

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 20 October 2015 at 7.30 pm there were present:

The Mayor - Councillor Phil Seeva - in the Chair

Councillors: - Rachel Brooks, Ian Goldsworthy, Sally Hawken, *Adam Hodgkins, Sue Pike, Tony Powell, Roger Holmes, James Shrubsole, Lorna Shrubsole, Hella Tovar and Christina Whitty

*Councillor Hodgkins left the meeting at 20.30.

Mayor's Chaplain - The Reverend Mark Pengelly

The Town Clerk - Steve Vinson

Minute Clerk - Stuart Houghton

Cornwall Councillor - Mike George

Members of the Public - None

Viv Tworniki - Cornish Times

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor invited his Chaplin to lead with prayers.

The Mayor then advised of Housekeeping matters.

370/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Deputy Mayor Councillor Jane Pascoe and Councillor Anne Purdon.

371/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, REGISTERABLE AND NON REGISTERABLE

No declarations of interests were made.

372/15 MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported on three events this month; he had visited the Liskeard Scouts and presented them with a cheque for their help in distributing the Town Crier. He hoped that this contact would improve relationships in the future.

He had opened the St Mathews Fair, judged the Town Crier competition and survived being accosted by a member of the public!

The final event he attended was the Torpoint Civic Ceremony which had been well reported in the Cornish Times.

The next event for the Council would be the Remembrance Day Parade and Service on Sunday 8 November 2015.

373/15 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

An amendment to Minute 276/15 (Committee Reports) was agreed;

The resolution recorded under Section d (Planning Committee) should have been recorded under Section c (Finance Committee).

In the Town Clerk's report "Coughs" should read "Choughs"

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Hawken seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2015 be adopted with the above amendments.

374/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

375/15 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report, for information, had been circulated and is attached to these Minutes.

The Town Clerk reported there had been no response to the advertised vacant Councillor seat, following the resignation of Joe Polson, therefore a co-option notice had been posted which required applications to be made by 31 October 2015.

Information had been received today about Cornwall Council's progress on the devolution of the Library Service, he would circulate this to Members.

376/15 COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

Councillor L. Shrubsole proposed, Councillor Hodgkins seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2015.

b. MEETING OF THE STAFF COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Staff Committee held on Tuesday 22 September 2015.

c. FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Mayor proposed, Councillor L. Shrubsole seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2015.

Resolutions

1. Adoption of Financial Regulations
this is an agenda item for discussion.
2. Adoption of the Aims and Objectives for the Council.
3. Instruction to Committees to include their Aims and Objectives in the forthcoming budget setting.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the proposed Aims and Objectives and **INSTRUCTED** that the Committees should consider their aims and Objectives when setting their budgets.

d. PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2015

Councillor Hodgkins proposed, Councillor J. Shrubsole seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 29 September 2015.

e. PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2015

Councillor Hodgkins proposed, Councillor Powell seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 6 October 2015.

f. COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2015

Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor L. Shrubsole seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Communication and Engagement Committee meeting held on Tuesday 6 October 2015.

Recommendations

1. That the Council establish a Facebook account

.3.

193/15

2. That the Council adopts the Social Media Policy and Guidelines

These recommendations were included in the Agenda for discussion

g. MEETING OF THE MUSEUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2015

Councillor Tovar proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Museum Management Committee meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13 October 2015.

Recommendations

1. That the Council accepts the tender received to assist with the management of the Museum for three months with the following caveats;
 - a, The Cornwall Council Museum Development Officer be asked to draw up a schedule of work that established priorities, and narrowed its scope, so that it would be achievable in 24 days over 3 months.
 - b, That the Town Council accepts Bryony Robins offer to help draw up an action plan with the aim of moving to a Museum Management Model which included both a paid post and volunteer support.

h. PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2015

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Minutes of the Property Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13 October 2015.

377/15 SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILE AGREEMENT AND POLICY

Councillor Brooks introduced this item and explained the discussions held by the Communication and Engagement Committee, over the last two months, and the decision to bring this to the Council for discussion. The Town Clerk's report noted some advantages and disadvantages of using a Facebook account and the research, made by the TIC, from local Councils had been circulated. The establishment of a Facebook account, as a notice board would be a start, the use would be revised after 6 months.

The Social Media Policy had been circulated with the Agenda.

1. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to establish a Facebook account.
2. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Hawken seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Social Media Policy.

378/15 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2015

The Town Clerk gave the Council details from the Finance Committee on the preparation of the revised Financial Regulations which had been circulated. The proposal was based on the NALC template, which contained more detail than those currently being used by the Council, which had not been revised since 2011.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the proposed Financial Regulations 2015.

379/15 DEVOLUTION WORKING GROUP

The Mayor informed the Council that since Joe Poulson had resigned, there was a vacancy in the devolution Working Group, it was essential that this vacancy was filled to ensure the work of the group progressed. There was still a lot of work to do.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the vacant position in the Devolution Working Group was filled, by a volunteer.

380/15 TIC AND OFFICE INTERVIEWS

The Town Clerk explained the procedure that had been used for advertising the posts and the interviews.

Councillor Brooks declared an interest in this item and did not speak or vote.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Hodgkins seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the chosen candidates should be offered the positions, subject to satisfactory references.

381/15 CAR PARKING

The Mayor introduced this item and the Town Clerk gave details of the forthcoming meeting with Bert Briscoe and the fact that Cornwall Council had been asked to consider free or reduced cost parking in the run up to Christmas.

Councillor Hawken said that she had not yet received any feedback from Cornwall Council and would look to the commercial organisations in the Town to pool their resources if a financial contribution had to be made to offset lost revenue to Cornwall Council.

The discussion included;

1. The need to ask the Finance Committee to contribute to the scheme.
2. If the Council agreed to contribute, which budget would the funds come from

.5.

195/15

3. Cornwall Council would not support a free parking day
4. All towns had different circumstances and income sources
5. All Town Centre businesses should be asked to share the proposal
6. Cornwall Council's intention to outsource car park management

Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Pike seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to refer this item to the Finance Committee by which time it was hoped that responses from Cornwall Council and the Traders would be forthcoming.

382/15 CORNWALL COUNCIL LEISURE STRATEGY AND LUX PARK

Councillor Hawken was asked to introduce this item; she said that the Cornwall Council Leisure Resources Strategy Update, which discussed options for the Leisure Centres in Cornwall, had been circulated and would be discussed by the CC Policy Advisory Committee. The aim was to have a Nil subsidy for this provision by April 2017 when the current contracts expired.

Soft market tests have indicated that there was significant interest from the leisure market, however, the Lux Park complex had complication as the sports pitches were leased from Cornwall Council and were separate from the Sports Centre.

Members discussed the options and the period of the contract to run;

1. Various time periods were suggested, it was agreed that a longer period would be preferred
2. Cornwall Council could make finance available at an advantageous rate
3. Are usage figures, such as those provided for the Library, available
4. The contract for the provision of the service should contain penalty clauses should the centres be closed within a short period of the contract award
5. Cornwall Council should have some control of the usage charges to prevent high increases and to encourage membership
6. Leisure centres do not cover their costs, they were subsidised by Cornwall Council
7. Lux Park was a very worthwhile asset for the Town
8. The current family membership rates were not competitive with other leisure centres in the area
9. The current housing strategy for the Town would provide additional potential members

Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Powell seconded that the Town Council **RECOMMEND** to Cornwall Council that the term of the contract for the operation of the Leisure Centres should be 20 years and also include an overage of 20 years..

383/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Councillor J. Shrubsole reported that the Neighbourhood Plan team were

coming to the end of an intensive work period. They had met every two weeks for the three months leading up to July, when they held a facilitators workshop, and August when they met to prepare the details for the Plan which included the Cattle Market, Westbourne House and Graylands.

The information was being brought together for the final plan, however, things such as the constantly changing proposed housing numbers and employment needs were complicating the final draft.

A request would be made to the next Finance Committee meeting for funds to employ professional help in the drafting of the final report.

384/15 CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

The Cornwall Council planning decisions had been circulated and were noted.

385/15 ACCOUNTS

Councillor Goldsworthy declared an interest in item 101911 and Councillor Pike in item 101912.

Item 101888 was queried as Public Hall gutter cleaning appeared earlier in the list.

In response to a question, Councillor Goldsworthy replied that the Council had been asked by businesses in the Town to clean their gutters while our equipment was available.

Members noted the accounts.

386/15 CORNWALL COUNCILLORS UPDATES

Councillor Hawken spoke first, she gave the dates for the next meetings to be held by Cornwall Council for; the Local Plan, a meeting in the Echo Centre to meet and question the Leader of Cornwall Council, the Community Network Panel meeting at St Keyne, Committee meetings to discuss the library and leisure strategy before going to the Cabinet in December and the ending of consultations for Special Needs, Fire Service and a Green consultation.

Councillor George stated that Cornwall Council. Were looking to parking enforcement out to tender.

Cornwall Council were only halfway through the current known required savings, the remaining savings would be getting harder and harder to make.

In the future, Councillors would be asked to comment on Non-Material amendments to planning application.

387/15 OTHER REPORTS

None.

388/15 CORRESPONDENCE

The Stuart House Trust had asked the Town Council to issue a letter of support for their application to Virador Credits for a grant to fund proposed improvements to their facilities. Members supported the Town Clerk in giving the Councils support for the application.

389/15 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on Tuesday 17 November 2015 in the Council Chamber.

390/15 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

The Mayor proposed, Councillor J. Shrubsole seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that;

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;

Growth Deal.

391/15 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Tovar seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that; Pursuant to Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 members of the Press and Public be re-admitted to the Meeting.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendations made in closed session relating to:

1. Growth Deal

The Town Council should take an active part in the redevelopment of the Cattle Market site.

2. Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2015

The Confidential Minutes were accepted as a true record of that part of the meeting.