

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 1st November 2011

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Thomas Deputy Mayor
Councillor Mrs Brown
Councillor Morgan
Councillor P Rapi
Councillor Mrs Evans
Councillor L Blackhall
Councillor Mrs Rossiter
Councillor M Evans

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

ALSO PRESENT Reverend Reed – Tenby Lugger
PC Nigel Lewis
PCSO Mandy Goodland

In the absence of the Mayor, it was proposed by Councillor Blackhall, seconded by Councillor Morgan and resolved that Deputy Mayor Councillor Mrs Thomas takes the Chair.

Mr Criddle failed to arrive to give his presentation.

Councillor Mrs Thomas welcomed Reverend Reed to the Council Meeting. Reverend Reed thanked Tenby Town Council for the opportunity to provide an update on the Lugger Project, explaining that he represented the West Wales Maritime Heritage Committee who took delivery of the lugger from the National Museum of Wales, for total restoration. Initially they approached PCC to use the Lifeboat House located near Castle Beach, with a second storage area for the restoration materials. Unfortunately PCC planned to use the proposed building for the low water landing stage so they looked for alternative storage. A qualified boat builder needed to be found to undertake the restoration and four replied, 2 from Cornwall, 1 based on the Cleddau and 1 working in Pembroke Dock but from Finland. Financially when estimating the cost it was cheaper to restore the vessel in Cornwall and then return the Lugger to Tenby but this is unlikely as alternative grant funding would have to be found.

Funding was being sourced, by applying for National Heritage Lottery, with the restoration estimated at £100,000. Storage, insurance, display boards and a trailer would put the grand total needed in the region of £200,000.

The Lugger is approximately 26' long and would require display housing once restored, ideally moored during the summer but a mooring would be very difficult to obtain so initial indoor housing has been included in the costings. Tenby Town Council could assist this project with publicity to encourage people with expertise or enthusiasts to help as needed, welcoming visitors and providing educational information on the Tenby Lugger. Pembrokeshire College are building a lugger from scratch at present so these students would provide valuable help on the project.

The Maritime Trust have heard that the old Lifeboat House may still be available and are in discussion with PCC, but they are still open to alternative suggestions in case it falls through again. The only specifics required are the size and accessibility for public viewing during and after completion. Councillor Mrs Thomas thanked Reverend Reed for the information and asked him to liaise with the Clerk on progress as it occurs, he then left the Chamber.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter joined the meeting along with PC Nigel Lewis and PCSO Mandy Goodland. The Deputy Mayor invited the police to present their report.

Crimes during October totalled 30 including Burglaries, Assaults, Drug offences and Criminal damage, the detection rate being 44%, meaning 12 resolved and the rest being work in progress. Specific projects have been in operation including observation on Trick or Treat Children with posters delivered in the area to prevent nuisance callers on the elderly along with Operation Bang to encourage 'Good Guy' behaviour with fireworks during bonfire night. Vigilance was encouraged in the town to report rogue traders to the police, to prevent unnecessary worry. Hotel watch is to be commenced following on from the successful Shop watch. Increased early morning patrols are taking place around the harbour in conjunction with Boat Watch due to recent small fires in the area.

Proceeds of crime money bids have been successfully obtained and allocated for Rugby Shirts to Greenhill School and Pembroke RFC. A bid has also been put in for the Family Play Park.

CID has returned to Tenby and two Officers are based at the station also living locally. Inspector Kath Griffiths has been appointed to the Community and Partnership Role in Pembrokeshire so the Operational Inspector for the South Section based in Pembroke Dock will be Inspector Glyn Johnson. Councillor Blackhall felt that this was removal of Inspector in all but name and was cause for concern.

Councillor M Evans joined the meeting.

PC Lewis reported that Tudor Square was posing a few traffic problems and they were liaising with PCC and the enhancement workmen to reduce disruption expected due to increased taxi and mini bus use over the weekends. The police would monitor the situation. A request was made for the police to monitor the activity of youths supplying younger children with cigarettes and smoking in front of small children coming out of the infant school at Greenhill break times. PC Lewis added that the police and Mr P Gazard are dealing with a group of local boys under the Anti Behavioural Contract scheme. This involves meeting with their parents and working out individual programmes with each child to promote alternative interests and positive behaviour.

Councillor Mrs Thomas thanked the police for their informative report and they left the chamber.

246. APOLOGIES

Received from Councillor Mrs Lane, Councillor Mrs Williams, Councillor Mrs Putwain and Councillor T Hallett.

247. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None noted.

248. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

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

249. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 18th October 2011 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

250. MATTERS ARISING

226 – De Valence

Councillor Mrs Evans requested clarification from the Clerk as to why the De Valence discussion was moved into Private Business. The Clerk responded that he had no knowledge of the content prior to it being moved into private. Once the matter was being discussed he personally felt that there was nothing that needed to have been discussed in private. Councillor Mrs Evans said in the future Councillors should disclose the reason in more detail why they wish matters to be moved into private particularly as it is public money being discussed and should be common knowledge. Councillor Mrs Rossiter explained that previous interest free loans have been discussed in private matters. Councillor M Evans felt that Councillor Mrs Lane proposal to move the De Valence finance discussion into private was in accordance with the 1960 Act as confidential financial information relating to the Trust may have been discussed.

229a – Mr William Rogers – Train services

The Clerk reported he had received a letter of reply from Arriva trains; a copy was distributed to all Councillors. Councillor Blackhall felt Arriva should get together with Network Rail and say how they can combine their individual responsibilities to upgrade and enhance the station. Councillor Evans proposed a meeting be arranged with Mr G Morgan, of Arriva, representatives of Network Rail, Councillor Mrs Lane and any other representatives from the In Bloom Committee to work together to build good relations, to achieve positive results for the town. This was seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

Resolved that a meeting be arranged with Mr G Morgan of Arriva, Network Rail, Councillor Mrs Lane and Tenby in Bloom Committee representatives.

229b – Tenby Chamber of Trade

Councillor M Evans said that temporary traffic lights would be needed again this year for the Charity Christmas Street Market to take place in Tudor Square. Last year TTC sponsored this application, so a request may be forthcoming from the Chamber of Trade and Tourism again this year.

229c – Refuse Collection arrangements

Councillor M Evans reported he had been informed by Mr Richard Brown PCC that cards would be distributed to all households shortly informing them of the change to their refuse collection day as of 21st November.

235 – Royal Gate House

Councillor Morgan asked if any response had been received from Mr Fry. The Clerk read out Mr Fry's letter of response. Mr. Fry stated that the project was a 17 million pound development and it took more time to negotiate such a big project. He was willing to have 3 monthly progress meetings with TTC once he has more information to report. In response to the hoardings Mr Fry could only use the free standing ones in situ as, due to the cellars, there is not enough substance underneath for wooden posts. A further response was also received from Ms V Hirst PCNPA stating that developers have no deadlines for time scale of starting the project, so no additional information is available. Councillor Blackhall stated the stability of the site for building was a cause for concern if wooden posts cannot be put in. Councillor Rapi also reported a large 35 ton crane had been on the site to demolish the building. Councillor Mrs Brown made reference to an article in the Tenby Observer, relating to an issue in Saundersfoot where a prosecution had been brought over a building causing public concern. She was aware debris was reported to have fallen from one of the buildings connected to Mr. Fry's developments in Tenby recently which could have resulted in a serious accident. The Clerk informed Councillors he had received a visit and letter from a member of the public relating to this incident. He had immediately reported it to Debbie Brace PCC and Mr Richard Lawrence PCC. Mr. Lawrence had e-mailed to say he inspected the building, asked for the debris to be removed and is monitoring the situation. Councillor M Evans proposed a copy of the letter received from a member of the public be sent to Ms V Hirst PCNPA, Mr R Scourfield PCNPA and Mr R Lawrence PCC seeking assurances that they are taking every possible action to safeguard the public. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans.

Resolved that a copy of the letter received from a concerned member of the public be sent to Ms V Hirst PCNPA, Mr R Scourfield PCNPA and Mr R Lawrence PCC to seek assurances that both authorities are taking every possible action to safeguard the public.

251. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor M Evans took no part in voting on the planning applications but remained to advise members on procedure as required

a. NP/11/421 – Mr A Llewellyn, 82 The Clicketts, Tenby – Proposed attic conversion, 82 The Clicketts.

Discussion took place after viewing the plans. Councillors felt the application was making good use of the space and improved the amenities. Proposed approval by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans.

RECOMMEND

Approval

252. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCNPA – Planning Appeal, Mayville, 21 The Norton, Tenby.

The Clerk outlined the reasons given for the refusal. It was

Resolved to note the appeal information.

253. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Mr John Price, PCC – Street Name, Tenby.

Mr. Price wanted to clarify where South Parade ended and St. Florence Parade began. He recommended the demarcation be the tower 27 metres from the South Cliff Street junction. Discussion took place. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter and

Resolved that Mr. Price be informed that Councillors agreed with the recommendation.

b. Mr Ian Westley, PCC – Street Lighting, Tenby.

Resolved that the letter be noted.

c. Mr John Price, PCC – New Traffic Order

PCC were proposing new and amended parking orders which increase the on street parking provision. The Clerk explained that these proposals had been suggested as a result of the work put in by County Councillor M Evans in liaison with Mr Ben Blake PCC.

Resolved that the proposals be accepted.

d. Dyfed-Powys Police – Community Consultative Meeting 2011 and Policing Priorities Questionnaire.

Members regretted being unable to attend the Consultative Meeting as it was being held that night. Following further discussion, it was

Resolved that Councillor Morgan complete the Policing Priorities questionnaire on behalf of the Council in consultation with the Clerk

254. DE VALENCE

Councillor Mrs Brown outlined forthcoming events taking place in the De Valence and requested Councillors support and presence at specific times. Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported positive feedback after the recent Chamber of Trade function held over the weekend. The Clerk reported that the heating had failed again after working intermittently over the weekend. Councillor M Evans will contact an engineer but felt plug in heaters could be used in the interim. Councillor Mrs Evans said this highlighted the condition of the building, we were aware of these concerns 18 months ago and so decided to close it. She noted that the council would soon be considering its budget for the next year and felt a sensible approach was needed in relation to the use of public funds

The Clerk explained he had received an e-mail and a follow up letter from a Mrs Hazel Clover, from a theatre management company offering her advice and expertise to consult on the De Valence at no charge for the initial consultation. It was proposed by Councillor Evans for Councillor Blackhall and himself to respond to Mrs H Clover, seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

Resolved that Councillor Evans and Councillor Blackhall respond to the letter from Mrs H Clover.

255. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Mrs Brown reported from the Chamber of Trade meeting. Discussion had taken place about the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee, the Chamber of Trade support bunting around the town but as this is Whitsun, a busy time when they will all be involved in their own businesses, they will not be able to mark this event. Councillor Evans added they are looking to do other events at less busy times in the year. A request was made to arrange a Christmas Festival meeting as soon as possible, Greenhill School Welsh Baccalaureate students will be providing the posters for the event.

Councillor Mrs Thomas stood in for the Mayor at the recent Tenovus event, pedalling a bike to make a smoothie.

256. MEDIA ITEMS

None noted.

257. FAMILY PLAY PARK

a. Dr Stephen Jones, PCC – Jubilee Play Area.

The Clerk reported PCC had no objections to the lease has been granted subject to funding for the project being secured.

The Clerk explained that to access PCC funding you need to firstly to express an interest in drawing down money from the Play Area grant fund. He has completed this form and received acknowledgement from Ms S Henahan. The

Clerk had a very constructive meeting with Mr Widdas, and pupils from three schools and the youth club. Unfortunately not many skateboarders attended the meeting so they went to the skateboarders. Mr. Widdas has taken on board their preferred ideas and hoped to have amended plans ready for the next meeting on Friday 4th November at 2.30pm. Also at this meeting the Friend of Jubilee Park Group will be formally set up as a constituted group which would allow them better access to grant funding.

258. ROYAL GATE HOUSE

Discussed earlier under matters arising. .

259. TAXIS IN TENBY

Councillor Mrs Evans reported a few taxi drivers had expressed concerns that taxi operators are coming in from outside the area and taking their trade. They asked if there any restrictions or does a taxi licence cover all Pembrokeshire. Councillor Evans felt the licence issued in Pembrokeshire covered all of Pembrokeshire but if there were any operators coming from out of the county it should be addressed. It was

Resolved to write to Ms S Oliver PCC Licensing Department for clarification on taxi licence issues.

260. WALES TOURIST BOARD

Councillor M Evans reported a new board has been appointed for Tourism/Construction as part of Visit Wales. He said he would provide the Clerk with further information for Councillors as he was concerned as to what are they going to do. He pointed out that 40% of jobs in Tenby depend on Tourism directly and indirectly. It was

Resolved that this matter be kept on the agenda.

261. ROAD SIGNS

Councillor Rapi expressed concern about the faded road markings in the multi storey car park and The Green, having experienced confused motorists. Councillor Morgan added that Lower Park Road markings are also faded. It was

Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr G Sutton PCC, in relation to road markings in the multi storey and Mr B Blake PCC about the faded road marking on the Green and Lower Park Road.

262. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Actions and updates from 18th October meeting

The Clerk outlined his actions informing Councillors that at the meeting with the Chamber of Trade and Tourism Mr M Owen promised to continue working

closely with TTC and the Chamber to try and find a way to keep the Five Arches free of street trading and he would be looking at the possible creation of street trading zones and limiting the days of trading. Councillor Evans suggested the Clerk obtains a copy of the letter sent to Mr M Owen from the Chamber of Trade.

Resolved for the Clerk to obtain a copy of the letter sent by Elaine Rowe on behalf of the Chamber of Trade to Mr M Owen PCC in relation to Street Trading, for TTC information and comments.

The Clerk updated Councillors on the outcome of the Town Walls meeting held recently. The weeds will be addressed shortly and any loose stones or pointing needed would be addressed. Cadw felt there was no need for a full structural survey at present. The water flow problem outlined by Councillor Hallett appears to be a guttering problem and the property concerned has been informed. The Civic Society asked about opening of the town wall to allow access by visitors but from a health and safety issue it was suggested that this should only be for a few days a year and supervised as the De Valence steps are adequate as a fire escape but would need addressing for safety if used by the public as a regular access.

Councillor Mrs Brown and Councillor Mrs Thomas both asked if the internal town walls had been reviewed. The Clerk replied that only the exterior of the walls had been looked at.

Resolved that Councillor Evans will seek advice relating to the internal town walls.

No applications have been received for the Council Vacancy.

Councillor M Evans took no part in the planning applications site visit request but remained to advise members on procedure as required.

The Clerk reported that PCNP had telephoned to discuss the Planning Application NP/11/382 TTC had proposed for consideration of a site meeting. Discussion on the application took place, Councillor Mrs Evans proposed to continue with requesting a site visit, as it would change the character of the area, no one seconded the proposal, it was

Resolved that TTC would not be requesting a site meeting and would support PCNPAs decision on the application.

PCC Housing Department representative Ms L Hambidge will be willing to attend a TTC meeting in the New Year as commitments on both sides prevent an earlier visit. It was

Resolved for the Clerk to arrange this meeting for the first available date in January 2012. Members were requested to submit questions to the Clerk so Ms Hambidge would have an idea of the type of things to be covered.

b. Arrangements for Armistice Day

The Clerk outlined arrangements for the Armistice Parade. Apologies given in advance by Councillor Mrs Brown and Councillor Morgan.

c. Voices of Pembroke – Invitation

The Clerk informed Councillor he had 2 tickets for Voices of Pembroke Concert if any Councillors are able to attend.

d. PAVS – Pembrokeshire Funding Fair, 15th November

Councillor Blackhall expressed an interest to attend, Councillor Mrs Brown and the Clerk will also attend. It was

Resolved that Councillor Blackhall, Councillor Mrs Brown and the Clerk to attend the Funding Fair.

The Clerk had received an invitation from Girl Guider Bethan Rogers to the presentation on her recent visit to Russia. Due to all Councillors being at TTC meeting it was

Resolved that a letter of apology be sent to Bethan Rogers.

The Clerk outlined a letter received about a pilgrimage visiting all Cadw sites on 7th July in west Wales. The information is in the office if any Councillors are interested.

The Clerk explained he had received an e-mail from a Belgian Historian who is working on a book about the Belgian Forces based in Tenby, May 1940 – July 1941. He requires any information about the general public's involvement from any locals. It was

Resolved that the e-mail be forwarded to the Tenby Observer.

263. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 15th November 2011 at 7.30pm. Mr Simon Pearson, Community Safety Manager, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service will be in attendance.

264. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None noted.

265. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans.

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.

266. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council Meeting held 18th October 2011 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

267. MATTERS ARISING

245 – De Valence

Concern was expressed about the accountability of Councillors having proposed a 6 month's interest free loan of £5000. It was felt that the Code of Conduct may have been breached. The Clerk read the information received from Mr L Harding PCC to clarify the situation. Further discussion took place with those Councillors feeling they acted in good faith based on the information given by Mr Harding.

It was discussed that TENs can be applied for certain events held in the De Valence. The Clerk to liaise with PCC licensing department and the hirer when appropriate for charity events. The building is limited to 12 TENs events per year.

Rotary have proposed Mr Fry as a representative on the Tenby De Valence Trust. Discussion took place and it was

Resolved that the Trust be advised to publicise their next meeting and invite all interested representatives along.

268. STAFFING

Employee 11 was coming to the end of their six month contract. The Clerk recommended that, due to no changes in workload in the office and the possible increase of workload due to the Council now providing secretariat services to the Trust that this contract be extended for a further 12 months.

Cllr. Blackhall wondered if this now meant that the employee would be considered as a fulltime employee.

Cllr. Evans felt that this needed clarification but employment law changes had altered workers rights and there was nothing wrong in issuing a 12 month contract. The position could be reconsidered again a month before the contract period ended.

Proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Cllr, Mrs. Brown and

Resolved that Employee 11's contract be extended for a further 12 months.

Cllr. Mrs Evans suggested the Clerk look into the availability of courses that could further develop Employee 11's skills.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____