

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

held in the Tourist Information Centre,
The Guildhall, East Looe on Monday 26th April 2010 at 7pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Chairman – Cllr C Rose
Cllrs D J Bryan, J R B Dingle, C Lambert,
K Smith and D Welch

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk – Mrs A Frith
Cllr E B Galipeau

101. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs B King,
M Joy and A Toms.

102. ABSENT

Councillor M Gregory.

103. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

.1 Personal Interests

Councillor Bryan declared an interest in any matter raised concerning
East Looe Town Trust.

Councillor Dingle declared an interest in any matter raised concerning
East Looe Town Trust and West Looe Town Trust.

Councillor Galipeau declared an interest in any matter raised
concerning East Looe Town Trust.

.2 Prejudicial Interests

There were none declared.

104. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

.1 Ref Min No: 98 – Drakes Circus Advertising

The Chairman reported that the deposit has been paid and the adverts
should be up and running by the end of May.

105. TO DISCUSS THE END OF YEAR AUDIT

The Chairman went through the Auditor's report in detail, and read out
the Auditor's letter at the request of Councillor Galipeau.

The reserve balance at 31st March 2010 is £59,731.51 of which
£25,000 is ring-fenced for the PCSO provision. This is £5,000 more
than this Committee's budget forecast done in September 2009. The
Committee congratulated the Clerk and the Chairman on their hard
work.

The Chairman proposed that the Auditor's Report be referred to Full
Council with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Councillor
Smith it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to refer the Auditor's Report to Full Council with the recommendation for approval.

106. TO DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

.1 Looe in Bloom

The Chairman read the letter received requesting our annual donation to the Committee and reminded the Committee that it had been agreed in the budget to donate £4,500 this year to include the maintenance and planting of the Mariners and Fishermen's Garden.

The Chairman proposed that the agreed £4,500 be paid to Looe in Bloom, seconded by Councillor Dingle it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 5/1 abstention to donate the agreed £4,500.

Councillor Lambert asked who was going to maintain the new railway station garden, the Chairman informed him that the Looe Valley Line are making their own arrangements.

107. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Reverend Brian McQuillen

A letter thanking Council for the donation towards the plaque for the "Overd Oak" was read to the Committee. Reverend McQuillen also informed that a slate plaque, as suggested by the Royal British Legion, is being investigated as an alternative to the steel one previously proposed.

.2 Pennon Group

The Chairman informed the Committee that a dividend of 84p had been received.

108. TO DISCUSS THE TOWN CRIER HONORARIUM

The Chairman stated that he had reservations about the value for money aspect of the Town Crier as he had only carried out two Civic functions for the Council in the last year and had not been very interactive with town events and had not joined the Guild of Town Criers, he therefore felt he could not support the payment of the honorarium at the moment.

After much discussion it was eventually agreed that a letter be sent to the Town Crier asking him to meet with the Mayor and another Councillor to discuss this issue.

109. TO DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF THE STAKE-HOLDER PENSIONS

The Chairman reported that all eligible staff have now had the letter and information and their responses are awaited. He also reported that there is a new scheme coming in 2012 called NEST, this will mean a slightly higher percentage payment from the Town Council but a lesser percentage for the staff.

The Clerk asked the Chairman if he could explain the pension to the Tourist Information Manager at his request. The Chairman agreed.

110. TO DISCUSS WEST LOOE DOWNS STORE

Following discussions at the last meeting the Clerk has requested a re-valuation of the building.

The Committee agreed that until this is received no further action be taken.

111. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

.1 Health Centre Patients Car Park Fees 2010/11

The Chairman explained that the current fee is £150 plus VAT and suggested an increase in line with inflation.

In response to Councillor Galipeau's question the Chairman informed the Committee that research had been carried out last year regarding other parking charges in the town and our charge is comparable in view of the restricted times of use.

Councillor Dingle proposed a £5 increase to £155 plus VAT, seconded by Councillor Rose it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimous to increase the charge to £155 plus VAT for 2010/11.

.2 Storage Facilities – Looe Harbour Commission

The Chairman explained that Looe Harbour Commission have two rooms available (at an approximate cost of £100 - £150 per month) one of which could be used as a meeting room. He also explained that the storage in the current offices is at capacity and the attic space is full to a safe weight limit.

After much discussion it was agreed to wait for the outcome of the re-valuation of West Looe Downs store and to hold an "attic clearing" day. The Clerk was asked to ascertain how long records need to be kept for.

.3 Putting Green/Petangue

Councillor Dingle explained that he and Councillor Joy had been up to the putting green and investigated the possibilities of having the facility open during the season as Cornwall Council do not intend to open it. As taking on a person to man the kiosk would cost in the region of £60 per day, Councillor Dingle suggested providing an "honesty box" for people to pay for a game, he has also looked into providing score cards which Looe Golf Club may sponsor.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the current Cornwall Council charges for a game are £1.90 (adult) and £1.20 (child) for the petangue and £2.30 (adult) and £1.25 (child) for putting.

Councillor Dingle proposed that a charge of £2 (adult) and £1 (child) be made for both games, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was unanimously agreed.

The Clerk was asked to purchase a metal cash box and provide notices for the gates to the Bowling Club.

.4 Memorial Seat/Bench

Councillor Bryan proposed that a seat be purchased and placed in the Mariners Garden in memory of former Mayor Ron Overd. Councillor Welch suggested it may be better placed at the War Memorial.

Councillor Bryan informed the Committee that a wooden seat would cost around £220 and he agreed to look into the cost of a granite seat/bench and report back to the next meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.00pm