

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Looe Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, East Looe
on Monday 10th December 2007 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Chairman – Mayor- Cllr. R. J. Overd

COUNCILLORS

Mrs. E. Arkell	Mrs. S. Lambert
D. Bryan	C. Rose
J. R. B. Dingle	W. Scarah
M. Gregory	A. Toms
M. Joy	Mrs. N. Tagholm
Mrs. B. E. King	

OFFICERS

The Clerk – Mrs A Frith

IN ATTENDANCE

Sgt. S. Bassett – Devon & Cornwall Police
Travis Brooks – Looe Community School

138. PRAYERS

There were none given

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The Mayor took the opportunity to remind all Councillors of the Torchlight Procession and Carol Service on Thursday 13th December. He also informed Council that, despite the weather, Father Christmas had arrived on Friday last and thanked the Looe Lions and Looe Lighters for their organisation of the event.

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139. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.J.R. Charnock, J. Rothwell and K. Smith, also from the Mayor's Chaplain Rev. B. McQuillen and District Councillor E. B. Galipeau.

140. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Councillor Gregory proposed that the Minutes of the meeting of 12th November accepted, seconded by Councillor Toms it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting of the 12th November 2007.

Councillor Gregory proposed that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the 14th November 2007 be accepted, seconded by Councillor Joy it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the Special Meeting of 14th November 2007.

141. TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

.1 Personal Interests

Councillors Bryan, Rose and Scarah declared an interest in any matters raised concerning East Looe Town Trust.

Councillor Mrs. Arkell declared an interest in any matters raised concerning MCTI.

Councillor Toms declared an interest in any matters raised concerning MCTI and Cornwall County Council.

.2 Prejudicial Interests

There were none declared.

142. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL CONSTABULARY

Sgt Bassett gave his report of the crime figures since the last Council meeting (see attached Appendix).

The Chairman raised concerns over the events that occurred over the weekend. Sgt Bassett reported that three arrests had been made and three more pending, all the offenders come from Liskeard.

In response to Councillor Scarah's question Sgt Bassett replied that the alcohol appears to be coming from the Superstores in Liskeard and, in his opinion, this event was pre-arranged.

Councillor Dingle asked what plans the Police have for policing New Year's Eve, Sgt Bassett informed Council that the CCTV surveillance van will be used and there will be twenty four officers on duty. Councillor Dingle raised concerns over further "invasions" from groups from Liskeard.

143. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR LOOE

Councillor Toms gave his report as follows:

.1 Traffic Regulation Orders

These have all been submitted for approval and should be implemented by March 2008

.2 West Looe Traffic Consultation

There has been a good response to this and some very good ideas suggested.

.3 One Cornwall

Councillor Toms has attended a lot of meetings on this subject and has some concerns.

.4 Youth Club

He had been talking to the County Council Youth Officer and been informed that approximately 50 people are attending the youth club at the Community School and they are all well behaved. This is an asset to the town.

144. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FOR LOOE

In the absence of District Councillor Galipeau, Councillor Toms reported as follows:

.1 Convergence Funding

Caradon District Council are enlarging the funding team to try to obtain some of the funds available.

.2 Housing

It is becoming harder for local people to stay in Looe, especially younger people and action of some sort is needed.

Councillor Mrs. Arkell reported that Caradon District Council have approved incentive payments to encourage smaller families to move to smaller properties thus freeing up larger ones for larger families. Councillor Dingle informed that this had been tried with Bonson Close and had not been particularly successful. He also pointed out that a £440,000.00 grant had been allocated to St. Mary's flats for the purpose of providing accommodation for single people and this does not seem to be the case. The Clerk was asked to write to Devon & Cornwall Housing Association to ask what their Terms of Reference are.

145. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A REPRESENTATIVE OF LOOE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Travis Brooks started by wishing Council a Happy Christmas. He reported that the School have arranged a special assembly to raise awareness of the problems on the seafront raised by Councillor Scarah at the last meeting.

The School have pledged to raise £1 million for Ellie's Haven working with other schools in Cornwall and some supermarkets. BBC Spotlight are doing a monthly progress report also.

The School will be putting on various performances, the Mayor asked if information could be sent to Council.

Councillor Dingle asked if the School provided a New Year's Eve party for the children, as Travis replied no, Councillor Dingle asked if the School would consider this and he will supply sponsorship forms to assist.

The Mayor thanked Travis for his report and asked him to convey the Council's best wishes from Xmas and New Year to the staff and pupils.

146. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

.1 Reference Minute No: 125 of 12th November 2007 meeting – Cornwall Wildlife Trust

The Mayor reported that he had attended this meeting and it had been an excellent presentation.

No other matters for the 12th and 14th November meetings were raised.

CORRESPONDENCE

147. FIVE TOWNS CHALLENGE

The Mayor informed Council that he had received an e-mail from Joe Ellison (former Mayor of Saltash) suggesting a Five Town Challenge, for an annual cup, to race to plant a Cornish Flag at Saltash Passage. The competition would be open to Councillors, their wives/partners and children only.

The Chairman suggested the challenge be taken up and asked Councillors to think about it.

148. UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

The Chairman read out a letter that had been delivered, via foot, bike, bus or train to Truro and addressed to Rt Hon. H. Benn. MP

149. MCTI

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received officially requesting Looe Town Council to become the custodian of the Local Area Community Action Plan subject to various conditions.

He also informed Council that he had received an e-mail informing that than an MCTI Steering Group Meeting, had been arranged for the 18th December 2007 to discuss Looe Town Council's Memorandum of Understanding.

He read out his response which suggested that this meeting be postponed until the New Year.

The Chairman suggested that any decision to adopt the custody of the Local Area Community be deferred until the next Council Meeting on the 21st January 2008 and the Clerk was asked to circulate all correspondence to all Councillors.

150. CARADON DISTRICT COUNCIL – THE CORNWALL (STRUCTURAL CHANGE) ORDER 2008

The Mayor read the letter received regarding Unitary Status to Council. The main points being that elections will be held in 2009 and all Town and Parish Councillors will remain in office until 2013.

151. THE SIGNPOST

This Newsletter will be held in the office.

152. CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL– CHRISTMAS SAFETY MESSAGE

A DVD received regarding Christmas Fire Safety will be held in the office.

153. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that this had been an informal meeting, as it had not been quorate, discussing final arrangements for the Lantern Procession and New Year's Eve.

154. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE FINANCE & WORKS COMMITTEE

The Chairman gave his report of the meetings of the 19th November 2007 and the 3rd December 2007 and proposed that the Minutes of both meetings be accepted, Councillor Joy seconded the proposal and it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meetings of the 19th November and 3rd December 2007.

155. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TRAFFIC WORKING PARTY

There had been no meeting held.

156. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chairman gave his report of the meeting of the 26th November 2007 and proposed that the Minutes of the meeting be accepted, seconded by Councillor Toms it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting of the 26th November 2007.

157. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

The Chairman gave his report of the meetings of the 17th and 30th November 2007 and proposed that the Minutes of both meetings be accepted, Councillor Rose seconded the proposal for the meeting of the 17th November 2007, Councillor Joy seconded the proposal for the meeting of the 30th November 2007 and it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meetings of the 17th November 2007 and the 30th November 2007.

158. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN TOURISM PANEL

The Chairman gave his report of the meeting of the 27th November 2007. Councillor Dingle asked if those members attending the Torquay Trade Fair had obtained a mandate authorising spending for the purpose for purchasing stock, the Chairman confirmed this had not been done and, as the suggestion had been endorsed by Councillor Scarah, he would now approach the Finance & Works Committee.

The Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the meeting of the 27th November 2007 be accepted, seconded by Councillor Joy it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the Minutes of the meeting of the 27th November 2007.

159. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.

There were no reports given.

- 160. TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT PROPOSALS 2008/09**
The Vice-Chairman of the Finance & Works Committee, Councillor Bryan, proposed that the Budget & Precept Proposals 2008/09 be approved as presented, seconded by Councillor Joy it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to approve the Budget and Precept Proposals 2008/09 as presented.
- 161. TO APPROVE THE RE-NAMING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**
The Chairman informed Council that this matter had been referred from the Procedures Committee and asked Councillor Joy to elaborate. Councillor Joy explained that it had been felt that the Environment Committee should take on more duties and include traffic matters in its remit, therefore dissolving the Traffic Working Party Sub-Committee, and the Committee should be re-named as Environment and Public Protection Committee. Councillor Gregory proposed that the Committee be re-named, seconded by Councillor Joy it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to re-name the Environment Committee to Environment and Public Protection Committee.
- 162. TO DISCUSS LOOE TOWN FORUM**
The Chairman informed Council that Councillor Dingle had asked for this matter to be raised and asked Councillor Dingle to explain. Councillor Dingle stated that, in his opinion, there are too many organisations in Looe and as Looe Town Forum had now lost the funding from Caradon District Council was it still a valid organisation. He suggested that a letter be sent to the last known Chairman of Looe Town Forum asking if the forum is still functioning, what future is envisaged and for a copy of the Minutes of the last three meetings. The Clerk was asked to write.
- 163. TO FORMALLY ADOPT THE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE AS A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL**
The Chairman explained to Council that this Committee is now taking on more responsibilities and proposed that it now be adopted as a Standing Committee of Council, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was:
RESOLVED
Unanimously to adopt the Procedures Committee as a Standing Committee of Council.
- 164. TO DISCUSS A MULTI-ORGANISATION SOCIAL EVENT**
The Chairman explained that it had been suggested that a social event be held by Looe Town Council for organisations in the town to encourage exchange of ideas. The Chairman will organise a Cheese and Wine type event for February/March and ask the Chairs of the organisation to give a two minute briefing on their projects.

165. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

.1 MCTI

See Minute No: 149

.2 Dental Practices

Councillor Dingle raised concerns that people are being taken off dental NHS lists and not being informed. He is aware of two people to whom this has happened and, when requiring urgent dental treatment, could not get it.

Councillor Joy informed that no practice has registered patients any longer, this is governed by available space and money. The Primary Care Trust can be contacted for a list of dentist's and there is a helpline for emergencies. He suggested that lobbying the Primary Care Trust to give full contracts to dentists may be a good idea.

Councillor Dingle thanked Councillor Joy for his explanation and asked that a letter be sent to Guy Fulford to ask for clarification of his procedure in view of recent events.

166. TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To accept for payment the bills as listed and amounting to £2,378.57 and for the transfer of £4,200.00 to the Wages Account for November 2007.

Proposed by Councillor Gregory, seconded by Councillor Dingle it was:
RESOVLED

Unanimously agreed to accept the accounts for payment as listed.

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed

Date.....