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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
Cornwall PL15 7AR

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2025 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall

- PRESENT** Cllrs Bailey (Mayor), Gilbert (Deputy Mayor), Bullen, Conway, Gordon, Green, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, Lankston, Nancarrow, O'Brien, Penhale, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
2 members of the public
- 2502/16 Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cornwall Cllr Paynter
- 2502/17 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2502/18 Public Representation Session**
There were no representations made
- 2502/19 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 21 January 2025 at 7.00pm
(ii) Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council held on Thursday 30 January 2025 at 7.00pm
- 2502/20 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) Finance and General Purposes held on Wednesday 22 January 2025 at 7.00pm
(ii) Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 30 January 2025 at 7.29pm
(iii) Estates and Properties held on Monday 3 February 2025 at 10.00am
- 2502/21 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**

Cllr Conway advised that the next Cornwall Council meeting was being held the following week, but was pleased to announce that the Adult Education service would be remaining in Launceston. Cllr Conway also advised that he had no further updates in regards to the proposed devolution of Cornwall Council car parks

Cllr Bailey raised the matter of missed rubbish collections in the town and the issues these were causing and requested that Cllr Conway seek to address the issue. **Cllr Conway** advised that he was working on this matter with the Portfolio holder for Neighbourhoods, Cllr Mould and advised cllrs to continue reporting the matter and advise that it is flytipping and to use a recognised councillor email address. Some of the problems have

been caused by residents not being issued with the correct rubbish and recycling equipment.

Cllr Soanes stated that he had been advised that the car park consultation had been completed and asked if a disability assessment had been undertaken. **Cllr Conway** re-stated that he had no further updates in regards to the proposed devolution of Cornwall Council car parks and requested a copy of any correspondence that Cllr Soanes had received. Cllr Soanes also enquired about the adoption of roads at Stourscombe.

Cllr Green spoke about the issue of rubbish collections and stated that some collections were being undertaken by the team responsible for clearing flytipping. **Cllr Conway** advised that a service level agreement was in place to ensure that works to clear rubbish were undertaken as required.

Cllr O'Brien stated that highways signage at Upper Chapel still wasn't in place. **Cllr Conway** advised that he was working with Cornwall Highways on the issue but that the roads at the site had not currently been formally adopted. He requested that Cllr O'Brien forward any correspondence and the Mayor also advised that she would contact Cornwall Highways

2502/22

Reports and Questions from Town Councillors

Cllr Harris advised that Cornwall Housing repairs are now to be undertaken by a new organisation and the North Cornwall area will have its headquarters based in Launceston

Cllr Heaton advised that the next PPG meeting would be held in March and that lobbying works for localised dialysis services continue to be undertaken and a response from the local MP in support of the proposals has been received. Cllr Heaton also gave details of a Winter Wellbeing event in Bude as well as raising an issue regarding lack of support services for juvenile offenders at the Police custody suite and the need for a Police front desk service at Launceston. **Cllr Bailey** advised that she had also raised the issue of a Police front desk service at Launceston with the Police and Crimes Commissioner and stated that all matters relating to the Police must be reported to ensure full awareness of issues within the town. Cllr Bailey also stated that the Police and Crimes Commissioner was working with businesses in the town to discuss required support issues and seeking funding for Launceston to be recognised as a Safer Town

Cllr O'Brien gave an update from the Super Councils Network meeting and spoke about the Government's Devolution White paper being an opportunity for seeking funding from smaller parishes adjacent to large town for services provided, and that a Bude Town councillor re-iterated this view, and that some Councils had set up a shared funding scheme to ensure services were spread and paid for evenly. Cllr O'Brien also advised that Sarah Mason would soon be stepping back from her role as County Executive Officer at CALC

Cllr Conway advised that the allocation system for Cornwall housing services was being updated

Cllr Soanes noted that the clock on the former Barclays Bank building was only working on one side of the two faces

2502/23

Report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Mayor provided an update on the Mayoral activities

2502/24

Report from the Town Clerk

Members considered the latest RAG update and progress and information Report 03/25 (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the RAG report
- ii) note the update regarding funding schemes for Town Council projects
- iii) note the details regarding replacement equipment at the Town Hall
- iv) note the details regarding the planning application and insurance of the former Barclays Bank building
- v) note the details of the latest edition of Launceston Life
- vi) note the schedule for the temporary closure of the Visitor Information Centre

2502/25 Publicity During the Pre-Election Period

Members considered Report 04/25 concerning the above (previously circulated).

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the details regarding publicity during the Pre-Election Period
- ii) note the timetable for events for Town and Parish Council elections

2502/26 Strategic Plan

It was **resolved** that each Council Committee consider the strategic plan and what it wishes to be the focus for the next four years. These resolutions will then be fed back to the working party for consideration and completion of the new plan

2502/27 Strengthening the Standards and Conduct Framework for Local Authorities in England

Members considered Report 05/25 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved unanimously** that the Council agree with the responses suggested by CALC and that these be submitted as part of the consultation

2502/28 VAT Advice for Future Library Hub

It was **resolved** that the Council undertakes Option 3 of the recommendations from Parkinson Partnership concerning VAT for the Library Hub

2502/29 Correspondence and Matters to Note

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the venue usage
- ii) note the correspondence from Mr K Wadland and the Town Council's response

2502/30 Urgent Items

- i) The Mayor advised of correspondence received from Launceston Tasmania
- ii) A working party for the organisation of a VE Day event was agreed and members were: Cllrs Tremain, Lankston, Gordon, Harris, Conway and Bullen

2502/31 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

2502/32 Council Property Reports

It was **resolved** that consultants for the property reports were invited to discuss the details with councillors

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 March 2025

The meeting ended at 8.26pm

Signed Date