

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE MEETING**

held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe on
Monday 6th June 2011 at 7.00pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Councillors D J Bryan, T Crane, E B Galipeau,
M Gregory, Mrs M Powell, A Toms and D Welch

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk – Mrs Anne Frith
Councillors P Crossley and W Martin
Sergeant R Hall - Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Inspector S Gibbons - Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Michelle Brooking – Cornwall Council Licensing Department
Mr C Clements – The Old Bridge House
Numerous members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies given.

ABSENT

Councillor J Rothwell.

2. **TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

.1 **Chairman**

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman, Councillor Bryan proposed that Councillor Gregory be re-elected to serve as Chairman for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Mrs Powell it was:

RESOLVED

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

.2 **Vice-Chairman**

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

RESOLVED

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

3. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Bryan and Galipeau declared an interest in any matter raised concerning East Looe Town Trust.

Councillor Toms declared an interest in any matter raised concerning Cornwall Council, Looe Harbour Commission and Looe Development Trust.

4. **TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mrs Gyles from North Road, raised concerns about lack of dog bins in her area resulting in dog mess not picked up.

The Chairman stated that, under new regulations, dog mess can now be put into ordinary litter bins. He also stated that the issue will be reported to Cornwall Council.

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The Chairman proposed that Agenda item 6 be brought forward to accommodate all members of the public present, this was seconded by Councillor Toms and unanimously agreed.

5. **TO DISCUSS NOISE NUISANCE AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – REFERRED FROM FULL COUNCIL**

The Chairman reported that Mr Clements had raised this issue at the last Full Council meeting and invited Mr Clements to speak.

Mr Clements stated that he is fed up with noise at all hours, he had spoken to Sergeant Hall at length but nothing is being done. He would like the Council, Police and Licensing Department to resolve this issue. Various members of the public stated that noise, abusive language and violence is a problem in various parts of Looe and consider that some establishments in Looe are to blame, the recent permission granted to the garage on Station Road to open 24 hours a day and to sell alcohol has resulted in congregation of groups of people and noise.

Councillor Toms responded that this is a community problem and should not be aimed at licensed premises. Only one complaint has been received by the Environmental Health Department, in order for them to take action a minimum of four complaints are required. He stated that we need to work in partnership to resolve this problem, working as a community or nothing can be achieved, there is no point in laying the blame with the police or licensed premises.

Sergeant Hall responded to the concerns raised and explained that, whilst he acknowledges that these problems exist, nothing can be done unless it is reported and a log number obtained. He also explained that if these incidents are not reported it reflects on the resources that will be sent in the event of a call for back-up from himself or his colleagues. He urged members of the public to dial 999.

Sergeant Hall re-iterated his offer to take any member of the public out on patrol with him to see exactly what the Police do and deal with.

Sergeant Hall took and answered many questions and informed the public that there are many ways to contact the Police – central number, crimestoppers, e-mail etc. Sergeant Hall also confirmed that he fully support the views of Councillor Toms. Sector Inspector Gibbons informed all present that the Police Force is experiencing cuts due to budgetary restraints, re-structuring is taking place and there is a review of peak “problem” times ongoing which will determine future shift patterns for officers, weekly meetings will be held to continually monitor areas of concern.

He supported Sergeant Hall’s request for incidents to be reported to enable resources to be pulled back. Councillors fully supported the commitment and dedication of the Police and the Chairman informed

all that Full Council meetings, which are usually attended by the Police, are open to all and that there are opportunities for recruitment of Special Constables, information can be obtained from the Police. Councillor Toms proposed that a multi-agency meeting be held (to include this Committee, Cornwall Council, The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and the Police) and recommended this proposal be referred to Full Council for ratification, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept the proposal as above.

The Chairman thanked all members of the public and the Police, especially Sergeant Hall who was actually on annual leave, for their attendance.

All members of the public, Police and Michelle Brooking left the meeting at 8.15pm.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14TH MARCH 2011

.1 Reference Minute No: 80 - CCTV

Councillor Welch reported that both quotations received are similar in price. We have two options, either upgrade the current system or completely replace our current system.

The Committee felt that upgrading is the best value for money in order to make the system suitable for police use.

The matter was referred to the CCTV Sub-Committee and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting and to get a quote for the repair of the damaged camera.

.2 Reference Minute No: 81.6 – Extreme Weather Committee

The Chairman suggested that a meeting of this Committee be held in early September.

.3 Reference Minute No 85.1 - Car Parks

Councillor Toms informed the Committee that the car parks will be devolved to Town and Parish Councils, the first ones to be devolved are St Ives and Padstow and Looe is on the list of car parks to be devolved, a proposal for which should be received in the near future. The Committee suggested contacting St Ives Town Council when their transfer is completed regarding legal advice etc.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Cornwall Council – Off Street Parking

A copy of a letter sent to Sheryll Murray MP, who had followed up Mr Clements' campaign to extra observation times for loading bays, had been received and will be kept in the office.

.2 Cornwall Council – Renewable Energy Conference

Information and invitations to the above conference had been received. It will be held on 28th/29th July. The information will be kept in the office.

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

The Chairman reported that the plans are being drawn up and then there will then be a twelve week consultation period. This Committee will look at the suggestions received from the last Looe Town Council consultation at a later date.

9. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LOOE VALLEY LINE PROPOSAL**

There was nothing further to report.

10. **TO DISCUSS THE LANTERN WORKSHOP**

The Committee agreed this should be held in early October.

The Clerk was asked to organise this.

11. **MATTERS FOR FURTHER/URGENT DISCUSSION**

The Chairman explained that the Marine Conservation Society produce a good beach guide which has Looe listed as a water quality fair for 2011. This, together with other media articles, have given a completely incorrect impression. The only correct figures are the ones provided by the Environment Agency.

The MCS have written offering to meet with all agencies and organisations involved. The Chairman proposed that their offer is accepted, this was seconded by Councillor Bryan and unanimously agreed. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting for mid-July.

The Chairman suggested that a letter should be sent to the Daily Mail objecting to the content of their recent article, particularly the cartoon and also the possible complaint to the Press Commission should be referred to Full Council.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.