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Launceston Town Council  
The Town Hall  
Launceston  
Cornwall PL15 7AR

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2025 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall**

- PRESENT** Cllrs Bailey (Mayor), Gilbert (Deputy Mayor), Bullen, Conway, Green, Gordon, Harris, Heaton, Hogan, Lankston, Nancarrow, Penhale, Soanes, Tremain and Young  
In attendance: Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)  
1 member of the public
- 2504/08 Apologies for absence**  
Apologies were received from Councillors O'Brien and Cornwall Cllr Paynter
- 2504/09 Declarations of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest
- 2504/10 Public Representation Session**  
There were no representations made
- 2504/11 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 18 March 2025 at 7.00pm
- 2504/12 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 13 March 2025 at 7.00pm  
(ii) Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 3 April 2025 at 7.00pm
- 2504/13 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**  
  
**Cllr Conway** provided an update on an issue of employment matters regarding Cornwall Space port
- 2504/14 Reports and Questions from Town Councillors**  
  
**Cllr Heaton** provided written reports regarding the North and East Integrated Care Board Forum, the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board, the Launceston Health Hub Participation Group and the Causley Trust Launceston Poetry Festival (copy attached)  
  
**Cllr Gilbert** provided an update on the recent Twinning Event in France celebrating 40 years of Launceston being twinned with Plestin-les-Grèves  
  
**Cllr Penhale** advised that he would not be standing at the forthcoming elections and offered thanks and best wishes to the Council

Cllr Nancarrow also advised that she would not be standing at the forthcoming elections and offered her thanks to the Council

**\*The Mayor presented Cllrs Penhale and Nancarrow with gifts and thanked them for their service to the town\***

Cllr Tremain raised concerns regarding proposed service cuts within the NHS and stated that these would be very challenging

Cllr Hogan stated that there was no canopy to the outside of the medical centre to provide cover from inclement weather to those queuing at the site

- 2504/15      Report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor**  
The Mayor provided an update on the Mayoral activities
- 2504/16      Report from the Town Clerk**  
Members considered the latest RAG update and progress and information Report 07/25 (previously circulated)  
It was **resolved** to note the updates on the various items of progress and information regarding the current ongoing work of the Council
- 2504/17      Launceston Castle Change of Operating Hours**  
Cllr Tremain spoke about the changes to the opening hours at Launceston Castle and stated that the Council had been ill served by the arbitrary decision to change the operating times without consultation.  
It was **resolved** that Cllr Tremain write to English Heritage on behalf of the Town Council regarding the issues and the detrimental effect that the changes will have to the town
- 2504/18      BT Phone Box Removal**  
Members considered Report 08/25 concerning the above (previously circulated)  
It was **resolved** to contact local community groups to see if they wished to adopt the phone box at St Stephens Hill
- 2504/19      Amendment to Council Minute**  
Members considered Report 09/25 concerning the above (previously circulated)  
It was **resolved** to note the report and amend the Extraordinary Full Council minutes from the meeting held on 30 January 2025 as recommended
- 2504/20      Taxi and Private Hire Policy Consultation**  
Members considered Report 10/25 concerning the above (previously circulated)  
It was **resolved** to note the report
- 2504/21      Correspondence and Matters to Note**  
It was **resolved** to;  
i)        note the venue usage
- 2504/22      Urgent Items**  
i)        Cllr Conway stated that the closures to the Launceston Minor Injury unit should be challenged as no consultation was held regarding the closures  
ii)      Cllr Bailey provided an update regarding the forthcoming VE Day celebration event  
iii)     Cllr Young thanked Cllr Bailey for her service as Mayor

**Date of the next meeting of the Council**

The next Full Council meeting will be the Annual Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday  
13 May 2025

The meeting ended at 7.35pm

Signed ..... Date .....

## **Launceston Town Council 15 April 2025**

### **Councillor Report**

#### **North & East ICA Forum 19th March 2025**

##### **Lay Member on N&E Cornwall NHS ICA Forum**

Topic discussed was Mental Health Care:

- workshops planned to develop and implement an integrated model of mental health care provision across communities and services, which is responsive, needs-based and person-centred
- pilot scheme working out of Bodmin
- outreach model proposed for key physical health checks for those with severe mental health
- use of Brave AI to identify those at most risk

#### **CIOS ICB Meeting 20 March 2025**

##### **Member of Project Group, NHS ICB Comms Team**

The Chair told the ICB Board that all Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) must make 50% cuts in running costs by December 2025. Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (CIOS) ICB has already made 30% cuts, as required previously to be made by 2025 - 2026. NHS England, the administrative body which manages health services, is to be abolished in a massive cost cutting operation. About 9000 administrative jobs will be cut at NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care. The NHS will still be free at point of use and offer the same services that it does at present.

The CEO noted the stress on staff and asked for sensitivity to be shown towards colleagues. She emphasised the need to keep on working in the same way as usual as there was no information about the future of ICBs yet.

The planned 'Expert Patient Groups' had been put on hold pending the abolishing of NHS England.

The vignettes compiled by the CIOS ICB Comms team were supportive of the aims of the NHS 10-Year Plan to shift services:

- From acute hospitals to community and at home care
- To focus on prevention of sickness within communities
- From analogue to digital to utilise new technology in medical care

They included ICB funded mental health drop-in sessions for young people at Truro and Penwith College. Feedback from the students was extremely positive as they felt valued and included. Other films highlighted Integrated Neighbourhood Teams, the mobile X-ray car

service, Age UK support for the elderly, diabetes care, and Healthy Living campaigns with BP checks available at Cornwall Libraries.

It was reported that access to Primary Care in CIOs was one of the best in England. Voluntary services were also exceptionally good in CIOs, but coordination of the multiple voluntary organisations was problematic. Rapid referrals from the voluntary sector to medical care would be optimal.

The rise in National Insurance from April 2025 from 13.8% to 15%, and the lowered threshold from £9100 to £5000, will impact negatively on GP practices and nursing homes, including some charitable organisations providing services. The government has promised additional social care funding to local authorities in 2025 – 2026.

In General Practice, the ARRS (Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme) provided NHS funding for extra staff to assist GPs with better access and a wider range of staff services. Some of these roles could be lost when NHS England is abolished. Especially concerning is the potential loss of mental health roles.

The closure of pharmacies in our rural area creates issues of access to medication for patients. This is a national problem and a concern for GPs. NI increases and lack of qualified pharmacists will exacerbate the present situation.

Dentistry continues to be a problem, and work is ongoing to ensure adequate NHS dental health care for children.

Mental Health teams, working with other providers, are identifying vulnerable people with complex presentations and histories of trauma, and offering some continuity going forward. Slowly building up services through multi-agencies and developing trusting sustainable relationships is crucial in mental health care where consistency is necessary. In 2025-26, £1 million of additional funds are to be made available for this work in England.

The Framework of Change is pending but, for now, the work of the ICB continues as usual.

### **Launceston Health Hub Participation Group Meeting 27 March 2025**

#### **Vice Chair/Secretary of Launceston Medical centre PPG**

This was the first meeting of the user groups of the Health Hub. The Chair and Vice Chair of Launceston Medical Centre PPG were invited to attend and met the Health Hub staff.

New website being launched.

New signage.

Social Prescribing staff in place and more groups interested in working from the Health Hub.

## **Causley Trust – Launceston Poetry Festival 29 May to 1 June 2025**

### **Causley Trustee**

Thank you to Launceston Town Council for the grant to the Causley Trust to pay for the Council Tax. It is greatly appreciated.

The Inaugural Launceston Poetry Festival will host many famous names, including Frank Skinner, a great fan of Launceston poet, Charles Causley. Events will take place in Launceston Town Hall, Launceston Library, Cyprus Well (Charles Causley's home), Merchant House, and around the town over the long weekend. Many events will be free, and everyone is welcome. Watch for promotional posters which will be available around town in the run up to the Launceston Poetry Festival. All councillors would be most welcome at events.

The Causley Shop in Merchant House will be open for extended hours during the festival and workshops will take place in the upper floors of the building.

Joan Heaton

15 April 2025