

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Mayors Parlour on Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty – in the chair

Deputy Mayor – Councillor David Braithwaite.

Councillors – Tracy Adams, Sylvia Berry, Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Annette Lee, Ian Goldsworthy, Jane Pascoe, Lori Reid and Naomi Taylor.

Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) / Deputy Town Clerk – Yvette Hayward.

Mayor’s Chaplain – Kevin Grant.

Members of the Public – Lin Moore (Liskeard Traders Association and local business owner), Kevin Johnson MBE – (Member of the public).

Mayor’s Chaplain Kevin Grant wished the Councillors and members of the public a Happy New Year. He led the Council and members of the public in the Lord’s Prayer.

333 / 24 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Rachel Brooks, Simon Cassidy, Richard Dorling and Tony Powell.

334/ 24 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – The Mayor – Cheque Signatories - Agenda Item 13.

335 / 24 **MAYOR’S REMARKS** – The Mayor updated on the following:

- 30th November 2024 – Liskeard Lights Up and the Lantern Parade – The Mayor along with a small group of scouts turned the lights on. The Mayor thanked everyone who helped to make the event a great success.
- 2nd – 4th December 2024 – Liskeard in Bloom – Charity Shop – The Mayor joined Councillor Pascoe in the Charity Shop where we helped to raise funds for them.
- 11th December 2024 – Pip Harris’s Funeral – The Mayor had the sad duty of attending Pip’s funeral.
- 12th December 2024 – Christmas Best Dressed Shop Award – The Mayor presented the trophy to Sarah Stewart of “Trinkets and Treasures”. The Mayor thanked the judging panel Councillors Adams, Berry and Reid.
- 19th December 2024 – The Mayor and Deputy Mayor paid a Christmas visit to Passmore Edwards. The Mayor was too ill to attend the remainder. The Deputy Mayor made the Christmas visits to the Hospital, Eventide, Beech Lawns, Coombe House, Pengover, and St Antonys. The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor.
- 22nd December 2024 – Christmas Carol Service – This annual event was held in the St Martins Church.
- 11th January 2025 – “Whistle Down the Wind” – The Mayor attended the Youth Theater Production.
- 23rd January 2025 – Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) – meeting was held in Truro which the Mayor attended with the Town Clerk.
- 24th January 2025 – Lions Pantomime – The Mayor was pleased to attend.

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336 / 24 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 26TH NOVEMBER 2024 COUNCIL MEETING** – The Mayor proposed, the Deputy Mayor second and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the 26th November 2024 Council meeting.

337 / 24 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Kevin Johnson – Member of the public – asked a). What proportion of the precept increase was due to the changes in National Insurance? Answer - 13.1% of the precept increase (however, almost 20% of the total budget). b). Advance Policy – The Town Council should agree to a policy in advance of it being an issue. Answer – No, it is not issue.

338 / 24 **GRANT APPLICATION** – None.

339 / 24 **TOWN CLERKS UPDATE** – It was noted that a separate contract with the CCTV Live Monitoring company was not necessary.

340 / 24 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

- a. Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee held on 14th November 2024.
- b. Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor K Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Facilities Committee held on 19th November 2024.
- c. Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 25th November 2024.
- d. Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee held on 9th January 2025.
- e. Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to notes the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 13th January 2025.

341 / 24 **RFO REPORTS – (FOR INFORMATION - BANK BALANCES, TOWN DELIVERY FUND, TOWN VISON UPDATE)** – Noted.

342 / 24 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – The Mayor proposed, Councillor Julian seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule of payments.

343 / 24 **BUDGET MONITORING 2024/2025** – Noting that the Youth Council invoice will follow. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the budget monitoring report to 30th November 2024.

344 / 24 **BUDGET AND PRECEPT SETTING 2025/2026** – Following discussion of the impact on the budget of changes beyond the direct control of the Town Council, such as, in National Insurance contributions and Elections, 344A/24 Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a gross budget of £823,372 for 2025/2026. 344B/24 Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a precept of £698,772 for 2025/2026. It was agreed that the amount of money being set aside in dilapidations for the CCTV be checked against replacement costs to see if it were adequate.

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The Mayor left the meeting.

345 / 24 **SIGNING MANDATE FOR THE SANTANDER TRUST ACCOUNTS** – Councillor Goldsworthy proposed, Councillor Adams seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the updating of the signing mandate on the Santander Trust accounts, to add Christina Whitty as a signatory.

The Mayor returned to the meeting.

346 / 24 **ROUNDBURY – NEXT PHASE** – Following discussion, Councillor Braithwaite proposed and Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to set up a Working Party to consider the next phase of the Roundbury Project and draft a specification for the employment of a consultant. The Mayor, Councillors Braithwaite, K Cassidy, Craker, Julian, Reid, and Taylor to be members of the Working Party.

347 / 24 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** – Councillor Craker proposed and Councillor K Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Councillor Sylvia Berry as a member of the Communications & Engagement Committee and Councillor Goldsworthy proposed and Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Councillor Sylvia Berry as a member of the Facilities Committee.

348 / 24 **GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – STRENGTHENING THE STANDARDS AND CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND** - Following discussion, Councillor Taylor proposed, Councillor Braithwaite and the Council **RESOLVED** to approve a corporate view that the intent of the proposals should be broadly supported and should apply also to members of the public dealing Town Councils and Local Authorities.

349 / 24 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES** –

– **Cornwall Councillor Nick Craker reported:** -

Lux Park

Lux Park Leisure centre was open after the pool closure while work was undertaken to reline the swimming pool, a full refurbishment of the wet side changing rooms was also being undertaken and would be reopened to the public on Saturday 1st February. Several hundreds of thousands of capital work had gone into Lux Park which was long overdue. The next phase is to install more solar panels on the building and upgrade energy efficiency. It was important for the community to use the pool and other facilities at Lux Park.

Devolution

The government's devolution white paper had been published before Christmas. The government are looking to create strategic authorities with populations of around 1.5 million, this means Cornwall would not be large enough to be classed as a strategic authority on its own and would need to look to work with neighbouring authorities to benefit from the powers and funding outlined in the devolution white paper. Devon CC, Plymouth UA and Torbay UA had expressed an interest in creating a South West Peninsula Combined Authority to include Cornwall. However, Cornwall Councillors had backed a motion to not countenance any cross-border deals. It was unlikely that Cornwall would benefit from any devolution settlement in the short term, as the government would focus on those areas where there is agreement like Wessex and the South East of England.

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350 / 24 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted.

351 / 24 **CORRESPONDENCE** – None.

352 / 24 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 25th February 2025 at 7.30 pm Council.

353 / 24 Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to go into **PART II**

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:

21. **Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group** – To note the attached minutes of the 11th December 2024 meeting.

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 / 24 The Mayor proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the resolution made in **PART II** namely,

21. **Liskeard Redevelopment Working Group** – Noted.