

LOSTWITHIEL TOWN COUNCIL  
FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 20 January 2015

A Meeting of the Town Council's Finance & Property Committee was held in the Guildhall on Tuesday 20 January 2015 at 7.30pm later than advertised, the previous meetings having overrun.

Councillors present

Committee Chairman Councillor Jewels  
Committee Vice- Chairman Councillor Mrs Ross  
Mayor Mrs Jarrett, Deputy Mayor May,  
Councillor Gillett, Honoured Burgess Jones,  
Councillor Robson & Councillor Watkins.

In attendance

Town Clerk Mrs Harris

No members of the public were in attendance

FP691/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

FP692/14 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

None

FP693/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

Committee Chairman Councillor Jewels read the following statement to the Committee and requested that it be incorporated in its entirety into the minutes of the meeting.

*'Your Worship*

*I am amazed at the decision reached by Lostwithiel Town Council on Wednesday 14 January 2015, to not include in the precept for 2015/16 any figure for maintenance and repairs to Edgcumbe House other than the relatively small amount levied in previous years to cover day to day occurrences.*

*It is well known that the building has suffered problems over the past year, which needs to be addressed. I cannot accept the inexplicable decision not to make some provision to at least make the building weatherproof, and to fail to do so is in my opinion unacceptable, bordering on negligent. The problem will not go away and something should have been included to help resolve the matter.*

*I cannot support this situation in any way. I cannot see how failing to allow for remedial work is going to help, but obviously someone can. Because of my absolute opposition to the decision made, I feel I can no longer serve the Council as Chairman of Finance, indeed to do so would be hypocritical of me. I therefore submit my resignation as the Chairman of the Finance Committee with immediate effect. Let those who made this crazy decision sort it out.'*

The Committee accepted Councillor Jewels's decision and the remainder of the meeting was chaired by Councillor Mrs Ross.

FP694/14 MINUTES

The minutes of the Finance & Property Committee meeting of 9 December 2014 were approved and duly signed by Committee Chairman Councillor Jewels. Proposed Councillor Watkins seconded Councillor Jewels. This proposal received the support of the Committee.

#### FP695/14 PROPERTY REPAIR & MAINTENANCE REPORT

Honoured Burgess Jones advised the meeting that this agenda item is now superfluous given the reports obtained from Scott & Co. It was decided by the Committee that it should be deleted as an agenda item.

#### FP696/14 FINANCE & PROPERTY BUDGET

It was proposed by Councillor Robson and seconded by Honoured Burgess Jones that changes need to be made to the Finance & Property budget in light of the Council decision made on Wednesday 14 January. This proposal received the support of the Committee.

The clerk also advised the Committee that whilst investigating the costs associated with a Parish Poll for last week's meeting the Council had been advised that the current cost of an election would be approximately £4000.

Councillor Robson proposed and Honoured Burgess Jones seconded the following adjustments:-

Increase the staff costs line to £12,500

Increase the election line to £2,000

Edgcumbe House Repairs and Maintenance line £5,000.

This proposal received the support of the Committee.

#### FP697/14 EDGCUMBE HOUSE AND GUILDHALL VALUATIONS

It was proposed by Mayor Mrs Jarrett and seconded by Honoured Burgess Jones that the clerk is instructed to obtain quotations for three valuations the Guildhall, Edgcumbe House and Edgcumbe House and Taprell House and yard. This proposal received the support of the Committee.

#### FP698/14 FIRE REPORT

The Committee was advised that progress is still ongoing.

#### FP699/14 ASSET REGISTER

Copies of the SLCC template, an extract of Governance & Accountability for Local Councils and Councillor Robson's Asset register sheets for the Mayors Parlour, Guildhall & Bank safe were circulated to Committee members.

It was proposed by Councillor Watkins and seconded by Mayor Mrs Jarrett that the lists prepared by Councillor Robson are treated as the Council inventory and that the Fixed Asset Register is amended in line with the SLCC & Governance & Accountability for Local Councils guidance. This proposal received the support of the Committee and the clerk was instructed to make the Fixed Asset register an agenda item for next month's Committee meeting.

#### FP700/14 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Asset Register

Election of Committee Chairman

Election of Committee Vice Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman

Date