Joe Barr, John Gliddon and Lin Moore. The other 2 “Not at this time”.

31. Staffing Review – Job Evaluation (Phase 2 Report – (page 6) attached Pay and Grading Banding Appendix D, Appendix C) – To approve the Staff Committee recommendations as they relate to need to adopt the recommendations of the consultant (Appendix D) to introduce the “New SCP Grade” bands and at the “New SCP” to be backdated to 1st April 2026. To adopt the revised Town Council establishment (page 6) from 1st May 2026. Dealt with earlier on the agenda owing to availability of the consultant.

32. Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group – To note the attached minutes of the 17th March 2026 meeting.

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544 /25 Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the resolutions made in **PARTII**.

28. Sports Pitches and Associated Infrastructure Project at Roundbury – To receive an update and propose the next steps. – That the Town Council engage with Cornwall Council / Persimmon regarding the use of Section 106. APPROVED.

29. Employment Tribunal – (attached) – Noted.

30. Honoured Burgess – Nominations (attached) – To receive and approve the recommendations of the Honoured Burgess Panel which met on the 24th April 2026 to consider the 5 nominations. brief and timetable for the tender notice. APPROVED – Joe Barr, John Gliddon and Lin Moore. The other 2 “Not at this time”.

31. Staffing Review – Job Evaluation (Phase 2 Report – (page 6) – attached Pay Grading Banding Appendix D, Appendix C) – To approve the Staff Committee recommendations as they relate to the recommendations of the consultant (Appendix D) to introduce the “New SCP” bands at the “New SCP” to be backdated to the 1st April 2026. To adopt the revised Town Council establishment (page6) from 1st May 2026.

32. Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group – To note the attached minutes of the 17th March 2026. Noted. The Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group (LRWG) was felt to be a valuable point of liaison with Cornwall Council.

120 / 25