

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Emily Hobhouse Room on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Simon Cassidy – in the chair

Deputy Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty.

Councillors – David Braithwaite, Rachel Brooks, Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Richard Dorling, Ian Goldsworthy, Annette Lee-Julian, Lori Reid, Julian Smith and Naomi Taylor.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Mayors' Chaplain – Teresa Conway – Salvation Army.

Members of the Public – Fiona Wood – Director – Tregovenek Ltd. (see agenda item 16), Michelle Virgo – Supporter – Tregovenek Ltd. (see agenda item 16), Jemma Knowles – Director – Tregovenek Ltd. – (see agenda item 16), Pip Harris (Liskeard Resident), Tracy Adams - (Business Owner “Jane Louise” – Liskeard Traders Association / Liskeard Traders Town Projects Ltd. – see agenda item 6.a. and 15.), and Lin Moore – (Business Owner “The Shoe Shop” Liskeard Traders Association / Liskeard Traders Town Projects Ltd. – see agenda item 6.a).

The Mayor's Chaplain reminded all present that this was the start of Advent and spoke and read a prayer reminding those present of the Christian meaning of this season of the year.

330 / 23 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Jane Pascoe and Tony Powell.

331 / 23 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE**
– The Deputy Mayor – Cheque 248 Councillor Expenses – Agenda Item 11 – Councillor Brooks
Cheque 250 “3 Bags Full” – Agenda Item 11.

332 / 23 **MAYOR'S REMARKS** – The Mayor outlined his activities in the last month.

- 4th November 2023 – The Mayor wished to highlight Bumblebee Knitting for their Remembrance themed window display and for allowing people to place poppies and messages in the window.
- 5th November 2023 - The Mayor attended the laying of the Field of Remembrance on the Parade and thanked everyone who braved the rain to make this annual event special.
- 9th November 2023 – the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and her consort laid Poppy Crosses on the war graves at the cemeteries across the town.
- 11th November 2023 – The Mayor attended the Armistice Day event on the Parade and praised 1st Liskeard Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who laid poppy crosses across the planters commemorating the Liskeard fallen.
- 12th November 2023 – by common consent this was the largest Remembrance Day parade for a number of years. There were many groups participating for the first time. Everyone did tremendously well, despite the weather. The church service was very poignant as this was Kevin Grant's last Remembrance Day Service before stepping down after 18 years as the Royal British Legion Chaplain. The Mayor's Chaplain Capt. Teresa Conway will be taking over as the Royal British Legion Chaplain. He also paid tribute to Sara Treeby who had organized the Poppy Appeal in Liskeard.
- 13th November 2023 - The Mayor welcomed the Lord Lieutenant for Cornwall at an event for the Lord Lieutenant's Charity at Wildanet HQ.

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- 15th November 2023 – The Mayor visited LHC Design who have opened a new office at the Workshed.
- 19th November 2023 – the Mayor attended the Annual General Meeting of the Twinning Committee for Cornwall. There was a lot of interest in the rejuvenated link between Liskeard and Quimperle and particularly the new twinning link with Kopychyntsi, in Ukraine. Other towns looked likely to explore closer links with towns in Ukraine. Roger Holmes was fondly remembered by many of the attendees.
- 19th November 2023 – The Mayor met with the volunteers who operate “Cornwall and Devon with love to Ukraine” and provide much needed aid to the people of Ukraine. The Mayor is looking to include a vehicle from Liskeard in the near future.
- 28th November 2023 – The Mayor welcomed the announcement that, Cornwall would now have a place on the British-Irish Council.

333 / 23 **TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 31ST OCTOBER 2023 COUNCIL MEETING** – With the addition of Councillor Reid to the attendees, the Mayor proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2023.

334 / 23 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Jemma Knowles - (Director – Tregovenek Ltd (see Agenda item 16) spoke to a presentation on the aims and objectives of Tregovenek Ltd. The specific project forming the application to the Community Capacity Fund was explained. Several Councillors had already visited the site to see the project at first hand.

It was agreed that Agenda Item 16 be brought forward to this point.

335 / 23 **TREGOVENEK LTD. – COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY – COMMUNITY CAPACITY FUND APPLICATION** – Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Brooks seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to support the grant application submission of Tregovenek Ltd for the land-based enterprise centre feasibility study.

336 / 23 **GRANT APPLICATIONS A). LISKEARD TRADERS ASSOCIATION – CHRISTMAS FIREWORKS EVENT** – Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the grant of £250 to the Christmas Fireworks event.

337 / 23 GRANT APPLICATIONS B). LISKEARD LOCAL COMMITTEE, CANCER RESEARCH UK – ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND SALE OF ART AND CRAFT – Councillor Reid proposed, the Deputy Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a grant of £838 towards the costs of holding the event.

338 / 23 **TOWN CLERKS UPDATE** – The response was considered and noted. Minute 289/23 – Reduction in Number 11 Bus Service.

339 / 23 **COMMITTEE MEETING – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

- a. Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Lee-Julian seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee meeting held on 9th November 2023.

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340 / 23 **RFO REPORTS – (FOR INFORMATION – BANK BALANCES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAY AWARD, INTERNAL AUDIT, VAT ADVICE)** – Noted.

341 / 23 **BUDGET MONITORING 2023/2024** – Councillor Lee-Julian proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the budget report to 31 October 2023.

342 / 23 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – Noting that the Zoom subscription at next renewal might be reviewed, Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve Schedule of Payments.

343 / 23 **BUDGET SETTING 2024/2025** – following extensive discussion of the various Committee budget proposals and the overall financial situation of the Council and the impact of the proposals on the precept payers, Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, the Deputy Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to ask the Facilities Committee to reassess their budget and ensure it is prioritised and phased (over 3 year and 5 year periods as per the Communications & Engagement Committee draft budget) with cost / benefit analysis of the various larger items and consideration of delaying them until 2025 (noting Guildhall the external advice and grant contract offer letter commitment, Public Hall – not contractually committed and a previous grant application for the MUGA having been turned down for lack of match-funding on the part of the Council.

344 / 23 **BROADBAND AT FORESTERS HALL** - Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor K Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a contract with Contractor A for the Broadband service at Foresters Hall.

345 / 23 **TWINNING PLEDGE – LISKEARD – KOPYCHYNTSI IN UKRAINE** – Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the twinning between the town of Kopychyntsi, in Ukraine and Liskeard.

346 / 23 **LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL CENTRAL WARD – VACANCY (ATTACHED)** – Councillor K Cassidy proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the cooption of Tracy Adams to fill the vacancy.

347 / 23 **LISKEARD POLICE STATION FRONT DESK** – Councillor Craker proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the MP urging the re-opening of a front desk at the Liskeard Police Station.

348 / 23 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES** – “Councillor Nick Craker:

1. **Devolution Deal – Level 2**

The proposed deal includes:

- Skills: Government will fully devolve the adult education budget from 2025, giving the Council control over how best to support adult learners, so we can make sure people have the right skills for the new industries developing in Cornwall, including those in the net zero economy.
- Green energy: The creation of a Cornwall Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) Commission to bring clean energy to the shores of Cornwall and elsewhere quicker, enabling Cornwall to contribute to the delivery of the UK's targets for renewable generation.

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- Cornish culture: The deal means Cornwall Council will be able to attend meetings of the British-Irish Council alongside the UK Government as an advisor on matters relating to the Cornish language. It also includes a further £500,000 to support Cornish distinctiveness and the Cornish language.

2. EV Charging consultation

open until 14th January. CC will use the information you provide to help finalise the Cornwall EVI strategy. Your views will also inform a bid for government funding in 2024 to deliver more public charge points.

Reality: 99% of car journeys in England are under 100 miles. This means most drivers' needs are easily met by an EV. There are tax incentives in place for owners of EVs, including zero road tax and favourable company car tax rates. These can save some drivers over £2,000 per year. All this means that the market for more affordable zero emission vehicles is growing rapidly.

Common misconceptions about electric vehicles (accessible web version) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

3. Harbours board fees and charges. A 6% increase has been applied across the majority of Fees and Charges however, some charges have been held, withdrawn, replaced or new charges introduced following review of operations and markets in which we compete."

349 / 23 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted

350 / 23 **CORRESPONDENCE** – 24th November 2023 – Liskeard Branch Royal British Legion – Secretary's report from the AGM. The Royal British Legion praised the work of the Mayor in building a strong relationship between the Service and Veteran community in Liskeard and his recognition of the many groups and organisations' who support our community. They also thanked the Town Council for all of their support in 2022/23.

351 / 23 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 19th December 2023 at 7.30 pm Council.

Councillor K Cassidy proposed, the Mayor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to go into **PARTII**

352 / 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 item of Business:

22. **Roundbury and Implementation Assessment for the Provision of Sports Pitches and Related Recreational Facilities**) – To update on passing the Council's resolution to partners and our agent on working with partners to carry out the recommended Option 2 at Roundbury.

353 / 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.

354 / 23 The Mayor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to come out of **PARTII** and **ADOPT** the resolution made in **PARTII** namely:

22. Roundbury and Implementation Assessment for the Provision of Sports Pitches and Related Recreational Facilities – To confirm the approach and modify the Memorandum of Understanding.

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