

Town Council secure future for Lostwithiel Library

The future of Lostwithiel's library has been secured with Lostwithiel Town Council officially taking over the service from Monday 11th February. The library is reopening under management of Lostwithiel Town Council with a group of trained, committed volunteers. The arrangement, which is part of Cornwall Council's devolution programme, means the historic Taprell House building will continue to be the location of Lostwithiel Library.

Following the transfer Lostwithiel Library will remain part of the countywide service meaning customers will keep their existing library cards and will still be able to visit, borrow and order books online from other libraries in Cornwall. The Town Council and a dedicated and trained group of volunteers will support all the key services essential to a modern library (including book loans, free computer access and weekly rhyme time sessions to toddlers and carers) with support from Cornwall Council.

Cornwall Council has expressed thanks to the Town Council and the volunteers for their commitment and hard work throughout the process.

Pam Jarrett Mayor of Lostwithiel said: 'I am thrilled that we have been able to secure Lostwithiel library's future for the community with the help of our community volunteers. Lostwithiel's library delivery model is unique in Cornwall and I firmly believe that with our individual, personal approach we will make it an outstanding success. We look forward to welcoming our library users both old and new.'

Tim Hughes, Deputy Mayor of Lostwithiel said: 'Lostwithiel Library has been a much loved and an integral part of our community. It is really positive that Lostwithiel Town Council has been able to work in partnership with Cornwall Council to develop this innovative and unparalleled solution to keeping this vital community asset open for the benefit of one and all.'

Edwina Hannaford, Cornwall Council Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, said: "We have been working closely with town and parish councils and community groups to find the best custodians for local libraries through our Library Transformation Programme. Our aim has always been to work with partners and communities to create sustainable services aligned to local needs. As a result of our agreement with Lostwithiel Town Council, local residents will be able to continue enjoying their library for many years to come."