

LOOE TOURISM PANEL MEETING

held in the Committee Room, The Guildhall, East Looe
on Tuesday 27th November 2007 at 7.00 pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Chairman – Cllr. R. J. Overd
Cllrs. M. Joy and Mrs. S. Lambert
Tourist Information Centre Manager –
Mr. M. Camp
Resident's Representative – Mrs. F. Kenshole

IN ATTENDANCE

The Clerk – Mrs. A. Frith
Cllr. D. J. Bryan

35. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. J. R. B. Dingle.

ABSENT

SECTA Representative.

36. TO DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

The Chairman explained that Tourist Information Centres all over Cornwall are open all year round and supported the proposal for Looe Tourist Information Centre to be open this winter. He suggested that an internal porch-way be built to keep the heat in for the benefit of the environment and the staff. The Clerk was asked to write to East Looe Town Trust to ask permission to do this and if it is granted further investigation will take place.

The Chairman also informed the Committee that a request has been made to East Looe Town Trust to have a removable notice-board on the outside wall of the Tourist Information Centre to the left of the door.

37. TO DISCUSS FINGERPOSTS, SIGNAGE ETC

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Manager of the Library is happy for a Tourist Information Centre directional sign to be erected on the Library building. The Clerk was asked to write and request confirmation, through the Library, from Cornwall County Council.

Councillor Bryan stated that a lot of people ask where the Tourist Information Centre is. The Chairman referred to our previous request to East Looe Town Trust to erect a "swing" sign at the end of the Guildhall which had been refused. The Clerk was asked to write to East Looe Town Trust again.

Mrs. Kenshole suggested that writing to the owner of Lisandra House and Councillor Joy suggested Lascars who may also be willing to allow a sign to be erected.

The Chairman also reported that all the finger posts need re-painting before the start of next season. It was suggested that someone be contracted to do this and the Clerk was asked to obtain quotes.

38. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FOR THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER

See attached appendix.

Mr. Camp requested new jackets for the Tourist Information Centre staff, Terry's Fashions and Alexanders were suggested as suppliers, costs to be ascertained.

Mr. Camp also requested a sign, "Welcome to Looe" in Cornish as well as English particularly for Dehwelans and the Gorsedh.

39. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SECTA REPRESENTATIVE

As there was no representative present. Mr. Camp, as a member of SECTA, gave a short update. At the meeting held last week two speakers had been present, one to speak on Environmental issues and the other on the production of a disabled access guide.

The SECTA show is to be held on the 31st January 2008.

40. TO DISCUSS THE RECENT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES VISITS

The Chairman reported that he and Councillor Joy had visited both Fowey and Bodmin Tourist Information Centres. Both of them are open all year and have very enthusiastic manageress's, producing a "What's on" once a month and their own accommodation guide plus a list of non-inspected accommodation. There is a lot of potential for Looe Tourist Information Centre.

Councillor Joy suggested selling tickets for Hall for Cornwall, Princes Theatre, Carnglaze Carverns etc and also rail and bus ticket. Mr. Camp was asked to look at the feasibility of doing this.

41. TO DISCUSS A TOWN CRIER FOR LOOE

The Chairman reported that no further progress has been made.

42. TO DISCUSSS THE GORSEDH KERNOW AND DEWHELENS

The Chairman reported that various performers have been organised, the majority of which are at no cost to the Gorsedh.

Dehwelans bookings, being done through our Tourist Information Centre, are slow due to Keskeith Kernow website links not being functional yet. He will be taking this up with them at the meeting next week.

43. TO DISCUSS THE REPLACEMENT NOTICE BOARDS

The Clerk reported that further quotes for updating the "Map of Looe" boards are still awaited.

44. MATTER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Councillor Bryan reported that the owner of Little Maidstone had expressed concerns that visitors she refers to the Tourist Information Centre for accommodation have been disappointed because all inspected properties are full and we are unable to recommend others.

Mr. Camp stated that there may be no legal reason for Tourist Information Centres to advertise inspected only accommodation but feels it would be a step backwards to advertise non-inspected.

The Chairman suggested setting up a booklet of all non-inspected accommodation for distribution with a “non-inspected – no guarantees” type rider.

In response to Councillor Mrs. Lambert’s question Mr. Camp confirmed the Tourist Information Centre staff could carry out inspections if required.

45. TO ARRANGE A DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 29th January 2008.

The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.