

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

held in the Tourist Information Centre, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe
on Monday 24th June 2013 at 7.00pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT: Chairman – Cllr M Gregory
Cllrs D J Bryan, Miss K Bishop, P Crossley,
JRB Dingle, M Gregory, R Hendy, Mrs M Powell,
M Soady and W Martin

OFFICERS

Town Clerk – Mrs A Frith

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr A Toms

13. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stacey and Councillor Gregory for late arrival.

----0000----

The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Miss Bishop, started the meeting until the arrival of the Chairman at 7.10pm.

----0000----

14. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

15. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

16. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21st MAY 2013

.1 Ref Min No: 12.2 – Public Convenience Business Rates

The Clerk updated the Committee and reported that there had been no response so far.

17. TO DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

.1 Looe Boat Owners Association

The Vice Chairman read out a letter outlining a project proposed for West Quarries which requested financial support of £750.

Councillor Dingle proposed that a donation of £750 towards the cost of this project be made, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to donate £750.

.2 Chicks

The Vice-Chairman read out a letter requesting funding towards the cost of providing dis-advantaged children with a seaside holiday which is £722.

Councillor Dingle proposed deferring a decision until it is known whether East Looe Town Trust or West Looe Town Trust have been approached for a donation, seconded by Councillor Mrs Powell it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to defer this matter.

.3 St Martins Parish Council

The Vice-Chairman read out a letter requesting the annual donation for the upkeep of the burial ground.

Councillor Dingle proposed that the budgeted donation of £600 be made, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to donate the budgeted £600.

----0000----

At this point Councillor Gregory took over the meeting.

----0000----

18. TO DISCUSS MATTERS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

No matters had been referred.

19. TO DISCUSS RE-INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

Councillor Gregory explained that £85,000 had been put into a High Interest Account which had matured on 31st March 2013, and he asked if this amount should now be re-invested.

Councillor Dingle stated that he considered that some of the proposed projects that are scheduled, such as replacement/refurbishment of the town's seats, are completed before any re-investment.

Councillor Bryan suggested that this matter be deferred until after Matters for Further Discussion as some items may involve un-budgeted expenditure, this was agreed.

20. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR SOADY REF LOOE TOWN BUS

Councillor Soady stated that at the moment there is nothing to report, the best time in his opinion to deal with this issue is when the road is open again

permanently. Councillor Toms stated that the original owner of the Town Bus, Julie Yeo, may be interested in buying the service back. Councillor Gregory proposed that a letter be sent to her to ask, seconded by Councillor Miss Bishop it was unanimously agreed. Councillor Martin stated that Looe Music Festival would be interested in sponsoring the bus if funds are available.

21. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Caradon Cleaning – Media Event

An e-mail received was read to the Committee, the proposal being to run a competition to paint murals to be installed on the internal walls of the public conveniences, Paul Owen (owner of Caradon Cleaning) will offer a £500 prize for each of three public convenience buildings and he has asked for match-funding for the provision of the materials for the winning artists. Councillor Toms suggested asking the Colleges to take part, Councillor Dingle stated he would support this if they could be made vandal proof and our lease with Cornwall Council allows. It was unanimously agreed that support in principle be given.

.2 East Looe Town Trust – Seafront Maintenance

The Committee discussed this matter at length and all agreed that the beach is a very important town asset.

Councillor Dingle suggested that this matter be deferred until the issue with Cory regarding litter collection is resolved, this was agreed.

.3 East Looe Town Trust – Second Beach Steps

The request for financial assistance toward the cost of repairing the steps was discussed and it was agreed that we need to know what the total cost of the completed repairs was and who else has donated. Councillor Bryan stated that an effort to shame Cornwall Council into contributing should be made. Both these suggestions were agreed with a vote of 9/1 abstention.

22. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AS DETERMINED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

.1 The Grain – Tourist Information Signage

A quotation had been received for replacement of the external signage on the Tourist Information Centre which was £920 plus VAT.

Councillor Gregory proposed that a second quote be obtained, seconded by Councillor Miss Bishop it was unanimously agreed.

.2 Prisks of Looe – CCTV Cameras

A letter from Mr Gill, the owner of the Gift shop and the Mayflower shop, was read to the Committee.

The letter gave Looe Town Council until 30th June 2013 to remove the CCTV cameras from both of his premises as he considers that the loading bay recently installed part way across the Gift shop window is damaging his business income and he holds Looe Town Council responsible.

Councillor Gregory proposed that we arrange for the CCTV cameras to be removed by 28th June, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Bryan proposed that the cost of removal be accepted and that a quote for re-instatement of the cameras at an alternative location be obtained, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was unanimously agreed.

The Clerk was asked to respond to Mr Gill, the letter to be approved by Councillors Gregory and Bryan.

.3 Looe Town Council Alternative Accommodation

For the benefit of the new Councillors the Chairman explained the need and the work that has been done so far, including the analysis of costs/benefits of five identified options, which resulted in the Wishing Well site being the second best option, the Mariner's Garden was the first option but only due to difficulties encountered in negotiations with East Looe Town Trust. A meeting had been held with East Looe Town Trust last week the outcome of which was for Looe Town Council to have plans for a proposed development to be drawn up for the purpose of valuation for the Wishing Well site.

Councillor Bryan explained that the original point of last weeks meeting had been to agree the criteria for a development on which to base valuations as previously obtained valuations were based on completely different criteria and therefore incorrect.

Councillor Crossley proposed that East Looe Town Trust be asked if they want to sell the land and, if so, how much for without spending money on having plans drawn up, seconded by Councillor Martin which resulted in a vote of 3/7 abstentions. Councillor Gregory proposed that an urgent meeting of the Working Group be held, seconded by Councillor Miss Bishop it was unanimously agreed.

.4 Allotments

Councillor Bryan explained that he and Councillor Mrs Powell had met with the Bishop and Diocesan Solicitor last week as a last attempt to reach agreement over the site owned by the Glebe.

Agreement had been reached over the location of a car park and a path from there to the allotment site, a slight reduction of legal fees was also agreed.

However, the Allotment Association were now asking for allocation of disabled parking on the actual allotment site and the path to be wide enough to drive a vehicle.

Councillor Bryan proposed that Looe Town Council write to the Allotment Association stating that we will provide a car park near the entrance to the site, duly fenced, and the pathway and that is all, anything else to be funded by the Allotment Association, this was unanimously agreed.

It was also agreed that if the Allotment Association don't accept this then Looe Town Council will walk away from this site.

Councillor Gregory proposed that quotations be obtained for the provision of the car park and pathway, seconded by Councillor Bryan it was unanimously agreed.

The Meeting closed at 9.05pm.