

**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 Wednesday 25 May 2022 there were present:

The Mayor: Councillor Simon Cassidy - in the Chair

Councillors: Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Rob Frost, Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe, Tony Powell, Lori Reid, Julian Smith and Christina Whitty.

Town Clerk: Mr Stephen Vinson

Mayors Chaplain: Reverend Andy Day.

Town Crier of Liskeard: Mr Chris Smirthwaite

Honoured Burgesses of Liskeard: Mr O & Mrs J Hoskin.

Mace Bearers: Mr Mark Davies and Mr Ethan Mort

Visiting Mayors: Mayor and Mayoress of Launceston Councillor Leighton Penhale and Mrs Gillian Penhale. Deputy Mayor of Lostwithiel - Councillor Karin Henderson and Consort Councillor John Henderson, Mayor of Bodmin Councillor Phil Cooper and Mayoress Carolyn Cooper, Mayor of Saltash & Consort - Councillor Richard Bickford and Cllr Sarah Bickford, Mayor of Torpoint - Councillor Rachel Evans BEM. Portreeve and Mayor of Callington Councillor Mike Tagg, Mayor of Wadebridge Councillor Amanda Pennington.

The Mayor invited their Chaplain Andy Davies to say prayers

**1/22 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from: Councillors David Ambler, Rachel Brooks, Ian Goldsworthy and Naomi Taylor

Mayor and Mayoress of Looe, Mayor and Mayoress of St Austell and the Mayor of St Columb Major.

Honoured Burgesses: John Goldsworthy, Mrs. Margaret Jackson and Mr. John Jackson and Mrs. Christine Hallam.

Sheryll Murray - MP, and other invited guests.

**2/22 ELECTION OF A MAYOR FOR 2022/2023**

Councillor Whitty nominated, Councillor Craker seconded the nomination and the Council **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Simon Cassidy as Mayor for the 2022/2023 year.

1/22

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

The new Mayor then appointed Daniel Kettle as Town Sergeant and Sergeant of Mace (Mark Davies – in lieu) and Mr Ethen Mort as Mace Bearer and returned the Maces to them.

Reverend Andrew Day was appointed the Chaplain and presented with the Chaplain's scarf.

### **3/22 ELECTION OF A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2022/2023**

The Mayor nominated, Councillor Pascoe seconded the nomination and the Council **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Christina Whitty as Deputy Mayor for the 2022/2023 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.

### **4/22 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE MAYOR**

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, friends and family. When I was first elected Mayor in 2021 it was a huge honour, one which I never thought could be topped. Having been re-elected again I can say that it has definitely been topped. It is indeed a signal honour to be selected to represent our town and I will continue to work hard to promote Liskeard over the coming year.

This is the first occasion we have had since the pandemic to hold this ceremony. As such my first act must be to publicly thank all the people of Liskeard for their steadfast devotion to one another during that difficult time. We saw the most amazing heartfelt support being given across our town and the wider area by those amazing people that make Liskeard great. We are so fortunate to have such an amazing community spirit.

My second act must be to record our deepest gratitude to our past Mayor Councillor Brooks and her Deputy Sandra for their leadership during what can only be described as one of the most trying times of our towns history. I would also like to say thank you on behalf of our town to those Councillors who served up until the last election in 2021 – namely Councillors Sally Hawken, Anna Clarke, Sue Shand and Ian Barlow.

In my first term as Mayor, I pledged that openness and transparency would continue to run through every aspect of council business. Today we see a council working together, casting aside political differences, and working hard for the people of Liskeard. We see decisions being made more quickly allowing real change to be made when its required and without delay.

2/22

I pledged that each new councillor would receive a mentor and support and training would be provided to enhance both Councillor and Colleague to improve the service they give to our town. Today we see our people better prepared to meet the needs of the town. And I also pledged we would build stronger relationships with our neighbours and with those organisations who do so much for our town. It is an honour to see representatives from those organisations sat here with us tonight. We aimed to establish a Youth Council and I am happy to say this is now functioning and providing a voice for young people across our town.

Our Councillors work extremely hard for the people of Liskeard, they do this in their own time often at detriment to their own lifestyle and ultimately, they do it for free. I would like to thank the Committee and Board Chairs Julian, Naomi, Nick and Rachel for their leadership and each and every councillor for their dedication to our town. More importantly though I would like to thank those in our personal lives who continually support us at home. Personally, I would like to thank my partner Sarah and my boys Charlie and Daniel for their ever loving support.

Without my Deputy at my side there are simply many occasions where I would have faltered and failed. Christina has been a rock for me and a true stalwart to our town. Her Consort Terry who needs no introduction works so very hard in the background supporting Chris and me and they both have my deepest gratitude for everything they do for both the town and for myself.

I would also like to pay a huge debt of gratitude to our council staff and volunteers. They have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic and beyond managing council services through some very trying times. They are often the forgotten ones who work tirelessly behind the scenes without acknowledgment. So, to them I say thank you. My Chaplain Rev Andy has as always been a pillar of support and I am grateful for this. It's been a busy year pandemic excepted. We have seen the Freedom of our Town bestowed upon both the Rifles Regiment and The Liskeard Branch of the Royal British Legion. We have seen the Cattle Market start to rise up and finally start to take shape. As a Council we have been working so very hard on Devolution – Trying to bring assets in the town back under the ownership of Liskeard and thus managed as our people want them.

We have seen many challenges and we have tried our very best to manage them. We have recently worked with the Police and the Safer Liskeard Partnership in allowing residents to both meet and to talk to all those agencies who make our town safer. We will be continuing these pop up shops going forward. We have built strong relationships with our town traders and now work hand in hand with them to improve our town. We work ever closer to those organisations that make a difference!

But we must continue to work hard to ensure our town becomes the place our residents and visitors desire, we need to listen, and we need to understand the changing needs of our people and our town.

I'm the first to hold my hand up and say on occasion I haven't listened – I haven't listened not because I don't care, I simply did what I thought was best. Am sure many others will agree this has happened to them but to me that is simply not good enough.

3/22

Going forward I will be looking at setting up pop up surgeries within our town to allow people better access to their councillors. Our focus this year needs to be to continually listen and engage to allow us to make decisions that affect our people. I will continue to build upon the strong relationships we have forged with others and continue to support them as best we can. It is my honour to accept nomination as Mayor of this great town. Thank you”

### **5/22 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

Visiting Mayors, Honoured Burgesses, Distinguished Guests, friends and family, my fellow councillors. Good evening and welcome to this evening’s Mayor Choosing.

This year I start my 19<sup>th</sup> year as a town councillor and during the past years I have seen a lot of changes in staff and councillors. Steve is our third Town Clerk since I joined. Like some of my fellow councillors I have been Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairman of various committees, but it is an honour and privilege to be a councillor and even more to be elected as Deputy Mayor for the fourth time and I have been Mayor twice. So I would like to thank my fellow councillors for your support but especially I would like to thank Councillor Simon Cassidy for proposing me and also Councillor Jane Pascoe for seconding me.

As well as volunteering as a town councillor, I am also a member of other organisations in the town such as, the Lions, RNA, RBL, Memory Café and Stroke Club. Some people would say I am a glutton for punishment, but because I was born in Liskeard I want to give my time and energy and support our town.

One of the most important things of being a member of so many organisations is the communication between them and sharing necessary and relevant information. Communication is the key word.

The other day I had a conversation with a neighbour who was unhappy Cormac had just cut a small area of the verges and a path on the grass area on our estate. I tried to explain the grass cutting policy, but he felt that as he had paid his Council Tax it should all be cut. We all know that the funds that Cornwall Council receive are not enough for everything and there has to be some cuts. Some people would argue that it is good to leave some areas for wildlife, while others would disagree.

Over the years we have seen a lot of development within the town. Our Cattle Market Project is a talking point with many of our residents. Some are for and some are against the projects.

We have seen many houses built and several more projects are in the pipeline along with the proposed expansion of the Dean Street Doctors Surgery. We have our Town Jubilee celebration to look forward to in June. The main event being the Carnival on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. We also have a wonderful display of flowers to look forward to throughout the summer which will be maintained by Liskeard in Bloom and the Town Traders. We must thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our town look so beautiful and putting on the entertainment for our community to enjoy especially the Liskeard Lions.

4/22

On Sunday, we have our traditional “Beating the Bounds” a “short” walk of about 12 miles if anyone would like to join the Mayor and myself we would love you to join us.

Finally, I would like to thank all the office staff and the caretakers for their hard work and support that they give all of the councillors. Myself, and Terry are looking forward to continuing to support Simon through his mayoral year.

### **6/22 PRESENTATION OF THE GEORGE VAUGHAN-ELLIS MEMORIAL TROPHY**

The Mayor presented the George Vaughan-Ellis Memorial Trophy to Jackie Jenkins for her great and ongoing contribution over a number of years to preserving the heritage of the town.

### **7/22 PRESENTATION CERTIFICATION TO THE LIONS CLUB OF LISKEARD**

The Mayor presented the certificate of appreciation to Martin Symonds President of the Lions of Club of Liskeard in recognition of their 50 years of service to the community of Liskeard and hinterland.

### **8/22 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Lee-Julian proposed, Councillor Smith 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.

### **9/22 RESOLUTION TO RETAIN THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (LOCALISM ACT 2011)**

Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Lee-Julian 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.

### **10/22 ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Mayor proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were adopted and shall remain unaltered except by due process.

### **11/22 CIVIC SERVICE**

The Mayor invited those present, and the bodies they represent to attend the Jubilee Civic Service at the Methodist Church on Thursday 2 June 2022 at 7.30 pm.

### **12/22 STATUTORY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Town Clerk announced that the next Town Council meeting is 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Town Council meetings are usually held the last Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in every alternate month the meetings for this year being 26 July 2022, 27 September 2022, 29 November 2022, 24 January 2023, and 28 March 2023. 5/22

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

### **COMMITTEES AND THEIR MEMBERS 2022-2023**

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, Rachel Brooks, Richard Dorling, Rob Frost and Naomi Taylor.

### **FACILITIES**

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

### **FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

3 Committee Chairs plus Councillors: David Ambler, Rachel Brooks, Richard Dorling, Ian Goldsworthy and Lori Reid.

### **PLANNING**

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

All Council and Committee meetings will commence at 7.30pm.

6/22

### **APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2022-2023**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative/s</b>
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 Network Area	The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and other members as required by the agenda item.
County Association of Local Councils (CALC)	Councillor Christina Whitty
Cornwall CCTV Management Group	None.
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

Mayor Choosing Ceremony 25 May 2022

Library Partnership RIO	Councillors Julian Smith and Kerry Cassidy.
Liskeard Chamber of Commerce	Councillor Jane Pascoe
Liskeard and District Sports Association	None.
Liskeard in Bloom	Councillors Annette Lee-Julian, Jane Pascoe and Kerry Cassidy.
Liskeard Lights Up Committee	Councillor Kerry Cassidy and the Mayor.
Looe Valley Trails – Steering Group	Councillor Rachel Brooks.
Looe Valley Trails – Design Group	Councillor Rachel Brooks.
Liskerrett Youth Group	Councillor Kerry Cassidy.
Museum Management Team	Councillor Simon Cassidy.
Safer Liskeard	The Mayor, Councillors David Ambler and Christina Whitty.
SECTA	None.
South and East Cornwall Local Action Group	Councillors Christina Whitty.
Stuart House Trust	The Mayor
Town Forum	Councillor Christina Whitty
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
Alex Page Trust	The Mayor for the current year and the Town Clerk are a 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.