

## Liskeard Town Council

**AT A MEETING** of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held remotely on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Rachel Brooks – in the chair

The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Sandra Mitchell

Councillors – David Ambler, Simon Cassidy, Sally Hawken, Tony Powell, Sue Shand, Julian Smith and Christina Whitty.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Town Clerk - Yvette Hayward

Facilities Manager – Jacqui Orange

Members of the Public – Pippa Cann (Citizens Advice Cornwall), Nick Craker (Cornwall Councillor).

304 / 20 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Ian Barlow, Anna Clarke, Ian Goldsworthy, Jane Pascoe and Naomi Taylor.

305 / 20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – None.

306 / 20 **MAYOR'S REMARKS** – At the last meeting of this very challenging year I wanted to reflect on the ways we have been able to work together to do our best for local people.

Firstly I want to thank all our staff who have responded brilliantly to all the new challenges and changes, working in different ways to help deliver services, enable us to reach decisions and plan for the future.

Through our social emergency fund we've been able to help many local organisations provide much needed support.

Most recently, as well as helping to fund Christmas parcels we've brought together local schools, churches and food organisations to coordinate what is happening and to successfully apply for a Cornwall Council food grant.

We've worked with organisations involved in Liskeard Unlocked and Lights Up to make sure those events could go ahead in different forms and our new events space has enabled the remembrance event and local food markets to happen. Our support for Liskeard in Bloom, as ever, has been repaid many times over in their wonderful flowers and community activities.

We've also worked in partnership with Cornwall Council in the Cattle Market. As well as the millions being invested in the new workshed, Cornwall Council is contributing hundreds of thousands of match funding to our Cattle Market makers project. As importantly, they are contributing their expertise and relationships to enable the capital build. When combined with our local knowledge and contacts and all the work we have put into the application, that makes a very strong partnership. Neither of us could make this happen without the other. We are very lucky to have able and motivated officers at Cornwall Council who have spent a lot of time on our project and have gone out of their way to help us.

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I'd like particularly to thank Adam Birchall, Arron Jones, Lindsay Knuckey from economic development and Vicky Reece-Romaine from the culture team. As we continue working with them, and with the architects and project manager for the creative hub it's important that we all engage with them constructively, recognising that we all want to make this work.

Bringing this important site back into use, in line with community aspirations, was never going to be an easy task and Covid has inevitably caused more frustrating delays. But things are now really moving forward on the site and we'll see a lot of progress in the new year.

Finally, this year has also tested relationships on the council. I know many of us have faced personal and health challenges and it has been hard not being able to meet face to face. I hope we can continue to try to work together constructively despite all this and I wish you all a happy Christmas and better times in 2021.

307 / 20 **TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 AND 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020 MEETINGS** – With the inclusion of the reference to the Liskerrett Centre, the Mayor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2020.

308 / 20 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Pippa Cann (Citizens Advice) spoke to set the context behind the submission of the application for grant support.

In response, to a question from a councillor, the Town Clerk clarified that this application was made under the Social Emergency Fund which did permit the funding of costs such as wages, which were not eligible under the normal Grant policy.

309 / 20 **SOCIAL EMERGENCY FUND APPLICATION – CITIZENS ADVICE CORNWALL** – Following discussion, Councillor Cassidy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £2,000.

310 / 20 **CATTLE MARKET UPDATE** – It was noted that fencing had been put in place to secure the (Workshed) site prior to the commencement of the demolition works in the near future.

There was an extensive discussion about the precise location of the creative hub, in which a number of questions were raised, including:

- Was there any scope for the creative hub to occupy part of the site set aside for the Workshed and associated functions and, if not, what were the planning and funding obstacles to this?
- Could the creative hub be moved further west and could more information be provided on the implications in terms of groundworks and services?
- What were the latest estimates of the capital cost and the financial implications of altering the site.

Councillors also asked to see the final version of the draft lease.

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Councillor Cassidy proposed, Councillor Powell seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to defer consideration of agenda item 7. Cattle Market Makers to a meeting early in new year and seek information relating to the costs and services to inform the location of the Cattle Market Makers project.

311 / 20 **CORNWALL COUNCIL REGENERATION FUNDS** a) Employment Land Project - Following discussion, Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the draft employment land project proposal. b) Active Travel Bid – Council Powell proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Active Travel application.

312 / 20 **TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE** – None, additional to the written reports.

313 / 20 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS - MINUTES** – a) Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **RATIFY** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26th October 2020. 76/20

b) The Mayor proposed, Councillor Shand seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

c) Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **RATIFY** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16th November 2020.

d) Councillor Smith proposed, the Mayor seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to the minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 17th November 2020.

e) Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **RATIFY** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

#### RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO) REPORTS (11-18)

314 / 20 **RFO REPORT** – (for information). Noted.

315 / 20 BUDGET MONITORING TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020 – Noted.

316 / 20 **AGED DEBTORS** – Noted.

317 / 20 **EXTERNAL AUDIT 2019/2020** – The RFO was congratulated on the positive external auditor's report. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the External Auditors report and certificate 2019/2020.

318 / 20 **INTERNAL AUDITOR – INTERIM REPORT** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Internal Auditor's Interim Report for 2020/2021.

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319 / 20 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (Investment Strategy)** – Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Treasury Management Strategy.

320 / 20 **RESERVED CAR PARKING SPACE** – Following discussion, Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Whitty seconded that the Council retain the reserved car parking space. Upon being put to the vote which was tied the Mayor exercised the Chair’s casting vote not to retain the reserved car parking space. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Shand seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** not to retain the reserved car parking space.

321 / 20 **DRAFT BUDGETS 2021/2022** – Noted.

322 / 20 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Shand seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Schedule of Payments.

323 / 20 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS** – (7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30 pm post meeting confirmation) and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30 pm

As the meeting had become inquorate, consideration of agenda Item 20 was deferred to the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Council meeting.

20. Persimmon Homes – Transfer of the freehold ownership of a piece of land to the Town Council to provide allotments (see attached) to approve the transfer of the ownership of the land subject to it meeting the agreed requirements.