

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

AT THE MAYOR CHOOSING CEREMONY of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Public Hall, 3 West Street, Liskeard at 7.00 pm on Thursday 18 May 2023 there were present:

The Mayor: Councillor Simon Cassidy - in the Chair

Councillors: David Braithwaite Rachel Brooks, Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Richard Dorling, Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell, Lori Reid, Julian Smith, Naomi Taylor and Christina Whitty.

Town Clerk: Mr Stephen Vinson

Mayors Chaplain: Theresa Conway, Officer in Charge of the Citadel

Town Crier: Mr Ron Tremain, Launceston Town Crier

Honoured Burgesses of Liskeard: Mr John Jackson & Mrs Margaret Jackson
Mr Owen Hoskin & Mrs Jean Hoskin.
Mr Martin Gilbert

Mace Bearers: Rose Ramwell and Ethan Mort

Visiting Mayor: Deputy Mayor of Saltash Councillor Julia Peggs and consort.

The Mayor invited all attendees to stand (if able) and observe a minutes silence to remember JJ Appleby who tragically passed away in Castle Park last year, Luke Warner, Jamie Lane, and Ben Mason who were the victims of the recent Merrymeet Incident and Michael Allen who died in the Bodmin incident.

The Mayor then invited the acting Chaplain Theresa Conway to say prayers

1/23 APOLOGIES

Honoured Burgess – Mr John Glanville
Honoured Burgess – Mr John Goldsworthy
Honoured Burgess – Mrs Christine Hallam
Honoured Burgess – Ms Anne Purdon

Mayors of: Lostwithiel, Bodmin, Launceston, Looe, Torpoint, Wadebridge, Newquay, Callington, St Columb Major, St Austell, Redruth, Falmouth & St Ives

Councillors:

Councillor Anthony Powell, Councillor David Ambler and Councillor Ian Goldsworthy

Also:

Sheryll Murray MP and other invited guests.

2/23 ELECTION OF A MAYOR FOR 2023/2024 - Councillor Whitty nominated, Councillor Kerry Cassidy seconded the nomination and the Council **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Simon Cassidy as Mayor for the 2023/2024 year.

Having been elected, the Mayor, Councillor Simon Cassidy, took the Oath of Allegiance signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and received the Maces.

The new Mayor then appointed Daniel Keddle (who was not present) as Town Sergeant of Mace. He then appointed Miss Rose Ramwell and Mr Ethan Mort as Mace Bearers for 2023/24 and returned the Maces to them.

Theresa Conway, Officer in Charge of the Citadel, was appointed the Mayors Chaplain and presented with the Chaplin's stole.

3/23 ELECTION OF A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2023/2024 - The Mayor nominated, and Councillor Pascoe seconded the nomination and the Council **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Christina Whitty as Deputy Mayor for the 2023/2024 year.

Having been elected, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Whitty took the Oath of Allegiance and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Town Clerk announced an interval whilst the Mayoral Procession retired for robing and photographs. During the interval Honoured Burgess Brian Oldham gave a talk on the last Mayor to be re-elected three times in a row - Cllr Huddy.

4/23 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE MAYOR – “I would like to welcome you all to our town for this event.

Firstly it has been a Great privilege to represent the amazing people of our truly amazing town over the last two years and I am honoured to be elected for a third successive term.

I would like to start this off by giving my thanks to some truly amazing people. Firstly, I would like to say thank you to each of our Councillors – but more importantly to their loved ones and friends who support them as they work so very hard for our community. What is often overlooked is that they give their time for free and a great deal of time they give too.

Secondly, I would like to say huge thanks to Steve Yvette Jacqui and their amazing teams who work so hard in the background keeping us in check and ensuring the work is done to a high standard. Special thanks to Trudy who acts as the Mayors Secretary and to Mandy who is an absolute legend. Mandy constantly works above and beyond what is required of her and deserves a great deal of credit.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my mini me Christina and her consort Terry for all the support they have given me over the last year. The floral decorations seen on the tables and stage were all put together by Christina and they look amazing. Huge thanks to Cllr Jane Pascoe for sourcing the flowers.

I would like to thank my family as well as Sarah's for their love and support over the last year and I would especially like to thank my children for their love throughout an emotional year. Daniels here representing Nathan Charlie and Evie – Daniel thank you I love you!

Id also like to thank Steve Sullivan, my best friend, without whom I wouldn't be standing here tonight. You have been there for me through thick and thin and I know I've taken you to nearly a nervous breakdown and back – am sorry about that but from the bottom of my heart thank you.

And finally, I'd like to place on record my thanks to Sarah for her support throughout the year as my Mayoress. She never liked the spotlight but worked hard to both support me and to further my knowledge of our town and its people as well as championing local causes. I will be forever grateful to her.

2/23

As a town we have suffered from some truly heart breaking tragedies of late– Beginning with the passing of our sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth last year we have more recently seen the Merrymeet Incident and the incident in Bodmin. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of all those affected.

What we have seen as a result of these incidents is the amazing community spirit that is alive and well in our town. We saw it during the pandemic, and it is one of the things I love about Liskeard. Over the last year I have tried to engage with as many of our people as possible and listen to what concerns they have and what they want to see going forward. Obviously many of these aspirations are out of our control but I'd like to address some of the common themes here tonight and allow you to understand what we are doing as a Town Council.

So often I hear that Town is dying, its not like it used to be etc. Unfortunately, the rise of internet and out of town shopping has had a massive impact on the viability of trading within any town not to mention the loss of our Cattle Market. So what can we do? Well as people we need to focus on buying local, and as a council continuing to listen to our traders. We need to support business and do everything we can to make Liskeard an attractive destination for all. We work alongside both the Town Traders Association and the Chamber of Commerce in identifying ways to achieve this.

Theres nothing for our young people to do -

– Contrary to popular belief there is a plethora of things for young people in our town with many organizations and sports clubs but I agree we can try and do more. As a Town Council we are pushing to have the Town's Parks and Open Spaces taken away from Cornwall Council control and given back to our town where local people can decide what they want with their open spaces.

Our facilities committee led by Cllr Julian Smith, are pushing for funding to upgrade the current open spaces we manage and are talking to the community to better understand what they would like to see. People often say young people don't have a voice, but I beg to differ. Our Youth Council representing young people in our town continues to operate under the guidance of Cllr Naomi Taylor with the help and support of Tash from Liskerrett Youth Club. If anyone knows of any children wishing to take part, please do get in touch.

We are seeing continual expansion of our town and thankfully we are now seeing plans accompanying them to build business premises allowing new business into our town as well as allowing existing business to expand. In addition, and much to the admiration of our young people this will see a fast-food drive through saving trips to Bodmin or Saltash. We have recently seen plans to extend the size of Rosedean Surgery on Dean Street thus increasing local medical provision which is needed so very much. We continue to push for more facilities in our town to coper with the rising population and I would like to thank our Cornwall Councillors Nick and Jane for all their support with this.

Crime and anti-social behaviour remain a hot topic and one which we are continually working alongside our partners on tackling. We have recently seen a new Sector Inspector appointed with some really positive ideas and I am looking forward to seeing these come to fruition. We continue to partner with Safer Liskeard and now have an open and collaborative relationship with all the agencies that contribute to it. Ultimately, they rely on intelligence and as always I urge everyone to report all instances of anti-social behaviour and crime to the police. As a Town Council we have recently approved the installation of additional CCTV provision across our town in a bid to aid the Police in their work

As with many towns across our nation we do have issues, but we can only resolve these by working together and I will continue to work alongside each and everyone of you going forward.

I am deeply honoured to be reelected as Mayor of Liskeard.”

3/23

5/23 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR – “Good evening ladies and gentlemen, visiting dignitaries, our town burgess, family and friends. Welcome One and All. Thank you for joining us at this our very special Mayor Choosing ceremony.

Tonight, for the first time for several years for the Mayor and myself the Deputy Mayor start a third term of office. It is also a special year for me.

In 2003 I was elected to serve on the Town Council and who would have thought I would still be here 20 years later. In these 20years, I have been Mayor for 2 years and I now start my 5th year as Deputy Mayor. It is an honour and a privilege to serve the community and residents of Liskeard.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their continued support but especially a thank you to Simon and Jane for your nominations.

As well as the councillors support I would like to thank Steve our Town Clerk who tries to keep us on the straight and narrow and there is of course Yvette our RFO and assistant Town Clerk with her wealth of knowledge and support for us all to call on. We have Trudy and Mandy in the office who work extremely hard to support us. Erin of course has gone on maternity leave and we wish her well in her short break. The facilities staff are managed by Jacqui who do a wonderful job maintaining the building along with our other buildings and other town assets. Thank you all.

Liskeard is a wonderful place to live but I think that I might be a bit biased as I was born here and worked here all my working life. We have a large number of organisation in Liskeard which do a wonderful job for our community.

Liskeard in Bloom maintain the flowerbeds and the baskets. The Scouts and the Lions put on community events. All of which are supported by volunteers and when the Lions were unable to put on their Coronation events the Scouts stepped up and with the support of the Lions, Town Council and Liskeard Radio we had a well supported event in Castle Park. The following day the Cubs and Scouts were out in the rain litter picking. The Mayor, myself and Councillor Nick Craker joined them and got very wet.

Last Sunday Simon and I were supported by 24 other walkers for our “Beating the Bounds”, a 12 mile stroll around the town boundary and this year we didn’t get wet. Can I say a big thank you to everyone who joined us.

With our growing population I would like to put out a plea for all of us when we are out and about talking to the residents to spread the word about the many organisations that we have in town and perhaps to encourage some of our residents to join one or two. I am sure Liskeard in Bloom would welcome new volunteers especially with judging just around the corner and lots of work to do.

As a member of the RNA, Lions, RBL, stroke club and the newly elected Chairman of the Liskeard Memory Café, I know first hand that many of our organisations would welcome new members as well as volunteers.

Finally, I would like to thank my husband Terry for his continued support even though he is extremely busy in Raleigh. He is always by my side when needed.”

On conclusion of her speech the mayor presented Christina with a Certificate of Appreciation recognising her 20 years of service to Local Government in Liskeard

6/23 PRESENTATION TO THE LISKEARD SILVER BAND – HONOURARY FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

The Mayor presented the Honourary Freedom of the Town to members of the Liskeard Silver Band for over 190 years' service to the town.

7/23 PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE TO WILDANET AND CORNWALL COUNCIL

The Mayor presented a certificate of appreciation to Wildanet and Cornwall Councillors Jane Pascoe and Nick Craker for the sympathetic restoration of Westbourne House.

8/23 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Lee-Julian seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Members as listed serve on the Council's Committees and represent the Council on outside bodies for the ensuing year.

9/23 RESOLUTION TO RETAIN THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (LOCALISM ACT 2011) - Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that Liskeard Town Council met the eligibility criteria and retained the General Power of Competence as defined by the Localism Act 2011.

10/23 ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS - Councillor Lee-Julian proposed, Councillor Taylor seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were adopted and shall remain unaltered except by due process.

11/23 STATUTORY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

The Town Clerk announced that the next Town Council meeting is 30th May 2023. Town Council meetings are usually held monthly being the last Tuesday evening at 7.30pm.

The Town Crier closed the meeting and invited guests to partake of refreshment.

COMMITTEES AND THEIR MEMBERS 2023-2024

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are Ex Officio Members of all Committees with Voting Rights

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Councillors: Nick Craker (Chair), Annette Lee-Julian (Vice Chair), David Ambler, David Braithwaite, Rachel Brooks, Richard Dorling and Naomi Taylor.

FACILITIES

Councillors: Julian Smith (Chair), Richard Dorling (Vice Chair), David Ambler, David Braithwaite, Kerry Cassidy, Ian Goldsworthy, Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell and Lori Reid.

PLANNING

Councillors: David Braithwaite, Naomi Taylor (Chair), Annette Lee-Julian (Vice Chair), Nick Craker, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell, Lori Reid and Julian Smith.

All Council and Committee meetings will commence at 7.30pm.

APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2023-2024

Organisation	Representative/s
Alex Page Trust	The Mayor for the current year is a Trustee.
Cornwall Association of Local Councils Larger Councils Group (CALC):	Councillors Christina Whitty and David Ambler
Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group (Cornwall Council Working Group)	The Mayor, Councillor Naomi Taylor (Chair Planning) Councillor Julian Smith (Chair Facilities), the Town Clerk and RFO/Deputy Town Clerk
Community Area Partnership.	Representative Councillor Christina Whitty. Reserve
County Association of Local Councils (CALC)	Councillor Christina Whitty
Cornwall CCTV Management Group	Councillor Julian Smith.
Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership (Looe Valley Line):	Councillors David Ambler, Kerry Cassidy and Julian Smith.
Footpaths and Rights of Way Co-ordinator	Councillor David Ambler
Liskeard Chamber of Commerce	Councillor Jane Pascoe and Julian Smith
Liskeard and District Sports Association	Councillor Naomi Taylor.
Liskeard in Bloom	Councillors Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe and Kerry Cassidy.
Liskeard Lights Up Committee	Councillor David Braithwaite and Annette Lee-Julian.
Liskerrett Youth Group	Councillor Kerry Cassidy.
Looe Valley Trails – Steering Group	Councillor Rachel Brooks.
Looe Valley Trails – Design Group	Councillor Rachel Brooks.
Museum Management Team	Chair of C&E, Councillors Simon Cassidy and Annette Lee-Julian.
Safer Liskeard	The Mayor, Councillors David Ambler and Christina Whitty.
SECTA	None.
Stuart House Trust	The Mayor
Town Forum	Councillor Christina Whitty and Annette Lee-Julian.
United Charities	The Current Mayor and Councillors David Ambler and Jane Pascoe. Currently Councillors Christina Whitty and Nick Craker are also both cooperative trustees but have not been nominated by the council)
Philip Blamey Trust Eva Bowles Memorial Fund	The Mayor for the current year and the Town Clerk are both Trustees
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Councillor Advocate Scheme.	Councillors David Ambler, Simon Cassidy and Julian Smith.
Race Equality Forum	Councillor David Ambler.