

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 17th September 2013

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Lane	Mayor
Councillor P Rapi	
Councillor T Hallett	
Councillor A Brown	
Councillor Mrs Thomas	
Councillor Mrs Rossiter	
Councillor Dr P Easy	
Councillor Mrs Putwain	
Councillor L Blackhall	
Councillor M Evans	
Councillor W Rossiter	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A. Davies	Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs L Hensman	Assistant Clerk

ALSO PRESENT

Inspector Ross Evans	Dyfed-Powys Police
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The Mayor welcomed Inspector Ross Evans who delivered an update on local policing following the successful summer period. He was pleased to say Tenby crime figures are down 30% on violent crime and 10% on anti social behaviour, proving the success of the recent increase in policing strategy during the summer. He felt on reflection there is always room for improvement and certain streets could have been covered with increased patrols. The occasional train arrival was missed however, the issuing of section 27 orders worked well with 35 in total used during the summer period. Operation Lion including the increase of officers on Friday and Saturday nights with the mobile police unit being parked in Tudor Square was met with mixed reviews. To some it may have appeared over powering and caused concern for families, therefore this was addressed by softening the impact by engaging in photo sessions and conversations with families in and around the unit. Additional officers drafted in have now returned to their posts, however possible increased policing will be in place for Saturday International games, New Years Eve and any additional events that may occur.

Following feedback from the summer season discussion and planning sessions are underway for next year with minor alterations; however it still will depend on funding being secured. The Inspector outlined some ideas in relation to weekend cover and ways street drinking can be tackled, however these discussion are still in the planning stages. He continued by agreeing to try and answer any questions Councillors had.

Councillor Rapi said at a previous meeting he highlighted the concern of taxis parking in St George Street and could the mobile police unit be moved to this same area during the evening. On several occasions initially this happened but it died off and a few incidents occurred in the area causing increased concern now as a health and safety issue, therefore could this area be reviewed again? The Inspector was aware of the area and when the van was sited in this particular street it was effective, therefore he would look into increasing its presence in St George Street if possible.

Councillor M Evans and Councillor W Rossiter joined the meeting.

Councillors commented on the positive traffic management undertaken by the police during the summer spectacles. The Inspector felt the Harbour Spectaculars was an area that needed to be reviewed and discussed for next year. He had attended a meeting with PCC on management of the

spectaculars already and further information following the meeting would be made available in due course.

Councillor Blackhall spoke in relation to street trading and pedlars, he was personally aware that they can only stay for 15 minutes in one spot and then have to move 200 yards down the road and continue this process during the day. However he felt it was now time for an exact areas to be designated for pedlars so everyone was aware and the situation could be managed more effectively, preferably in place for next year. In relation to establish a bye law he was aware it is an expensive process; however if the police progress further with their aim to establish one in Tenby for an alternative reason perhaps the Inspector could discuss with TTC the possibility of including an additional clause relating to street trading and pedlars.

The Clerk clarified movement of a pedlar, he must be on the move and only stop when approached by a customer, he then can continue trading until his queue has cleared, then he must continue on the move.

Councillor Blackhall expressed his thanks to the Inspector for the policing team responding as and when needed in Tenby and defusing issues before they occurred. The Inspector said they tried to manage all situations as operations and priorities allowed.

Councillor Mrs Putwain asked if a street drinking by law is considered would the police stop cafes/public houses from leaving their tables and chairs out following the end of pedestrianisation? The Inspector said they had challenged some during the season already, however if a bye law was in situ there would be designated zones with signage denoting permitted drinking areas, however this matter is only under discussion in its early stages and further information will follow when appropriate.

Councillors Mrs Rossiter asked the Inspectors for his personal view on policing Tenby during the summer period. He said Tenby is an unusual situation dealing with families out with buggies up to eleven o'clock at night and on the other hand single sex groups out to party; therefore management was difficult, requests were made to the public for consideration around families in relation to noise and their language, however overall the experience had been enjoyable but in no way would he be complacent.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Evans for the information provided before he left the chamber.

174. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Durham.

175. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor Dr Easy, Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor Blackhall, Councillor Hallett and the Mayor declared a personal interest in Item 10, De Valence.

176. ITEMS TO PRESS

The Clerk reported he had been made aware letter (e) Mrs Diane Turbervill PCC –Castle Beach was not for public discussion therefore he requested if it was the wish of Councillors to remove the item from public into private correspondence.

Proposed by Councillor Hallett to move item 8e - Mrs Diane Turbervill PCC –Castle Beach from public into private correspondence before being given to the press, seconded by Councillor Evans.

Resolved that item 8e - Mrs Diane Turbervill PCC –Castle Beach be moved from public into private correspondence.

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

177. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 3rd September 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate:

178. MATTERS ARISING

153 – Matters Arising - 140 – Tenby Harbour Sluice

Councillor Evans requested confirmation on what was actually resolved in relation to Tenby Harbour at TTC meeting on 28th May 2013. The Clerk narrated the resolution - Resolved that TTC send a letter to PCC Regeneration Department Team expressing how pleased TTC are with the Tenby Harbour Regeneration proposal. Councillor Evans explained at TTC meeting on 23rd July 2013 he provided up to date information in relation to the harbour regeneration scheme and suggested TTC write to PCC to ask them to consider arranging a meeting to look into possible alternative usage of the harbour sluice by sending an open invite to the Sea Cadets, Sailing Club and Tenby Harbour Users to provide representatives to discuss ideas and possibly formulate a plan. He was therefore surprised the resolution was rescinded and felt now a way forward needed to be addressed. He agreed a public open meeting is a very good idea for discussing any local issues like the harbour sluice or for example play areas and would support Councillor Mrs Putwain on this idea. Small base ideas can be collated and taken further with discussion over a period of time, enabling accessible grants to be sourced to enhance areas of Tenby. Locals should be taking full advantage of all that is available like other local communities have recently achieved and was documented in the Tenby Observer. Grant funding can take years to access so early commitment of ideas and plans are vital.

Councillor Evans supported both the local residents open discussion and PCC planned harbour users meeting scheduled for 1st October 2013.

Councillor Mrs Putwain stood by what she had said at the 3rd September 2013 TTC meeting. The resolution of 23rd July goes against standing orders and TTC should not have proceeded to call a meeting within the six month period. She reported on an e-mail received from PCC with a PDF attachment of the rescinded resolution from TTC minutes, she questioned the validity of the meeting with only certain people identified, highlighting that it should be an informal open meeting for everyone to attend. In addition the venue proposed, the sailing club did not unfortunately have access compliant for all people to access. A second e-mail was received from Mrs Robinson PCC stating she would like to go ahead with the mending of the sluice gate and follow up after this work.

Councillor Evans stated that the meeting to be held by PCC has nothing to do with how the regeneration grant money is to be spent. It is purely to look at the harbour area and possible

future usage of the sluice, collating ideas from everyone connected with the area including residents and users of the harbour. As County Councillor he would be contacting Mrs Ann Robinson to arrange that the meeting continues with all parties to look at possible grants that may be available to enhance the harbour area in Tenby. He felt it is better to try and fail to than not to try anything at all, stating that in six months' time there may be no funding available and Tenby will have missed out.

Councillor Mrs Thomas asked if the previous harbourmaster's study of the sluice could be found and considered.

Councillor Blackhall felt TTC are caught in a procedural knot, the harbour is of interest to many people and this is an opportunity for them all to come together to look for future ideas how the harbour area can be more beneficial for others. He proposed TTC contact PCC and arrange the meeting previously scheduled for 1st October 2013, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that TTC contact Mrs Ann Robinson PCC and arrange the meeting as previously planned to discuss possible ideas for the harbour sluice area.

Councillor Mrs Putwain voted against the resolution.

The Clerk explained that Mrs Ann Robinson had requested two TTC representatives attend the meeting on 1st October 2013, Councillor Blackhall and Councillor A Brown put their names forward and Councillor Evans said he would be in attendance as a County Councillor. It was

Resolved that Councillor Blackhall and Councillor A Brown represent TTC at the Tenby Harbour Sluice meeting scheduled for 1st October 2013.

157a – Governing Body of Tenby Junior Community School

Councillor Rapi thanked his fellow Councillors for nominating him to be considered as school governor. However, due to his work commitments he would be unable to attend meetings at the times scheduled, therefore he declined to be nominated. The Mayor asked if any other Councillor wished to be considered. She explained TTC can only put names forward, it is up to the school governors to decide who they would like to appoint as representatives on their governing body. As no Councillor came forward the Mayor asked they think about the position and discuss a nominee at a later date.

157c – Presbyterian War Memorial Tablet

The Clerk reported he had arranged a cemetery sub-committee site meeting to look at the possible siting of the Tablet in the Garden of Remembrance; However, following discussion of these arrangements Mr Griffiths had suggested Mr J Rossiter be asked for his views on the site. During discussion with Mr J Rossiter he felt the memorial tablet was not suitable for storing outside and an internal site would be more suitable, hence the meeting was cancelled.

The Clerk said that since the last meeting a member of St John's Church explained they will be discussing the Presbyterian War Memorial Tablet at their next Church Council meeting to consider taking it back. The Mayor's parlour had also been suggested as a possible indoor site as the tablet has not weathered well. The Mayor felt the matter should be reviewed following St John's Church Council meeting. It was

Resolved that TTC review the Presbyterian War Memorial Tablet following feedback from St John's Church Council.

161 – Reports by Councillors on Outside Bodies – World Heritage Site

Councillor Mrs Thomas asked, following the e-mail sent by the Clerk to all Councillors containing information on the Historical Society research for Tenby to be considered as a World Heritage site, if they had feedback as to whether they supported the project?

Councillor Evans felt TTC should seriously support this project and proposed the Clerk include the project as a budget heading in the 2014/15 draft budget figures. This would raise funds through the rates, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that the Clerk include the World Heritage site as a budget heading in 2014/15 draft budget figures.

166 –St George Street

Councillor Mrs Lane and Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared an interest and took no part in discussion on this item.

Councillor Rapi requested if PCC had responded to TTC letter requesting a multi group meeting with licensing about St George Street. The clerk reported PCC licensing department do not want to call a meeting at this stage, however they would like to gain additional evidence of the problems from local residents on monitoring sheets. They will compile the data and follow the next steps accordingly based on evidence based rather than hear-say. The Clerk confirmed that any resident affected in the area can fill in the forms.

Councillor Blackhall felt this was a good opportunity to engage with people in the area to obtain their views and be proactive providing monitoring forms to the LVA, residents, shop keepers and others that have expressed concern.

Councillor Mrs Lane and Councillor Mrs Rossiter rejoined the meeting.

164 – Lydstep pig

Councillor Hallett asked if any information had been received in relation to the Lydstep pig. The Clerk reported no response has been received as yet.

179. PLANNING APPLICATION

The Clerk reported he had received two additional planning applications that required a TTC comment before the next scheduled TTC meeting. Councillors had received an e-mail informing them of the additional plans prior to this meeting. Councillor Hallett proposed to accept discussion on planning applications NP/13/415 and NP/13/0360, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that planning applications NP/13/0415 and NP/13/0360 are accepted for discussion.

a. NP/13/0401 – Mr G Meads, 15 Upper Hill Park, Tenby – Single storey lounge extension to front and single storey bedroom extension to rear of property, 15 Upper Hill Park, Tenby.

Councillors viewed and discussed the planning application. The Clerk added that a neighbour had expressed concern as to how near the development is to the main sewer line and had been advised to contact PCNPA. Councillor Hallett asked if there are any guidelines stating the minimum distance buildings should be from a main sewer. The Clerk had no information relating to this concern. Councillor Evans proposed support for the planning application with

an attached footnote for advice as to the minimum distance in law an extension should be from main drainage systems, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

RECOMMEND

Approval as this improves the amenity, however Councillors requested advice in relation to the minimum distance in law an extension should be from main drainage systems.

b. NP/13/0415 – Mr Mark Lewis, Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest – Proposed extension to front of existing leisure centre to provide a gym. Refurbishment of leisure centre including realignment of access road, Tenby Leisure Centre, Marsh Road, Tenby.

Councillors viewed and discussed the planning application. The Mayor felt despite this being a large planning application to consider she felt as so many local people are keen to train to increase their personal fitness it is a wonderful opportunity for Tenby. Councillor Hallett expressed concern in relation to the close proximity of the plant room to neighbouring houses. Councillor Evans said this is a super opportunity and Tenby should welcome an opportunity like this with open arms.

Councillor Evans proposed approval as the development provided investment into the general health and well-being of the community, seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

RECOMMEND

Approval as this development is an investment into the general health and well-being of the community.

Councillor Evans requested the plans be put on show in the De Valence building for local residents to view at their leisure.

c.NP/13/0360 – Mr Andrew McHardy, 23 Culver Park, Tenby – Demolition of rear single storey extension and replace with a glazed dining room and first floor rear extension and remodelling of rear garden, 23 Culver Park, Tenby.

Councillors viewed and following discussion, Councillor A Brown proposed approval of the planning application, seconded by Councillor Rapi.

RECOMMEND

Approval.

180. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCNPA – NP/13/0361 New surface mounted sign and projecting sign, Tasty Café, White Lion Street, Tenby.

The Clerk explained that the planning sub-committee met and supported the plan; however PCNPA had referred it to the committee as they felt the wrap around signage is too big and covers some of the architectural features. It was

Resolved to note the information.

181. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Ben Blake, PCC – Proposed temporary traffic restrictions, Royal Gate House development

Councillor Hallett felt the traffic restrictions were needed for health and safety reasons.

Councillor Blackhall expressed concern that managing the flow of traffic away from the town during a quiet period was not the best idea and perhaps it could be re-considered in an alternative way to bring the traffic into town.

Councillor Evans said the single lane closure down the Norton would need a three way traffic signal to incorporate White Lion Street egress and this could result in tail backs across junctions and inconvenience residents with long delays. He proposed TTC arrange a site meeting with Mr Ben Blake, the Clerk and two nominated Councillors, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt that the local residents would be accommodating as they are grateful to see the building work advancing well. Councillor Mrs Putwain asked if local businesses had been informed of the proposed temporary traffic restrictions.

Resolved that the Clerk arrange a site meeting with Mr B Blake PCC, County Councillor M Evans, the Clerk and Councillor A Brown if his work commitment allows.

b. Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Local Government and Government Business – Consultation on Designated Persons Order.

Councillor Blackhall reported on page 3 and 4 of the document it states designated person's, "town and community councils" are named, he proposed TTC write to Lesley Griffiths AM and say TTC are in favour and support town and community councils being designated persons on the order, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Resolved that TTC write to Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Local Government and Government Business in support of town and community councils being named as designated persons on the order.

c. Mr Adkinson (via e-mail) – Ironman Wales

The Mayor expressed how lucky Tenby is to be chosen to host the Ironman Wales event and what a superb experience the day brings. Councillor Blackhall congratulated the Mayor on her significant effort welcoming and congratulating every competitor that crossed the finishing line. The thing that makes the event are businesses and the local community providing support. This is a good analogy of Tenby the place and the people are beautiful. One competitor said looking over south beach the day after "he could not think of a finish line with a better view as Tenby".

Councillor Mrs Rossiter asked that TTC collectively congratulate every local that took part in the Ironman 2013 event. They are simply remarkable.

Councillor Evans added his congratulations to the Mayor and local competitors. He proposed TTC send a letter thanking Councillor R Lewis, Deputy Leader, PCC and Mr B Parry Jones Chief Executive, PCC for their efforts in embracing the Ironman event and for their support of the event. In addition a letter to Mr J Griffiths AM, Minister for Culture and Sport and Right Hon. Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister, Welsh Government thanking them for their support of Ironman Wales in Tenby, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Resolved that TTC send a letter to Councillor R Lewis, Deputy Leader, PCC and Mr B Parry Jones Chief Executive, PCC for their efforts in embracing the Ironman event. A letter to Mr J Griffiths AM, Minister for Culture and Sport and Right Hon. Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister, Welsh Government thanking them for their support of the Ironman Wales event in Tenby.

Councillor Evans reminded Councillors that the Tourist Information Centre has up to date information on all accommodation vacancies in Tenby at all times even when it is as busy as, like during Ironman, they are the first to be informed of available rooms.

d. Simon Hart MP – Ironman Wales 2013

Discussed in conjunction with item 181c.

e. Diane Turbervill PCC – Castle Beach

Resolved to move this item into private.

182. ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST 2013

The Accounts for August were reviewed before Councillor A Brown proposed acceptance of the accounts for August 2013, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that the accounts for August 2013 be accepted.

183. DE VALENCE

The Clerk reported painting of the De Valence frontage was progressing with the paint having been ordered. This will be financed following the success of grant funding that will be claimed retrospectively.

184. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Mayor reported she had attended the Hope Centre, Neyland and highlighted the inspiring work they do and asked Councillors to be mindful of this worthwhile charity.

185. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported on an article that stated the Poppy Appeal has been denied funding for a First World War project they had intended to scatter poppy seed in significant areas. However B & Q Builders Merchants has started up a project to give out poppy seeds for this cause. It has been suggested to place seeds on Bells Corner Tenby, with a local resident willing to make a donation towards the seeds. Councillor Hallett explained that poppies grow in cultivated ground. Councillor W Rossiter expressed caution as poppies do spread very quickly and over vast areas. The Mayor suggested TTC look into the idea and possible sites for poppies to be scattered.

Councillor Mrs Putwain reported on a recent article in the Tenby Observer following the outdoor screening of Jaws on the harbour, highlighting where it thanked the harbour residents. She felt this was patronising and hypocritical as local residents were not aware the event was going on.

186. JUBILEE PLAY PARK

Councillor Mrs Brown not present so the item to be placed on the next agenda.

187. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

The Clerk reported the Mayor and Councillors have been invited to attend the Soroptimists International evening at Greenhill School on 18th October 2013 highlighting the problems relating to slavery, trafficking and grooming of young people and asking “are we doing enough

to protect children". He explained this is one of the main projects Tenby & District Branch undertake, however the Mayor will be attending an event at the Salvation Army on Saturday 28th September 2013 to welcome a gentleman who is walking to every Salvation Army Hall to make people aware of the vast human trafficking concerns. It was suggested that perhaps another Councillor would be interested in attending. The Mayor asked if Councillors will consider attending and discuss the subject at the next TTC meeting.

188. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st October 2013 at 7.30pm.

189. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Specific Agenda Item - County Councillors reports to TTC every three months, Councillor Blackhall.

Councillor Evans explained that he attended TTC meetings as a town councillor but was happy and welcomed the opportunity to feedback relevant information to local Councillors and answer any questions relating to County issues in his capacity as a County Councillor.

190. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Resolved that the Council (or Committee) moves into private session under the Public Bodies (admission to Meeting) Act of 1960 by virtue of the business to be transacted would be prejudicial to members of the Public.

191. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 3rd September 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate:

192. MATTERS ARISING

147 – 101 – De Valence Forecourt Bollards

The Clerk reported he had looked at Mr Randall's bollards. Unfortunately they are rather short and, while they may work in front of the fire doors they would be a trip hazard on the main forecourt. Other available bollards are very expensive and the project is proving to be difficult to resolve.

Councillor Evans was aware there may be a suitable surplus bollard down the harbour and following an e-mail reminder from the Clerk he will look into the matter and report back to the Clerk direct. Alternatively Councillor Hallett provided an idea if Councillor Evans is not successful.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported residents have expressed concern that Nelsons Walk, Tenby used as a short cut for public transport users to access the town is dark and littered. As she was aware a member of staff had swept the walkway recently she proposed a letter be sent to the owner requesting he review the system of cleaning he has in operation. The Clerk reported he had already spoken to the owner and the matter was in hand.

193. STAFF RESTRUCTURING

Councillors discussed the recent resolution following the staff restructuring process. Due to Standing Orders no alterations can be considered for six months however a situation has occurred when additional hours of work are required to paint the frontage of the building.

Councillor Evans said in view of this new information and TTC had allocated a pot of extra hours to be used as and when at the discretion of Councillors he proposed 60 hours be allocated to facilitate render repairs and painting of the De Valence frontage, seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

Resolved that TTC allocate 60 hours to an appropriate member of staff for painting of the De Valence frontage. It was further resolved that the Council review the new restructuring arrangements in January to assess their effectiveness.

194. CASTLE BEACH

Councillor Evans felt the e-mail referring to Castle Beach's Blue Flag status sent to the Clerk for Councillors for their attention was of great concern. However, the information is not at present for public knowledge until October 2013. He had met with PCC and Natural Resources Wales as county councillor to discuss the issue where it had been felt that town councillors may have local knowledge that could throw light on the matter and aid investigations. Other local people like the present and past harbourmasters may also have information of use to assist in the investigation and discussion taking place at PCC in relation to Castle Beach. A booklet outlining new guidelines for Blue Flag beaches will be sent to the Clerk in due course. Meanwhile Councillor Evans asked if any Councillor felt they had any information to provide he would be happy to listen and act as liaison with the investigating team. He would provide further information as and when available.

195. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

The Clerk narrated a letter received and addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, thanking TTC for the support that had shown to a local member of the policing team. Councillors were pleased the situation had been successfully resolved, bringing to an end a very uncertain period for individuals involved. It was

Resolved to note the letter.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____