

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held remotely on Tuesday 23rd February 2021 at 7.00 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Rachel Brooks – in the chair

The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Sandra Mitchell (IT issues joining at about 19.30 and charger issues and left at 20.01)

Councillors – David Ambler, Simon Cassidy, Sally Hawken, Ian Goldsworthy, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell, Sue Shand, Julian Smith, Naomi Taylor and Christina Whitty.

Mayor’s Chaplain – Reverend Rebecca Bell

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Town Clerk - Yvette Hayward

Members of the Public – Esther O’ Bearagh (Cornwall Council - Waste and Recycling Community Engagement Team Leader), Nick Craker (Cornwall Councillor), Charlotte Evans (Cornwall Council – Project Advisor, Making Space for Nature, Jesse Foot (Cornwall Councillor) and Kelly Noakes (Darcies Reading Den), Melissa Ralph – (Cornwall Council - Making Space for Nature - Project Lead)

398 / 20 **APOLOGIES** – Councillor Ian Barlow.

399 / 20 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE – None.

400 / 20 **MAYOR’S REMARKS** - Welcome to another meeting during lockdown. As we start to see some signs of spring I hope you and your families are safe and well. As always we have a lot going on, so to keep this meeting manageable and allow good time for discussion, we’ve set up a special council meeting for next Tuesday, 2 March.

The main item will be the consultation on the community and arts building as part of phase II of the Cattle Market development. Charles Campion and his team have held two very positive Zoom workshops involving a wide range of community groups, as well as many one to one conversations. On 2 March we’ll be able to hear about the results of the consultation so far and have the opportunity to contribute our own ideas. Local groups are keen to have Town Council input in helping to develop the new facilities. One important aspect of this is how they can be managed in a sustainable way and potential governance arrangements will be a key item for discussion.

That meeting will also receive an update about plans for the library.

Sandra, Anna and I met Mandy and Vicky a couple of weeks ago to talk about the virtual Community Fair and from 8 March that should be live on our website with plenty of social media to help showcase local organisations.

I know Simon has been leading on the work to encourage people to stand in the Town Council elections in May. The webpage is live, there is a social media campaign and two Zoom sessions are planned for next week.

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We've also started planning for Liskeard Unlocked in September. The theme this year is food and we had a very positive meeting with local organisations with lots of ideas.

401 / 20 **TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 26TH JANUARY 2021 MEETING** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Shand seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2021.

402 / 20 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Kelly Nokes, (Darcies Reading Den) spoke to the application (6a) and answered questions which covered:

- Painting kits as well as books would be available to children. The Commission would be reinvested as addition stock to distribute.
- The books and kits would be free to the children and families sourced through the Foodbank.
- A note could be provided of the number of books and kits supplied and the age group of the children. A note as to the commission generated could be supplied.

403 / 20 **SOCIAL EMERGENCY FUND** – a) Kelly Nokes, Darcies Reading Den – Purchase of a stock of books for distribution in conjunction with the Foodbank (£500). Councillor Ambler proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the grant request.

404 / 20 **SOCIAL EMERGENCY FUND** – b) Clare Bevan – Lighthouse Community Centre – Men's mental health club (requesting from £500 minimum to a possible £5,000).

It was noted that due to unforeseen circumstances the applicant had given their apologies for the meeting. After discussion, it was decided to defer the item until the 30th March 2021 Council meeting. The applicant should be asked to consider:

Whether it was more appropriate to apply to the main grants fund as the project is not specific to support related to the pandemic.

Alternative provision – is the applicant aware of the other Mental Health Initiatives? For example, Liskeard Fire Station has a men's mental health provision. How does the project relate to them?

The grant is only to cover part of the project costs. How would the shortfall be funded and what would happen if the other money is not raised?

405 / 20 **RECYCLING PRESENTATION – ESTHER O' BEARAGH – CORNWALL COUNCIL – WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM LEADER** – Esther O' Bearagh spoke to the presentation and answered questions.

- Only two Council's in the South West currently have weekly refuse collections (Cornwall Council and the Isles of Sicily) – Dorset are changing to rubbish collections on a 3 week cycle. 99/20

- Only Liskeard has undertaken a survey of this type. This might form the basis of ongoing discussions on the subject.
- Bulky Waste Skips were used when available – could they be brought back? Only Mevagissey have retained a facility and then just for the cans and plastics – Cornwall Council / Cormac no longer have the special vehicle for dealing with such skips.
- How was the new service planned and when will people know whether they have a wheelie bin or a seagull proof sack? The waste and recycling streams were examined in great detail and the proposals drawn up. Approximately, 85% will be wheelie bins and 15% sea gull proof sacks. Once a household has been notified of the intended type of waste they can appeal the decision.

The Mayor thanked Esther for the presentation. There seemed to be merit in the small group that had worked on the waste and recycling survey to meet with her and discuss ways to make kerbside collection easier for central Liskeard residents. Esther agreed to this.

406 / 20 **MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE PRESENTATION – CHARLOTTE EVANS, PROJECT ADVISOR, CORNWALL COUNCIL** – Charlotte Evans spoke to the presentation and answered questions.

- Liskeard was one of only 7 towns in Cornwall to benefit from the project which was time limited to December 2022. The funding was predominantly European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), with match funding from Cornwall Council and a contribution from the University of Exeter. Each town would have £200,000 invested in eligible projects.
- Cornwall Council owned sites were eligible and after a local consultation process - St Martin's Churchyard, Lanchard Woods and Castle Park were all selected. (it was noted that there were Commonwealth War Graves in St Martins Churchyard which needed to be kept tidy).
- The Cornwall Council Devolution Board had prioritized the transfer of Castle Park. Both this project and the Waste and Recycling scheme would benefit from the inclusion of as many volunteers as possible.
- The Active Travel Bid included the provision of further funding for an additional two disabled accessible paths at Castle Park in addition to the path in the Eastern section. The Town Council Open Spaces Working Party were working on the issue of the management.

The Mayor thanked Charlotte for her presentation. The Town Council can provide further information on community groups to help with the progression of the project.

407 / 20 **CATTLE MARKET UPDATE – NEXT STEPS – A) DESIGN GROUP WORKSHOP 12TH FEBRUARY 2021** – Following discussion, it was decided to include an item on the 2nd March 2021 Council agenda to agree to make a planning application for the cattle market makers project.

408 / 20 **B) LEASE** – following confirmation that the lease had been satisfactorily modified, the Mayor proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the lease.

409 / 20 **C) TENANCY AT WILL AGREEMENT** – Noting that the agreement would be modified for each tenant, Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Tenancy at Will agreement.

410 / 20 **TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE** – The Town Clerk clarified that the Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) advice on the use of the chat-box was that the consideration and decision making of the Council should be visible to the public. It was therefore agreed only to use the chat box to provide factual information and not for debate.

411 / 20 **TOWN CENTRE REVITALISATION FUND – ACTIVE TRAVEL BID UPDATE** – The Mayor reported on the meeting the previous day with the Cornwall Council Town Renewal officers, the notes of which had been circulated. The meeting had supported the feedback that a local cycling and walking infrastructure plan should be developed as part of the project and that the emphasis should be on local travel to work and school. It recommended that there should be a tender process to undertake the work. The next steps were to agree deliverables and produce the brief for the feasibility study. This approach was accepted.

Subject to the inclusion of Disability Cornwall (should they wish to actively participate) to the membership list of the working group, Councillor Hawken proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Terms of Reference.

RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO) REPORTS (9-12)

412 / 20 **RFO REPORT** – (for information – including bank balances, grants received and training. Noted, with congratulations to the RFO and accounts clerk for the positive feedback from Rialtas on the accounts.

413 / 20 **BUDGET MONITORING TO 31 JANUARY 2021** – The issues with the broadband system and the impact of delaying the production of the report were noted. However, the amount of time to consider the information was too short.

414 / 20 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Hawken seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Schedule of Payments.

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415 / 20 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS – MINUTES:**

- a) Facilities Committee – 19th January 2021 - Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 19th January 2021
- b) Planning Committee – 25th January 2021 - Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **RATIFY** the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 25th January 2021.

416 / 20 **CORNWALL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (CALC) RETENTION OF VIRTUAL MEETINGS** – a) Councillor Hawken proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded, and the Council **RESOLVED** to write to the Cabinet Office and MP for the retention of the possibility of holding virtual meetings. b) Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to write to the Cabinet Office and the MP asking the Government to postpone the 6th May 2021 elections until they could be conducted safely and fairly.

417 / 20 **HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE** – That with the inclusion of numbering the points and referring to lone volunteers in the action plan, the Mayor proposed, Councillor Shand seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Health & Safety policy.

418 / 20 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted.

419 / 20 **CORNWALL COUNCIL COUNCILLOR UPDATES** – Councillor Jane Pascoe – Old Road Scheme – this had been more limited than some had hoped due to budgetary constraints. Nevertheless, everyone was pleased that the improvements outlined in the consultation were now forthcoming.

Active Travel Scheme – getting more people off of the road, as well as improving road safety should be the priority.

Lanchard Project – was a very good and well appreciated scheme. However, it was felt that improving access might well see an increase in fly tipping.

Councillor Nick Craker – Environment Service – had met with them and Town Council representatives to look at the frequency and timing of the cuts. There would be 3 cuts rather than the 2 as per in 2020. There would be litter picking to avoid some of the issues of last year.

Cornwall Council Budget and Council Tax Setting - was due to increase by 4.99%.

Councillor Sally Hawken – School Holiday Food Funding – reported that some funding was being diverted to contribute to this funding.

Castle Park – the development of the project had included input on the heritage side from Brian Oldham and Iain Rowe. This had included steps to assist with the Devolution and transfer to the Town Council which would come with some supporting plans and specifications.

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420 / 20 **CORRESPONDENCE** - 12th February 2021 – Liskeard School and Community College – Thank you letter to the Philip Blamey Trust. Noted.

421 / 20 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – 2nd March 2021 at 7.00 pm

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