LOOE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Looe Town Council held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, East Looe on Monday 16th May 2011 at 7.00pm

PRESENT

The Mayor – Cllr J R B Dingle

COUNCILLORS

D J Bryan W Martin
T Crane Mrs M Powell
P Crossley K Smith
E B Galipeau T Stacey
Mrs E Hannaford A Toms

J Hoskin

OFFICERS

The Clerk – Mrs Anne Frith
The Deputy Clerk – Mrs Annette Keen

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Burgesses – Mr L Portman, Mr C Shore and Mrs B King
Mace Bearer – Mr T Corkill
Emma Haines - Cornish Guardian Reporter
Cornish Times Photographer
Cornish Guardian Photographer
Members of the Public

198. PRAYERS

There were none given.

199. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Gregory, D Welch and J Rothwell.

200. THE MAYOR'S ADDRESS AND PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor welcomed all present and delivered a short speech (See attached Appendix 'A').

He then asked the Chairmen of all Council Committees for their annual reports and also reports from the two Cornwall Councillors for East and West Looe. (See attached Appendices 'B').

The Mayor made presentations to:
Mace Bearer – Mr T Corkhill
Deputy Town Clerk – Mrs A Keen
Town Clerk – Mrs A Frith
Deputy Mayor – Cllr B Galipeau
Deputy Mayorees – Mrs B Galipeau
Mayoress – Mrs S Dingle

1. TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR FOR THE COMING YEAR

The Clerk called upon Councillor Smith to confirm his proposed nomination for Mayor for the coming year. Councillor Smith proposed that Councillor Bryan be elected to serve as Mayor for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Hoskin it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously, there being no other nominations, to elect Councillor Bryan to serve as Mayor for the coming year.

The retiring Mayor placed the Mayoral Chain on the newly elected Mayor, Councillor Bryan.

2. THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Bryan signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office witnessed by the Clerk.

The newly elected Mayor delivered his acceptance speech (as per attached Appendix 'C' and presented Councillor Dingle with a Past Mayor's badge.

3. THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE OF:

.1 Mayoress

The Mayor nominated his wife, Mrs Annette Bryan, as his Mayoress and placed the Chain of Office on her.

.2 The Mayor's Chaplain

The Mayor left the appointment of Mayor's Chaplain in abeyance until the new Reverend of St Martins by Looe Church is appointed.

.3 The Town Mace Bearers

The Mayor nominated Mrs Elizabeth Rose and Mrs Sara Merrin to serve as Town Mace Bearers. Mr Tim Corkill, the outgoing Mace Bearer, presented the Maces to Mrs Rose and Mrs Merrin.

4 TO APPOINT A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2011/12

The Mayor proposed that Councillor Toms be elected to serve as Deputy Mayor for the coming year, seconded by Councillor Mrs Hannaford it was:

RESOLVED

Unanimously to elect Councillor Toms to serve as Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

Councillor Toms accepted the Office of Deputy Mayor and nominated his wife, Mrs Rayna Toms, as Deputy Mayoress.

5 TO SELECT VARIOUS COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Councillor Hoskin proposed that the Committee membership list as circulated be approved, seconded by Councillor Mrs Powell it was: RESOLVED

Unanimously to approve the Committee Membership list as circulated. (See attached Appendix 'D').

6. TO SELECT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Bryan proposed that the list of representatives on outside bodies as circulated be approved, seconded by Councillor Smith it was: RESOLVED

Unanimously to approve the list of representatives on outside bodies as circulated.

7. TO ADJOURN THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Councillor Smith proposed that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councillor Hoskin it was: RESOLVED

Unanimously to adjourn the Annual General Meeting at 7.40pm.

Signed	Dated

MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Good evening and welcome to everyone.

I am in a fortunate position this evening. My friend and predecessor Michael Joy did such a comprehensive report last year outlining the workings and responsibilities of the council, that there is no need for me to duplicate any of that this year. I have, however, introduced a variation in the way that information is presented to you at this meeting. Rather than me give a long report on the work of the various Council Committees through the year, I have asked that the Committee Chairmen and the two Cornwall Councillors offer their own reports. The benefits of this are obvious. Clearly, they know the workings of their Committee better than I do, it also introduces you to Councillors who are not always in the public eye, and most importantly it saves you having to listen to me for too long.

With the departure of four senior Councillors last year, it fell upon the remaining Councillors to take on an additional workload to ensure the efficient working of the Council. I have already highlighted the tremendous contribution that Councillor Kim Smith has made this year, resulting in his award as Citizen of the Year. I would also like to mention the invaluable work done by the other two Committee Chairmen, Martin Gregory and Brian Galipeau. Both have had a significant increase in their workload, and both have dealt with this creditably.

This has been a peaceful year for the Council, and this was my intention. A year to allow the new Councillors to settle in, without any distractions, is in the best interests of the Council. When a problem has arisen, it has been dealt with quietly. I hope now that these new councillors will be offered the Vice Chair in some committees, enabling them to progress their knowledge and abilities.

I had hoped to have secured the Bowling and Putting Green for the town during my period in office, but negotiations are still ongoing. As and when the provision of more services are offered to the council, it will be imperative that a proper financial package is offered to compensate. It will be interesting to see, for example, how many, if any of the toilets in the town are marked for closure.

Before I close, during my year in office I have highlighted the tremendous amount of work done in the town by volunteers. Let us also remember though that this council are volunteers who put themselves

forward for service to the town. So, on behalf of the town, thanks to all of you. In closing, I should like to thank my fellow director, Tony Giddy for covering for me all the times I have been on Mayoral business, Brian Galipeau who has been as good a deputy as I thought he would be, Anne and Annette for running the office as well as they do, and my wife Susan for her thoughtful input when I haven't asked for it. Thank you.

Mayor Cllr Jimmy Dingle

ANNUAL REPORTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – CLLR KIM SMITH

I would first like to thank my fellow councillors for their contribution to committee debates and their support over the past 12 months.

The Planning Committee has dealt with a wide and varied range of planning applications referred to the Town Council by Cornwall Council. In some cases the Planning Committee of this Council referred the applications to the Planning Committee of Cornwall Council for a formal decision.

It should be noted that the Committee's recommendation on each planning application, is only a recommendation and is not binding on the planning or case officer of Cornwall Council. Whilst the difference in recommendations may mystify some members of the public, it must be remembered that Town Councillors are not formally trained as the planning officers of Cornwall Council are.

This Council year has also seen the commencement of works by Barratt Homes at St Martins Field, East Looe.

FINANCE AND WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT - CLLR KIM SMITH

This has not been an easy year for the Finance and Works Committee of the Council. So again thanks to all committee members.

Whilst it has been somewhat easy to deal with the usual business of the committee, such as requests for donations, gifts etc, the same cannot really be said for some other aspects of committee work.

The Council has made donations to the continuing work of Looe in Bloom and the Enterprise Centre. A Contribution has also been made towards the running costs of the seasonal bus that provides a service between Looe and Polperro.

When setting the precept for the 2011/2012 year, it was necessary to consider what costs would be involved if or when this Council would be asked to take over services currently provided by Cornwall Council. In fact, this Council is in negotiations with Cornwall Council regarding the future of the Bowling and Putting Green at Hannafore, West Looe.

Councillor Galipeau has also undertaken a photographic survey of the public seating in Looe. It is hoped that this survey will lead to the renovation of all public seating of the next few years. The public should be aware that not all public seating in Looe is the responsibility of the Town Council.

Thanks and well done, must also go to Mark Camp [TIC Manager] and the staff of the Tourist Information Centre for their continued hard work that has resulted in another Bronze Tourist Industry award for Looe Tourist Information Centre.

PROCEDURES COMMITTEE REPORT - CLLR KIM SMITH

Unlike other committees of the Council, this committee is responsible for activities of the Council and Councillors and is governed by legislation and the Code of Conduct for Councillors. As there is currently a matter under investigation it is not appropriate to comment on any matter governed by the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

The Financial activities of the Council are governed by legislation and it is requirement of this legislation that an independent audit of all financial activities is undertaken at the end of the financial year. An audit has already been carried out, and the overall comments on the audit, was that activities were undertaken in line with current legislation requirements.

Looe Town Council has also been successfully re-accredited with Quality Town Status.

I would like also like to thank Anne Frith and Annette Keen, Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk respectively, whose constant hard work has resulted in the continued smooth running of the Council. This has been achieved despite the continued visits to the Council Offices by Councillors and other groups and individuals.

Finally, thanks must go to the out-going Mayor and Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Mayoress for the work they have undertaken over the past year in representing the Council and the Town of Looe at various and varied events.

Tourism Committee Annual Report May 2011 Cllr. Brian Galipeau, Chairman.

The Tourism Panel brings together Looe Town Council, South East Cornwall Tourism Assn., Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership, and formerly, Looe Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is no longer active. This has created a gap which individuals are trying to fill, but there remains a challenge to local business to find a way to come together to help promote the town's economy.

Our SECTA partner continues to make a big impact within *Visit Cornwall*, and we are delighted that their simplified inspection model has been adopted. It will specially benefit our smaller accommodation providers.

At the heart of what we achieved is Mark Camp's award winning TIC Team. It is held up as a model of sustainability and progress, at a time when TICs across the county are being restructured. Facebook, Tripadviser, and Twitter are new information tools added to its locker; while a simple printed local bus guide is proving popular with visitors and locals alike.

Printed guides remain popular. The print run of the Looe accommodation Guide has been increased to 12.5k and a financial surplus is paying for new Panel initiatives to promote Looe.

For example, Looe now features on the rolling advert sequence on the screens in Drake circus. Our message can be changed seasonally, and are attractive when they pop up. Of course feedback for evaluation and value for money is difficult, and we welcome comments.

Working together, we achieved a highly successful 'Guess the weight of the Giant pasty' promotion at Birmingham's busy New Street Station. Hundreds of people entered and signed-up for info. about Looe. The exercise is due to be repeated at Bristol Temple Meads shortly.

Nearer to home, we recognised the spending power of day-visitors to Looe. We are putting together a major promotion in Plymouth Centre's Piazza on 11th June - themed 'Seaside comes to the city', and need Looe businesses to get involved.

The Tourism Panel has inaugurated a Festivals & Events Group. All individuals and organisations running events can attend. We meet quarterly to coordinate event calendars and share resources

where possible - well supported to date. It is not intended to horn-in on the organisation of community events. I think we have the most comprehensive events calendar ever.

Looking ahead, next year the TIC will be getting to grips with a new on-line booking system, and we will be concerned to ensure that Looe's bid for Seaside Towns funding will reap tangible long term benefits for the town.

ANNUAL REPORT

Environment and Public Protection Committee 2010/2011 Cllr Martin Gregory (Delivered by Cllr David Bryan)

It has been a busy year for the committee and I would like to thank those councillors and non councillors that have helped on the committee.

The following summarises some of the work the committee has been undertaking;

1. Traffic regulation order

A traffic regulation order has been submitted to Cornwall Council following an extensive public consultation including a number of consultation days, which were very successful. The proposed changes resulted from the comments from the consultation.

More recently after the fore street road closure at the beginning part of the year, a number of residents and businesses asked if a seasonal road closure could be put in place. As a result of this we again went out for a public consultation. This generated a lot of opinions and strong feeling, but there has been some very positive suggestions and ideas on how to resolve the issues of traffic using Fore Street.

2. Torch Light Procession/Carol concert

This again was very successful, despite the weather causing us to move the night to what turned out to be the coldest night ever!!

3. CCTV

Work is underway to ascertain the best/most effective system to upgrade to.

4. Litter Hitters

Thank you to those hard working councillors (and my family) that helped pick up over 100 bags worth of rubbish from around the Millpool area, including a quantity of fly tipped material, consisting of builders waste, tv, Pc monitors, insulation, trolley etc.

5. Looe Valley Line Railway

We have formed a working group to investigate forming a community interest company to run the line and to improve the service it offers.

6. Devolution/Active Partnering

This is becoming increasingly important. LTC have entered into 'partnership' with Cornwall Council to deliver locally managed services for toilet cleaning and street cleaning. We have started the initial process to take over the public car parks which will enable even more services to be provided by LTC at a local level (think back to Looe Urban District Council!!!).

7. Civil Enforcement Officers

We are still negotiating with Cornwall Council to ensure more civil enforcement officers for longer times are deployed in Looe. We have already achieved a dedicated CEO.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR FOR EAST LOOE AND ST MARTINS – CLLR ARMAND TOMS

This has been a very difficult year for Cornwall Council, hard decisions have had to be made due the 30% cut in the Council's budget.

My ward work has involved many issues, not least housing, the ALT 16 (Barrett Homes) site on St Martins Road will provide 170 homes, 40% of which will be affordable homes and 20% for social housing which will be a good thing for Looe.

The Millendreath development in St Martins Parish will also provide homes, it is not in the Council's area but will benefit Looe by providing employment.

I have worked with Councillor Mrs Hannaford on progressing the Polean development and driving it forward which will also provide employment.

The Looe Town Football Club are looking to take over the football field to develop the clubs potential, there are some fantastic players, both boys and girls, who are achieving great results.

I came onto Looe Town Council by default three or four years ago, no-one else had come forward for election or co-option to fill the vacancy, I was asked and accepted. I am very proud to be a Looe Town Councillor and a Cornwall Councillor but will not be standing for re-election as a Town Councillor in 2013, I need to concentrate on my County Council work but will always continue to do my best for Looe.

My thanks go to all the volunteers who work very hard for Looe and particular thanks to the now retired Chris Rose for his contribution to Looe Town Council whilst serving on the Council.

ANNUAL REPORT TO LOOE TOWN COUNCIL AGM 16th MAY 2011 Cornwall Councillor for West Looe and Lansallos Cllr Mrs Edwina Hannaford

I would like to thank all Councillors who have helped and supported me over the last year and the Clerk for her assistance. I also thank Cllr Toms and be assured, we do work very closely together for the benefit of the whole of Looe.

Each month I report on projects I am campaigning or working on and I thought it may be useful to members to have a flavour of the other more mundane but none the less important work members undertake and highlight some of the challenges for the coming year.

I am proud to have a 100% record of attendance at Full Council over the last 2 years and have only missed 1 Cabinet meeting where backbenchers can challenge decisions.

At Full Council I have proposed 2 successful motions to council one on the day light saving bill and the other was to ensure Cornwall and Isles of Scilly has its own Local Enterprise Partnership.

Over the last year I have served on the following formal panels including: Modification panel which looks at applications to change the definitive map, village green applications and changes to footpaths for example.

The Economy, Environment and planning overview and scrutiny panel has scrutinised planning and housing policies, Visit Cornwall and specifically Convergence funding. Ongoing scrutiny includes the rationlisation of public conveniences and parking charges. This led to the parking charges 'call in'. This challenged the decision to raise charges, for example in Looe annual permits will increase from £350 to £720 next year. Unfortunately this challenge was unsuccessful.

I have also served on Newquay Airport Development Panel and Visit Cornwall Tourism Panel, making the case for investment into tourism, so vital for Looe.

This summer I will be taking the lead on an Economic Development single issue panel which is challenging whether the investments Cornwall Council is making are best value for the tax payer and do promote economic prosperity for all.

I have also served as substitute on the Communities Overview and Scrutiny panel with Cllr Toms ensured cuts to Looe Library were minimised.

Supporting local people when they have a problem is important and school transports appeals is one such issue. I have successfully appealed 2 this year.

It has been a difficult year having to contend with the £110m cuts despite the annual £19m Unitary savings being achieved, with reduced central government funding and a regime of change of reorganisation.

I believe the challenges for the coming year for Looe will be:

- Bringing back local assets into local control is a priority. I am keen to support Looe Town Council negotiations for a Community asset transfer of Millpool and Riverside car parks, the Bowling and Putting Greens and for Looe Development Trust to acquire the RAOB hall.
- Securing the successful development at Polean, the only economic development project east of Bodmin that is in Cornwall Council's major project capital programme is probably the most important issue. The development has the potential to create around 150 all year round quality jobs for Looe, secure improved road access and provide an anaerobic digester to deal with our organic waste.

My role has been frustrating but enjoyable and a blend of lobbying, campaigning, influencing policy and scrutiny, but most importantly it's about representing the interests of the people of Looe and Lansallos and at a time when resources are stretched, ensuring Looe gets its fair share of access to all Council services.

Appendix 'C'

Councillor David Bryan - Mayor's Acceptance Speech

Thank you for doing me the great honour of asking me to serve as the Mayor of Looe, I am proud to accept and will do my best to continue to serve this Council to the best of my ability. I am a bit different to my predecessor Councillor Dingle, he is a very experienced Councillor, an astute business man and the town premier bookmaker.

I am afraid that I do not have his confident eloquent way of speaking. Councillor Dingle is our longest serving Councillor and he has been an excellent Mayor of Looe for the past year. I know he had strong back up from his lady wife as Mayoress and from Councillor Galipeau and his lady wife as their deputies.

On behalf of the Council I thank all of you for all your hard work and efforts on behalf of the town in the past difficult year.

It has been eleven years since I last served as Mayor and things have altered greatly in that time. I am certainly older greyer and may be a bit wiser, I hope. Personally, I had the shock of being made redundant from my job after thirty four years service so I am available to accept the duties of Mayor and to give time to carrying out the duties of Mayor. However, I am still available for any legal offers of employment.

I decided that it's time I was dragged kicking and screaming into the computer age. I viewed learning about computers with some trepidation but I have been attending the Enterprise Centre here in Looe. Councillor Mrs Powell drew the short straw and has been my instructor, she has been very patient with me and slowly things are sinking in. So if you want to learn about computers go along and see them down at the Enterprise Centre, if I can do it anyone can.

It is a very different set of challenges facing this and other Councils, we all know of the difficult financial circumstances that face us, cut backs are affecting everybody in one way or another including Cornwall Council who are asking us to consider taking on more duties.

We will always review everything and work as a Council to do our best for the town and its people. Looe is very lucky in the fact that we have two excellent hard working Cornwall Councillors representing us, they both also serve on this Council. They keep us in the loop and carry out views down to County. I thank both of them for all the hard work they have and will continue to do on our behalf.

The make up of this Council has changed we have several newish and one brand new Councillor I welcome then, as soon as we can training will be set up, but I know that help is on hand from all the experienced Councillors. I hope you all enjoy your time as Councillors, it does take a little time to settle in to get used to how things work. We have an excellent Town Clerk and Deputy who will always guide you and do their best to answer any questions you may have. They are friendly I promise, but if you want to be sure of a

friendly welcome take in some chocolate brownies for a tea break then you're sure of a warm welcome.

Do not be afraid to attend meetings to ask questions, to speak and put forward your points of view that is what you were elected for. Being a Councillor means you will be asked to become involved in other things. Looe is a busy town with many thriving organisations, so plenty is going on.

If any one has an issue they want to discuss, it is always possible to call into the Council office and make an appointment to see me or some of the other Councillors. If it is a specific issue please tell the office so they can make sure the relevant information is at hand to give you an answer.

If any one in the audience tonight has an interest in joining us and serving on the Council please have a chat to one of us over a glass of wine at the end. All Councillors carry out their duties on this Council free of charge to serve the community. Who knows, you could join us and progress through to being the Mayor.

I am sure we as a Council have a busy year ahead of us including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. I am confident lots of events will be staged in the town and if we as a Council can help I am sure our Events and Festivals Working Group would offer help and will co-ordinate events, but if you are planning any event please do let us know.

It is nice to see a few familiar faces in the audience. Town Council does not usually pull a big audience, but we did recently with the last Environment Meeting discussing the proposed closure of Fore Street which after consultation with the public was abandoned. We strive to be an open listening Council and will continue to do so.

After some thought I have decided that my two charities for the year will be the Royal British Legion and Ellie's Haven. We will try to stage a few fundraising events during the year.

If any one has any fundraising ideas please pass them on, one idea was if any one receives any unwanted gifts please pass them on, and then in the New Year we will run a sale, all money raised to go to the Mayor's Charities.

You can all breathe a sigh of relief, that's the end of my speech, it is now time for me to appoint my wife Annette as Mayoress.

Due to the retirement of Brian McQuillen I have decided to postpone the appointment of a Mayor's Chaplain. It is now time to appoint two Mace Bearers. I have asked two young ladies who have agreed to do the job from West Looe Mrs Elizabeth Rose and from East Looe Mrs Sara Merrin.

It is now time for the Appointment of a Deputy Mayor, I would like to propose Councillor Toms, a busy man already with a large work load, but a local man with the interest of Looe at heart.

CIIr David Bryan

LOOE TOWN COUNCIL NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEES - 2011/12

Finance & Works Committee

Cllrs K Smith, D Bryan, D Welch, M Gregory, Brian Galipeau, W Martin, P Crossley and J Hoskin

Planning Committee

Cllrs K Smith, A Toms, D Bryan, J Hoskin and Mrs M Powell

Procedures Committee

Cllrs K Smith, D Welch, D Bryan, M Gregory, B Galipeau, Mrs E Hannaford, J Dingle and Mrs M Powell

Environment & Public Protection Committee

Cllrs M Gregory, D Bryan, J Rothwell, A Toms, D Welch, Mrs M Powell, B Galipeau and T Crane

Town Tourism Committee

Cllrs B Galipeau, W Martin, J Dingle, P Crossley, Mrs E Hannaford and Mrs M Powell

Looe Valley Line Working Group

Cllrs B Galipeau, Mrs E Hannaford, Mrs M Powell and M Gregory

Town Emergency Committee

Full Council

Building Control Forum

Cllrs A Toms and K Smith

Planning Liaison (CALC)

Cllr K Smith

Traffic Working Party Committee

Cllrs M Gregory, D Bryan, J Hoskin, B Galipeau, Mrs E Hannaford and A Toms

CCTV Sub-Committee

Cllrs M Gregory, D Welch, D Bryan and B Galipeau

Standards Sub-Committee

Chairman of all Standing Committees plus the Mayor

Events and Festivals Sub-Committee

CIIrs B Galipeau, D Bryan, Mrs M Powell, Mrs E Hannaford, J Dingle and W Martin

Extreme Weather/Emergency Planning Working Group

Cllrs M Gregory, D Bryan, B Galipeau, A Toms, J Rothwell and D Welch

The Mayor is ex officio member of all committees.

<u>LOOE TOWN COUNCIL</u> REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2011/12

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

CIIr D Welch

LOOE-QUIBERON TWINNING COMMITTEE (NOW DORMANT)

The Clerk and CIIr A Toms

LOOE IN BLOOM

CIIr J Dingle

LOOE VALLEY RAILWAY STEERING GROUP

Cllr Mrs E Hannaford

LISKEARD & DISTRICT POLICE COUNSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Mayor plus Cllrs D Bryan and K Smith

LOOE PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNORSHIP

CIIr J Hoskin

LOOE COMMUNITY SCHOOL GOVERNSHIP

CIIr Mrs E Hannaford (Local Authority Governor)

ST. MARTINS P.C.C

Cllr E B Galipeau

COMMUNITY ACTION THROUGH SPORT (CATS)

CIIr M Gregory

LOOE AREA PARTNERSHIP (LAP)

Cllrs D Bryan and J Hoskin

LISKEARD AND LOOE STREET PASTORS STEERING GROUP

CIIr A Toms

EAST CORNWALL LOCAL ACTION GROUP (ECLAG)

CIIr Mrs M Powell