

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Re-convened Full Council Meeting of 3rd March 2014
held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe
on Wednesday 5th March 2014 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Chairman – The Mayor – Cllr D J Bryan

COUNCILLORS

Miss K Bishop	Mrs E Graham-Jones
P Crossley	M Soady
J R B Dingle	T Stacey
Mrs E Hannaford	A Toms
R Hendy	

OFFICERS

Town Clerk – Mrs Anne Frith

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M Richards
Mr C Clements
Mr S Moreton
Mr D Harvey
Mr D Braithwaite
Mr B Galipeau
Representatives of Looe in Bloom

180. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Crane, M Gregory, Mrs M Powell, W Martin and I Simpson.

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The Mayor informed Council that there is to be a Tourist Information Centre Open Day on 21st March aimed at raising the awareness of the services the Tourist Information Centre can offer the residents as well as visitors. He also informed Council that he is holding a Quiz night on 28th March at the Portbyhan Hotel for the Mayor's Charity and there will also be an Easter Egg hunt from 5th April to 19th April, to help the businesses of Looe, the prize for the winner having been donated by Thorntons Chocolates.

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Councillor Bryan read out a letter from Mr Clements as requested and reported that he and Councillor Toms had met with Mr Clements and answered some of the questions in the letter.

At the request of the Mayor the Clerk informed that Mr Townly had saved this Council in excess of £20,000 by identifying and resolving potential fraud by our former cleaning contractor and by replacing numerous public seats in the town at no cost as they have all been sold on as Memorial seats.

Mr Clements re-enforced the concerns raised in the letter stating that we do not, in his opinion, need a Community Officer, what we need is a PR/Town Manager. Mr Clements requested a copy of Mr Townly's job description.

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181. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Harvey asked why the public conveniences have to be paid for out of residents Council tax and stated that, in his opinion, they should be paid for out of car-parking revenue.

Councillor Mrs Hannaford explained that due to the reduction in Cornwall Council's budget and the austerity measures put in place as a result of this Cornwall Council have passed the provision of public conveniences to Town and Parish Councils, a total of 100 have so far been passed down. Cornwall Council still run some public conveniences and 10 sets are running a pilot charging system, an informal facebook questionnaire resulted in 158 responses with 68% saying they would be happy to pay. Mrs Hannaford agreed with Mr Harvey that charging is right course of action and that the Millpool facilities in Looe are the best option for a trial period with all funds gained being put back into the refurbishment of other facilities.

Councillor Toms stated that he has undertaken a lot of research for the public conveniences and would not have supported an increase in the Council tax except for the need to refurbish the toilets. He also pointed out that £60,000 has been earmarked in our budget for refurbishment of the seafront toilets, there is £26,500 in our Capital Fund, £113,000 from Cornwall Council for conversion of the Guildhall and West Looe facilities and £51,635 from Cornwall Council towards the cost of running these facilities giving a total of £251,531 and he explained what is needed to bring them all up to an acceptable standard. This year the cost of running the toilets is approximately £130,000 (38% of our Precept), he is looking at ways of reducing these costs to £83,000 once they have been refurbished which would in turn help to reduce our Precept, the costs need to be acceptable to the Council and the residents.

Mr Braithwaite stated that he disagrees with charging. Councillor Dingle pointed out that Looe Town Council had no choice but to take on the toilets from Cornwall Council as they would have otherwise been closed and that we are doing our best to provide what we can.

182. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOOE COMMUNITY ACADEMY

There was no report given.

183. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Signpost Newsletter

This will be held in the office.

184. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

There had been no meeting held.

185. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE

Councillor Miss Bishop, Vice Chairman, gave her reports of the Meetings of 27th January 2014 and 25th February 2014, and proposed that the Minutes of both Meetings be accepted, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Meetings of 27th January 2014 and 25th February 2014

.1 Reference Minute No: 104 – 25.2.14 – Architect Costs

Councillor Mrs Hannaford queried the estimated costs of £2000+ for indicative drawings, Councillor Miss Bishop explained.

.2 Reference Minute No: 95.1 – Looe Music Festival Tickets

In response to queries regarding this expenditure Councillor Dingle informed that there is a potential £7,500 profit to be made this year.

186. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Bryan gave his reports of the Meetings of 28th January 2014 and 24th February 2014 and proposed that the Minutes of both Meetings be accepted, seconded by Councillor Soady it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Meetings of 28th January 2014 and 24th February 2014.

Councillor Dingle asked Councillor Soady to explain the proposal for the sardine factory for the benefit of the public. Councillor Soady explained that there are tentative plans for a three storey building which are very basic ideas to enable applications for grant funding. Councillor Toms clarified that this will have to go through the planning system.

187. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Councillor Dingle gave his report of the Meeting of 20th January 2014 and proposed that the Minutes be accepted, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 8/1 against (Councillor Miss Bishop).

Councillor Miss Bishop asked Councillor Dingle to expand on his comments in Minute No: 33.3, Councillor Dingle responded that he would discuss this with her privately.

- 188. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN TOURISM COMMITTEE**
Councillor Toms gave his report of the Meeting of 11th February 2014 and proposed that the Minutes be accepted, seconded by Councillor Mrs Hannaford it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 11th February 2014.
Councillor Toms stated that he will be asking Council, through the Finance and Works Committee, for £5,000 for promotion of Looe to top up the £15k from Visit Cornwall and asked for Council's support.
- 189. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM WORKING PARTIES, SUB COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES**
.1 Events and Festivals Sub-Committee
Councillor Toms gave the report of the Meeting of 30th January 2014 and proposed that the Minutes be accepted, seconded by Councillor Mrs Hannaford it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 30th January 2014.
.2 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Councillor Bryan gave the report of the Meeting of 22nd January 2014 and proposed that the Minutes be accepted, seconded by Councillor Soady it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 22nd January 2014.
The Clerk was asked to chase up the Meeting with Gemma Blackwell that Stephen Foster agreed to arrange.
- 190. TO APPROVE THE DRAFT REMIT FOR THE BUILDINGS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
Councillor Dingle requested that this Committee be called the Buildings and Property Management Committee and requested that Councillors Stacey and Soady be included in the Committee to add strength, Councillors Stacey and Soady agreed.
Councillor Dingle proposed that the Draft Remit be accepted, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Draft Remit.
- 191. TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL CALENDAR FOR 2014/15**
Councillor Bryan proposed that the Council Calendar for 2014/15 as circulated be approved, seconded by Councillor Miss Bishop it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Council calendar for 2014/15.
- 192. TO DISCUSS THE REFURBISHMENT OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES (GUILDHALL AND SEAFRONT)**
Councillor Dingle informed Council that the immediate repairs needed to make the public conveniences good for the season will cost £4738 and he asked for

delegated authority to accept the quote provided by Mr Colin Crabb, although he appreciates that it is normal procedure for three quotes to be obtained the time scale for these works is very tight.

There was some discussion about the need for three quotes with the Clerk asking for consideration of Councillor Dingle's request.

Councillor Dingle proposed that the Buildings and Property Management be Delegated Authority to accept Mr Crabb's quote, seconded by Councillor Stacey. Councillor Miss Bishop proposed an amendment to request three quotations this was seconded by Councillor Toms and a vote taken, the amendment was lost with a vote of 4/5 against.

Councillor Dingle's proposal, seconded by Councillor Stacey was voted on and it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 5/4 against to approve Delegated Authority to accept Mr Crabb's quotation.

193. MATTERS FOR FURTHER OR URGENT DISCUSSION AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no matters raised.

194. TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To accept for payment the bills as listed and amounting to £42,376.86 and for the transfer of £14,000 to the Wages Account for January 2014.

To accept for payment the bills as listed and amounting to £10,253.05 and for the transfer of £14,000 to the Wages Account for February 2014.

Councillor Bryan proposed that the Accounts for Payment as listed for January 2014 and February 2014 be approved, seconded by Councillor Toms it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to approve the Accounts for Payment for January 2014 and February 2014 as listed.

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm.