

# Liskeard Town Forum

## Dalva An Dre Lyskerrys

### Water Fountain and Water Refill Stations



### Outline

In January 2019, Liskeard Town Forum was requested by a local resident to look at the use of the Water Fountain on the parade. The idea was to re-establish a supply of fresh water to provide a refill station for those with reusable bottles.

Liskeard Town Facilities committee agreed that the forum could look into this, 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 2019, 533/18 CORRESPONDENCE

The Liskeard water fountain is a central feature on the Liskeard parade, and having water flow once more would likely create an additional attraction for the town.

From initial discussions, a number of challenges likely exist in the use of the water fountain as a refill station.

- Hygiene
- Cost of supply
- Maintenance
- Misuse of water
- Alternative ideas for the use of the fountain, for example as a flower display?
- The water fountain is a listed building and comes under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest. [<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1203197>]

As part of the research into this project, the Chair of Liskeard Town Forum has spoken to the Development Officer (Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, Planning & Sustainable Development), and received a promising response on the reuse of the fountain as a refill station, but this does not imply a definite YES, and any work on the repurposing of the fountain could fall foul of its listed status. Please see Kate's response in Appendix 2.

All these complications will make using the fountain a complicated and time consuming process.

It is suggested, that some form of public consultation on the fountain's future use and presentation, may be a good project?

## Refill Stations

Refill stations are an increasingly popular feature for towns, and very useful in supporting ambitions to reduce the use of plastic bottles and carbon footprint.

The Liskeard Town Forum would like to suggest working with Liskeard Town Council to look at the possibility of installing refill stations within the Liskeard area.

Refill stations provide a good facility for residents and visitors, while hopefully reducing the use of plastic bottles.

Liskeard Town Forum suggests the installation of a water refill station would be a better solution than using the old water fountain as a refill station.

An example of a local refill station can be seen at Bude, and the following article maybe of interest: <http://budeandbeyond.co.uk/community-water-refill-station-installed-on-the-triangle-in-bude/>

It should be noted that though a local plumber installed the refill station at Bude, ground works were required.

## Typical water refill stations.

### Costs

The purchase of water refill stations vary depending on whether they are indoors, or outdoors. A basic online search has seen prices vary from £2000 to £5000. A typical model is shown below.



Indoor refill stations generally appear to be cheaper, and perhaps this would be a more manageable solution.

Apps are available to point walkers to local stations, <https://www.refill.org.uk/get-involved/>

Likely installation costs FILL IN HERE

### Operation Costs

I have tried to establish the costs on Bude Town Council for the provision of a water refill station. Their accounts can be found here: <https://www.bude-stratton.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Budget2019.pdf>

There are two lines for water, and I am assuming Water Services, (6018) are related to the refill stations. An annual cost of £3000, would be reasonable? (I used the Central Services Budget 2019-2020 budget to allow for the impact of Covid-19).

### Grants

The LTC Facilities committee may feel the provision of a water refill station a worthwhile investment as part of their precept? This would support the LTC aims to reduce environmental pollution, and perhaps form a Silver Jubilee legacy project?

It may also be possible to explore the application of grants, and some local success has been seen: <https://truthfal.com/2021/02/18/cornish-charity-wins-funding-for-water-bottle-refill-stations/>

### Locations

For outdoor use, The Parade, Westbourne Car-Park, Pipewell, Cattle Market, Railway Station, may all be good locations for an outdoor refill station.

The use of the Public Hall, Foresters Hall, TIC, Railway Station, (interior) are possible locations where indoor refill stations could be installed and their use monitored. It would also be possible to secure the refill station during the night-time.

Planning maybe required for certain locations.

## Environmental Impacts

It is important to consider the environmental impact of installing water refill stations. There is a possibility of construction work, and the use of chemicals to clean the refill stations.

On the positive side, at aluminium's most polluting level, a 330 ml can is responsible for 1,300 grams of carbon dioxide emissions, according to the analysis compiled for Reuters, roughly equating to the emissions produced by driving a car 7 to 8 km.

A plastic bottle of the same size, made from the polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic typically used, accounts for up to 330 grams. [source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-environment-plastic-aluminium-insight-idUKKBN1WW0JQ>]

The installation of a refill station could reduce the use of these products, helping to reduce carbon footprint.

## Local Cafes, Pubs and Outlets

Water refill stations could be seen to undermine local outlets, and it might be worth seeing if local establishments wish to provide and publicise water refill facilities.

## Summary

This is an initial discussion on the provision of refill stations for Liskeard, and Liskeard Town Forum would welcome comment from Liskeard Town Council, and perhaps some form of joint working to look at the possibilities.

David Ambler  
Chair of Liskeard Town Forum

## Appendix 1

### Historic England Comments

Dear Councillor Ambler,

Thank you for your email.

Historic England is responsible for administering the listing process; however we act purely as an advisory body in relation to the management of heritage assets across the country. We are not involved in matters of consents for Listed Buildings I'm afraid, this is the responsibility of the Local Planning Authority.

There are specific occasions when the conservation officer is obliged to consult with us: changes to a Grade I or Grade II\* (star) Listed structure, or the demolition or partial demolition of a Grade II Listed building. However we would not normally be consulted for alterations to a Grade II Listed building or any surrounding development and it should be noted that all our advice is for guidance only and there is nothing that obliges the conservation officer to follow our recommendations.

I would therefore suggest that you contact the Conservation Officer (or equivalent) at the Local Planning Authority and discuss this with them as he/she will be able to advise whether or not you would need Listed Building Consent.

I am sorry that we are unable to help you further on this occasion but if you have any questions then please get back to me and I will be happy to help.

Kind regards,

Annely

Annely Souza  
Information Services Officer  
Policy and Evidence  
Historic England

## Appendix 2

Response from Kate McKnight (Loubser) | Development Officer (Historic Environment) Cornwall Council | Planning & Sustainable Development

Hi David,

Thanks for your email which was forwarded to me.

The fountain is listed (formal listing details below) which would mean that any potential work to the fountain would need a listed building consent application setting out any proposed works to make this fountain usable for refilling water bottles. Overall I think we'd support the re-use of the listed structure for its intended purpose.

However, I think you would need to talk to a plumber/contractor to work out what is needed to get the thing working and then talk to us about that once you have a better idea of what might be necessary.

With best wishes

Kate.

SX2564 THE PARADE  
979-1/5/166 Fountain  
22/07/81

GV II

Fountain. 1871 inscription. By Henry Rice. Dressed granite square-on plan elvan and freestone corner buttressed construction with carved cornice to stepped top surmounted by an ornate turned cast-iron lamp-post on 4 arched feet. Pedimented doorcase to west; other faces have pedimented aedicules with drinking bowls. An important element in the streetscape.

Listing NGR: SX2510464616