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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 16 MARCH 2021 at 7.00pm via the Zoom Platform

- PRESENT** Cllrs, Gordon (Town Mayor), Penhale (Deputy Mayor), Bailey, Bullen, Conway, Gilbert, Harris, Hogan, Heaton, Nancarrow, Nolan, O'Brien, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
- 2103/24 Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cornwall Cllrs Paynter and Massey
- 2103/25 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2103/26 Public Representation Session**
There were no public representations
- 2103/27 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated**
It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes, previously circulated:
(i) Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 16 February 2021 at 7.00pm
- 2103/28 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:
(i) Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 7.00pm
(ii) Tourism and Information Services held on Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 5.00pm
(iii) Finance and General Purposes held on Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 7.00pm
- 2103/29 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**
Cllr Massey provided a written report as follows;
Launceston Chamber of Commerce-
The chamber held their AGM, virtually on 11th of March. Two new member businesses joined the group, reports were presented for the past years works and elections were held for committee and volunteer positions. All current business volunteers remained within their roles. Thanks was given to chair Annette Baskerville Smith and Vice Chair Tash Baskerville for their continued hard work during such a challenging year for our local businesses and Highstreet. The chambers hard work was recognised by members, giving thanks for that the way the chamber has adapted by holding more frequent online business support, launched a new printed membership leaflet and has become more proactively involved in many other local projects such as the Town Plan Group. The feedback has been positive for the business community.
- Town Plan Group-
Following the positive support offered from the Town Council during the group presentation at the recent extraordinary meeting, the town plan group continues to meet

by-weekly to investigate funding for projects and progression for town branding , the town map and more. (The group is due to meet again on Weds 17th.)

Two Bridges-

I am pleased to report that the work on the St Thomas Bridge upgrades begins this week. Road closures remain in place over night during the works. Works on the Ridgegrove Bridge will soon follow. This is a very positive step in supporting the improvements for all road users. Easing congestion, improving connectivity, offering safer routes for both pedestrians and cyclists, and supporting the improvements in air quality around Newport.

Community Network Highways Schemes-

It has been fantastic to witness the schemes listed by the panel, not only achieved, but completed under budget. These savings mean we can now invest the remaining funds into additional highways projects. This is a brilliant opportunity and I look forward to hearing the discussion on the priorities of the panel for these remaining funds during Thursday's network panel meeting.

Dates for the Diary-

Community Network Panel Meeting (Virtual) Thursday 18th of March.

Cornwall Council (Full Council) (Virtual) Tuesday 23rd March.

Launceston Chamber of Commerce Meeting (Virtual) Thursday 14th May.

2103/30

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Clr Bailey gave an update regarding the Chamber of Commerce AGM. There was a constitution item changed as the Town Council now organise the Christmas Lights this was amended in the wording of the Constitution. The Social Media update was a huge improvement from last year with Facebook for the Chamber now having over 1000 followers with 6172 people reached and 350 engaging as well there being Twitter and Instagram accounts. The AGM was listed as an event and 2700 were reached with this post. Any businesses who are members of the Chamber can send their key messages and these will be posted on Twitter for Promotions etc.

Chamber Chair Annette, thanked all members behind the scenes for all their support during the year as achievements by the Chamber were vast and amazing and they should be congratulated. The works included;

- An analysis on the website of what membership of the Chamber includes and a rebranding of the Chamber and its Logo took place. On the new website Members are given more exposure via new events such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Trail and the late-night openings every Friday in December
- Working in collaboration with VIC was good as was having profile interviews with BBC Spotlight and being revisited twelve months later.
- The This Is Launceston event had to be cancelled due to Covid Restrictions but planning was underway to run this as soon as is possible.
- A survey of the public and businesses about the town shops was undertaken and work was ongoing with reopening the Highstreet and production of notices for shops to display explaining how many people can enter a premises
- Production of Town Maps to be put in various outlets promoting the town and its businesses.
- CIL Application
- Town Plan Group – Giving our Town a Brand to attract visitors and increase footfall
- Building relationships with other groups and organisations

Cllr Heaton advised that building works at the medical centre were ongoing, and asked about the Council's grass cutting regime in regards to climate and environmental considerations. Cllr Heaton also asked if there were any updates regarding the installation of electric car charging points as well as a water dispenser unit

Cllr Conway said he was pleased that work was to be undertaken regarding repairs at Cornwall Council car parks and stated that the new library project needed to be pursued.

Cllr Tremain spoke about tree planting schemes

Cllr Young spoke about potential grounds works at Stourscombe and stated that a process of consultation was required as well as a proper budgeting process

2103/31 Report from the Town Mayor

A written report had been circulated to councillors and is attached as an appendix

2103/32 Lawrence House Museum

It was **resolved** to agree the minutes of the Lawrence House Museum

2103/33 Council Policies Update

It was **resolved** to approve the continued use of BACS or CHAPS as a suitable method of payment for suppliers and salaries, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and to approve the following Town Council policies in line with the Council's audit procedures

- i) Statement of Internal Control
- ii) Operational and Financial Risk Assessment
- iii) Investment Strategy

2103/34 Future Proposals for Council and Committee meetings

Members considered Report 07/21 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved to** note the update in regards to future meetings of the Council

2103/35 Progress and Information

Members considered Report 08/21 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved to**

- i) agree the continuation of road closures within the town
- ii) note the update regarding the forthcoming elections and agree to the the Council booking training updates for councillors
- iii) approve the address for the proposed buildings at the new Scarne Cross development be Flat x, Tir Lydnow, Landlake Road Launceston
- iv) note the letter from assistant Chief Constable Glen Mayhew in regards to the forthcoming G7 event

2103/36 Correspondence and matters to note

There was no correspondence to note

2103/37 Urgent Items

There were no items for consideration

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be on Tuesday 20 April 2021 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 7.45pm

Signed Date