

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

held in the Tourist Information Centre,
The Guildhall, East Looe on Monday 13th September 2010 at 7pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Chairman – Cllr K Smith
Cllrs M Gregory, C Lambert and D Welch

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk – Mrs A Frith
Cllr E B Galipeau

44. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D J Bryan and J R B Dingle.

45. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Galipeau declared an interest in any matter raised concerning East Looe Town Trust and Looe Development Trust.
Councillor Lambert declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any matter raised concerning Looe Development Trust.

46. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

.1 Ref Minute No: 37.1 - War Memorial

There had been no response from Cornwall Council regarding the grass cutting.

.2 Ref Minute No: 37.2 - Footpaths

The Chairman reported that a full up-to-date list is on its way.

.3 Ref Minute No: 43.3 – Mr Chris Rose

Cllr Galipeau stated that he disagreed with the way in which Mr Rose had been nominated as the Looe Valley Line Liaison Representative for the Council, he felt this was not following Council Policy and had not given serving Councillors the opportunity nor was it within the remit of this Committee. The Chairman explained that Mr Rose had been nominated with the agreement of the Mayor, himself (as Chairman of the Procedures Committee) and agreed by the three other Councillors present at the last meeting.

NOTE: This is now irrelevant as Mr Rose, being aware of these concerns, has withdrawn from this nomination.

Councillor Galipeau also raised concerns that draft Minutes of the last two meetings had not been available on the website as agreed at the last Full Council Meeting. The Chairman stated that this matter will be discussed at the next Procedures Committee meeting.

47. TO DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

.1 Vitalise

The application for funding was discussed at length and it was proposed by Councillor Smith that the requested sum of £81.75 be donated, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 3/1 against to donate the sum of £81.75.

.2 Looe IT Centre (Looe Development Trust)

At this point Councillor Lambert was asked to leave whilst discussions took place.

A letter requesting a second part payment of Looe Town Council's pledge of a total of £7,000 was read to the Committee. The statistics, both financial and of useage of the facility, were discussed and concerns were raised about the viability of the facility and lack of funding from any other source (which was a condition of the original pledge).

At this stage the Committee were reluctant to provide further funding and Councillor Gregory proposed that Looe Development Trust be offered the opportunity to make a presentation or provide a fuller report for the next Full Council Meeting, seconded by Councillor Welch it was unanimously agreed.

48. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Cornwall County Playing Fields Association

A letter received thanking Looe Town Council's recent donation was read to the Committee.

.2 DIS Publication

An extract from this publication regarding the dissolution of the Audit Commission was read to the Committee.

The Chairman stated that this could mean extra costs for the Council as we would have to appoint an external auditor.

49. TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES FOR THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

The items for discussion were produced by the Clerk (see attached Appendix).

The Committee were in full agreement that this issue is complex, requires a lot of discussion and the starting point should be to look at staff contracts of employment and job descriptions.

It was unanimously agreed to refer this matter to the Procedures Committee.

50. TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARY BUDGET/PRECEPT PROPOSALS 2011/12

The Clerk had provided draft initial proposals which the Committee discussed.

Councillor Welch stated that the Council should have a maintenance person, Councillor Gregory suggested perhaps a Town Warden should be discussed again and proposed that a Maintenance Sub-Committee be set up, Councillor Welch also proposed that a War Memorial Working Party be set up, both of which were unanimously agreed. Councillor Welch and one or more members of the Royal British Legion will make up the membership of the working party for the War Memorial.

The provision of salt bins was referred to the Environment and Public Protection Committee for recommendation.

With reference to the Bridge Lights, Councillor Welch reported that he had switched off the supply that Looe Town Council pay for two weeks ago with no adverse effect or complaint.

Councillor Welch proposed that the supply be disconnected, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was unanimously agreed.
The Clerk was asked to contact Southern Electric to have the supply disconnected.

51. TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS

The Committee discussed the financial summary provided and agreed that the finances are on track.

52. MATTERS FOR FURTHER/URGENT DISCUSSION AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIRMAN

.1 Cornwall Council Election Invoice

The Chairman informed the Committee that the elections on 12th August had cost £4764.58 and proposed that the invoice be paid, seconded by Councillor Lambert it was unanimously agreed.

.2 Cheque Signatories

The Chairman informed the Committee that, due to the resignations of Mr Joy and Mr Rose, there are now only three Councillor signatories and the Clerk is having difficulty getting cheques signed.
Councillors Gregory and Welch agreed to become signatories.

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed Date
Chairman of Finance and Works Committee