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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
Cornwall PL15 7AR

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 15 AUGUST 2023 at 7.15pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT Cllrs Bailey (Mayor), Gilbert (Deputy Mayor), Bullen, Conway, Gordon, Green, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, O'Brien, Penhale, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
4 x public

The Council received a presentation by Mr David Scott on The Future Vision of Lawrence House

- 2308/18 Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sleep, Nancarrow and Cornwall Councillor Paynter
- 2308/19 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2308/20 Change to Order of Business**
It was **resolved** that the Council move to Agenda Item 4 and beyond so as to facilitate the presentation by Mr David Scott
- 2308/21 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 Full Council held on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 7.00pm
- 2308/22 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 29 June 2023 at 7.00pm
- 2308/23 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**
Cornwall Councillor Conway spoke about the potential removal of the free school transport scheme and requested that any comments be directed to Cornwall Councillors Paynter and Parsons. Cllr Conway also advised that at a recent CAP meeting, Highways priorities were discussed including the safety issues regarding the A388 and the A30 Plusha junction

Cllr Gordon advised that the leisure centre was still awaiting agreed monies from Cornwall Council and asked that Cllr Conway follow this up. Cllr Conway advised he would do so

Cllr O'Brien spoke about the school transport scheme and that the areas involved were not suitable for pedestrians and this must be considered if the scheme is removed. Cllr Conway advised that safety routes were being audited and would be assessed by Cormac

Cllr Tremain reminded councillors of the consultation regarding changes to the free school transport scheme and also asked if there was any update regarding the issue of HGV's accessing the town. Cllr Conway advised that Cormac had agreed for the installation of signage at Tower Street to alleviate the issue of HGV use

Cllr Hogan requested that when the safety assessment for the proposed removal of the free school transport scheme is undertaken, that ongoing roadworks and traffic diversions be considered

Cllr Heaton stated that the agreed higher bridge barriers across the A30 had not been undertaken and that highways issues at Plusha junction were still ongoing. Cllr Conway advised that National Highways had been reminded of the promised works to the bridge barriers.

Cllr Gilbert stated that routes highlighted for pedestrians for the proposed removal of the free school transport scheme were not suitable and also questioned the fact that many of the routes were unlit which posed serious safety concerns during the darker winter evenings

2308/24

Change to Order of Business

It was **resolved** that the Council move to Agenda Item 3

2308/25

Public Representation Session

Question 1 – Further to a letter being sent regarding the operation of the museum at Lawrence House, when will the questions therein be answered. The Mayor advised that following decisions of the Council, full details of proposals would be provided regarding the museum

Question 2 – Details pertaining to the operation of the museum were sought. The Mayor advised that following resolutions by the Council agreeing building works at Lawrence House, further consideration could be given regarding the installation of the museum collection

Question 3 – A question was asked if the current pop up museum in the town centre would be retained. Cllr Young advised that it was currently agreed to operate at the site for September, and that a forthcoming meeting of the Museum Management Committee would agree any dates beyond this

2308/26

Change to Order of Business

It was **resolved** that the Council move to Agenda Item 10

2308/27

Lawrence House Future Operation

Members considered Report 09/23 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was resolved that:

- i) the vision statement from Mr David Scott be agreed and the Council applies for an Arts Council England Accreditation Mentor

For

Cllr Tremain
Cllr Heaton
Cllr Green
Cllr Soanes
Cllr Bullen
Cllr Conway
Cllr Harris

Against

Cllr O'Brien
Cllr Hogan
Cllr Gordon

Abstain

- | | For | Against | Abstain |
|------|--|----------------|----------------|
| | Cllr Penhale | | |
| | Cllr Young | | |
| | Cllr Gilbert | | |
| | Cllr Bailey | | |
| ii) | the future operation of Lawrence House be agreed | | |
| iii) | it be agreed that officers begin works on alterations to the lease and Trust arrangements for the building | | |

The meeting was adjourned at 8.43pm

The meeting resumed at 8.50pm

2308/28 Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Heaton gave an update on the recent PPG meeting and advised that new staff had been appointed, a CQC inspection had been held, new phone and online systems installed, a new menopause clinic had opened, that there was still an issue regarding supply at the dispensary and that money had been allocated for the development of a new hub. Cllr Heaton also raised the issue of grass cutting being undertaken around Roydon Road when it was not legal to do so

Cllr Green requested a greater police presence in the town following vandalism to two shop premises

Cllr Harris advised of the CCTV AGM and that he was now Secretary and also advised that the Street Pastors noted that Saturday evenings had been quiet within the town

Cllr Hogan asked that the police be requested to target specific areas in the town to deter any antisocial behaviour

Cllr Conway advised that Police Inspector Morris was soon to retire

Cllr Young advised that the youth club was relocating to Market House Arcade

2308/29 Report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Mayor provided an update on the Mayoral and Deputy Mayor's activities

2308/30 Report from the Town Clerk

Members considered the RAG Report for July (previously circulated)
It was **resolved** to note the report

2308/31 Progress and Information

Members considered Report 10/23 concerning the above (previously circulated)
It was **resolved** that;

- i) a seasonal contract be offered for the library staffing cover with payment backdated to the start of the summer period
- ii) the forthcoming meeting on potential funding streams be noted

2308/32 Correspondence and Matters to Note

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the venue usage

2308/33 Urgent Items

The Mayor advised of a letter praising the foodbank services and support provided by the library team and also raised the issues of homelessness stating that further housing stock was required and that a letter be sent to Scott Mann, MP highlighting the concerns

2308/34

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 item as it involved the likely disclosure of confidential information

2308/35

Library Hub Project

It was **resolved** that the Council use its reserves budget to facilitate the purchase of the proposed library site to expedite the process if there was a delay in the funding agreement from Cornwall

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 September 2023

The meeting ended at 9.26pm

Signed Date