

6. GRANT APPROVALS	Grants Budget 2025/2026		£10,000	
Date Approved	Applicant	Project	Amount of Grant	Balance Remaining
02/05/25 029/25	Caradon Youth Theatre	The Caradon Youth Theatre will stage the production of "Annie" in the Public Hall in Liskeard 20th – 28th June 2025.	£600	
24/06/25 084/25	Cornwall Pride – Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)	To support some of the costs associated with holding a "Liskeard Pride Event 28th June 2025" in Barras Street which it is hoped will attract 2,500 attendees for Liskeard and a wider catchment area – To request a grant of £750 towards the £6,839 total cost of event. Helping in particular, with the costs of the Traffic Management (of the street closure) and the production of the live music, performers and street market.	£750	
New Requests				
29/07/25	True Butterflies Foundation – Cornish Registered Charity	To request a grant of £750 towards the £5,000 cost of supporting an additional 22 mentoring sessions with clients and their families in Liskeard who have been through trauma to rebuild their lives and help move forward. £300 travel costs £450 mentoring costs.	£750	£7,900
29/07/25	St Martin's Church, Liskeard	To request a grant of £150 towards the £250 cost of running a free holiday club for primary age children on the 12 th , 13 th , 14 th and 15 th August including lunch each day. Fun packed itinerary including games, crafts, acting, singing, teamwork and building things. Inviting Parents, Carers, Grandparents to stay at pick up time. "Our 2024 accounts are attached (6.b.i.) We are about to sign contracts for the £540,000 reroofing and net zero works on the Church Centre, with some major contingencies in it. Shout if you have any questions." Church note on accounts	£150	£7,750
		** amount to cover until 31 st March 2026		**£7,750

RECOMMENDATION: THAT THE A. TRUE BUTTERFLIES FOUNDATION AND B. ST MARTINS CHURCH GRANT APPLICATIONS ARE CONSIDERED.

13. “PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS” – EQUALITY ACT 2010 – CIVILITY & RESPECT. – To recognise that legal protection exists for all 9 of the “Protected Characteristics” identified in the Equality Act 2010 and behave accordingly.

Background – following conduct at the last Town Council meeting and subsequently a Councillor has asked for the issue of “protected characteristics” to be placed on the Council agenda to remind Councillors of the legal protection afforded to groups as below.

Protected Characteristics:- refer to specific aspects of a person's identity that are legally protected from discrimination. The nine protected characteristics under the **Equality Act 2010** include:

Age: Protection against discrimination based on age.

Disability: Protection for individuals with physical or mental impairments.

Gender reassignment: Protection for those undergoing gender transition.

Marriage and civil partnership: Protection for individuals who are married or in a civil partnership.

Pregnancy and maternity: Protection for women during pregnancy and maternity leave.

Race: Protection against discrimination based on race, colour, nationality, or ethnic origin.

Religion or belief: Protection for individuals based on their religious beliefs or lack thereof.

Sex: Protection against discrimination based on gender.

Sexual orientation: Protection for individuals based on their sexual orientation.

Understanding these characteristics is crucial for compliance with legal standards and promoting social justice. Councillors are required to undertake and update the “Civility and Respect” training to ensure they remain aware their legal obligations under the “Equality Act 2010” and subsequent guidance.

Clerk's Relevant Experience - for several years I was the subject of hateful comments based upon my Sexual Orientation. This was particularly bad during the Covid Lockdown. There was a lack of things for them to do combined with all day drinking and showing off with thug behaviour in front of their mates.

In 2022, I made two complaints to the Police about 4 separate incidents which were investigated by the Police as “Hate” incidents. The Police indicated that they had spoken to those 4 or 5 people. There have been no repeats of that type of behaviour with those people.

RECOMMENDATION: That the legal protection afforded to those that are within the “protected characteristics” above are respected and observed.

14. DELIVERY OF THE TOWN VISION – LISKEARD TOGETHER (ATTACHED) – To approve the delivery proposal of the Town Vision as attached and including the observations in the report below.

Background – it was suggested that the experiences and approaches and ideas of other Town Council's be sought noting there a great deal of difference regarding population, Town Council precept size and number of staff and the existence or not of other bodies, such as, Community

Interest Companies (CIC's), Business Improvement Districts (BIDS), Harbour Trustees, significant landowner etc. On others recommendations (including Catherine Thomson – Community Link Officer – Cornwall Council), the Town Clerks' of Saltash, Torpoint and Penzance were approached. The most relevant points being:

- Important to include and involve Cornwall Council officers and Councillors on the sites that are Cornwall Council owned – e.g. former cattle market – residual site corner plot – car parking – public realm – (transport Active Travel route railway to town centre) – also stuff like Rapson's Skatepark Devolution – Possible future projects e.g. Bay Tree Hill – Fore Street. etc.
- Where the Town Council own a building (e.g. Guildhall) or wish to acquire the land to deliver a project are ours include the Cornwall Council – officers and Councillors Planning Consent – Highways / Footpath access – Roundbury Phases –
- Build Relations with the Managing Authority (for cross Cornwall funds to which we might wish to apply – Cornwall Council). We have been doing with Section 106, Active Travel etc.
- Town Specific Bodies – work with and involve - Stuart House Trust, Methodist Circuit, Liskeard and District Sports Association (LDSA), St Martin's Church and Community Centre, Liskerrett Community Centre etc.
- Penzance Town Council – had considered setting up an external development company (local Council controlled and influenced to deal with capital projects that might fail and remove the risk from the Town Council and its ratepayers). It was interesting approach not least because across the whole of Cornwall many projects such as, Roundbury were conceived as projects to be delivered by a Local Authority (660 staff – car park income – business park rents) and instead being delivered by a Town Council with 3 full time staff. It was interesting to hear that Penzance Town Council have 32 Full Time Equivalent Staff. That does not include the Business Improvement Districts (BIDS). It should that noted that named individuals would need to "sign up" to become effectively the responsible people. Locally, experience shows that maintaining full compliments of trustees can be difficult.

Clerk's Comments – a number of the suggestions of the other Town Council's reflect what we are doing in any case. The recently adopted and jointly developed "Town Vision" does formalise some planned ideas and introduce others, that would benefit from the inclusion of Cornwall Council councillors and officers and those Liskeard specific partners.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Town Vision is adopted with the inclusion of the points included in Town Clerk's comments above.

15. PARTII – CONSIDERATION OF THE DISCUSSION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS IN PARTII

– To consider the policy.

Background – a Councillor has requested the consideration of discussions relating to grant applications be put into PART II be put into the Town Council agenda.

Note – There are only a few reasons as to why, legally, the public and press can be excluded from a public meeting being the Town Council or a Committee of the Council. The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) states "A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies."

It is generally considered acceptable to exclude the press and public if the agenda item relates to the consideration of tenders, leases, purchases of assets, for matters relating to staffing covered by the data Protection Act and to consider complaints against the council or a code of conduct complaint.

Advice Sought From the Monitoring Officer "Hello Simon / Lee – at the last Town Council meeting an application for grant was received. The basic details being outlined below. At the meeting it was suggested that the Council move into PARTII to consider the grant application. I did indicate that grant applications are not usually considered in PARTII. In 11 years as Town Clerk the Town Council has not considered an application for grant in PARTII. This being reserved for relevant things, such as, tenders, leases, negotiations with landowners and developers etc. I have been asked to put an item on the Town Council discussing including grant applications in PARTII(Full Council Agenda Item). I was going to use the info below as part of the response. Any advice?.

- Cornwall Pride (CIO) – were the applicant – not having made a grant application to the Town Council before.
- Amount being sought £750 toward the cost of a £6,839 event – the grant being 11% of the cost of the item. (6.17.18.19 Clerks Report)
- Amount of the gross annual grants budget left £10,000 2025/2026 – only one grant of £600 being given out so far – 94% of the budget was available.
- In the previous year – 11 grants were approved – 5 being bigger the £750 and 4 smaller. (6.18.21.b.Clerks Reports)

Monitoring Officers Response -

"Hi Steve

In dealing with grants, it is not uncommon for these to be dealt with in Part 2, it depends on the business cases that's comes with the grant, more often they are dealt with in public session as this is the precept payers money which is been given to a local group and there is a strong public

interest argument in being transparent. Also in this case there seems to be nothing to put this into closed session, other than perhaps the grant recipients which may have caused this.

However, the substance of grants is always published and will show in the accounts so there is nothing in your proposal that could not be reported to members, in or out of Part 2.

Regards

Simon”

Clerk's Note – The Monitoring Officer's advice is that grant applications can be considered in PARTII. It might be advisable to consider why a suggestion is being made to move the item into PARTII.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Town Council does consider grant application in PARTII it is relevant to do so.

16. HONOURED BURGESS – TIMETABLE – To approve the process for the consideration of the next Honoured Burgess.

Background – proposed timetable and process:

29th July 2025 – Town Council – to approve the timetable and process of the Honoured Burgess nomination and consideration and decision making. (attached Nomination Form).

18th August 2025 noon Monday – deadline for the submission of Honoured Burgess application forms to the Town Clerk.

21st August 2025 Wednesday pm – the Panel – those of the Panel able to attend, would look at the applications and consider the recommendations to the Town Council – Currently, the Mayor – Deputy Mayor – Councillors Annette Lee, Lori Reid and Naomi Taylor.

26th August 2025 – Town Council – could approve the result of the Honoured Burgess selection process.

7th September 2025 Sunday – Civic Service – Presentation of Honoured Burgess Medals and Scrolls.

The only thing that I have been thinking is given the age of the remaining Honoured Burgesses – you might like to think about 5 rather than just 2 or 3 that to which the form refers.

RECOMMENDATION: That the above process is approved.

17. CCTV – MONITORING HUB, NEW COUNTY HALL, TRURO – (ATTACHED) – To support the provision of the e-mail address to host the joint Liskeard Town Council/Wadebridge Town Council/Bodmin Town Council set up £780 (split 3 ways) and the annual line costs £750 (split 3 ways).

Background – The Cornwall Council Community Fire & Rescue Service CCTV Live Monitoring Hub at Tolvaddon, closed on 31st March 2025. The new partners being involved in the new East

Cornwall Hub at New County Hall, Truro being Cornwall Council Highways – ENERVEO (Cornwall Council and Town Council nominated supplier) – Infinitus (Cornwall Council nominated supplier) Liskeard Town Council – Bodmin Town Council – Wadebridge Town Council.

One benefit of the new approach would be for the images to be available virtually to save the respective Police officers driving from Liskeard, Wadebridge and Bodmin to New County Hall, Truro to collect the data sticks on which the images have been stored in the previous operation.

This would involve a new e-mail address box for coordinating requests between the 3 town based Police and the Monitoring Contractor to deal with the requests.

Acronyms, our IT supplier, have supplied the attached “East Cornwall Comms Room” proposal which would involve us taking the contact with them at a £780 set up cost (split 3 ways between the respective Town Councils). The annual operating cost £750 being split 3 ways between the 3 Town Council. The other Town Clerks have indicated support for such a cost effective idea.

RECOMMENDATION: That Liskeard Town Council approve the provision of the e-mail address to host the joint Liskeard Town Council/Wadebridge Town Council/Bodmin Town Council set up £780 (split 3 ways) and the annual line costs £750 (split 3 ways).