



LISKEARD TOWN FORUM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING 4 MAY 2011

At a meeting of the Liskeard Town Forum held in the Long Room at The Public Hall, Liskeard at 7.30 pm on 4 May 2011 there were present:-

Liskeard Town Council	Cllrs R Holmes (Vice Chairman), I Goldsworthy, B Hawken, N Mallard, T Powell and Mr A Deacon, Town Clerk
Residents	Mr M Gregory (Chairman), Mr J Goldsworthy
Age Concern	Ms A Rochester
Liskeard Chamber of Commerce	Mr R Jones, Mrs L Moore, Mrs M Smith
Trevecca Residents	Mr and Mrs Groves
Plymouth Road Residents	Mr J Quiller
Cornish Guardian	Ms J Farrington
Linkinhorne PC and Stuart House	Mr B Wooster
Minute Clerk	Mrs K M Olver

1259 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received Cornwall Councillor J Schofield, Mr J Lennon and Mr R Davis.

1260 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

No Members declared an interest either Personal or Prejudicial.

1261 MINUTES

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Town Forum held on 23 March 2011 in the Council Chamber at Luxstowe House, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

1262 PRESENTATION

Mr and Mrs Stevens from the Royal British Legion informed the meeting that the 4 September 2011 was the 90th Anniversary of the Liskeard Branch of the Royal British Legion. To celebrate the occasion the organisation were planning to hold 'Poppies in the Park' at

Liskeard Community College. The Royal Signals marching band had been booked to attend the event and it was intended that the event include a parade of the South East Cornwall standards and a small service. Face painting and bouncy castle had been booked for the afternoon together with marquees for beer tent and recruitment tent. Catering had been booked for the event and an Irish jig band were due to attend.

The event was being supported by a grant of £1,250.00 from Head Office and any monies raised would be passed back to the Royal British Legion. The sum of £4,000.00 was required to fund the event and a request was made for additional funding support.

It was likely that tickets would be sold at £3.00 per person and additional monies would be raised through programme sales. A grant of £500.00 had been received from the Co-operative Community Grant and the sum of £1,600.00 would be raised through local fund raising events, including a raffle.

1263 POLICE MATTERS

Sergeant Jo Williams reported that the previous year had not been so good for crime statistics, which had been falling with a 7-10% reduction for the past few years.

There had been an increase in violent crime associated with alcohol related violence. There had been a problem with the Pubwatch scheme at the end of 2010, however, this had since been resolved and there had been an associated reduction in this type of crime. The violent crime had increased by 59% in 2010/2011.

The number of instances of domestic burglary had increased from 12 to 25 in the previous year. A number of these had been attempts rather than actual burglaries.

There had been some issues relating to drugs in the Town and there was a lack of drug rehabilitation facilities in the area. Some of the burglaries were drugs related.

An offender had been arrested in relation to a number of thefts from vehicles and had spent some time in prison but had since been released and some recent incidents had taken place since the release. The number of incidents had risen from 48 to 66 in the previous year.

There had been a slight increase in the number of shop lifting offences over the past year, with more people caught shoplifting at Trago over the past year. The number of incidents had risen from 49 to 57. The number of other types of theft had reduced from 83 to 74 over the past year.

Criminal damage incidents had reduced from 191 to 159. The number of incidents had been reducing over a number of years, however, there remained problems with Rapsons. Drug offences had risen from 55 to 76 however, this was felt to be a good indicator of local Police awareness and being pro-active.

The end of 2010 had seen an increase in crime for the first time in six years, a 16% increase. The Police were working hard to reduce this figure and the detection rate was the second highest in the Force at 39.1%.

Anti-social behaviour reports had reduced over the previous year by about 12% across the Town. There were occasional spikes, however, in this and there were currently a group of 14-16 year olds causing problems.

An increase in domestic violence reporting was difficult for the Police to tackle. The number of incidents reported had increased by 12%, however, there was a 47% detection rate for this type of crime.

It was noted that the CCTV system was still active, though in a somewhat limited capacity. It was possible that some volunteer support might be required for this in the future if financial support was not available. The CCTV was funded by the Liskeard, Saltash and Callington Town Councils and an approach had also been received from the Looe Town Council.

1264 UPDATES AND REPORTS

1. Town Framework

Councillor Hawken reported on the Town Framework. Cornwall Council were currently consulting on planning in Cornwall and a presentation had been placed at Morrisons. The document focussed on building houses, with most of the investment focussed on the West of Cornwall. Liskeard Town Council had replied regarding the white paper and its contents.

There had been a dispersed pattern of development over the previous 20 years in the Community Network Area with 1000 new houses built over the previous ten years, with 45% of these being in Liskeard. It was considered by the Town Council that this sort of development would be right for the area and that Cornwall Council should not plan for higher growth than this.

The Forum were keen to see new jobs developed in the area. The planned 450 new houses for Addington did not include any new jobs for the Town and was not, therefore, very sustainable. The Town Framework was evolving and the Team Liskeard were taking notice of the Town Council.

It was noted that Pensilva was included within the Callington network area as it formed part of the St Ive Parish.

The Town Framework document would be available for consultation later in the year and would form part of the Core Strategy for Cornwall Council. The local Cornwall Councillors were working with Carolyn Rule at County Hall and were making strong representations on behalf of the Town. Councillor Powell considered that there was a movement across the area to get things done and that with everyone working together, they were making an impact.

Councillor Mallard reported that a meeting had been held the previous week regarding employment land. More information was now awaited regarding possible options and time frame.

Councillor Powell had attended the Cornwall Council Strategic Planning Committee where the Addington application had been discussed. The application had been recommended for approval but had been deferred to allow the parties to talk to the Town Council. This was planned for a three phase development with 15% affordable housing in the first phase and

second phase, with the percentage raised to 40% by the end of the third phase. The developer, Persimmon Homes, together with Cornwall Council Officers would be meeting with the Town Council to discuss the development further.

2. Cattle Market

A retail development for the Cattle Market was being pursued by Mercian Developments on the site, together with Kivells. An evaluation document had been received from Cornwall Council and there was now a need to hold a meeting to take this further. The first draft of the study paid for the previous Autumn had been seen, however, the completed document had not been provided to date.

Concern was raised that the Town was a Charter Town based on its having a market and it was considered that the development of retail on the Cattle Market site could be challenged.

Councillor Powell stated that there was currently strong interest in the Town and the Cattle Market site. The impact of Superdrug on the Town was good and the same agent, Mercian, was dealing with the Taylor's garage site. The intention was to develop four 5000 square metres and one 15000 square metres retail units for the site. The whole development needed to be acceptable to Cornwall Council and seemed to be what the Town required in terms of increasing footfall.

3. Caradon Hill Project

Mr Groves reported that a meeting of the Caradon Hill Project had been held the previous day. The project was all going to plan with four officers working on the project.

Councillor Holmes noted that the area was part of the World Heritage Mining Area and considered that not enough was being done to promote this. In 2012 it was hoped that there would be three large events within Cornwall, one in the East of the County, one in the Mid region and one in the West. These were planned to be large music events with well known groups. One of the sites being considered was Minions and he considered that the Town should take the initiative and encourage this event to be held in the area.

1265 COMMUNITY FUND

The Royal British Legion were requesting a grant of £250.00 towards the event detailed above. Councillor Mallard confirmed that the request met the criteria, however, he was concerned that there was only £1,000.00 available in the fund for the whole year. On consideration, it was AGREED that the sum of £200.00 be passed as a grant to the Royal British Legion for their 90th Anniversary events.

1266 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Westbourne Toilets

It was noted that these had recently been found to be in a poor condition. The toilets were the responsibility of Cornwall Council. It was AGREED that Cornwall Council be approached regarding the condition of the toilets and that they be reminded of the need to channel funds

raised through the sale of other public conveniences in the Town into the upkeep and improvement of the remaining facilities.

Mr John Goldsworthy commented on the condition of the streets and gutters. It was noted that the road sweepers appeared to be spending less time on the Town than previously. It was also noted that there was often broken glass in Westbourne Lane.

1267 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

22 June 2011

3 August 2011

21 September 2011

2 November 2011

7 December 2011

All meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Luxstowe House, Liskeard, starting at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.