

LOOE TOURISM PANEL MEETING

held in the Committee Room, The Guildhall, East Looe
on Tuesday 3rd June 2008 at 7.00 pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Cllr. J. R. B. Dingle, M. Joy, R. J. Overd
Mr. M. Camp – T.I.C. Manager
Mrs. K. Spencer - SECTA Representative
Mrs. F. Kenshole – Residents Representative

IN ATTENDANCE

The Clerk – Mrs. A. Frith

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies received.

ABSENT

Cllr. W. Scarah.

2. **TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Joy proposed that Councillor Dingle serve as Chairman for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Overd it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously that Councillor Dingle be elected as Chairman.

3. **TO APPOINT A LOOE TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CARADON AREA TOURISM FORUM EXECUTIVE**

Councillor Overd proposed that Councillor Dingle be nominated as the Representative for Looe Town Council on the Caradon Area Tourism Forum Executive, seconded by Councillor Joy it was unanimously agreed

4. **TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF CARADON AREA TOURISM FORUM EXECUTIVE**

Councillor Overd explained that the future of Caradon Area Tourism Forum Executive needs to be ascertained due to the coming Unitary Council, this is important as representation for tourism for South East Cornwall needs to continue.

The Clerk was asked to write to Jill Rowell at Caradon District Council.

5. **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER**

Mr. Camp gave his report (see attached appendix).

With reference to the complaint received Councillor Overd suggested the owner of the property concerned should be contacted. Councillor Joy stated that a record of complaints should be kept and numbered for future reference. Councillor Dingle suggested that a “comments” book

be kept on the Tourist Information Centre desk for visitors to use. It was agreed that this be done.

It was also suggested that selling tickets for National Express, Hall for Cornwall etc be acted upon.

The Chairman volunteered to do a mail-out to all restaurants to try and get extra advertising income.

Mr. Camp informed the Committee that a coin-operated internet system for public use would cost £135 plus the cost of a computer.

Councillor Joy proposed that the system be purchased, seconded by Councillor Overd it was unanimously agreed.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SECTA REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Spencer reported that the recent business conference held at St. Mellion had been very well attended. Particular attention had been paid to the Green Acorn Scheme which has now gone Cornwall wide and not just in the tourism industry. Mrs. Spencer circulated an Accommodation Guide produced by SECTA and they are hoping to enter into partnership for distribution of the guide.

The Chairman stated his observations on the recent spate of e-mails from SECTA received in response to our letter asking if they would like to take over the organisation of the fireworks which he considered to be quite derogatory of Looe Town Council.

Mrs. Spencer responded that SECTA had tried to enter into a partnership with the Tourist Information Centre but, because SECTA advertise non-inspected accommodation, this had not been possible. The Clerk informed the Committee that she had asked Colin Breed M.P. to provide us with a definitive answer to this problem.

The Chairman informed Mrs. Spencer that we will resolve this issue and in the meantime another letter will be sent to SECTA.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON GORSEDH KERNOW AND DEHWELANS

.1 Gorsedh Kernow

Councillor Overd informed the Committee that a meeting held last Friday had been very productive, the concert for the Gorsedh is organised, the risk assessment is being done with Councillor Joy on the 5th June and the insurance and licences are sorted out. There is to be another meeting on the 19th June, Chaired by the Grand Bard, and by then all action points should be done.

Councillor Joy informed the Committee that the April Proclamation Ceremony is on the Gorsedh website and there are very complimentary comments on there.

.2 Dehwelans

Councillor Joy had been asked by Mrs. Arkell to ask why Dehwelans was not being advertised in the Tourist Information Centre, it was pointed out that there is (and has been for sometime) a poster in the window and various information in the Tourist Information Centre. Mrs. Arkell had also asked for a "Dehwelans" corner in the Tourist Information Centre which was agreed and will be done.

Mrs. Kenshole suggested the full programme should be circulated around the town and Mrs Spencer requested information every month for the SECTA newsletter.

8. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

.1 Rose Garden

Mr. Camp requested that the litter bins be returned as a lot of rubbish accumulates. The Chairman will deal with this.

.2 Looe Town Council Website

Mrs. Spencer asked how soon the website will be fully up and running. The Clerk informed the Committee that this should be done by the end of June.

.3 loecornwall.com

The Chairman reported that the above website had not been updated since 2006. This site had been taken over from the Chamber of Trade by Looe Development Trust and which Looe Town Council had asked for control of.

The Chairman proposed that a letter be sent to the Rural Key Fund (who had originally funded the building of this site) to make various points and to ask if Looe Town Council can now take it over. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Joy and unanimously agreed.

9. TO ARRANGE A DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been arranged for Tuesday July 15th 2008 at 7.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.