LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE

held in the Tourist Information Centre, The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe on Thursday 28th July 2011 at 7.00pm

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENT

Chairman – Councillor K Smith Councillors E B Galipeau, M Gregory, J Hoskin and D Welch

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk - Mrs A Frith

22. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Crossley, D J Bryan and W Martin.

23. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members present.

24. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

.1 Personal Interest

Councillor Galipeau declared an interest in any matter raised concerning East Looe Town Trust.

.2 Prejudicial Interest

Councillor Galipeau declared a prejudicial interest in the matter to be discussed in Part Two of the meeting.

25. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 27TH JUNE 2011

.1 Reference Minute No: 15.2 – Dog Bins

The Clerk reported that Cornwall Council is investigating this request. Councillor Welch reported that the bin at the bottom of Farmers Hill, West Looe is being moved to the junction of West Road and Polvellan Terrace as requested.

.2 Reference Minute No: 19.2 – Diamond Jubilee Coin

The Clerk reported that the Mayor is sourcing the information requested.

.3 Reference Minute No: 19.4 – Bridge Lights

Councillor Welch reported that a quotation for the removal of the lights has been requested but not yet received.

26. TO DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

.1 South West Coast Path

A request had been received asking for a donation towards the cost of refurbishment of Port Nadler steps, which is part of the upgrading programme for the South West Coast Path and a new circular walking route tied in with the Looe Valley Line.

Councillor Gregory proposed that £500 be donated, seconded by Councillor Galipeau it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to donate the sum of £500.

.2 Tourist Information Centre Staff

The Tourist Information Centre staff have requested free use of the Health Centre Patients Car Park at weekends due to the changes in the bus timetable, the last bus up to Barbican Road being 4.25pm and no Sunday service.

The Committee discussed this request but considered that it would not be appropriate as the current users of the car park have to purchase a twelve month permit. Councillor Gregory suggested that the pricing structure be reviewed with a possible six month and/or weekend rate, this was referred to the Environment and Public Protection Committee. Councillor Hoskin proposed that the request was refused, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 4/1 abstention to refuse the request made by the Tourist Information Centre staff.

.3 Street Pastors - Handsets

A request had been received from Councillor Toms for the provision of two shopwatch handsets for use by the Street Pastors, the cost of which is £350 each. The Committee discussed this request and considered that more information and feedback is needed before a decision can be made.

The Clerk was asked to write to Councillor Toms requesting the information.

.4 St Pinnock Band

The Clerk asked for approval to donate the extra £100 pledged subject to the Band's agreement to march with the procession which has now been agreed.

Councillor Gregory proposed that the extra £100 be donated, seconded by Councillor Galipeau it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to donate the extra £100.

27. CORRESPONDENCE

.1 Pennon Group

This information will be kept in the office.

.2 Streamline

An amendment to the Terms and Conditions of the Contractural Agreement has been received, the amendments do not affect any financial aspect of our Agreement. The Information will be available in the office.

28. TO APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

.1 East Looe Town Trust – Insurance (Buildings)

An invoice for the Council's portion of the buildings insurance had been received. Councillor Smith had requested an explanation as to how the costs are apportioned. This information had been received and was explained to the Committee.

Councillor Welch proposed that the invoice be paid, seconded by Councillor Hoskin it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 3/2 abstentions to approve the invoice for payment.

29. TO DISCUSS REFURBISHMENT/REPLACEMENT OF SEATS

Councillor Welch reported that two verbal quotes have been received amounting to between £280 - £300 per seat to refurbish.

The Committee then considered whether it was more economical to refurbish or replace the seats and also suggested that they are replaced with benches rather than seats.

Councillor Smith proposed that Councillors Welch and Galipeau identify five seats most in need of attention and obtain an all inclusive written quote for their refurbishment through a tendering process, seconded by Councillor Gregory it was unanimously agreed.

30. TO DISCUSS THE LOOE IN BLOOM DONATION

Councillor Dingle had requested that this matter be revisited, Looe In Bloom have so far received £3,750 but Councillor Dingle considers that Looe In Bloom should receive £4,500 as last year as the work they do voluntarily is invaluable.

Although the amount of £3,000 had been budgeted for, further monies had been identified to enable the extra donation to be made.

The Committee discussed Councillor Dingle's request and eventually Councillor Galipeau proposed that the extra £750 be donated subject to Looe In Bloom keeping the Brownies garden (by the Bridge wall) weed free and removing the grass between the paving stones in the Mariners Garden on a regular basis, seconded by Councillor Smith it was:

RESOLVED

With a vote of 3/2 against to donate a further £750 subject to the above conditions.

Councillor Hoskin asked that it be minuted that his vote against the proposal was because of the Council's financial restraints and not because he considers Looe In Bloom do not need the financial help.

31. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

.1 Bowling Club Lease

The Chairman informed the Committee that Cornwall Council have agreed to continue with the ground maintenance until September 2012 and we are now at the stage where we either accept the terms of the lease or let it go, in which case the bowling club will probably close. As these negotiations have been underway for some seven or eight years concerns were raised that not all Councillors would be aware of the costs involved, potential income and the terms of the lease. The Chairman asked the Clerk to circulate all relevant details. The matter was then referred to Full Council for a final decision.

.2 Media Training

This matter had been discussed at the last meeting and the Clerk was asked to contact all Councillors to ascertain the take-up. As yet no Councillors have responded. The Chairman agreed to contact them again as a matter or urgency as the suggested training date is 9th August.

32. TO MOVE THE MEETING TO PART TWO

Councillor Gregory proposed that the meeting be moved to Part Two, seconded by Councillor Hoskin it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to move the Meeting to Part Two.

At this point Councillor Galipeau left the meeting.