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Launceston Town Council
The Town Hall
Launceston
Cornwall PL15 7AR

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
held on TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2026 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall

- PRESENT** Cllrs Gilbert (Mayor), Conway (Deputy Mayor), Anston-Race, Bullen, Gordon, Green, Harris, Haynes, Heaton, Hogan, Lankston, O'Brien, Soanes, Tremain and Young
In attendance: Cornwall Cllr Dennis
Christopher Drake (Town Clerk)
1 x public
- 2606/09 Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bailey
- 2606/10 Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest
- 2606/11 Public Representation Session**
There were no representations made
- 2606/12 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 Annual Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 21 May 2026 at 2.00pm and Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 7.00pm
- 2606/13 To receive the minutes of committees and sub-committees previously circulated:**
(i) Draft Planning and Economic Development held on Thursday 28 May 2026 at 7.00pm
- 2606/14 Reports from Cornwall Councillors**
Cornwall Cllr Dennis gave details of the Community Gateway Helpline and that the Care and Quality Commission had rated Cornwall social care as good as well as identifying strengths and weaknesses. Funding to improve social housing stock was ongoing as was work regarding bus franchising and the Cornwall Bus Conference was being held on 24 June. Cllr Dennis advised that an additional cleaning request had been submitted to contractors regarding the moss growing on pavements.

Cllr Gordon received confirmation that the weed growth outside the former Cornish and Devon Post building had been reported

Cllr Tremain asked if there was any update on the Government ruling on Strategic Planning Authorities. **Cllr Dennis** advised that Cornwall Council was still awaiting details
- 2606/15 Reports and Questions from Town Councillors**
Cllr Heaton thanked the Youth Council for its recent grant funding and advised that work for the 2027 Launceston Poetry Festival was ongoing

Cllr Young provided an update from the Youth Council who had funded a Year 5 school trip to London for St Stephen's school and that the trip had also been supported by the Orchard Centre and Rotary. A newsletter from pupils thanking supporters had been received.

Cllr Lankston advised that the rota for work at the Launceston Show still needed completion to fill all timeslots.

Cllr O'Brien gave an update on Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) Executive and spoke about the Annual Conference AGM being held on 6 October.

2606/16

Report from the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The Mayor provided an update on the Mayoral Engagements and copies were made available to all Members.

2606/17

Report from the Town Clerk

Members considered Report 12/26 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** that;

- i) the update of the library hub building tender process be noted
- ii) the update regarding repair works at the multi storey car park be noted
- iii) the staffing update be noted
- iv) 'meet the councillor' events be held on alternate months and Members to provide details of suitable locations for the events to the Town Clerk
- v) the Council supports the Dowl Glyn/Sick of South West Water campaign and noted with grave concern the systemic failure of South West Water to manage the sewage system in Cornwall and that despite record bills and government intervention, raw sewage continues to impact our environment and public health and formally declares a vote of no confidence in South West Water and signs the collective letter to the Secretary of State demanding the removal of South West Water's management through a Special Administration Order
- vi) it be agreed in principle that the Clerk undertakes the necessary work for the consideration of a Public Works Loan Board application

2606/18

Internal Audit Report

It was **resolved** to note the internal audit report and thank staff for their work in the audit process

2606/19

Conflict of Interest

It was **resolved** to agree and sign the conflict of interest form in relation to the Annual Audit

2606/20

Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

The Annual Return had been circulated with the agenda.

The Town Council agreed the ten separate statements making up the Annual Governance Statement 2025-2026. It was then resolved to approve the Governance Statement and it was signed by the Town Mayor and Town Clerk.

2606/21

Annual Return Annual Accounting Statements 2025/26

The Annual Return had been circulated with the agenda.

The Council considered the Accounting Statements for 2025-26 and it was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statements as presented

2606/22

Public Spaces Protection Order renewals

Members considered Report 13/26 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** that;

- i) all children's play areas in the town boundary have dog exclusion orders
- ii) public consultation be held in the school summer holidays on each area at which a dog exclusion order is sought
- iii) consultation events be undertaken by a working party of Cllrs Conway, Gordon, Hogan, Anston-Race, Green, Heaton and Lankston

2606/23

Lawrence House Museum – Project Director

Members considered Report 14/26 concerning the above (previously circulated)

It was **resolved** that the recruitment of a Project Director for Lawrence House Museum be agreed

2606/24

Correspondence and Matters to Note

It was **resolved** to;

- i) note the venue usage

2606/25

Urgent Items

It was **agreed** to write to the Maritime Agency highlighting the Council's concern of the withdrawal of remuneration to coastguard personnel

Date of the next meeting of the Council

The next Full Council meeting will be on Tuesday 21 July 2026

The meeting ended at 8.31pm

Signed Date