

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

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

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Cllrs D J Bryan, J R B Dingle, M Joy, C Rose
and D Welch

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk – Mrs A Frith
Cllrs E B Galipeau and Mrs E Hannaford

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Gregory and
K Smith.

2. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

.1 Chairman

Councillor Bryan proposed that Councillor Rose be re-elected to serve
as Chairman for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Joy it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to re-elect Councillor Rose as Chairman for the coming
year.

.2 Vice Chairman

Councillor Rose proposed that Councillor Bryan be elected to serve as
Vice-Chairman for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Dingle it
was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to elect Councillor Bryan to serve as Vice Chairman for
the coming year.

3. 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.

.2 Prejudicial Interests

There were none declared.

---000---

At the request of Councillor Dingle the order of Agenda was altered as
Councillor Dingle had to leave the meeting early due to other
commitments.

---000---

4. **TO DISCUSS THE MAYORAL ALLOWANCE**

Councillor Dingle reported that, following discussions with the Chairman, Clerk and Deputy Mayor, he would only be claiming for £4,000 gross during his Mayoral year thus releasing the Council of the requirement to pay National Insurance and Income Tax. This also enables the Deputy Mayor to claim for any travel incurred attending Civic duties on behalf of the Mayor whilst staying within the £6,000 annual allowance.

5. **TO DISCUSS THE BOWLING CLUB/PUTTING GREEN**

The Chairman informed the Committee that the draft lease terms had been received and read out the terms offered. Councillor Mrs Hannaford stated that the running costs of this facility have been budgeted for in Cornwall Council 2010/11 budget so we have time to address any concerns or issues arising from these draft terms. After going through the terms the Committee agreed that there are various issues to resolve as follows:

- a) Surveyors Report
- b) Fire Regulation Assessment
- c) Disability compliance
- d) Prospective rental Insurance
- e) Business Plan for 5 year 6 months of the fixed term
- f) Sliding scale funding from Cornwall Council
- g) Explore income stream
- h) Cornwall Council to pay all legal costs.

Councillor Galipeau also asked if it could be ascertained what percentage of Cornwall Council's leisure budget is allocated to Looe. Councillor Mrs Hannaford will investigate.

---000---

At this point Councillor Dingle left the meeting – 7.40pm.

---000---

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

There were none raised.

7. **TO DISCUSS THE FIVE YEAR PLAN AND END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS**

Councillor Rose provided a five year forecast plan for the Committee to review. He pointed out that, if the precept is not increased over the next five years, projects such as the Skateboard Park, Bowling Club, CCTV etc could not be sustained and stated that, in his opinion, the precept should go up each year at least in line with inflation.

Councillor Bryan suggested that the opinion of the residents should be sought and they should be included in future discussions regarding the precept.

Councillor Mrs Hannaford suggested a prioritisation programme should be set up and value for money should be shown. Councillor Joy stated that, in his opinion, making savings meant doing nothing.

---000---

At this point Councillor Mrs Hannaford left the meeting – 8.05pm.

---000---

8. TO DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

.1 Looe Christmas Lights

An application for £1750 towards the cost of providing the Christmas lights had been received.

Councillor Galipeau declared a personal interest as part of the Lighting Team.

The request was discussed at length and there was some dissatisfaction that the overhead lighting “banner” provided by Looe Town Council had not been displayed.

Councillor Rose proposed that the budgeted donation of £1200 be made, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to donate the budgeted amount of £1200.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

None had been received.

10. TO DISCUSS THE TOWN CRIER HONORARIUM

It was unanimously agreed that this matter be deferred until the Deputy Mayor and the Chairman of this Committee have had a meeting with the Town Crier. The Clerk was asked to arrange this meeting.

11. TO DISCUSS THE WEST LOOE DOWN STORE

The Clerk reported that the Valuation Office have now re-valued this building and the rateable value has been reduced from £1850 to £1000. The new rates bill is now awaited.

The Committee agreed to defer any decision until the cost of the rates is known and that the current monthly payments should be made.

12. MATTER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

.1 EDF Energy – Bridge Lights

Following this Committee’s decision to cancel the agreement to pay for the lighting on the riverside of the bridge and have the lights disconnected it has been discovered that this unmetered supply charge also relates to the War Memorial light and the under-arch light on West Looe Quay bridge end.

Councillor Rose reported that he had spoken to EDF and it is possible to disconnect the supply of the riverside lights and keep the War Memorial and under-arch lights.

Councillor Rose proposed that the riverside lights be disconnected, thus halving the bill, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

To disconnect the riverside lights and maintain the War Memorial and under-arch light.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for this to be done and was also asked to find out who is paying for the electric supply to the bridge arches rope lights.

.2 Granite Seat – Ron Overd

Councillor Bryan had provided catalogues and prices from two companies for the supply of a granite seat as follows:

- a) Columbaria - £315 plus VAT
- b) H G Stacey - £800 - £1500 plus VAT

The Committee discussed these options and agreed that they need to see either the seats or a sample of the granite.

The Clerk was asked to obtain a sample of the granite and find out where, locally, these seats can be seen.

NOTE:

The Clerk as now ascertained the “Columbaria” seats can be seen at Glynn Valley Crematorium and “H G Stacey” seats are on Pennylands and adjacent to the RNLI in Looe.

The Meeting closed at 8.30pm.