

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

AT A MEETING of the **FACILITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 20th November 2018 at 7.30 pm there were present:

Councillor Ian Goldsworthy (Chair)
Councillor Julian Smith (Vice Chair).

Committee Members – The Mayor Christina Whitty (Ex Officio) The Deputy Mayor David Ambler (Ex Officio), Councillors' Sally Hawken, Jane Pascoe and Anna Clarke.

Facilities Manager - Tony Misson

Members of Public – N. Craker

Councillor Goldsworthy advised those present of Housekeeping matters.

291/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors' T Powell, N Taylor and S Cassidy.

292/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BOTH REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE

None declared.

293/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2018

Councillor Smith proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded, and the Committee **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on the 18 September 2018.

294/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No representations were received.

295/18 FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT

The Facilities Managers' report to 20th November 2018, as presented, was noted by the Committee.

296/18 FACILITIES BUDGET REPORT TO OCTOBER 31st 2018 – FOR INFORMATION

The budget report was considered and noted by the Committee.

297/18 BUDGET SETTING 2019/2020

Councillor Goldsworthy gave a detailed report of the individual items in the proposed 2019/2020 Facilities Committee budget. This was then discussed and questioned by the Committee following which a few minor adjustments were then made.

Councillor Hawken Proposed, Councillor Ambler Seconded and the Committee **APPROVED** the Draft 2019/2020 Facilities budget, as amended, to be submitted to the Finance Committee.

298/18 VAT (Option to tax)

Councillor Smith advised the Committee that the Town Clerk and Support Services Manager were taking advice from a VAT specialist on the question of opting to tax on Public Hall room hire and that this was a complex issue requiring detailed examination. The Committee expressed the need for more financial information on the impact this may have.

Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to refer any decision on the option to tax to the Finance Committee.

299/18 TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE USE AND LAYOUT OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND ITS FURNITURE

Considering the new platform lift access to the Council Chamber the Committee discussed the various options for making that room more accessible, together with the possibility of altering the furnishings to enable the room to function better as a formal Chamber and a letting space, thereby increasing revenue. The historical value of some of the existing furniture, together with the decorum it brought to Town Council meetings, was considered set against the possibility of making the room more multi-use to attract additional income. The need for improved acoustics and audio-visual equipment was also considered.

Councillor Ambler proposed, and Councillor Pascoe seconded a layout using most of the existing furniture but with the removal of the raised plinth and the addition of some AV equipment and improved provision of electrical outlets. The Committee **REJECTED** this proposition.

Councillor Hawken proposed, and Councillor Clarke seconded that the room be made as multi use as possible and a budget for the works be allocated. The Committee **REJECTED** this proposition.

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to defer this item pending further investigation into the provenance of some of the furniture and more detailed costing of any alternative schemes.

Councillor Pascoe proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to write an open letter seeking knowledge of the origin and history of the large 'D' shaped table situated in the current Town Council Chamber. Councillor Clarke was not present for this proposition.

300/18 GUILDHALL – TO COSIDER A REQUEST TO MAKE ALTERATIONS TO A TENANTED AREA

Councillor Hawken proposed, Councillor Goldsworthy seconded, and the Committee **APPROVED** the request from Mr M Tucker, tenant of the Main Hall, to make alterations to a disused kitchen area to create two changing cubicles and a small utility area. Subject to the terms outlined in the Facilities Managers report.

301/18 WESTBOURNE GARDENS

Councillor Ambler proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to commence formal planning applications for the creation of a new vehicular access to Westbourne Gardens to be funded from the 2018/2019-budget allocation of £10,000.

Councillor Hawken proposed, Councillor Ambler seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to allocate the remaining balance of the £10,000 2018/2019 budget for Westbourne gardens to a nominated reserve for provision of power and water supplies to be made available within the gardens at a future date.

302/18 PUBLIC HALL LAUNCH – WORKING GROUP

The Committee considered the invitation from the Communications and Engagement Committee to nominate any additional members to serve on the working group planning the re-launch of the refurbished Public Hall. Councillors' Whitty and Clarke were already on that working group and the Committee considered that representation to be sufficient.

303/18 WELCOME TO LISKEARD SIGN

The Communications and Engagement Committee had requested comments from the Facilities Committee regarding its plans to site a 'Welcome to Liskeard' sign on the Plymouth Road roundabout.

Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Smith seconded, and the Committee **RESOLVED** to defer any comment and requested further information and consultation with other interested partners including Liskeard In Bloom, The Conservation Officer and Cornwall Council Highways department.

304/18 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been received from the Chair of the Liskeard in Bloom group requesting permission to site festive floral decorations, as part of the Nadelik Lowen event, on some of the Town Council buildings. In an additional note, concern was expressed over the ownership, planting and maintenance of the wooden planter donated by the Liskeard Traders Association which is sited alongside of the Pipewell, and a request was made by LIB for clarification from the Town Council.

The Committee were very appreciative of the work carried out by the Liskeard in Bloom group and were pleased to support the Nadelik Lowen festive displays as requested.

The question of the wooden planter was then discussed and was not believed to be sited on Town Council land, and therefore it would not have a direct influence. However, the Committee was very keen to see continued cooperation between all the stakeholders involved the floral displays throughout the Town for the benefit of everyone, and Councillor Goldsworthy would personally be seeking to encourage this by continued dialogue.

305/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Facilities Committee meeting was to be 15th January 2019 at 7.30 PM in the Council Chamber.