

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

AT A MEETING of the **PROPERTY COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 12 November 2013 at 7.30 pm there were present:

Councillor Ian Goldsworthy- in the Chair

The Mayor - ex officio

Councillors: Sally Hawken Nick Mallard, Jane Pascoe, Hella Tovar and Christina Whitty

Town Clerk - Mr Andrew Deacon

Minute Clerk - Mr Stuart Houghton

Members of the Public - None

The Chairman advised those present of Housekeeping matters

456/13 APOLOGIES

An apology was also received from The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Phil Seeva and Councillor Tony Powell

457/13 OPEN MEETING

No members of the Public were in attendance.

458/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Members declared an interest either Registerable or Non Registerable.

459/13 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 8 October 2013 were **APPROVED**.

460/13 MATTERS ARISING

1. Open Meeting and Discussion (Minute 394/13)

- a. In response to a question, the Town Clerk replied that he would invite the winners to a presentation in the Mayor's Parlour.
- b. The Town Clerk had visited the Allotments and made arrangements for the hedges to be cut back as agreed with the Plotholders who attended that meeting.

2. Update on Public Hall Heating System (Minute 353/13 (Matters Arising))

The Chairman reported that the installation of the new boilers was complete and had been commissioned but needed to be fine-tuned to balance the heat throughout the building and at various times of the day. Councillor Tovar reported that she had attended a meeting in the Long Room which had been very warm.

3. Museum CCTV System (Minute 353/13 (Matters Arising))

The Chairman reported that he had arranged to meet with the Curator this week to finalise the arrangements for the installation.

4. Pipewell Gates (Minute 358/13)

The Chairman reported that the gates had been removed for repair; he anticipated that they would be returned next week.

Councillor Hawken reminded the Town Clerk to submit his application for the Community Fund grant for the repairs to the gates.

461/13 BUDGET REPORT to 31 OCTOBER 2013

The budget report had been circulated. The Chairman summarised the major movements.

462/13 PRECEPT FOR 2014- 2015

The Town Clerk had prepared a budget for the Committee to discuss. It included small increases for

- Salaries and superannuation
- Maintenance of buildings
- A project for the roof of the Public Hall as water staining had appeared on the Council Chamber ceiling
- Utilities
- The operation of Dean Street toilets
- A miscellaneous item for a possible celebration of the 100th anniversary of the start of the 1st World War and refurbishment of the War Memorial

He explained that he had included figures for the Westbourne and Sun Girt toilets as provided by Cornwall Council. He had received an explanation from them as to how their costs were incurred, and was monitoring the running costs of the toilets so that an accurate figure could be provided next year.

A figure of £2k had been allocated for Westbourne Gardens, if the joint management agreement goes ahead, costs would be incurred.

The dilapidations for Thorn Park, Rapsons and Street Furniture had been increased in line with this year's expenditure.

The current proposal for this budget showed an increase of 4% over last year's figure.

The allocation for Dilapidations and Projects could be discussed with a view of reducing the increase. Councillor Goldsworthy thought that there might be a saving from the CCTV allocation in the Finance and Strategy Committee budget.

A discussion was held about Street Furniture and the granite plinths that would be provided to the Council from the Caradon Hill Project. Street Furniture does not include Signage; it is bus shelters and benches etc. The finger signs in the Town were provided by Stuart House and Caradon Council, they were not the responsibility of the Town Council.

The granite plinths and frames for the maps were being granted by the Caradon Hill Project to the Town Council; the Town Council intend that the maps it would supply should show local businesses and cycle tracks and pathways onto the Moors. It was intended to have these installed by the beginning of March 2014.

Following a suggestion that Signage be transferred to the Communication and Engagement Committee, Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Council transfer Signage from the Property Committee to the Communication and Engagement Committee.

A discussion was held on the merits of the Public Toilets, could they be closed and the facilities in the Museum and Library be used and payment made to businesses to allow the public to use their facilities. This was an emotive subject; the Town Council had taken over the public toilets following the public outcry following the announcement by Cornwall Council that they would close the toilets. The operation of the toilets should be decided next year when the Council would have factual information of the costs.

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Mallard seconded and the Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Council **ADOPT** the budget presented to the Committee.

463/13 PUBLIC HALL REFRESHMENT ROOM

Councillor Goldsworthy reported that had spoken to Councillor Pascoe about forming a small working group to discuss the potential use of the Refreshment Room if it was upgraded. The results of this group would assist the Council to decide whether to upgrade the room. Councillors Tovar and Whitty volunteered to join the group.

464/13 WESTBOURNE GARDENS

The Town Clerk reported that little progress had been made in recent weeks. He had received revised documents from Cornwall Council offering a ten year arrangement and he suggested that quotations be sought for the proposed new entrance to the Gardens.

A meeting had been held with the Cornwall Council Conservation Officer who had indicated that an entrance into the Gardens from the car park would be acceptable.

This was not in keeping with a previous study which had suggested that a new entrance into the car park be made from Dean Street. This would prevent traffic entering the car park from West Street.

Councillor Hawken felt that the Council could continue to obtain grants for the work without having any management responsibility for the gardens.

Councillor Goldsworthy suggested that a small working group be formed to discuss proposals and costings. The Mayor and Councillors Hawken, Pascoe and Goldsworthy would form the group.

465/13 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PART II

466/13 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.

467/13 ITEMS REFERRED FROM THE MAIN PART OF THE AGENDA

No 4 The Arcade

468/13 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 the members of the Press and Public are re-admitted to the Meeting.

Members ratified the discussions held in closed session.

469/13 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

None

470/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 10 December 2013.