



**LOOE TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION MEETING**

Held in the Tourist Information Centre The Guildhall, Fore Street, East Looe  
On Monday 9th February 2015 at 7.00pm

**REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman - Councillor D J Bryan  
Councillors T Crane, M Gregory, R Hendy,  
Mrs M Powell and M Soady

**OFFICERS**

Town Clerk – Mrs Anne Frith

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr Mrs E Hannaford  
A Member of the Public

		<b>ACTIONS</b>
49.	<b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J R B Dingle.  <b><u>ABSENT</u></b> Councillors Mrs E Graham-Jones and T Stacey.	
50.	<b><u>TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> Cllr Hendy declared an interest in any matter raised concerning East Looe Town Trust.	
51.	<b><u>TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u></b> There were no questions or statements.	
52.	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014</u></b> .1 <u>Ref Min No: 39 – Allotments</u> Cllr Gregory asked if any progress has been made, the Chairman informed that we are now awaiting a response from the Allotment Association.	

<p>53.</p>	<p><b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b></p> <p><u>.1 Mr Shields – Re: Bathing Water Quality</u>  Cllr Mrs Powell declared a personal interest.  A letter received from Mr Shields regarding the causes of water pollution up river was read to the Committee.  The Committee discussed the letter and Cllr Gregory proposed that the letter is passed on to the Environment Agency and Environmental Health for action, seconded by Cllr Crane it was agreed with a vote of 5/1 abstention.</p> <p><u>.2 Looe Harbour Commission – Falconry Gull Control</u>  Ms Hicks had asked if any discussion had taken place by the Council regarding the demonstration of the use of a falcon as a way of controlling seagulls which Cllr Mrs Powell had attended.  There was some discussion about the effectiveness of this method of control and the length of time it would take to move the gulls on. Cllr Soady asked that it be noted that he is dead against any form of gull control and he considers it to be too expensive.  It was agreed that Plymouth Dockyard, Plymouth University and Sidmouth Town Council be contacted to ascertain how effective they have found this method of control to be and bring the matter back to the next meeting.  Cllr Mrs Powell proposed that two more quotations are sought, seconded by Cllr Gregory.  Cllr Soady proposed an Amendment to forget all forms of gull control, there was no seconder.  Cllr Mrs Powell's proposal was voted on and agreed with a vote of 5/1 against (Cllr Soady).</p> <p><u>.3 Signage for North View/Elm Tree Road area of East Looe</u>  Cllr Toms has asked for signage stating "turn sat-navs off" for this area as the roads are not suitable and accidents happen. The Committee discussed this request and agreed that there are other areas of Looe that require similar signage. Cllr Mrs Hannaford sourced potential suitable signage and stated that most would have to be on private land and the relevant permissions sought.  The Committee unanimously agreed that this matter be looked into and suitable locations identified and that the matter be brought back to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>.4 Cormac – Gwel-an-Porth Wall Monitoring.</u>  The Chairman reported that he and Cllr Soady had attending the monitoring of the wall movement on 30<sup>th</sup> January and a report has been received from Cormac as promised which was read to the Committee.  Cllr Gregory stated that it is difficult to understand why the wall has only moved 1mm when it is obvious how much the road above it has moved.  Cllr Soady stated that works to remedy the road movement are programmed in for 2015/16 but will not commence until</p>	<p>Clerk to contact:  Plymouth Dockyard  Plymouth Uni  Sidmouth T C</p> <p>Suitable sites for signage to be identified.</p>
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	<p>October 2015 unless emergency works are required. Cllr Crane stated that this is not ideal but as long as Cormac are accepting responsibility we have to accept it. The date of the next monitoring will be informed.</p> <p><u>.5 Police &amp; Crime Plan 2015/16</u> The Chairman read out the proposals to the Committee and stated that the paperwork will be in the office if anyone wishes to make comment.</p> <p><u>.6 Cornwall Council – Disposal of Land at Sunrising</u> The Chairman read out the letter received from Mr Philip Jones informing that Cornwall Council are intending to dispose of land at Sunrising by auction. Cllr Mrs Hannaford stated that Looe Town Council could obtain this land as part of a devolution package and she has challenged the Planning Departments view that it would not be suitable for development, the access is a problem but she has asked for their reasons for advising that any application for development would probably be refused. Cllr Gregory proposed that a letter be sent to Scott Sharples (Devolution Team) to register an Expression of Interest in the land and copied to Mr Jones, seconded by Cllr Crane it was unanimously agreed.</p> <p><u>.7 Cllr Mrs Hannaford – “We are Watching You” Scheme re Dog Fouling</u> Cllr Mrs Hannaford explained that this scheme has been formulated by the Keep Britain Tidy Charity and pilot schemes have been undertaken in various areas and the results appear to be a 47% decrease in dog fouling. Posters have been produced ,which have luminous eyes, and are available in both A3 and A4 sizes, the aim is to remind and discourage dog owners but the other element is to encourage people to report incidents by keeping a time and date record of regular offenders. Cllr Mrs Hannaford stated that, in her opinion, this would be a Council led project perhaps working in conjunction with Polperro Community Council and Lanteglos Parish Council. A package at the cost of £1500 could be split between the three Councils. Cllr Mrs Hannaford stated that she is seeking approval in principle subject to confirmation of the costings, Cllr Gregory proposed that approval in principle be given, seconded by Cllr Mrs Powell it was unanimously agreed.</p>	<p>Clerk to write to Cornwall Council</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hannaford to obtain exact costings and contents of the package.</p>
54.	<p><b><u>TO REVIEW NEW YEARS EVE AND OTHER CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2014</u></b></p> <p>A report received from Sgt Jo Williams had been circulated (see attached Appendix) and was reviewed by the Committee.</p> <p>All agreed that it had been a very good December and agreed that more events should be put on to encourage more visitors to Looe. Some concerns were raised regarding the</p>	

	<p>traffic management during arrival of Santa and agreed with Sgt. Williams that this needs to be addressed.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Council help the Lions with the traffic management and that we should meet with them to explain what we can offer, it was noted that several members of the Lions Club have undertaken the Traffic Management training. The Clerk was asked to set up a meeting with the Lions.</p> <p>The Clerk asked for a meeting with Cornwall Council to enable the New Year's Eve road closure request to be permitted without further difficulties which have arisen over the last two or three years due to Cornwall Council wanting to call it an event and not accepting that the closure is for public safety only.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that a joint meeting be held with Cornwall Council, Police, Lions, East Looe Town Trust, Looe Harbour Commission and Mr Martin Robinson, who is taking over the organisation of the firework displays on New Year's Eve.</p> <p>Concerns were also raised about the number of street traders which appear during the Christmas events, particularly the Coca Cola Christmas Truck visit. Cllr Gregory explained that this is a licensing matter and there is a bye-law in place which prohibits street trading on the main streets of Looe.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to bring the legislation to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk to arrange a meeting.</p> <p>Clerk to provide a copy of the bye-law.</p>
<p>55.</p>	<p><b><u>MATTERS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES</u></b></p> <p>.1 <u>Mariners Garden</u></p> <p>Cllr Mrs Powell reported that she had spoken to Looe in Bloom who are happy to help us with improving the garden and have suggested low growing conifers and herbs for a sensory garden area. Cllr Mrs Powell had put some suggested plans together which she explained to the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee agreed in principle that the design produced was acceptable and Cllr Mrs Powell was asked to provide the costings for discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee also suggested that sponsorship of the garden may be possible and perhaps grant funding from Viridor</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hannaford stated that this appears to fit Objective D of the Viridor funding criteria and that a complete wish list should be put together to progress an application.</p>	
<p>56.</p>	<p><b><u>MATTERS FOR FURTHER OR URGENT DISCUSSION AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIRMAN</u></b></p> <p>.1 <u>Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015 re Guildhall Ladies Public Convenience</u></p> <p>The Chairman explained that this meeting had been called as</p>	

	<p>a result of the petition received at the last full Council meeting to listen to the petitioners concerns and state our reasons for the closure of the facility.</p> <p>The Chairman asked for as many Councillors as possible to attend and stated that we need to stress that the ongoing costs of keeping the facility open are too onerous and remind members of the public that, had we not taken them over, Cornwall Council would have closed the entire Guildhall facility.</p> <p>The Chairman also stated that clarification of the actual objection raised in the petition is required as it is not clear if they are objecting to the closure of the ladies facility or the potential provision of a multi-use facility.</p> <p>.2 <u>Looe Town Council Project List.</u></p> <p>The Clerk was asked to circulate this list to all Councillors for their comments/additions and bring this matter back to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>The Meeting closed at 8.50pm.</b></p>	<p>Clerk to circulate the draft project list to all Councillors</p>
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## **Police Report for the Environment and Public Protection meeting of Looe Town Council scheduled for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

The Christmas and New Year events this year in Looe in general went very well indeed with very few policing issues. Herewith a summary of each event

### **Lantern Procession 5<sup>th</sup> December**

Clearly a very popular family event which was well run. The road closures carried out by Looe Town Council were done professionally and safely and kept the public safe with minimum disruption to traffic. Participation was enjoyable and officers on duty praised the event as a great success. There were no policing issues during this event.

### **Santa's arrival and parade 6<sup>th</sup> December**

This event was again well attended by the public and should have been as successful as the previous evening, but from the public safety perspective, the event was poorly done. On this evening the road closures were the responsibility of the Lions Club. Despite having the same equipment and the same road closures as the previous night, Lions members seemed confused about what they were supposed to be doing and frankly failed to safeguard the public safety during this event by failing to place the road closures or to properly direct persons and vehicles at the event. The result was disorganised confusion for drivers and participants. Consideration should be given to either preventing the Lions having this responsibility or requiring the Lions to sort out their training and understanding of their responsibilities to the public at events

### **Santa Fun Run 13<sup>th</sup> December**

This was my first attendance at this long standing event and it was good to see a wide spread of ages taking part. It was a beautiful day and the event went without incident.

### **Coca Cola Lorry 15<sup>th</sup> December**

What a fantastic event that turned out to be. Over 9000 free cans of Coca Cola were distributed, 1400 photographs taken and an estimated 20,000 people visited the town in the course of the afternoon. The town was very busy but it was a friendly, happy family event with no disorder or crimes reported. We dealt with three children separated from their families and there were three people who needed medical attention, two for falls and another for a medical emergency. There were some issues with parking which was not surprising with the number of people coming to the town so the Town Council laid on extra transport to try to ease waiting times at the park and rides. All in all it was a great event for Looe with lots of positive coverage on social media, including the Coca Cola staff saying Looe was the best place they had visited. One learning point was that if we are expecting attendance in the thousands, we must ensure we have St John's Ambulance in attendance.

### Christmas and New Year Period

The Christmas and New Year policing went well too with the two weeks of the holidays seeing police attend 53 incidents resulting in 22 crimes being recorded, 10 assaults (sadly mostly domestic abuse) including one assault on a police officer on New Year's Eve, two public order offences, eight of criminal damage to homes and cars, one drink driver and a malicious communications crime. This was quieter than last year where we attended 79 incidents (-33%) and crimed 30 offences (-27%).

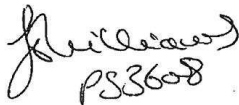
New Years Eve itself was fairly busy with revellers, the pubs full and overspill as usual onto the street. Below is a summary of the evening:-

- We had a report at about 9.30pm of a very drunk male outside the Quayside Bar but he had moved on when we arrived
- We confiscated a large quantity (three bags) of alcohol from a group of young people
- At about 0100 there was a disturbance at the Boscarn. The Club was full to capacity with others awaiting entry inside. All were being turned away but one group objected and had to be removed. During that process one male dealt with for drunk and disorderly, another for assaulting a police officer and a third given a Notice to Disperse
- There was a disturbance and some scuffling between two groups just after 0200hrs at Bridge End by the taxi rank, but it was all over very quickly and no injuries were caused
- At 0215 we had a report of a possible drink driver at Tencreek Holiday Park but all was quiet on our arrival. Two vehicles had tyres slashed at the holiday park that night (a possible linked event)
- Between 0130 and 0230 a very drunk male was ejected from The Jolly Sailor and made an allegation of assault against the landlord.

Overall the evening was well behaved and positive and with the most outstanding fireworks.

Please note that Looe Police now has Facebook and Twitter accounts – you can see us at **LooePolice** on both media

For your consideration



Handwritten signature of Jo Williams, with the number 253608 written below it.

Sgt Jo Williams

Neighbourhood Team Leader