



## LISKEARD TOWN FORUM

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12 MAY 2010

At the Annual General Meeting of the Liskeard Town Forum held in the Council Chamber at Luxstowe House, Liskeard at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 12 May 2010 there were present:

<b>Liskeard Town Council</b>	Councillors: R Holmes (Vice Chairman), B Hawken, N Mallard, L Reid, T Powell, Mrs B Furse (Town Clerk), Miss H Wasilewski (Minute Clerk).
<b>Cornwall Council</b>	Mr M Hinks
<b>Liskerrett Centre</b>	Mr J Lennon, Mrs J Foster
<b>Liskeard and District Museum</b>	Mrs H Medlen
<b>Residents</b>	Mr W M Gregory (Chairman), Ms R Bowen, Mrs A Bedford, Mr R Waxman, Mr M Hasshill
<b>Devon and Cornwall Constabulary</b>	Sergeant J Williams
<b>Cornish Times</b>	Ms R Morton
<b>Melbourne Road Resident</b>	Mr W Hillson
<b>Liskeard Traders Association</b>	Mr R Davis, Ms M Smith

The Chairman advised those present of Housekeeping matters.

#### **1161 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors A Purdon and C Ferguson, Cornwall Councillors M George, J Powell and J Schofield, Mr & Mrs Groves and Dr T Piper.

#### **1162 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

There were none.

### **1163 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME ADDRESS**

Mr Gregory stated that he had enjoyed his year as Chairman and thanked everyone for their support especially the Town Clerk and her Assistants and Councillor Holmes for all his help as Vice Chairman and in showing him the ropes. He hoped that the Forum could now look forward to better times, it had been a sad loss with some of the shops closing.

He also stated that the Town Plan was currently being reviewed.

### **1164 MINUTES**

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Town Forum held on the 6 May 2009 having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Town Forum held on the 22 July 2009 having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

### **1165 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

Members received the statement of the Income and Expenditure Report for 2009/10 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2010.

Councillor Mallard reported that last year's Accounts showed a large excess of expenditure over income as the grant from the Town Council had not been received when the Accounts were closed. There was thus two years worth of grants showing in this set of Accounts which gave the impression of a large "profit". In fact, all that had occurred was a return to the status quo.

Looking at the expenditure for the year, it was apparent that the administrative costs had risen significantly. This was largely due to the cost of producing and distributing the minutes. Running costs for last year rose to a total of just over £2,000 whilst income from interest and hiring out the Forum's equipment both fell. So the Forum actually only had about £600 remaining from its normal income for Community Fund grants.

This would indicate that the Forum had only some £500 available this year for Community Fund grants unless it consciously eats into its general fund balance. With the existing healthy balance, it would seem reasonable to allocate a figure of, say, £1,000 from this for the current year but even this would mean that the Forum would need to examine applications carefully to ensure best value for the community. In the longer term, and in view of the fact that the Town Council's grant had remained unchanged for at least 7 years, it would not seem unreasonable to seek some increase for future years.

The Forum should, perhaps, also consider approaching the Liskerret Centre about the repayment of the interest-free loan that has been in existence for many years.

The General Fund balance stands at £4,574.43 and Earmarked reserves £9,500.

The Town Clerk reported that a letter had just been received from Cornwall Council stating that Cornwall Councillor J Schofield had allocated a grant of £500 from his Community Fund.

Councillor Powell proposed, Mr Waxman seconded and Members AGREED that £1,000 should be transferred from the Reserves account to the Current account to boost the current balance of £500 for Community Fund. These amounts, together with the £500 grant making a total of £2,000 for distribution under the Community Fund for this year.

#### **1166 REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION- REPRESENTATION AND VOTING**

Following discussion, Members AGREED that the 'Representation and Voting' be reinstated in the Constitution with the addition of the following sentence:

Any member of the public who attends three Town Forum meetings during the previous year will automatically have the right to vote.

This voting procedure is to be on a trial for a year and reviewed at the next AGM.

#### **1167 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Powell proposed, Councillor Mallard seconded and Members AGREED that Mr M Gregory should stand as Chairman for a second year.

The Chairman accepted the post and stated that many doors had opened in the past few months and he would be delighted to see some of these through.

#### **1168 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Mr J Lennon proposed, Mr Hillson seconded and Members AGREED that Councillor Holmes should stand as Vice Chairman for a second year.

Councillor Holmes accepted the post.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Annual General Meeting closed.