



Lostwithiel Town Council Extraordinary Meeting Tuesday 12 January 2021

Cornwall Councillor Report

Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin thanked all those involved in the flood response before Christmas. He especially thanked the team of flood wardens led by Deputy Mayor Ross and the Town Clerk for facilitating a multi-agency meeting to look at how to improve the flood response in the future.

Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin also reported on the Coronavirus situation and reported that Cornwall Council is doing everything it can to stay on top of the number of outbreaks. He reported that the number of outbreaks is increasing, and asked people to act accordingly, in order to protect others and the NHS. Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin reported that the vaccines are being rolled out and that vaccinations are currently taking place at Bodmin Treatment Centre. However this is a rapidly changing situation, so he advised people to wait for a letter/contact from their GP. He also warned that there are some vaccination scams, and stated that the NHS will never ask for money or personal information.

Finally Cornwall Councillor Martin informed the meeting that if any businesses need financial support due to Covid or help with the rule changes due to Brexit they should contact the Cornwall Growth Hub online or on 01209 708660 and a team of Cornwall Council staff will be able to help.

Meeting Minutes

An Extraordinary virtual meeting of the Town Council was held on Tuesday 12 January 2021.

Councillors Present

Mayor Hughes

Councillor Clarke, Councillor Duffin

Councillor Guiterman, Councillor Hatton

Councillor Henderson, Councillor Hensman

Councillor P Jarrett, Councillor T Jarrett

Councillor Lindley, Councillor Morgan

& Councillor Sweeney

In attendance

No members of the public were in attendance

Cornwall Councillor Colin Martin was in attendance.

Town Clerk Mrs Harris and Administrative Assistant Mrs Doyle were in attendance.

158/20 Apologies of Absence

Apologies of Absence were sent and accepted from the following Councillor –

Deputy Mayor Ross

159/20 Declarations of Interest

Mayor Hughes declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 23 Accounts & Finance

Councillor Morgan declared a non-registerable interest in agenda item 5 Planning Application PA/20 11003.

Councillor Mrs Jarrett declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 Community Centre grant application.

160/20 Public Participation

None

161/20 Minutes 22 December 2020

It was noted that in the minute **143/20** it was appropriate to change the second reference to Sir Tim Smit from Sir Smit to Sir Tim Smit.

It was noted that in the minute **146/20** there needed to be a deletion of an additional word 'to' to correct the grammar in the sentence.

It was **resolved**, with these revisions, that the minutes of the virtual meeting held on 08 December 2020 are accepted, approved and duly signed by Mayor Hughes.

Votes – 6 in favour, 6 abstentions.

162/20 Planning applications

Councillor Morgan having previously declared a non-registerable interest left the meeting.

a) **PA20/11003**

Shi On Bodmin Hill Lostwithiel
Construction of garage with study
at first floor level

It was **resolved** not to support this application as the Council considers that the proposal is an overdevelopment of the site, is overbearing and would have a negative impact on the street scene.

Votes – 11 votes in favour.

Councillor Morgan re-joined the meeting.

b) Bartholomew's Meadow Deed of Modification PA20/08389.

Council considered the email received from the Planning Officer regarding the Council's response to the application.

It was **resolved** to reply to Cornwall Council to advise that whilst the Council accepts the position as outlined in the Planning Officer's

email dated 12 January 2021 the Town Council wishes to reiterate that it has serious concerns that there appears to be no mechanism by which to reduce the speed limit on this section of the A390 adjacent to this development.

Votes – 12 in favour.

163/20 Covid 19 risk assessments

The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Government advice for the current lockdown the Skatepark, MUGA and Outdoor Gym have been closed. The children’s play areas, the public toilet, the Library click and collect and picnic benches remains open.

The necessary amendments to the Covid 19 Risk Assessments were noted and it was **resolved** to approve the actions taken by the Town Clerk.

Votes – 12 in favour.

164/20 Cornwall Council Climate Emergency Development Plan

It was **resolved** to defer any response from the Town Council until the next consultation.

Votes – 12 in favour.

165/20 Cornwall Association of Local Councils Government Committee on Standards in Public Life consultation

Question 1: Standards of Conduct in the UK

A. How well do you think ethical standards - as enshrined by the Seven Principles of Public Life - are upheld in public life today?

The Council believes that County Council and Local Council ethical standards are upheld reasonably well. However at national level there are a significant number of breaches of the Seven Principles and that these should cease forthwith and that any serious breaches of the principles should result in those who breach the standards

being held to account and if the breaches are serious enough the person should be forced to leave public office.

B. Do you believe that there have there been any notable shifts in approaches or attitudes to ethical standards in public life in recent years?

Unchanged.

C. What do you see as the most significant threats to ethical standards in public life today?

Lack of consequence

Question 2: The Seven Principles of Public Life

A. Do the Seven Principles of Public Life accurately describe the appropriate ethical responsibilities for those in public roles, including both political and non-political office-holders?

Yes

B. Would you amend or replace any of the principles or their descriptors? If so, how?

No changes needed.

Question 3: The UK's arrangements for regulating standards

A. Are you confident that the UK's arrangements for regulating ethical standards are robust and effective?

No.

B. Are there any areas of public life where regulation on issues of ethical standards is not strong enough?

At the top of Government in recent years. The current regulations are not nearly strong enough to deter people from flouting principles

and there should be a reintroduction of the ability to suspend at local Government level the ability to suspend an elected member.

Question 4: Best practice in standards regulation

A. What makes an effective standards regulator?

A regulator that is independent, is listened to and allowed to do their job.

B. Do the UK's standards regulators have the right powers and remit to act effectively?

Yes.

C. Should the independence of standards regulators be enhanced and protected, and if so, how?

Yes – decisions should be enshrined in law.

Question 5: Creating ethical cultures

A. How can the Seven Principles best be embedded within a public sector organisation's working culture?

By good examples being set by all public sector organisations.

B. What are the most significant obstacles to embedding high ethical standards in a public sector organisation?

Those in power (in a position higher) should lead by example.

It was **resolved** that the answers that were collectively formulated by the Town Council and have been read back to Council by the Town Clerk in order to form the basis for the response to CALC on this consultation.

Votes – 12 in favour.

166/20 Cornwall Council – Code of Conduct consultation

It was **resolved** to support the revisions to the Cornwall Code of Conduct as drafted.

Votes – 12 in favour.

Councillor P Jarrett left the meeting.

167/20 Lostwithiel Community Centre grant application

It was **resolved** to approve the grant application for £2350plus VAT.

Votes – 11 votes in favour.

Councillor P Jarrett re-joined the meeting.

168/20 Lostwithiel Town Council 2021-2022 Budget

It was **resolved** to defer agenda items 11 and 12 to the next Council meeting.

Votes – 12 in favour.

169/20 Property Flood Resilience Pathfinder Project

It was **resolved** to consent to Deputy Mayor Ross preparing and submitting a video for uploading to the BeFlood Ready website.

Votes – 12 in favour.

170/20 Lostwithiel Flooding December 2020

A report from Deputy Mayor Ross was noted. It was **resolved** to approve the proposed topics for discussion at a multi-agency flood meeting to be held at end of January 2021 as drafted.

It was further **resolved** to find out (from the appropriate agency) if the sewage system in Lostwithiel is able to cope with further future housing development.

Votes – 12 in favour.

171/20 Heritage Buildings Committee

It was **resolved** to appoint the following new members to the Committee.

Jeff Pearce - Lostwithiel Business Group

Tasha Davis - Cornwall Council Community Link Officer

Colin Martin - Cornwall Councillor

Mayor Hughes

Votes – 12 in favour.

172/20 Cornwall Council Town Centre Revitalisation Fund

Council noted the verbal report from Councillor Guiterman regarding the progress made with the Town Centre Revitalisation Fund application.

Councillor Hatton left the meeting.

173/20 Grit bins

The Town clerk advised the meeting that since the publication of this agenda item the office has been contacted regarding grit spreading and the filling of grit bins at Grenville Meadows and Old Grammar School Court.

a) It was **resolved** to a replace a bin for Meadow Breeze and to refill all the existing grit bins this year as an immediate response to the cold weather and to ask the new Council to produce a ‘Grit Bins’ policy before next winter.

Votes - 9 in favour, 1 against.

Councillor Hatton re-joined the meeting.

b) It was **resolved** not to put a grit bin at Gilbury Hill.

Votes – 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

174/20 Footpaths complaint

It was **resolved** to monitor the situation to see if there is an ongoing problem with trail bikes or if this is an isolated incident.

Votes – 12 in favour.

175/20 Bench seat set on town side of bus stop adjacent to North Street

This agenda item was deferred to a future meeting.

176/20 River Fowey Railway bridge works

This agenda item was deferred to a future meeting.

177/20 Allotments

a) It was **resolved** to remove the whole tree and arisings £680 plus VAT. Treatment of stump to prevent regrowth £36 plus VAT.

Votes – 12 in favour.

b) It was **resolved** to pay £420 plus VAT to replace the post and rail fence from the corner of the Cemetery path back to the allotment field hedge.

Votes – 12 in favour.

c) It was **resolved** to pay £2,200 plus VAT for the removal of the ash trees on the top hedge of the allotment field (subject to agreement being received from the adjacent landowner).

Votes – 12 in favour.

d) It was **resolved** to approve the suggestion from Councillor Guiterman regarding hedging plants. Specifically, to primarily include Beech, but also to include guelder rose, spindle tree, alder buckthorn, hazel and the occasional oak tree. The hedge to be planted as a double row with approximately 5 plants a metre. It was further **resolved** to delegate to the Town clerk the authority to talk to the contractor regarding the size of the saplings to be used.

Votes – 12 in favour, 1 against.

e) It was **resolved** to instruct the Town clerk to take further advice regarding the type of grass seed to be used in the Cemetery extension area.

f) It was **resolved** to instruct the Town clerk to take further advice regarding the areas to be used as car parking.

178/20 Delegation to the Town Clerk

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

Mayor Hughes and Councillor Hensman left the meeting.
Councillor Henderson took over as chair.

179/20 Accounts & Finance

Cheque Ref	Payee Name		Amount Paid
101576	National Allotment Society	Annual membership fee	£66.00
101577	Biffa	Cemetery bin charge	£40.80
101578	Cormac	Public Toilet and Library cleaning	£1,122.50
101579	DCS Pest Control	Mole treatment King George V	£180.00
101580	Tim Hughes	Stamps for Christmas cards	£65.00
		Total	£1,474.30

It was **resolved** to approve the payment of the cheques 101576 – 101580 totalling £1474.30.

Votes – 10 in favour.

Mayor Hughes re-joined the meeting and resumed as chair.

180/20

For information

No updates.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Chairman

Date