

## **PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Leisure, Tourism and Open Space Committee meeting held on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at the Council Offices, Station House, Station Road, Padstow at 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Councillors C Watson-Smyth (Chairman), R Buscombe, K Freeman, R Higman and D N Vivian

**In Attendance:** Mrs K Pemberton (Town Clerk) and Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and Minute Taker)

- LTOS2019/67      **Apologies for Absence:**** Apologies were received from Councillors A Flide and J O'Keefe
- LTOS2019/68      **Announcements:**** There were no announcements.
- LTOS2019/69      **Declarations of Interest:**** There were no declarations of interest.
- LTOS2019/70      **Public Participation:**** There was no public participation.
- LTOS2019/71      **RESOLVED**** that the **minutes** of the meeting held on **Tuesday 11 February 2020** were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the chair.
- LTOS2019/72      **Clerks Report:**** The Clerks report was noted for information. In response to a member query the Town Clerk confirmed that she would look into the replacement of the tourist map in Trevone and report back to the next meeting.
- LTOS2019/73      **Link Road Flower Beds:**** Members gave consideration to correspondence received from a member of the public in this regard, namely a request for the Town Council to work with volunteers to add colour to cultivated flower beds in designated and agreed areas around town especially the main approach to Padstow. In the absence of Councillor J O'Keefe, the Chairman read aloud an email from him in support of this request. Other members expressed support.
- One member noted potential safety concerns that the verge towards Wadebridge was outside of the 30 mph limit, but further noted that Cornwall Council highways permitted the area to be used as footpath. It was noted that any volunteers would need to wear high visibility vests and adopt safe working practices.
- It was suggested that Councillor Buscombe speak with Cornwall Council to arrange a site meeting in order to progress the matter.
- Positive comments were made about successful schemes in St Issey and St Merryn and that if people who were prepared to volunteer they should be supported.

Further to Councillor Buscombe speaking to the relevant Cornwall Council Officer, the Town Clerk suggested that the Town Council could supply high visibility vests and that she speak with Council's insurance to see if there would be any issues with volunteers working on the Council's behalf. It was noted however, that when the Town Clerk spoke with the member of public over the phone, she was led to believe that there were not many volunteers at present. Further mention of support was suggested by a member in respect of the Council funding plants.

**RESOLVED** to support volunteers in cultivating the flower beds in designated and agreed areas around town especially the main approach to Padstow "in principle" and subject to seeking input from the relevant officer at Cornwall Council and clarification in respect of Council's own insurance.

#### **LTOS2019/74**

**Multi-Enforcement Officer:** The Town Clerk provided an update on this item. It was noted that she had met with the Harbour Master and Officers from Cornwall Council (CC) regarding ways to address the trading issues around the quayside. Further it was noted that a budget of £5,000 had been set for enforcement and that the Highways, Roads and Transport Committee had agreed a parking enforcement SLA with Cornwall Council on the same basis as the previous year, excepted to cost not more than £2,500 of the budget.

Following the meeting, the Town Clerk had sought clarification from CC around the proposed ideas to address street trading namely, i) could CC enforce Padstow Harbour Commissioner(PHC) byelaws and PHC land; and ii) would street traders be incorporated in these proposals as they are not considered street traders under current legislation. She had yet to receive a response.

Members were keen to support working with PHCs and CC in principle and felt it was positive to be taking some action. Concern was raised that if CC were unable to enforce all affected land, only the highway, this could detract from this positive step.

Cornwall Councillor Buscombe noted that local MP Scott Mann had confirmed there would be no legislative assistance from the House of Commons in the next few years. He therefore felt that doing anything to ease the situation would be welcome.

In response to a member query the Town Clerk confirmed that she had also sought clarification from CC regarding littering and other aspects which could be included in the role of a Multi Enforcement Officer. However, it was noted that the main purpose was to address the street traders. The Town Clerk had also asked for CC to provide more information in terms of their resources and availability.

Comment was made that the collaborative approach with the new Harbour Master was pleasing.

**RESOLVED** to support “in principle” working with Cornwall Council and Padstow Harbour Commissioners to progress a possible Multi-Enforcement Officer within the enforcement budget.

**LTOS2019/75**

**Cornwall Council Service Level Agreements (SLAs):** The Town Clerk provided an update on this item. It was noted that she and Cornwall Councillor Buscombe had initially understood that CC wished to make several changes to this years SLA agreement for external areas. The Town Clerk had spent time going through the proposed SLA and noted that in fact there were only a few changes. These included references to shrubs which were now in fact hedges. In addition, some areas had now been added which had always been undertaken by PTC’s maintenance team but were not previously included. There was no additional finance awarded.

The Town Clerk advised that CC were no longer weed spraying and would be dealing with weeds manually, however there was no information yet as to how this would be achieved. It was noted that PTC were no longer permitted to weed spray on any CC land. It was noted that on PTC land staff members used Nomix which was a weed killing droplet system, not spray. This was undertaken early in the mornings when little or no public are present as well as all other necessary precautions being taken.

It was noted that PTC had 2 SLAs with CC in respect of outside works, there appeared to be some cross over of works which had been confused between a cross-over of departments. It was felt a good idea that Councillor Buscombe invite a CC Officer over to discuss areas of confusion. In response to a member query it was noted that the grassed areas in the new housing estates were privately managed.

There was further discussion regarding CC no longer weed spraying. It was noted that PTC would likely receive the bulk of any complaints regarding weeds. It was noted that the Town Clerk had offered to participate in any pilot ideas CC wished to trial as alternatives to spraying on CC land.

**RESOLVED** to continue with Service Level Agreements with Cornwall Council in respect of their outside spaces for the year 2020-21.

**LTOS2019/76**

**Updates: i) North Quay and Cory Toilets:** It was noted that the project had not progressed as quickly as it should have. Update in respect of the contract would be discussed during confidential session.

**ii) Skate Park Update:** As per the agenda report it was noted that there had been no further incidents recorded at the Skate Park. The last recorded incident was on 6 January 2020 and related to damage to the skate park gate.

**LTOS2019/77**

**Date of Next Meeting:** The following meeting dates were noted i) Tuesday 19 May 2020 (Election of Chair) at 6.40pm or on the rising of

the Staffing Committee; and ii) Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 7pm (being the next full meeting of the committee).

**LTOS2019/78      EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:**

**LTOS2019/79      North Quay and Cory Toilet Refurbishment:** See confidential minutes.

Meeting closed at 7.27 pm