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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2021 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT Cllrs Bailey (Deputy Mayor), Bullen, Conway, Gilbert, Gordon, Green, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, Nancarrow, Nolan, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)

*** The Council received a presentation from Amanda Pennington, Customer Liaison and Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Wildanet fibre broadband provider regarding the provision fibre broadband to the town and details of the works to be carried out and likely time scales as well as giving details of a public consultation to be held in the Town Hall in February. Ms Pennington also answered questions from councillors regarding technical capabilities of the system and proposed pricing. ***

2111/41 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Penhale (Town Mayor) and O'Brien and Cornwall Cllr Paynter.
In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Bailey chaired the meeting

2111/42 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2111/43 Public Representation Session

The Mayor of Wadebridge spoke in regards to the closure of local leisure centres and advised that in Wadebridge, a group had been formed who were gathering information regarding the operation of leisure centres. She advised that three companies had shown an interest in taking on the future operation of the centres in Cornwall, and also advised that the current operator, GLL, were requesting additional monies from Cornwall Council to operate sites. The Mayor advised that she was happy to speak with members of the Town Council and to share the details of actions and findings to date

2111/44 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 19 October 2021 at 7.00pm
- (ii) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trustees of Launceston Municipal Charities held on Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 8.15pm

2111/45 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 21 October 2021 at 7.00pm
- (ii) Library, Arts Business and Information held on Tuesday 2 November at 5.15pm

2111/46

Reports from Cornwall Councillors

Cornwall Cllr Conway advised that the issue of proposed closures of leisure centres was still ongoing and that the recent public meeting at the Town Hall had been well attended, with all of those in attendance in favour of the Launceston site staying open. Works to the town bridges was ongoing as was work on the Cornwall Council budget.

Cllr Harris asked if the proposed redundancies at Cornwall Council included any subsidiary services. Cllr Conway advised that he would raise that question.

Cllr Tremain spoke about concerns that Cornwall Council decisions were being made at officer level and that only the Cabinet voted on matters. Cllr Conway replied that Cornwall Council had been officer and cabinet led for some time and stated that a more democratic approach was needed

Cllr Hogan asked how many Cabinet members were from the local area. Cllr Conway stated that most were from the west of Launceston. **Cllr Hogan** also asked if the agreement on the future of Launceston leisure centre will be imposed by cabinet. Cllr Conway advised that it would be for the Conation Park Trust to make a decision in regards to the leisure centre operation

Cllr Heaton asked if the Town Council can raise objections to the current decision making policy of Cornwall Council

Cllr Gordon asked if redundancies will be enforced. Cllr Conway advised that some redundancies may have to be. **Cllr Gordon** also thanked Cllr Conway for the recent leisure centre public meeting and asked if there had been any response from GLL in relation to their loans. Cllr Conway advised that no response had been received to date

Cllr Soanes asked if there were any issues with the Council's ear marked finances and if any Covid funding had been received from central government. Cllr Conway advised that he was not aware of any issues regarding earmarked reserves and that he had confidence in the nominated finance divisional member. In regards to Covid funding, no response had been received to date

Cllr Bailey expressed her thanks for the leisure centre public meeting

2111/47

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Young advised that In Bloom volunteers had planted bulbs at New Road and raised concerns regarding the bulb planting at the Link Road due to the large amount of grounds works currently underway. **Cllr Conway** advised that work will be undertaken to repair and replace any damage to planting at the Link Road

Cllr Heaton asked if there was any update regarding the installation of de-fibrillators in the town and also raised the issue that newly installed yellow lines in Castle Street had led to vehicles parking on the pavement

Cllr Bailey advised she had attended a town walk about with Cornwall Council officers and that at the recent Patient Participation Group AGM a new chair and vice chair had been elected

2111/48

Report from the Town Mayor

A copy of the Mayor's report had been made available to all Members

2111/49

Response to Cornwall Council Survey

It was **resolved unanimously** that the comments submitted by individual committees as well as those from the devolution working group, be submitted as the response from the Town Council to the Cornwall Council survey

2111/50

Launceston Leisure Centre Consultation

It was **resolved unanimously** that the Town Council continues to explore all matters in relation to the leisure centre and that the Coronation Park Trust reports details back to the Council

2111/51

Progress and Information

Members considered Report 20/21 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** that;

- i) the Sakura Cherry trees be planted at Coronation Park and that groups of similar trees be planted at locations throughout the town
- ii) the details regarding grant funding be noted

2111/52

Correspondence and matters to note

It was **resolved** to

- i) note the venue usage

2111/53

Urgent Items

Cllr Nancarrow asked if the new wall along St Thomas Road was to be extended and continued along the length of the road

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be on Tuesday 21 December 2021 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 8.15pm

Signed Date