

5. Facilities Managers Report – 21.01.2025

Public Hall Phase 2 – The stage area has recently been decorated, and this now provides a professional backdrop for performances and events. Further upgrades are planned to include essential fire safety improvements and new stage curtains. Fully costed options for the refurbishment of the main hall are being prepared. External funding is being sought for the replacement of the high energy tungsten/halogen performance lighting with LEDs.

Urgent repairs – There are some damaged areas of render on the front of the building that are allowing water to penetrate the Council Chamber and the Mayors Parlour. A specification and QS report are being prepared, which will also incorporate repair/replacement of damaged rainwater goods on the older part of the Public Hall.

Disposal of old equipment - As part of the refurbishment of the Public Hall we are looking to dispose of old audio equipment including the sound desk. We are also intending to dispose of the cinema-style art deco seating on the balcony that we can no longer use. There are 24 seats in total with 3 pairs of 'ends' so can be sold in 3 sets of 8 chairs (see photos below).



Castle Park – Liskeard Old Cornwall Society organised a successful wassailing event on 4 January. The next volunteer session takes place on 28 January and the Facilities Team will be onsite cleaning graffiti and replacing the old Cornwall Council and Caradon signage with Town Council signs.

Guildhall Project (Good Growth Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Shared Prosperity Fund Community Capacity Fund) – the final report has been submitted to the funders. The listed building application is with Cornwall Council and a decision is expected end March 2025.

Guildhall Cleaning & Redecoration Project (Cornwall Council's Town Centre Revitalisation Fund Town Delivery Fund) – the application was successful, and the Town Council was awarded £20,000 towards the cost of delivering the project. A tender process was held to select a contractor with the relevant skills and experience. The tender panel met on 16 January 2025 to undertake a detailed review of the tenders and makes the following recommendation to the Facilities Committee:

The Committee APPROVE the selection of contractor A at a cost of **£29,657.40** Ex VAT.

Skatepark Project – We have received feedback on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Fund application to say that we have until 30 June 2025 to address the weaker areas of our application, namely:

- 1) All necessary funding must be confirmed.
- 2) Provide confirmation that the proposed project is within permitted development, or that planning permission has been obtained, if required. *Planning advice is being sought from Cornwall Council.*
- 3) Confirm if Liskeard Town Council is the landowner and, if not, provide confirmation of landowner permission to deliver the project. *A 'letter of comfort' is being sought from Cornwall Council regarding the land ownership.*
- 4) In view of the funding package being finalised, provide updated key delivery milestones

Betongpark will be running a community consultation event between 4pm and 7pm on Tuesday 25 February in the Emily Hobhouse Room and the publicity campaign for this will launch shortly. In the meantime, we will be preparing an application to the appropriate Shared Prosperity Fund community grant programmes (Community Levelling Up Programme or Community Capacity Fund) and looking for other grant and funding opportunities e.g. sponsorship, Crowdfunder, Skateboard GB.

Utilities – new 24-month contracts have been agreed for electricity supply to the Town Council's facilities and buildings.

Devolution - Cornwall Council have sent a very detailed Devolution response to the Town Council's proposal. This positively does include the site at Rapson's for the Skatepark project. The scope of the response requires the Town Council to consider it in some depth possibly with the benefit of external advice. It would be advisable to look at considering a medium-term strategy with the Town Council's own and joint projects on buildings and sites that are actively being worked on. Hence, this will be considered by all Councillors at a special purpose meeting which has yet to be arranged