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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held on TUESDAY 19 JULY 2016 at 7pm in the Guildhall

- PRESENT** Cllrs Bugden-Cawsey, Conway, Creagh-Osborne, Denton, Gordon, Harris, Hogan (Town Mayor), Keighley, Nancarrow, Penhale, Phillips, Sandercock, Tremain, Young.
In attendance: Rita Skinner (Town Clerk), Amy Dennis (C&D Post), members of the public representing the Kensey Valley Meadow residents, Mr Mervyn Pollard & Mr Johnathan Lese (Taxi Drivers), Mr Daniel Brewer (Resonance), Cornwall Cllr Massey.
- 1607/25 Apologies for absence**
Cllrs Bullen and O'Brien sent apologies, also Cornwall Cllrs Farrington and Paynter.
- 1607/26 Declarations of Interest**
Councillors were reminded that if a councillor has a registered disclosable pecuniary interest, or a non-registerable interest, in any agenda item s/he must leave the room while that item is discussed, unless a written request for a dispensation has been received.
- 1607/27 Launceston Development Trust**
Mr Brewer spoke about his company, Resonance, and his proposals for a Launceston Development Trust. Resonance had been in Launceston for 10 years, raising capital for community organisations, social enterprises and charities. Investment ranged from £100 to £m. Mr Brewer had identified two potential projects in Launceston, Eagle House Hotel and Polson Fields (affordable housing). The projects would need community support, in return the assets would be safeguarded for the community. Financing would be through banks, other finance vehicles and individual investors; no grants. Eagle House would be run as a hotel with community uses and Polson Fields would be 100% local affordable housing, possibly with an element of self-build.
- It was unanimously **resolved** to support the idea of a Launceston Development Trust, with the first two projects being Eagle House Hotel and Polson Fields.
- It was unanimously **agreed** that Launceston Town Council would become a founder member of the Trust.
- 1607/28 Public Representation Session**
Mr Pollard spoke on behalf of taxi drivers about proposals for moving the rank and/or amending the times of use of the existing rank. He said the taxis must be in the town square during the daytime, users of taxi services often could not walk far. Everyone agreed the present rank was in the wrong place but no-one could agree on an alternative. As a compromise Mr Pollard said the current loading bays outside Barclays Bank would be acceptable as a location.
- 1607/29 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meetings, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes, previously circulated:
Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 21 June 2016 at 7pm.

1607/30 To receive and adopt the minutes of committees and sub-committees, previously circulated

It was **resolved** to receive and adopt the minutes of the following committees and sub committees:

Planning and Economic Development Committee held on Thursday 9 June at 7pm

Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 6 July at 7pm

Tourism and TIC Management Committee held on Tuesday 12 July at 10am

1607/31 Taxi Rank

A report from Cllrs Gordon and O'Brien had been circulated with the agenda. It recommended a daytime rank, outside the town square, and a night time rank in the present location. The ultimate ambition of the town council was to pedestrianize the town centre, and the recent Launceston Town Study had identified traffic calming and other measures to support this. Cllr Tremain reminded councillors that this issue had been debated since 2009, the present location had been a trial and it was time to try another location. Councillors recognised the importance of the taxi drivers in helping to keep the town centre safe. Councillors debated the issue but were not able to reach agreement. Cllr Young suggested a central pick-up point for one vehicle at a time, and it was **resolved** to adopt the report and its recommendations with the addition of a pick-up point. Cllrs Conway and Keighley did not support this and Cllr Creagh Osborne abstained.

1607/32 Launceston Library

Cllrs Gordon and Bugden Cawsey had visited Werrington Parish Council to talk about the town council's proposals for library devolution. Cllr Gordon said they had been well received. The library was for the area, not just the town, local parishes would need to support it. It was **agreed** that the Town Clerk would contact other local parishes to suggest a similar visit.

The Town Clerk said the business plan had been submitted to Cornwall Council and would be considered by the Strategic Development Board on 28 July.

Concern was expressed about Cornwall Council's suggestion to rebrand One Stop Shops as Information Centres, leading to confusion with TICs. Cllr Massey said she would follow this up.

1607/33 Hay Common School

Cllr Tremain reminded the meeting that in June 2015 a 7 class school had been agreed by Cornwall Council. He had minutes of a number of meetings supporting this position. Launceston had agreed to sacrifice affordable housing, and accepted more housing than it needed to in order to have the school. He suggested that the Council had no confidence in Cornwall Council to deliver on its promises. Yet again the town was being let down. Members of the Council applauded Cllr Tremain.

Cllr Harris said he had attended a meeting with Cornwall Cllr Andrew Wallis, Lead Member for Children's Services, and Cllr Wallis would not fund the 7 class school. Cllr Harris said the council should go to the government and fund the extra classes itself. Cllr Creagh Osborne said the only funding from the Education Funding Agency was for academies or trusts. One local trust was considering this option for the new school. Cllr Conway said he was considering calling a public meeting in the Town Hall.

Cllr Gordon said Cornwall Council had shown disrespect and had turned its back on the town, there was no real partnership.

It was **agreed** that a letter should be sent to the Chief Executive of Cornwall Council using the points made by Cllr Tremain. It was also **agreed** to write to the An Daras Trust to encourage them to support the new school.

1607/34

Newport Regeneration

Cllrs Bugden Cawsey and Conway and the Town Clerk had met with Cllr Farrington and Stephen Howard of V Learning to consider funding opportunities for the Innovation Centre. The Community Led Local Development fund was a possibility, but the amounts available were insufficient for a large project. Another meeting was planned for 20 July. Councillors were encouraged to attend the CLLD meeting at the Town Hall on 9 August at 10am.

A meeting with representatives of the LEP and Economic Development was planned for 11am on Friday 29 July.

The Town Mayor had attended a meeting on 13 July to discuss the pedestrian bridges. Cornwall Council, Cormac, Sustrans and Living Streets were represented. The group walked round Newport and the industrial estate; there were potential difficulties with the sloping site for a multi-purpose path linking the estate and Newport.

Cllr Conway said he would circulate information about a meeting between Cornwall planners and Kensey Valley/Newport landowners.

1607/35

Cornwall Council Stakeholder Survey

Cllrs Gordon, Hogan and Tremain would respond on behalf of the Council.

1607/36

Paintings in the care of Launceston Town Council

The treatment report by Alison Smith ACR was noted. The Mayor said Ms Smith had done an excellent job in conserving the paintings.

1607/37

Correspondence and Matters to Note

Town Hall bookings for June

Former Deputy Town Clerk – thanks for gift

Friends of Launceston Priory – minutes of meeting held on 8 July

Cornwall Council governance review GREG meeting 25 July at 11.15am at County Hall

Community Led Local Development –Tuesday 9 August 10am-12 noon Launceston Town Hall

1607/38

Reports from Cornwall Councillors

Cllr Massey said she had met Cllr Biscoe to discuss the bid for the pedestrian bridges, it was one of the smallest bids and therefore vulnerable. She would be speaking to Glen Caplin of Economic Development. The application to the Devolution Fund was being processed. The railings outside the C&D Post would be repaired. The Hay Common School issue would be considered by Cabinet in September, she did not think the 7 class school had been dismissed.

Cllr Creagh Osborne said the governance review stakeholder event should have been a local event.

Cllr Gordon asked for grass to be cut at Pennygillam.

Cllr Conway enquired about leisure centres, Cllr Massey said this issue would be discussed at the end of September with more information available in the autumn.

Cllr Denton said a wall had collapsed into the road by the C&D Post office.

1607/39

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Creagh Osborne spoke about conversations with parishes about the library.

Cllr Harris said the Street Pastors needed more volunteers; councillors remarked that the requirement of church membership restricted the number of potential volunteers.

1607/40

Report from the Town Mayor

The Mayor’s engagements list is appended to these minutes.

1607/41

Urgent Items

No urgent items were brought forward.

1607/42

Exclusion of members of the press and public

To **resolve** that under s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as they involve the likely disclosure of confidential information.

1607/43

Governance Review

The review by Chris Rolley had been circulated with the agenda. It was **agreed** that the staffing element should be considered by Staffing Committee once the new Town Clerk had arrived. It was **agreed** that the governance recommendations would be considered at the September meeting of the Full Council.

1606/40

Staffing Committee meeting 6 July 2016

It was **resolved** to receive and adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 6 July 2016 at 6pm.

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 September 2016 at 7pm in Launceston Guildhall.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Signed Date