

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leisure, Tourism and Open Space Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at the Council Offices, Station House, Station Road, Padstow at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillors C Watson-Smyth (Chairman), K Freeman, R Higman, J O'Keefe and D N Vivian

In Attendance: Mrs K Pemberton (Town Clerk), Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and Minute Taker), Councillor Mrs T Walter (part) and Councillor Mrs A Symons (part)

LTOS2019/58 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Councillors R Buscombe and A Flide.

LTOS2019/59 Announcements: There were no announcements.

LTOS2019/60 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

LTOS2019/61 Public Participation: There was no public participation.

LTOS2019/62 RESOLVED that the **minutes** of the meeting held on **Tuesday 3 December 2019** were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the chair.

LTOS2019/63 Clerks Report: The Clerks reported was noted for information.

LTOS2019/64 MUGA and Core Building Questionnaire: Members gave consideration to a report on this item having been tabled and read. Mention was made that the Sports England representative's comments reflected that the MUGA and future use of the Core Building could be complimentary to each other. It was felt that this should be reflected in the introduction at the outset of the questionnaire.

Members also considered that the final part of cost questions 11 and 4 in sections 1 and 2 respectively, were unlikely to get a sensible response at this stage. It was felt most people would answer, in the first instance, that they thought there should not be a charge for use. It was felt further feedback on the topic could be sought through further consultation at a later date.

Consideration was given to promotional proposal 3.2 x) of the tabled report regarding members attending local groups to promote the questionnaire to the community and generally members were supportive.

RESOLVED i) to approve the revised questionnaire in the tabled paper subject to a) making reference in the questionnaire introduction to the MUGA and Core Building's potential to have complimentary uses; and b) removing "If 'a', how much would you consider fair" from section 1 question 11 and section 2 question 4; and ii) to send member champions from the Leisure, Tourism and Open Spaces Committee to

attend local groups to raise awareness of the questionnaire, appropriate wording to be prepared.

Members gave consideration to the recommendations in the tabled report. In response to a member query, the Town Clerk confirmed it was necessary to get approval from Full Council for spending in respect of the questionnaire as this would need to be funded via the 2019/20 Capital/Projects contingency budget. This was because the budget for the MUGA would not be available until the new financial year, being 1 April 2020. Members considered it best to build in a contingency figure to the questionnaire budget to avoid a need to go back to Full Council; it was therefore proposed that £1,000 be requested.

RESOLVED i) to approve the promotion proposals as detailed in paragraph 3.2 of the tabled paper, numbers i) to ix); ii) to send copies of promotional literature to Padstow Town Council's hard copy mailing list where subscribers have given such consent; iii) **TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** that £1,000 from the 2019/20 Capital/Projects contingency budget be made available for the purpose of funding the questionnaire including promotional costs and a new annual subscription for SurveyMonkey; iv) to delegate sign-off of promotional materials including layout of the questionnaire on SurveyMonkey and the final draft to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Committee Chairman; v) to make the questionnaire live on Monday 2 March, subject to relevant approval from the February Full Council meeting; and vi) the questionnaire be made available for 6 weeks.

LTOS2019/65

Updates: i) North Quay and Cory Toilet Refurbishment: The Town Clerk provided an update on this item, noting that the pace of works had slowed in part due to contractor sickness. She advised that the Project Manger, Shaun Watts was addressing the matter. It was noted that due to delays the roof fix in North Quay had not been undertaken before the bad weather which had impacted the issue. The next site visit with Mr Watts was taking place later in the week, it was hoped that more progress would be seen. With regard to Cory, this had been stripped out and tiling had begun. In response to a member query the Town Clerk advised that the Project Manager did not think that delays were too significant at this stage; the Project Manger had been applying pressure and as such they were expecting big changes at the next site visit.

ii) Stile Field Slips: The Town Clerk advised that 3 contractors had been contacted for quotes in respect of the 3 slips along the wall at the top path of Stile Field. It was noted that only 1 had provided a quotation and to avoid delay, they had been instructed to undertake the works. A date was yet to be confirmed but the Town Clerk had requested this be after the February half term holiday.

In response to a query, the Town Clerk confirmed that the contractor would remove the affected section and rebuild it from the Town Council owned side, rather than patch. The Town Clerk advised that

she had noticed other areas which looked to be a “matter of time” before they slipped, when on site she would discuss these with the contractor.

An update was also provided in respect of the cliff slip; the Town Clerk read aloud an email from Shaun Watts confirming the area that had slipped appeared to be the topsoil section sat above the natural rock. It also stated there were a few small areas of topsoil that appeared loose and likely to fall over the coming weeks, though it was noted these were unlikely to be comparable to the size of the recent slip. Mr Watts further stated that from the inspection at beach level the rock appeared to be stable with no signs of current or imminent movement. Mr Watts advised that the area at the top of the cliff was largely overgrown with vegetation and a large section was also provided with fencing, this appeared to be keeping members of the public about 10 to 15m away from the edge of the affected cliff. As such, Mr Watts confirmed that he “did not see any imminent danger to people using the public footpath or the monument at this present time”.

Further advice was that the area should be checked on a regular basis and if there was any evidence of further movement or slips then a further visual inspection could be undertaken at that time. At the present time it was suggested a visual inspection of the area at the head and foot of the cliffs be undertaken once every six months, possibly before and at the end of the main tourist season.

The Town Clerk confirmed that as well as the regular internal checks undertaken on the cliff she would set up these regular checks with Shaun Watts and consult with Council’s Health and Safety Advisor who was visiting next week.

Question was raised as to the benefit of a possible inspection of the area by drone as this may provide greater access. In response, the Town Clerk advised that dense vegetation at the top of the cliff would likely impede an inspection from the top in this manner and that when the tide was out, the view of the cliff from the beach was good.

iii) New Burial Plots: Members were referred to a report on this item which was tabled and read. It was noted that the map identified 45 additional grave spaces which had been marked out in the empty space at the top of the cemetery closest to the road. Physically there was space for a further 2 graves, however as the verge alongside the wall was not straight, these 2 graves would impede the “walkway” to other graves and would impact the aesthetics of the area. Committee’s views on removing the verge to create further spaces were sought.

It was noted that in the existing area for burials, 17 spaces remained. Mention was made that if a bench in the area were relocated, a further 2 spaces would potentially be gained. Members felt that as this would not gain a significant number it was best to leave the bench in situ.

It was noted that a number of years ago, enquiries were made into possibly utilising the field at the bottom of the cemetery for an extension but it was found to be too waterlogged for permission to be granted by Environmental Health. Comment was made that a leat of water ran under the top section of the cemetery and much of the surrounding land was thought to be too waterlogged for permission. Generally members felt it worth looking into the possibility of acquiring and using the adjacent field.

Committee were advised that whilst the cemetery looked to have more than 17 grave spaces remaining in the existing area, many of these were in fact reserved. It was noted that some Exclusive Rights of Burial had been purchased as far back as 2003 and had yet to be used, this was having a direct impact on present day demand. It was noted that some grave spaces had been forgotten about and/or never transferred and as such were unusable. Committee's thoughts were sought on whether it wished to stipulate that the new graves spaces are only used in sequential order and only sold at the time of need. It was noted that in order to help going forward, a more proactive management of grave ownership was planned in respect of the new grave spaces and cremation plots.

In response to a member query it was noted that burial numbers fluctuated yearly, however in November 2019 the number of remaining spaces was approx 30 and at present this was now only 17. It was noted that not all of the spaces sold in that time were for burials, some were spaces purchased by family next to or close to a family member's grave for future use in possibly 20-40 years time.

RESOLVED i) to make immediately available 45 new grave spaces as identified in the map in the tabled report on the basis that these be used in sequential order beginning with number 1 and that they be sold only at the time of burial; ii) to make enquiries with the landowner of the adjacent field and other relevant bodies in respect of a possible extension; and iii) to make enquiries into removing some or all of the verge next to the new grave spaces by the roadway.

iv) Skate Park Update and Signage: Members noted the agenda update in this regard and gave consideration to the skate park sign proof. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the new sign for the skate park as per the proof on agenda page 9.

LTOS2019/66

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 7.00pm was noted.

Meeting closed at 7.05 pm