

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Emily Hobhouse Room on Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 7.30 p.m. there were:

The Mayor – Councillor Simon Cassidy – in the chair

Deputy Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty.

Councillors – Tracy Adams, David Braithwaite, Rachel Brooks, Nick Craker, Richard Dorling, Ian Goldsworthy, Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell, Lori Reid, Julian Smith and Naomi Taylor.

Mayors' Chaplain – Captain Theresa Conway – Salvation Army.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson.

Members of the Public – Pip Harris – (Liskeard Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club), Kayte Hillson – (Liskeard Resident) and Lin Moore – (Business Owner and Chair of Liskeard Traders Association).

The Mayors' Chaplain pointed out that today was the International Day of Prayer and it was interesting to consider the context of prayer and what it means to individuals. The Liskeard Prayer was well received and supported during the Covid pandemic. On the international scene the wars in Ukraine and Gaza make any issues here insignificant by comparison. The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council and members in the "The Serenity Prayer".

426 / 23 **APOLOGIES** – Councillor Kerry Cassidy.

427 / 23 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – The Deputy Mayor – cheque number 357 on Agenda Item 11 Schedule of Payments.

428 / 23 **MAYOR'S REMARKS** – The Mayor outlined his activities in the last month. In addition, he paid special thanks to those individuals who had intervened during a robbery at the Spar and detained the suspect until Police arrival. He also delivered sad news that another young person had been taken too early "Jaeden Penney" and said our thoughts are with his family and friends at this difficult time. The Mayor also asked that Billy Hilson be kept in our thoughts and prayers as he was unwell at this time

- 1st Feb – Rifles Birthday - .
- 2nd Feb – Received news of passing of Cllr Edwina Hannaford – We flew our flags at half mast that day to honour her public service and friendship to Liskeard
- 2nd Feb – Attended the Royal British Legion to make presentations of thanks to Kevin Grant who had served for 18 years as the RBL Branch Chaplain and Steve Maguire who had served as the Parade Marshall for many years and had managed other events in town
- 2nd Feb – Received news that Police Station in Liskeard was to have a front office at long last – Mayor thanked all Councillors for their work in achieving this.
- 3rd Feb – Joined the Lions and Dep Mayor at Workshed collecting aid for Ukraine
- 4th Feb – thanked the team at Lux Park Leisure Centre who responded so professionally to Medical Emergency in the pool.
- 5th Feb – received the concerning news of the King's Cancer diagnosis. Thoughts of Council with his family at this difficult time

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- 9th Feb – Joined the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Looe in thanking Looe Lions for raising money and aid for Ukraine
- 10th-14th Feb – the Mayor took part in an aid convoy to Ukraine.
- 22nd Feb – the Mayor attended Pengover to wish Marjorie a 101st birthday celebration.
- 24th Feb – led the tree planting in Thorn Park to commemorate those young people and children who had tragically been taken from us before their time.
- 24th Feb – it is sadly the 2nd Anniversary of the war in Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the Ukrainian people.
- 25th Feb – the Civic Service was held in the Methodist Church.

429 / 23 **TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 23RD JANUARY 2024 COUNCIL MEETING** – Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2024.

430 / 23 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Melissa Ralph – Making Space for Nature Manager (Urban Green Shoots – see agenda item 14). Spoke to the presentation previously circulated and the Sun girt update which had just been circulated. The key-points and questions were:

- Volunteers – the importance of building the volunteer base to help sustain the project which will have site investments during the period to 2025, but does not have ongoing revenue support.
- Anti-Social Behavior – could be reduced by improving the visibility of the site by pruning to the holly tree (which adjacent resident supported and would help monitor on an ongoing basis) and topping off the conifer trees forming the boundary treatment.
- Accessibility – the current path leads to start of the walkway. However, it appears to be sufficiently level to be made up to an accessible to the South West Water facility.
- Sun girt Car Park – especially the lower car park was in need of a “spruce up”.

431 / 23 **GRANT APPLICATION – “CORNWALL INTERNATIONAL MALE CHORAL FESTIVAL”** – Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the grant of £300 towards the cost of holding the regional concert in Liskeard.

432 / 23 **TOWN CLERKS UPDATE** – It was confirmed that the problematic clause had been removed. There appeared to be no outstanding items. A timescale for the completion of Castle Park had been asked for with the commencement of the financial year seen as the target.

433 / 23 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

- a. Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on 16th January 2024
- b. Councillor Pascoe proposed, the Deputy Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 12th February 2024.

434 / 23 **RFO REPORTS – (FOR INFORMATION – BANK BALANCES, HSBC MONEY MARKET DEPOSIT, INTERNAL CONTROLS)** – Noted.

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435 / 23 **BUDGET MONITORING 2023/2024** – Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the budget report to 31st December 2023.

436 / 23 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Lee-Julian seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Schedule of Payments.

437 / 23 **AGED DEBTORS** – Noted and actions approved.

438 / 23 **NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE 2024/2025 CIVIC YEAR** – Nomination forms had been received for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2024/2025 civic year. These nominations being:

Mayor – David Braithwaite – Christina Whitty

Deputy Mayor – David Braithwaite – Julian Smith

Ballots were held the results of which were:

Councillor Christina Whitty was elected as Mayor for the 2024/2025 civic year.

Councillor Julian Smith was elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2024/2025 civic year.

Councillor Reid proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the results of the ballots.

439 / 23 **MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE – “URBAN GREEN SHOOTS” – (A. ONGOING PLAN B. COMPLETED WORKS)** – Following the presentation and including the points made by the councillors – Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT** the new investment in eligible sites through the “Urban Green Shoots” programme.

440 / 23 **FREEDOM OF THE TOWN – ROYAL NAVY (MINUTE 144/20)** – Following consideration, the Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** adopting and working towards the “affiliation” of the town of Liskeard to the FLEET OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND TRAINING (FOST) based at HMNB Devonport.

441 / 23 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – COUNCILLOR TRACY ADAMS** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Smith seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Councillor Tracy Adams as a member of Communications & Engagement, Facilities and Planning Committees.

442 / 23 **REVIEW OF ANNUAL CHARGES – (REFERRED FROM THE 20TH FEBRUARY 2024 COMMITTEE)** – Following consideration, the Mayor proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Option E.

443 / 23 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES** –

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR JANE PASCOE

Cllr Pascoe raised her concerns regarding the decision by Cornwall Council to trial cessation of the acceptance of DIY Household Waste, TILES, RUBBLE, PLASTERBOARD, SANITARY WARE AND TYRES at Cannon Bridge. East Taphouse. The consequences had already resulted in an increase in fly tipping and longer journeys for residents to dispose of their DIY Waste. Alternative facilities are as far as Tintagel, Saltash or St Austell. This may increase traffic on the sub standard A38 and add to the pollution to the roadside village of Tideford. 91/23

She asked the Council if they would consider writing to Cornwall Council to request they review the decision.

Councillor Smith proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to write to Cornwall Council regarding the cessation of allowing Connon Bridge to take Household DIY waste.

Waste and Recycling Bin Rollout has commenced in SE Cornwall and has been running smoothly. There have been a few mistakes, most have been rectified as soon as reported. Councillor Pascoe attended the Cornwall Recycle Waste Roadshow in Liskeard Library and recommends residents to attend the roadshow if they have any queries or issues. The next Road show is at Liskerret Centre, Liskeard on 8th March 10am to 12 noon.

The recommendation to request an increase the Tamar Crossings Tolls from the Secretary of State was considered at Cornwall Council this week. Cllr Pascoe did not vote for an increase explaining that the 3rd highest users in SE Cornwall was Liskeard and the surrounding villages. The vote to increase was won by 38 to 36 against. It was agreed the application to the SofS will be delayed for 50 days to give the MPs more time to get a response from their request for Government contributions to enable freezing the tolls.

Cllr Pascoe reported she was pleased to attend the planting of the commemorative trees in tribute to the children and young people that have been lost to Liskeard. She also attended the Civic Service at the Methodist Church and met many of the residents. In her role as Chairperson of the SE Cornwall Area Partnership she attended the opening of the front desk at Looe Police Station, a welcome facility for the local community and visitors to Looe.

Gypsy, Travellers and Romas Consultation is currently on-line at CC "Lets' Talk" website.

The next meeting of the SE Cornwall CAP is on Tuesday 5th March at 6.00pm when 29 parishes will meet virtually to share good practices and difficulties encountered.

She talked about attending the most fitting funeral of a Councillor Edwina Hannaford. Edwina was an outstanding Councillor and will be hugely missed by so many people in Looe and from wider Cornwall. She contributed to many policies and documents used at Council and she will always be remembered.

CORNWALL COUNCILLOR NICK CRAKER –

- Cornwall Council budget approved, a 2.99% increase plus 2% for Adult Social Care
- Cornwall Council's housing rents also increasing by CPI +1% to address severe maintenance backlog and invest in energy efficiency improvements
- 800 families in emergency accommodation, an increase of 100 since last year. Cornwall Council has a legal duty to find emergency accommodation for these people.
- Cornwall Council continuing to buy and build its own homes, including in Liskeard.
- Homechoice is highly subscribed but continues to prioritise local people with a local connection to Liskeard, neighbouring parishes or Cornwall wide.

444 / 23 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted

445 / 23 **CORRESPONDENCE** – None.

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446 / 23 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 26th March 2024 at 7.30 pm Council.

Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to go into **PARTII**

447 / 23 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:

19. Roundbury - Provision of Sports Pitches and Related Recreational Facilities – To receive an update on progressing the project.
20. Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group – To note the minutes of the 5th December 2023 meeting.

448 / 23 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.

449 / 23 The Mayor proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the resolution made in **PARTII** namely,

19. Roundbury – Provision of Sports Pitches and Related Recreational Facilities – Noted.

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