

Liskeard Town Council

AT A MEETING of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Emily Hobhouse Room on Tuesday 28 May 2024 at 7.30 p.m. there were included:

The Mayor – Councillor Christina Whitty – in the chair
Councillors – Rachel Brooks, David Braithwaite, Kerry Cassidy, Nick Craker, Richard Dorling, Ian Goldsworthy, Jane Pascoe and Lori Reid,
Mayor’s Chaplain – Theresa Conway Officer in Charge of the Citadel.
Town Clerk – Steve Vinson

Members of the Public – Lin Moore (Chair of the Liskeard Traders Association and local business owner), Chris Munson – (Chartered Architect – Studio Winter – see agenda item 14).

The Mayor’s Chaplain Reverend Theresa Conway reflected on those who had recently suffered a bereavement and led the Council and members of the public in prayer.

012 / 24 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Deputy Mayor Julian Smith, Tracy Adams, Simon Cassidy Tony Powell, and Naomi Taylor.

013/ 24 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS REGISTERABLE AND NON-REGISTERABLE** – None.

014 / 24 **MAYOR’S REMARKS** – The Mayor pointed out that she had only been Mayor for less than a week, but of that time reflected:

- 22nd May 2024 Mayor Choosing - the Mayor thanked everyone for attending and helping with the organization of the event. The choirs’ singing was especially popular with some of the visiting Mayor recording “Trelawney” on their phones.
- 25th and 26th May 2024 Relay for Life event – the Mayor, had spent 7 hours on the Lions Food stand and then walked around the rugby fields for 4 hours.

015 / 24 **TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE 30TH APRIL 2024 COUNCIL MEETING** – Subject to the addition, Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2024.

016 / 24 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Chris Munson (Chartered Architect – Studio Winter) spoke to agenda item 14. Members Room and Mayor’s Parlour (referred from the 21st May 2024 Facilities Committee – and gave feedback from the tender process including the confirmation that the company with the lowest tender had not omitted anything from their costings. They appeared keen to secure the work from the Council with the longer term aim of securing later contracts. The references including work with other local Councils had been followed up and were all good.

With the agreement of Council, Agenda Item 14 was brought forward to this point. The Mayor proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the lowest tender for the works to the Members Room and Mayors Parlour.

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017 / 24 **GRANT APPLICATION** – None received

018 / 24 **TOWN CLERKS UPDATE** – All covered on the written agenda.

019 / 24 **COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

- a. Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes and ratify the decisions of the Planning Committee held on 7th May 2024.
- b. Councillor Craker proposed, Councillor Braithwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Communications & Engagement Committee meeting held on 9th May 2024.

020 / 24 **RFO REPORTS – (FOR INFORMATION - BANK BALANCES, INTERNAL CONTROLS, IT UPDATE)** – Noted.

021 / 24 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS** – A note was required on the nature of the item 50 Hazardous Waste and the use of both BT and Wildanet Broadband Services at Foresters Hall. It was confirmed that the possibility of recovering costs by way of insurances was being investigated in respect of the flag poles. Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the schedule of payments.

022 / 24 **INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT** – It was noted that whilst, the Internal Auditor usually could not find issues or problems the change to the Charity Commission’s reporting had meant that the submission was late and hence an item to report on. Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Internal Auditors report.

023 / 24 **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – SECTION 1 - 2023/2024** –

1. Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:
“We have put in place arrangements for the effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.”
2. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:
“We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.”
3. Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Reid seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:
“We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances”.
4. Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Pascoe seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:
“We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.”
5. Councillor Braithwaite proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:
“We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal control and/or external insurance cover were required.”

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6. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Craker seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that: “We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems”.

7. Councillor K. Cassidy proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:

“We took appropriate action in all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit”.

8. Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor K Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:

“We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.”

9. Councillor Brooks proposed, Councillor Dorling Cassidy seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that:

“our annual returns to the Charity Commission was submitted late, hence we are answering No to “In our capacity as the sole managing trustee discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit. “

024 / 24 **ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2023/2024** – Councillor Dorling proposed, Councillor Brathwaite seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Accounting Statements 2023/2024.

025 /24 **LISKEARD AND DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION (LDSA)** - Following discussion of the letter, Councillor Reid proposed, Councillor Dorling seconded and the Council **RESOLVED** that the Liskeard and District Sports Association (LDSA) is a key stakeholder, amongst others, when the Town Council proceeds with the next stage of the project. To inform the Liskeard and District Sports Association (LDSA) when developments in the project are occurring on an “as and when necessary” basis.

026 / 24 **CORNWALL COUNCILLOR UPDATES – Cornwall Councillor Jane Pascoe reported:**

“My sincere congratulations to Cllr Whitty and her husband Terry for becoming Mayor and Consort, thank you for a wonderful evening last Wednesday, despite still recovering from a nasty virus I was pleased to attend and talk to so many residents, the entertainment was outstanding. My best wishes go alongside my congratulations for being elected as Deputy Mayor to Cllr Julian Smith. Julian is currently under- going treatment in Derriford hospital, but I know he would rather have been at the Mayor Choosing Ceremony. My thought are with him Carolyn and their family. I was privileged to be invited to attend the Kings Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 8th May, the weather was glorious, and it was a very special occasion. There were several members of the Royal Family attending including their Majesties the King and Queen Camilla, The Princess Royal, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. Also, our Cornwall Lord Lieutenant Col. Edward Bolitho.

The next meeting of the Community Area Partnership will be held on 4th June at the China Fleet Club in Saltash. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair are being sought before the meeting and I understand notifications have been sent out to Parish representatives.

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One item that will be on the Agenda for discussion is a decision by the Cornwall Council committee Constitution and Governance. This decision relates to disallowing questions for clarification to Parish Council representatives at Planning meetings and to disallow questions to the objector of an application, but they will allow question to supporters or applicants. This does not sit comfortably with members of the Planning committee, and we have asked for the decision to be reconsidered at Constitution and Governance on the 18th June. The SE Cornwall CAP represents 29 Parishes, and I am asking that you consider representing your view at the meeting and if you disagree in writing to the Chair of Constitution and Governance.

The road closure on Barn Street is currently in operation and we have managed to secure some reduced bus services for the village of St Keyne. We are optimistic that the problem will be quickly identified, and repairs will be carried out as quickly as possible. We are sorry for any inconvenience these works may have caused to residents.

I am keeping an eye on the review of the decision to not accept Household DIY Waste at Connon Bridge HWRC. This was to be reviewed in June. If you have evidence of fly tipping, please continue to report it and if this decision has caused you problems disposing of this type of waste including tyres, please write to the WASTE Dept at Cornwall.gov.uk.”

Cornwall Councillor Nick Craker reported:

“ Cornwall Council’s AGM had taken place. Cllr Pauline Giles re-elected as Chairman of the Council, Cllr Jordan Rowse re-elected as Vice Chairman of the Council and Cllr Linda Taylor elected Leader of the Council unopposed. Cllr Martin Worth a Saltash Councillor would be joining the Cabinet with the ‘Customers’ portfolio, responsible for things such as digital.

- The new Integrated Services Hub Cornwall Council offices development in the Cattle Market was scheduled to start on 10th June. One parking machine had been removed and another relocated, both continue to accept cash and card payments.

- A community consultation would begin soon on the refurbishment and design of the smaller work units opposite the WorkShed thanks to funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund.”

027 / 24 **CORNWALL COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS** – Noted.

028 / 24 **CORRESPONDENCE** – Liskeard and District Sports Association (LDSA) – letter discussed at Agenda Item 15.

029 / 24 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 25th June 2024 at 7.30 pm Council.