

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the TOWN COUNCIL held in the Public Hall on Tuesday 26 October 2021 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor - Councillor Simon Cassidy – in the chair

The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty

Mayor’s Chaplain – Reverend Andy Day

Councillors – David Ambler, Rachel Brooks, Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Richard Dorling, Rob Frost, Ian Goldsworthy, Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell and Lori Reid.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Facilities Manager – Jacqui Orange

Members of the Public – Ian Barlow (Climate and Ecological Alliance), Lin Moore (Liskeard Traders Association), Martin Symons (President – Liskeard Lions), Linda Davidson (A38 Road Safety Emergency Campaign group), Gerith Eden (A38 Road Safety Emergency Campaign group), and (Richard Reardon – (friend accompanying Annette Lee-Julian).

A minutes silence was observed in memory of Sir David Amess, MP who was murdered whilst serving his community

253 / 21 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Julian Smith and Naomi Taylor.
 Cllrs A Toms and Cllr P Seeva – Cornwall Councillors

254 / 21 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – The Deputy Mayor and Councillor Kerry Cassidy declared an interest in agenda item 7b – Grant Application – Liskeard Lions.

255 / 21 **MAYOR’S REMARKS** – The Mayor provided a brief overview of his most recent activities including:

- 18th September – the Tea Treat at Castle Park was held despite the rain and he thanked Councillor Rachel Brooks for organizing it and the several Councillors who attended.
- 22nd September – Foodbank - he and Councillor Craker had visited the Foodbank to understand the service provided and the issues facing them.
- 29th September – He had met Lin Moore (Liskeard Traders Association) to discuss improvements to the town centre and the arrangements for Christmas.
- 1st October – he had meet Mathew Lang who had been attached to a medicine ball for 7 days to highlight the issue of carrying around mental health.
- 8th October – he had visited Hillfort School to talk about the role of the council
- 10th October – he had assisted the Liskeard in Bloom volunteers put take down and put away the hanging baskets. Discussions were held around plans for Queens Jubilee
- 21st October – Was saddened to hear some people had been assaulted in the town on the afternoon of 21st – thoughts with those affected
- 21st October – took part in the interviews for the CMM Project Assistant post
- 21st October attended the Trafalgar Night celebrations with the Royal Naval Association.
- 23rd October – along with other councillors and residents helped in the clean-up of the Culverland Park area organized by Councillor Craker.

66/21

256 / 21 **MINUTES** – Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the Council meetings held on 29th June 2021, 29th July 2021 and 24th August 2021.

257 / 21 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** –

Ian Barlow - (Climate and Ecological Alliance) - set the context of his proposal by reference to global, national and local circumstances. Over time these have created a situation requiring targeted proposals and firm action. He spoke on the need to write to the local MP Sheryll Murray and seek her support for the “Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill.

Martin Symons – President Liskeard Lions – spoke to support the application for grant to help to fund this year’s pantomime. He highlighted the serious impact that Covid had on the Lions’ ability to raise funds and he was seeking a higher grant than usual to reflect that.

Linda Davidson – (A38 Road Safety Emergency) – pointed to the economic and social as well as road safety benefits of investing in road improvements to the A38 including ideally by the introduction of a dual carriageway. A38 improvements that reduced the need for cars to queue would also have a positive environmental / carbon lowering impact.

258 / 21 **CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL (CEE)** – a record vote was requested. Councillor Frost proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to write to Sheryll Murray MP and seek her support for the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill. Those supporting the proposal were, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors Ambler, Brooks, K Cassidy, Dorling, Frost, Goldsworthy, Lee-Julian. Those not in supporting the proposal Councillors Craker, Pascoe and Powell.

259 / 21 **GRANT APPLICATIONS – A. ST MARTINS CHURCH (ON BEHALF OF CHURCHES TOGETHER) B. LISKEARD LIONS** – a). Councillor Powell proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a grant of £500 to support the holding of a Christmas carols event on 19th December 2021. (The grant carries the requirement that a town centre location be considered next year). b). Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a grant of £1,200 to the Liskeard Lions. Facilities Committee were asked to consider the possible making of space available for free for suitable uses.

260 / 21 **CATTLE MARKET MAKERS PROJECT BOARD** – a). The notes of the 20th October 2021 board meeting were received. (Noted) b). To consider and approve any further steps arising from the capital element of the project. (Cornwall Council Options File). In considering the next steps, Councillors Smiths comments “if we really want to make it happen it is going to be down to the Town Council to take over the total management. Change the current lease for the “land and containers” to a ground lease that permit the TC to build and go out to tender on the original container based specification signed off and under the control of our own professional team. If we cant do this I am clearly missing something of significance.”

The Town Clerk also read out the advice from Judith Hann the Programme Manager (Community Lead Local Development CLLD).

“As promised I have met internally and discussed the CDC capacity to support the next stages of this project.

67/21

There seem to be several roles to be discussed and I outline these below:

1. Running the tender process.

If requested, CDC could run the development of the tender of the construction project and the running of the procurement to get a contractor. In order to do this, however, CDC would require a client – be that Liskeard Town Council or Cornwall Council. That is a decision to be made between the councils.

It may also be simplest to have the existing company that produced the Minor Works materials to be asked to reformat their existing work into a compliant tender document with CDC involved in supporting that work to ensure compliance

The key issue will be for CDC to have a client to work to (and to have agreed who the contracting authority is) – be that LTC or CC and to be commissioned to do appropriately to do that work.

There is current capacity within the CDC team to manage this process internally or by managing the existing agents to do so..

2. Project Management of the actual works

There will need to be further discussions and an agreement about who will project manage the works as they are ongoing – and this could also be, subject to detailed conversations with the ‘contracting authority’ be managed by CDC, assuming this fits with existing workloads etc. CDC cannot categorically offer to do this until those discussions have happened, but there is a willingness to have those conversations with whoever is appropriate.

From a CLLD perspective I can work with the LAG as and when we know the outcomes of the tender to secure additional cap funds if required. I remain confident that this would be supported by the LAG as this is seen as a major and strategic project for South and East Cornwall”

RECOMMENDATION: Following consideration, it was agreed to use the help offered by Cornwall Development Company (CDC). That an open tender process would produce an actual capital figure. The Town Council would seek confirmation of the availability of additional (ERDF money and a revised percentage rate of grant) from the CLLD programme and the Cornwall Council match funding pot held by the CLLD programme. This would hopefully, not require a net increase in the Town Council’s actual financial input. It was noted that the existing lease would need to be modified (simplified), the Insurance implications of ownership would be included and this considered at a Special Council meeting. **AGREED**

261 / 21 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:-**

- a. Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 6th September 2021.
- b. Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Lee-Julian seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee held on 14th September 2021.
- c. Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 21st September 2021.
- d. Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on the 27th September 2021.

- e. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Finance, Economic Development & General Purposes Committee held on the 28th September 2021.
- f. Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOVLED** to the note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 18th October 2021.

262 / 21 **DEVOLUTION - CASTLE PARK** – Councillor Powell proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** subject to the receipt of finalized costings, to confirm the Town Council’s intention to receive Castle Park from Cornwall Council under the Devolution process by April 2022.

263 / 21 **DATA-CABLING CONTRACT (MINUTE 203/21 REFERRED 21ST SEPTEMBER 2021 FACILITIES COMMITTEE** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the lowest of the contractors quotes and proceed with the data-cabling works.

264 / 21 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to confirm Councilor Richard Dorling and Councillor Lori Reid as members of the Finance, Economic Development & General Committee.

265 / 21 **YOUTH COUNCIL FACILITATION** – Councillor Craker proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to a budget of £600 to support the facilitation of the Youth Council.

266 / 21 **PLASTIC FREE LISKEARD – BUSINESS ACCOUNT CLOSURE** – Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Frost seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal from Plastic Free Liskeard that the funds from their business account be transferred to the Town Council to be ringfenced for environmental improvement projects including the Plastic Free Liskeard hemp bags. Tristram Besterman was thanked for all his efforts on environmental project in general and the Plastic Free Liskeard initiative in particular.

267 / 21 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – Councillor Reid proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Schedule of Payments for Approval.

268 / 21 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES** –

Cornwall Councillor Pascoe – Gave Updates on the following:

“We were all shocked and saddened to learn about the murder of Sir David Amess. A dedicated MP who served his constituency so well.

CORNWALL COUNCILL BUDGETARY SITUATION is managing the most difficult Budget setting the Council has ever had. We are currently facing an in-year overspend as legacy of the pandemic and its impact to our costs. In order to for the Council to remain financially stable, we simply must reduce the cost base of the Council quite significantly. This means reducing the amount of money the Council spend.

For next year we are trying to reduce our base by £70m which equates to 10% of our revenue budget. This will mean some very difficult decisions both in terms of the number of people who work for the Council and the number and size of contracts we have with suppliers.

We are looking at reducing the size of the Council's Estate and in the short term reduce the size of the workforce. A reduction target has been set of £18million by 31st March 2022, against a current workforce of £200 million.

COMMUNITY NETWORK PANEL - meeting took place on 11th October and was well attended virtually. The Parishes considered the options for meetings going forward and it was unanimous that the preference was to continue on a "Virtual "basis for the winter.

The priorities for the Liskeard /Looe Panel were discussed and agreed and they are as follows :

Road Safety – Speed Limits, signage, Community Speed checks.

Economic Development – job creation, SE Cornwall Economic Development progress. Tamar Bridge.

A38 Progress – Safety measures, dualling and Railway Bridge at Trerulefoot.

Sports/ Leisure Facilities and Open Space Provision – footpath maintenance, fly tipping, litter, dog waste, trees.

Housing – provision, CHL Maintenance and repair, Planning requirements for development, NDPs, Primary Health Care, Doctors and Dentists.

Looe Flood Defence Scheme

Climate Change

This list can be added to by Parishes if required as local issues materialise.

We will be working closely with the other Community Network Panels in SE Cornwall to highlight to CC the importance of these issues to our local communities.

SURVEYS - There are two Housing surveys on the website that we are encouraging our residents to take part in.

1. Housing Crisis – To inform Housing Crisis Plan.

2. A Review of the 10 Year Housing Strategy.

THE ANNUAL SURVEY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. Following the conversations with our young people at the G7 we will welcome their input to this survey.

This involves residents who may not have completed the Annual Household Canvass.

One may receive a visit from a member of staff, please ask for their identity clarification.

It is to ensure the electoral register is kept up to date.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS. - Cornwall Council will be providing free School Meals over the October half term. The money used will be from the Household Support Fund to feed over 15000 young people. Up to £15 per eligible child.

STAY VIGILANT, STAY SAFE OVER THE HALF TERM. - HANDS – FACE - SPACE

TAMAR BRIDGE - Finally, the Tamar Bridge resurfacing has been completed.

This has not been without considerable inconvenience and hardship to the people of SE Cornwall. Our Primary health care can only be accessed by crossing the Tamar and many make a daily commute for employment and education.

LISKEARD TOWN FORUM. - Regretfully, I was unable to attend the Forum on Wednesday last as it falls on the same night as Dobwalls Parish Council. I understand that there were considerable representation from residents in New Road regarding road safety issues which included safe crossing and speeding vehicles.

70/21

You will recall I have been aware of these concerns for some years and had previously tried to include New Road in the traffic calming scheme with West Street and Old Road. However, The Liskeard Active travel project is considering the possibility of including that area and I do hope the Forum and residents will make further representation to support safer pedestrian and cycle ways in New Road in addition to a safe crossing and 20mph zone.

CULVERLAND PARK CLEAN UP - Finally, I was more than pleased to give Councillor Craker a helping hand clearing debris and overgrown bushes in Culverland Park on Saturday. It was great meeting with the residents who had also volunteered and I look forward to another session in my division shortly."

Cornwall Councillor Craker – Gave Updates on the following:

This is a summary of my Cornwall Cllr update I provided at Liskeard Town Council meeting on Tuesday this week.

- Clean up Culverland Park

Great success on Saturday, we had 5 Councillors and 10 residents come out to support the clean up. It was very well supported and a real desire from residents to continue this again at Culverland Park.

I want to thank Councillors Simon Cassidy, Cllr Kerry Cassidy, Cllr David Ambler, Cllr Rob Frost and Cllr Jane Pascoe for supporting the clean up. It was good for the area, good for the residents and I think good for us as town councillors to spend sometime together, bonding over something outside of Council meetings.

I want to read a message I received from one of the residents who took part:

Good afternoon I would like to thank Cllr Nick Craker for organising this clean up Culverland Park Estate and also the Mayor of Liskeard, and all the other councillors and also the fellow residents who came along to help to get our Estate looking a lot more like an estate we all can be very proud of living in and I am almost certain that this will not be a one off.

- Casework on housing coming to me was notably increasing and some harrowing personal stories of people living in our town, including issues with poor heating, inadequately housed and problems with Homechoice.

- I have been to inspect progress of the 46 houses that Treveth are building on behalf of Cornwall Council at Maudlin Farm. Progress coming along now after a slow start, mix of affordable and open market but because being built by Cornwall Council even the open market rent properties will have a local lettings policy to control local connection. Good to see a great number of local apprentices, local trades people and local materials being used.

- I have been in close contact with the developer on the North of Lake Lane where Linden homes were building and are in process of unlocking an historic legal agreement dating back to early 1990's we at Cornwall Council have been assisting with. Coastline Housing looking to secure Government funding to deliver a 100% affordable housing scheme here from Linden.

- St Martins Churchyard 10 year management plan. Working with Commonwealth War Graves Commission to ensure this is acceptable to them with the management of the War Graves in this closed churchyard.

71/21

- I have had a walk about with highways – looking at the new Community Network Highway Panel highways scheme for this new Administration. More funding is being allocated to Liskeard and Looe CNP £57,330 per year. I have already identified a number of small schemes in Liskeard that want attention, including requests from residents:

- o Pengover Road, Eddystone Rise
- o Peppers Park speed control/reduction
- o Venslooe Hill junction with Barras Cross

Will wait for outcome of the Active Travel report to see where this funding can complement any schemes identified in there.

269 / 21 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – It was noted that the Hotel Nebula planning application had been approved by Cornwall Council. Councillor Craker had put the case for the rejection of the application which had been the view of the Town Council.

270 / 21 **CORRESPONDENCE** – a). Safe A38 Campaign Group – Declaring of an A38 Road Safety Emergency – (observations - not to take any further action (above it being a Town Council priority for investment), not to write to our Cornwall Councillors (who were present at the meeting), to continue supporting improvements. b). Liskeard Town Forum – Christmas Free Parking and Car Parking Charges – (to write to Cornwall Council regarding Christmas Free Parking and Car Parking Charges). c). Cornwall Housing Response – Noted.

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to move into **PARTII.**

271 / 21 **PART II - PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**
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 items of Business:

20. **ROUNDBURY – SPORTS PITCHES – SITE NEGOTIATIONS** – To update on the situation.

21. **LISKEARD REDEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP** – To note the minutes of the 1st September 2021.

272 / 21 **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**
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 were readmitted to the meeting.

Councillor Kerry Cassidy proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to come out of **PARTII** and **ADOPT** the decisions made in **PARTII.**

273 / 21 **ROUNDBURY – SPORTS PITCHES – SITE NEGOTIATIONS** – To receive feedback from the agent.

274 / 21 **LISKEARD REDEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP** – Noted.