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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2017 at 7pm in the Guildhall

PRESENT Cllrs Bugden-Cawsey, Conway, Creagh-Osborne, Gordon, Harris, Hogan (Town Mayor), Keighley, Nancarrow, O'Brien, Penhale, Phillips, Tremain Young (Deputy Mayor)
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk), Amy Dennis (C&D Post), 8 x Public

1702/16 Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received from Town Councillors Bullen and Sandercock
Apologies were received from County Councillors Massey, Farrington and Paynter

1702/17 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.

1702/18 Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
Alison Hernandez gave background to changes that affected Launceston and the local area and explained that Mr David Eton was the direct area contact for policing matters. Ms Hernandez talked about the Police Plan that outlined the priorities and policies of policing, and made copies of the document available to Members. The Plan had been consulted upon and 1358 responses had been received.

Ms Hernandez spoke about the closure of the custody suite at Launceston and how it was used as part of the area policing on a temporary basis. The role of commissioner included responsibility for estates and she explained that these were currently being reviewed.

Policing budgets were being reviewed and scrutinised and a proposed increase of 1.99% was predicted, and Ms Hernandez was looking at ways to use some of the reserves in the police revenue budgets. There was a budget of £24 million for policing and maintaining officer numbers and the police were working on better use of the PCSO service and better speed of investigations.

Ms Hernandez was open to crossover and co-location of services with local council, with an increase in volunteering also being looked at as well as a proposed council advocate scheme and invited views of policing in the Launceston area. The potential for triple roles for pcso's, retained firefighters and paramedics was also a consideration.

Ms Hernandez concluded her presentation by saying that she was an advocate of speed watch schemes and would like to make schemes stronger and was happy to look at ways to assist in the reduction of speed limits as well as working with councillors in the support of parking issues affecting the town.

The Mayor thanked Ms Hernandez for her presentation to the Council and said that the Council and local community worked very well with the police. The Mayor advised that councillors could forward any question they may have to the Town Clerk who would pass them on to the Ms Hernandez's office.

1702/19

Public Representation Session

Mrs Maxine Lamb spoke about the local neighbourhood watch and wished to pass on her thanks to the local PCSO and local officers. Mrs Lamb said that speeding was an issue within the town as was the use of mobile phones by drivers. Mrs Lamb spoke about the need for additional policing and wanted assurance that Launceston would be included in the policing budgets for officers. Mrs Lamb advised that she would send a copy of her questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner

Mrs J Heaton thanked the Town Council for including an agenda item regarding Launceston hospital and asked that Cornwall County councillors also debated the issue and asked that a public meeting be held. Mrs Heaton concluded by thanking the Launceston Voluntary First Aid Service for the recent defibrillator training that they had held.

Ms Jen McDerra spoke about the Causley Trust and gave background to the organisation and gave information of the forthcoming centenary events and the Causley Festival in June. Ms McDerra spoke about the funding received and the projects that were being undertaken with the funding, including the proposed highways signage. Ms McDerra concluded by inviting councillors to meet her to discuss any matters.

1702/20

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated

It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes, previously circulated:
Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 24 January 2017 at 7pm.

1702/21

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:
Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 18 January 2017 at 7pm
Planning and Economic Development Committee held on Thursday 2 February 2017 at 7pm

1702/22

Rescinding of Previously Resolved Item 1612/17

Members considered a Notice of Motion concerning the above
It was **resolved** to rescind previously resolved item 1612/17 'that the Council continue with the councillor distribution of the Council newsletter until the trial period of three newsletters has been completed' and that distribution be carried out by a commercial provider

1702/23

Gorsedh 2017

It was **resolved unanimously** to note the details regarding the necessary requirements for the Gorsedh Festival, agree the use of the Town Hall and the Council's gazebo's as part of the Town Council's support of the event, agree that the Gorsedh Kernow Flag be flown from the Town Hall for the Proclamation day and throughout the Esedhvos Festival and report the issues with the condition of the highways in Castle Street at the entrance to be used by all those attending the event

1702/24

Sustainability and Transformation Plan Engagement

It was **resolved** that a letter seeking re-assurances regarding the future of Launceston

hospital be sent to the Chief Executive of the Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and that representatives of the Trust be invited to a public meeting in Launceston, and that as the land where the hospital is sited was gifted to the town, the Council considers seeking legal advice in regards to what would happen to the land if the hospital was to close

1702/25

Causley Trust Funding Request

It was **resolved** to agree the funding request for the Causley Trust of £1500 and for the payment to be taken from the Town Council's Reserves budget

Cllr J Conway requested that his vote against this Motion be recorded*

1702/26

Town and Parish Council Elections 2017

It was **resolved** to note the update on Town and Parish Council elections and for the Town Council to hold an information day for prospective candidates

1702/27

Mayor Elect – 2017-18

It was **resolved** that the Council would formally agree the process for the election of Mayor for 2017-18

1702/28

Correspondence and matters to note

- Councillor Surgeries – The rota for March and April was agreed
- Launceston Show 2017 – It was agreed that the Town Council would take part in the event
- Street Works Fees - Noted
- Notice of Intention regarding adoption of legislation – Noted
- A388 Withnoe Farm, Tavistock Road, 30 mph speed limit extension – It was agreed to note the details with disappointment and respond accordingly to Cornwall Council
- Letter of thanks from Cllr Tremain - Noted

1702/29

Reports from Cornwall Councillors

Apologies for absence had been received from all Cornwall Councillors.

Cllr J Conway spoke about the need to investigate the details of any outstanding Section 106 monies that may be owed to the Council and advised that he had requested the Clerk to contact Cornwall Council

Cllr Creagh-Osborne advised of four questions that he had for Cornwall Councillors, which the Clerk said he would forward for response. The questions were;

1. To ask Cornwall councillors to explain their position on today's council vote rejecting a proposal for a 1% increase in Council Tax for adult social care.
2. To ask for comment on the proposed education budget cuts on Launceston College of over £300k or £326 per pupil by 2019 equating to the loss of 8 full time teachers.
3. To ask if Cornwall councillors would support a bid to spend £536k on purchasing 30 acres of farmland within the town to be used as wild natural open space. This would bring Launceston up to the suggested minimum proportion of natural open space per person.
4. Further to reports that Roche and Bugle are to get an £85 million 4 mile bypass . Why is Cornwall Council refusing to support Launceston's aspiration for a North-South link which officers have advised would cost less than £80M and be shorter than 4 miles?

1702/30

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr O'Brien gave an update following a recent meeting of Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) in regards to Standing Orders and advised that he was drafting a proposed amendment for consideration at the March meeting of Council

Cllr J Conway advised that a proper legal notice had been put in place making it illegal to park on the zig zag lining outside of Launceston school.

Cllr Val Budgen-Cawsey gave an update as the Town Council's representative for the Chamber of Commerce and stated that the organisation would be seeking a new Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer at the forthcoming AGM

1702/31 **Report from the Town Mayor**
The Mayor's report was noted

1702/32 **Urgent Items**

- The Clerk advised of the need to seek alternative safe storage for the Council's regalia, following notice from HSBC that their service was no longer being offered
- Cllr P O'Brien asked for defibrillator training for councillors to be arranged following previous requests

1702/33 **Exclusion of members of the press and public**
It was **resolved** 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.

1702/34 **Devolution of Library Services**
Members considered Report 06/17 and it was **resolved** to note the update the update

Date of the next meeting of the Council
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 March 2017 at 7pm in Launceston Guildhall.
The meeting ended at 8.50pm.

Signed Date