

6. Facilities Managers Report (19 May 2026)

Castle Park – There was some minor incidents of vandalism over the Easter holidays.

The pedestrian entrance at the Poldhu Road entrance of the park badly floods during the autumn and winter.



The plan is to install a French drain and re-dress the path with aggregate. The cost is **£5,759.50 + VAT**. We did look matching the path surface with hoggin, but the aggregate is much more suitable for areas prone to flooding and heavy pedestrian use.

The Town Council has been invited to submit a full application to the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund. The Town Council is looking for £80,000 with an additional £22,000 provided by the Town Council to support access improvements, inclusive play equipment and promoting community well-being.

Volunteer gardening sessions continue – the next one is scheduled for 9.30am to 1.30pm on Thursday 21 May 2026. For further information please contact Kelly at volunteers@cormacltd.co.uk.

In conjunction with Liskeard Scouts the Town Council has arranged a community litter pick at Castle Park as part of the Big Help Out 2026. The litter pick takes place from 11am to 1pm on Saturday 6 June and refreshments will be available.

The annual Scouts Fun Day takes place in Castle Park on 15 August 2026. The Town Council will be using the opportunity to have a stand and to consult with local people on improvements to the park.

Lastly, the noticeboard at Castle Park was removed sometime ago by Cormac due to safety concerns. It has now been repaired and is due to be reinstated this month.

Public Hall Repair & Redecoration – work is progressing well. The contractors have started work on the masonry repairs on the West Street elevation of the building. The four windows in the Council Chamber have been removed for repair and redecoration off-site. The cast iron gutters on the setback roof have been prepared for painting. The contract is due to complete on 12 June 2026.

As part of the refurbishment, we are proposing to remove several redundant fittings from the front elevation of the Public Hall, and to install a new noticeboard and/or poster case together with additional lighting.

Display Energy Certificate – This is calculated each year for the Public Hall. The DEC was renewed on 30 March 2026 with a score of 38 which equates to a rating of B (a typical score for a public building is 100 which equates to a D rating).

Public Hall Events – During March and April, the Public Hall and associated facilities continued to experience a high level of usage, with a wide and diverse range of community, commercial and private bookings taking place across all rooms.

March included two key Town Council events, with the Community Fair taking place successfully during March, followed by the Annual Town Meeting in April. Both events were well attended and formed an important part of the Council's community engagement programme.

Several entertainment and performance events were also hosted during the reporting period. The Public Hall provided bar facilities for the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra performance in March, as well as for Drag Me to the Musicals - a drag cabaret and quiz event organised by the House of Damnation. This was the first time hosting this type of event at the venue and it proved to be a positive and successful booking. Both events generated a modest additional income through bar sales.

Community and charity use of the venue continues to remain strong. Regular charity bingo evenings organised by Liskeard Lions and Liskeard Young Farmers continue to attract good attendance and remain valuable repeat bookings for the venue.

The facilities also hosted a broad range of private and community functions during the period including:

- Children's birthday parties
- Caradon Hockey Club Junior Presentation Evening
- Liskeard Grammar School Reunion Lunch
- Psychic Fair organised by Willow Tree Fairs
- Baby shower
- GCSE examinations
- Security training course

Overall, the venue continues to perform strongly, with high occupancy levels, a varied programme of events, and increasing community engagement across both regular and new user groups.

Preparations for Mayor Choosing on 1 June are progressing well, with plans coming together for the set-up, catering, entertainment, photography, etc. This year we will have a maître d' to assist with the smooth

running of the event, and a rehearsal is planned beforehand. Discussions underway with Liskeard Community Choir regarding entertainment.

RNA Freedom of the Town – the parade is planned for Sunday 23 August 2026. Costs are currently being sought for a replacement dais. The proposal is for a more professional and versatile platform that can be used for a range of indoor and outdoor events. The new dais would be wider and safer to use, with handrails and secure fixings, while also being portable for use at various locations and events.

Devolution – The Town Council/Cornwall Council working party continues to meet monthly. The focus is on the devolution of the Rapsons site to facilitate the new skatepark project, the area of Castle Park around the war memorial (excluding the bungalow), Sungirt car park and woodland area. A site visit is being arranged with councillors to look at the small areas of public open space at Culverland Park (recently renovated), Jack Bice Close, Stanley Maggs Way and Silvanus Jenkin Avenue to inform decision-making.

Floral displays and watering – a meeting was held with representatives of Liskeard in Bloom to talk about this year's floral displays and watering arrangements. There are a few proposed changes this year including the installation of an automatic watering system at the Guildhall. Also, the hanging basket at Foresters Hall will be replaced with a barrier-style basket. The display on the Fountain will be scaled back to accommodate the masonry repairs scheduled for later in the year. The wooden planter at the Pipe Well will also be renewed. The Town Council no longer uses pesticides on sites that it owns and/or manages so we have requested that alternatives to slug pellets are used wherever possible in the large planters. Some of this year's displays will be themed on the Ukrainian and French flags to honour Liskeard's twinning partners.

Footpath (Public Rights of Way) Maintenance – the first cut of the footpaths has taken place under the Local Maintenance Partnership arrangement with Cornwall Council.

Public Realm Improvement and Re-introduction of Weed Treatment – Liskeard Town Council continues to undertake weed treatment of the areas highlighted in green on the attached. This was reduced from twice-yearly to once per annum in 2021. The cost for 2026 is £2,739 + VAT.

Team Update – Two new members of staff, Kieron and Alison, have joined the Facilities Team as Facilities Assistants. Alongside Cherie, they will support the smooth day-to-day operation of the Town Council's facilities, including buildings, public toilets, parks, monuments, and allotments.

The Facilities Administration Officer role will continue to provide administrative support to the team and will also take on responsibility as the Town Council's Safeguarding Lead.

Mark has moved into the role of Support & Contracts Officer, while David has been appointed Assistant Facilities Manager. Over the coming weeks, the Council will also be recruiting a cleaner to further strengthen the team.

These new and expanded roles reflect the recommendations of the recent organisational review and will help ensure the Council has the flexibility, practical expertise, and operational capacity needed to maintain and improve services for the community.