

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

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

held in the Tourist Information Centre, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe
on Wednesday 16th January 2013 at 7.00pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Chairman – Cllr M Gregory
Cllrs D J Bryan, T Crane, E B Galipeau
and C Rose

OFFICERS

Town Clerk – Mrs Anne Frith
Looe Community Officer – Mr Simon Townly

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr and Mrs Rowland
Mr R Butters

47. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Dingle,
Mrs M Powell, A Toms and D Welch.

48. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

There were no members of the public present.

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At this point the Chairman requested permission to alter the order of
the Agenda to accommodate Mr and Mrs Rowland and Mr Butters who
had written requesting support for the fair to be in the Millpool car park
from 20th August until 26th August (which includes the bank holiday
weekend).

Mr Rowland explained that he has supported the town for many years
over the May bank holiday week and, although the weather had been
bad in August last year, he felt that the presence of the fair had helped
the town.

The Committee discussed this matter and felt that wider consultation is
needed with the businesses as there were some issues raised last
year, the Committee were happy for the fair to come to Looe during

August but not over the bank holiday weekend. The matter was referred to the Events and Festivals sub-committee for discussion. Mr and Mrs Rowland and Mr Butters left the meeting.

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50. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 28th NOVEMBER 2012

.1 Reference Minute No: 46.1 – Health Centre Patients Car Park

The Clerk informed the Committee that Councillor Toms is in negotiation with Cornwall Council to secure a new lease.

51. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Alistair Uglow – Cornwall Council – Re: Polean Junction

The Chairman read out an e-mail from Mr Uglow asking whether we would prefer that the work to widen the junction continues from Easter until completed or whether we would prefer the work to stop at the end of May and resume in the autumn. Councillor Galipeau stated that starting this work before any decision is made regarding the Polean site is a waste of money.

The Chairman recommended that this point be made to Mr Uglow but if Cornwall Council do start the work then they should pull off the site at the end of May and resume in the autumn. This was unanimously agreed.

.2 Cornwall Council – Taxi Vehicle Licensing Consultation

The Chairman explained that Cornwall Council are trying to rationalise taxi licensing for the whole County.

Councillor Bryan asked that Cornwall Council be asked if Looe Town Council could put forward its views and attend the decision-making process.

Councillor Galipeau stated that it is in the interest of the public that all regulations are the same for the whole County and it is a good thing to standardise them.

.3 Cornwall Council – Off-Street Parking Order (Amendment) 2012

The Chairman stated that, due to the re-scheduling of this meeting the closing date for comments had passed, he recommended that the Committee look at the website where comment may still be able to be made.

.4a) Cornwall Community Flood Forum

Information had been received inviting free membership of the Forum. It was unanimously agreed that we take up the offer.

b) Flood Risk Assessment

The Chairman took this document to read and will report back to the Committee.

c) Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder

The Chairman will read this document and report back to the Committee.

d) Michala Powell

An e-mail received reference landslips had been received, this was referred to Agenda item 7.

.5 South West Water – What’s in the Pipeline

This newsletter will be available in the office.

.6 South West Water – Sewage Improvements Work

Information had been received on the works planned to improve the sewerage system.

The Committee asked that a letter be sent to South West Water congratulating them and stating that we welcome the investment in Looe.

.7 D Holford – Christmas Lights

The Chairman read an e-mail received from Mr Holford regarding replacement Christmas Lighting. The Clerk was asked to inform Mr Holford that a fund-raising event is planned for May/June to raise money for the New Year’s Eve fireworks and new lighting.

52. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM LOOE COMMUNITY OFFICER

Mr Townly informed the Committee that no report had been produced but there were a couple of issues he wished to raise.

.1 “Flag” Advertising on Lampposts

Mr Townly distributed information (see attached Appendix A) to the Committee and explained what the advert flags would look like. The idea is to have all flags in corporate colours (black and gold) and charge for adverts on the flags.

Mr Townly was asked to contact Cornwall Council Planning and Highways Departments.

Councillor Galipeau raised concerns that this may make the town look cluttered.

Councillor Bryan suggested that Liskeard Town Council be asked why signs had to be removed from their town.

.2 Dog Fouling Campaign

Mr Townly distributed a report (see attached Appendix ‘B’) to the Committee and explained that key areas need to be targeted. Mr Townly has obtained permission from Cornwall Council to run a 6 week trial period using the stencil as shown, he had also liaised with the Chairman and the intention is to launch the campaign on Saturday 19th January 2013 and invite the press to get the message out.

Councillor Galipeau expressed the opinion that stencilling on the roads/paths could be construed as graffiti and encourage further problems.

Councillor Rose stated that this is only a trial.

Councillor Gregory proposed that the trial goes ahead and review it at the end of the six weeks, seconded by Councillor Rose it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 4/1 abstention (Councillor Galipeau) to proceed with the trial.

.3 Facebook

Mr Townly reported that he has opened an LCO facebook page for problems to be reported. It was agreed that this will be monitored by the Chairman and the Clerk.

53. TO DISCUSS THE RECENT LANDSLIPS, THE CURRENT CORNWALL COUNCIL ACTION PLAN AND ANY ACTION REQUIRED BY LOOE TOWN COUNCIL AND: TO DISCUSS THE NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR GALIPEAU

Councillor Gregory stated that both Cornwall Councillors have, along with Stephen Foster (CNM) and Officers of Cornwall Council, put in place the current arrangements for dealing with the recent landslips. Councillor Gregory then asked Councillor Galipeau to explain the reason for the Notice of Motion (as attached Appendix 'C').

Councillor Galipeau explained that his main concern is Hannaford Road and the consequences of the major landslip on 22nd December which effectively cut the Hannaford residents off from the town. He needs re-assurance that the road is safe and asked what contingency plans are in place.

He would like Looe Town Council to put weight behind action to ensure that this situation will not re-occur.

Councillor Gregory informed the Committee that the Environment Agency will protect Hannaford at all costs.

Councillor Bryan stated that it was unfortunate that neither Councillor Toms or Councillor Mrs Hannaford were present to defend this criticism as they have both worked so hard to maintain access.

Councillor Bryan suggested deferment of any decision until both Cornwall Councillors Toms and Mrs Hannaford are able to report on what has been done and what needs to be done, any letter from Looe Town Council should also include St Martins/Sandplace landslips.

Councillor Rose clarified that Looe Town Council are not holding back from dealing with the Notice of Motion, action will be taken on receipt of answers from Councillors Toms and Mrs Hannaford.

Councillor Rose proposed that we formally write to both Cornwall Councillors Toms and Mrs Hannaford to ask what contingency plans are in place and then action Councillor Galipeau's Notice of Motion with addition of "the whole town", seconded by Councillor Gregory it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to accept this proposal.

NOTE

Councillor Toms was absent due to being hospitalised, Councillor Mrs Hannaford was absent due to the recent loss of her mother.

54. TO DISCUSS NEW YEAR'S EVE

The Chairman stated that both fireworks displays had been a huge success, the 6pm fireworks had worked very well and it was a big step towards a family event.

Councillor Bryan stated that part of the beach needs to be cordoned off for safety and, in his opinion, more entertainment for the 6pm event for the children is needed.

The event for next year was referred to the Events and Festivals Committee for discussion.

Councillor Rose offered congratulations to all involved in the organisation of the evening.

55. TO DISCUSS THE LANTERN PROCESSION

The Chairman stated that as the Lantern Procession had been cancelled this year due to the bad weather, landslips etc, we need to review the timing of the event for future years, perhaps combining it with the switch-on of the Christmas lights, working with the Lions Club. Councillor Bryan thanked the Tourist Information Centre for allowing Santa's Grotto in the premises, this had worked very well. He also expressed disappointment that the shops were closed and suggested that a "Christmas window competition" was held again as previously organised by Councillor Dingle.

Councillor Gregory suggested that a meeting be held mid-year to discuss Christmas events as a whole, it was suggested that this be referred to the Events and Festivals Committee for discussion in June.

56. TO UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There has been no response as yet to our queries raised.

57. TO UPDATE ON THE TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

The Clerk informed the Committee that the one objector has withdrawn his objections after speaking with Councillors Toms and Mrs Hannaford, Cornwall Council have sent him a form to sign and on receipt of the signed form Cornwall Council will arrange for the work to be programmed into the schedules, all should be in place for implementation before the start of the season.

58. MATTERS FOR FURTHER OR URGENT DISCUSSION AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIRMAN

.1 Salt Bins

Councillor Bryan reported that some of the salt bins in East Looe appear to have been relocated from their original positions.

Councillor Galipeau asked if the public liability issue for persons distributing the grit had been resolved, the Clerk reported that it had and the information is on the Cornwall Council website.

The Meeting closed at 9pm

Appendices 'A' and 'B' can be viewed in the Council Office

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Looe Town Council engages directly with Cornwall Council to develop an Action Plan which will give reassurance to residents of Hannafore regarding:

1. the stability of Hannafore Lane and Hannafore Road;
2. that includes an effective contingency plan to maintain access to Hannafore by vehicles in the event of a serious landslip.
3. that the process be informed by the completion of an analysis of the social and economic costs of Hannafore being cut off by road.

Outline:

Hannafore Lane

Following the landslip below Rond Anmeth (Round House) Cormac engineers/surveyors established that spring water was flowing through multiple fissures along the full length of the rear retaining wall; which also forms the east side of Hannafore Lane above. The scale of the flows from under the lane give me concern that fissures and voids may have been created beneath its surface, which could result in a road collapse?

[The course of a spring immediately above the lane has been a matter of conjecture, and was included in a study in respect of a planning application for Penjoden.[E2/09/00630/FUL]. An engineering report was commissioned from John Grimes Associates which will be relevant, as is the officer's report. Has subsequent engineering monitoring taken place on Hannafore Lane since 2009?

Hannafore Road

Two years ago the CC member for West Looe arranged a Highway engineer's site inspection of Hannafore Road at the top of Pennylands steps. A local resident, had pointed out that road water was disappearing down the drain, but not exiting the pipe into the harbour. A stream was flowing under the road retaining wall, and there was concern that if the road was being supported at this place by a rubble fill rather than an arch, voids could be created. Recent photographs show the pipe as dry, but below there is water spouting from the wall.

On 22 December, water *was* pouring into the harbour from the drain pipe when the flooding was at its peak, *but it dried up again after a couple of days, in spite of the fact that water was still going down the drain.* [Could this indicate a cistern effect, with a broken pipe acting as an over-flow]? I mentioned this to the Cormac engineer on 22nd, but the Round House slippage was obviously the focus of attention. LTC will want to know the result of the inspection in 2011, and the monitoring which has taken place, along with the current level of risk, given the serious consequences of failure at this point.

Brian Galipeau, Cllr.

6-1-13