

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20th January 2015

PRESENT

Councillor P Rapi	Deputy Mayor
Councillor Mrs Thomas	
Councillor Mrs Durham	
Councillor Mrs Rossiter	
Councillor W Rossiter	
Councillor Dr P Easy	
Councillor Mrs Brown	
Councillor T Hallett	
Councillor H Johns	
Councillor Mrs Putwain	
Councillor M Evans	

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

The Clerk reported the Mayor was away on holiday and asked Councillors to propose someone to chair the meeting.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed Deputy Mayor Councillor Rapi take the chair, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that Deputy Mayor Councillor Rapi chair TTC meeting.

323. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Lane and Councillor Blackhall.

324. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None noted at this time.

325. ITEMS TO PRESS

The Clerk reported he had sent Councillors an e-mail outlining an additional planning application NP/15/0019 and a Tree Works TP04 (G23), which needed to be responded to before the next scheduled meeting. Councillor Hallett proposed to accept the additional planning application NP/15/0019 and the Tree Works TP04 (G23), seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present with the additional planning application NP/15/0019 and the Tree Works TP04 (G23).

326. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 6th January 2015 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

327. MATTERS ARISING

Carten Event May 2015

The Clerk reported he had been copied into the e-mail from the Carten organisers requesting a meeting with Mr M Owen, PCC. No date has been arranged for this meeting as yet; however the Carten Committee have added Withybush Cancer Day Centre and H.O.P.E as additional beneficiary charities from the event this year.

231 – (183) – Tenby Town Walls

Councillor Hallett reported the Town Wall Survey is now in TTC office and available for Councillors to review.

273a – PCNPA Update on Local Development Plan Land Allocation

Councillor Hallett asked if any further information had been received from the Old Cottage Hospital Site owner. The Clerk reaffirmed that the owner is willing to meet with TTC; however he currently is processing a proposal to PCNPA at present and therefore he would like to await the outcome before commencing alternative discussions.

314 – ‘A’ Frames

Councillor W Rossiter asked if any response had been received from Mr M Owen, PCC in relation to ‘A’ Frames. The Clerk reported no communication has been received as yet.

315 – Tenby Cobbles`

The Clerk informed Councillors Mr Darren Thomas PCC has agreed to assess the cobbles around town, following concerns expressed by TTC and County Councillor M Williams.

328. PLANNING APPLICATION

a.NP/15/0019 – Mr Jason Rossiter, Glanrhyd, 2 Culver Park, Tenby – Demolition of existing unsafe 2 storey extension and construction of new 2 storey extension, Glanrhyd, 2 Culver Park, Tenby.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter and Councillor M Evans declared an interest on this item and left the chamber.

Councillors viewed and discussed the planning application. Councillor Hallett proposed approval as the application will remove an existing unsafe structure and the replacement will improve the

amenity of the property; whilst causing no adverse effect on neighbouring properties, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

RECOMMEND

Approval as the application will remove an existing unsafe structure and the replacement will improve the amenity of the property whilst causing no adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter and Councillor Evans rejoined the meeting.

329. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. Tree works – TP04 (G23) within church grounds, St. Mary’s Church, Tenby

Councillor Hallett outlined the proposed works stating they were clearing the branches overhanging pathways to a height of up to two metres to enable the public to walk easily underneath.

Councillors discussed the work to be carried out before Councillor Hallett proposed no objection to the tree works as it was required on health and safety grounds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that TTC had no objection to the tree works as it was required on health and safety grounds.

330. CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCC – Prohibition of Horse Drawn Carriages – Tenby Walled Town

The Clerk outlined that Mr B Blake had asked for TTC comments on the questionnaire relating to the prohibition of horse drawn carriages within Tenby Town Walls.

Councillor Mrs Putwain felt the questionnaire was very sensible; however she asked if a suggestion could be added to suggest PCC request a sketch or photograph of the proposed carriage and livery. Councillors reviewed the questionnaire and documentation.

Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed TTC agree with the sensible proposal with the additional suggestion that applicants submit a sketch or photograph of the carriage and livery, seconded by Councillor Dr Easy.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr Ben Blake in support of the sensible proposal for the horse drawn carriage within the Town Walls, with consideration to be given to the suggestion to request that applicants submit a sketch or photograph of their carriage and livery.

b. PCC – Tenby Pedestrianisation

Councillor Mrs Thomas outlined that PCC appear to be requesting that TTC consider the four points noted in the final paragraph of the document.

Councillor Evans said he is scheduled to meet with Mr Darren Thomas, PCC and Cabinet member Mr R Lewis next week to discuss various town matters including pedestrianisation issues. However he strongly felt everyone should be aware of the Barnet Council court case which ruled that residents' parking permit revenue raised in one area of Barnet could not be used on traffic related projects elsewhere in Barnet. Therefore revenue generated from Tenby parking should be spent in Tenby and not used to subsidise parking elsewhere in Pembrokeshire.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter said that PCC had never responded to TTC's request for documentation stating where the revenue from residents parking permits and parking fines is spent.

Councillor Evans proposed TTC write to Mr I Westley, PCC and request details of income generated from residential parking permits and where the money is spent, specifically what percentage is allocated for Tenby projects, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr I Westley, PCC and request details of income generated from residential parking permits and where the money is spent, specifically what percentage is allocated for Tenby projects.

He felt at no time should the proposed trial extension to pedestrianisation impact on residents and businesses. An idea would be for the additional financial manpower costs during the trial extension to pedestrianisation be covered from the parking permit revenue.

In addition Councillor Evans highlighted the viability of the Tenby Park and Ride scheme this summer due to proposed funding support cuts. He questioned whether a commercial company would be able to finance the service without additional funding support.

He felt Tenby should be focussing on what is positive for town regeneration and pedestrianisation is an example of positivity.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter explained she attended the recent pedestrianisation meeting and she felt the present scheme and duration was working. Therefore an extension of the operational times to 5.30 pm was neither here nor there; half an hour extra would make no difference. In relation to extending the duration it is long enough now and extending the weeks would be too much for locals and businesses.

Councillor Mrs Putwain agreed with Councillor Mrs Rossiter and felt it would be madness to contemplate extending pedestrianisation in light of the possibility of the park and ride service being withdrawn. During October half term the town was extremely busy with visitors so she felt pedestrianisation was not always the reason for increased footfall within the town.

Councillor Evans felt PCC should be writing to Tenby Chamber of Trade, other consultees and residents to gain their own feedback on local feelings towards pedestrianisation. He personally would be asking officers what form of consultation PCC have actually undertaken in relation to a trial extension for pedestrianisation.

Councillor Evans and the Clerk both outlined details that PCNPA Committee would be recommending refusal of the Five Arches Car Park planning application following the 30 day cooling off period. Reasons for PCC and PCNPA refusal were discussed with TTC amazed and alarmed at the conflicting responses from both authorities and the dated information. The car park is a valuable resource used all year round for residents that live or work in the vicinity as well as visitors to the town and TTC fully supported the planning application. It was

Resolved that the Clerk respond by e-mail asap to Mrs J Gibson PCNPA to reiterate TTC reasons for support for the application prior to the scheduled meeting for Wednesday 21st January 2015. A copy of the e-mail to be forwarded to County Councillor M Williams for information.

Councillor Evans added that if PCC and PCNPA refuse this car park they will be encouraging an increase in the number of vehicles driving around looking for car spaces, causing frustration when none can be found; resulting in them leaving Tenby and driving to a neighbouring seaside town or beach.

Councillor Rapi asked Councillors for a proposal in relation to the concerns expressed about the park and ride scheme.

Councillor Evans proposed TTC write to Mr I Westley PCC and Mr T Jones PCNPA to request a meeting to discuss the Council's views on the devastation that will occur if the park and ride scheme funding is withdrawn. He felt that TTC should specifically highlight that the scheme is vital for the town's economy and removal will have a devastating effect on tourism, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr I Westley and Mr T Jones PCNPA to request a meeting to discuss the Council's views on the devastation that will occur if the park and ride scheme funding is withdrawn, highlighting that the parking scheme is vital for the town's economy and removal will have a detrimental effect on tourism.

Councillors felt before making a TTC proposal or decision on pedestrianisation, they would prefer to await further information from County Councillor Evans on matters relating to pedestrianisation following his meeting at County Hall. Therefore it was

Resolved that TTC await further information from County Councillor Evans in relation to pedestrianisation and discuss the matter again in two weeks at the next full Council meeting.

c. PLANED – Destination Pembrokeshire Conference

Councillor Evans outlined the proposed agenda and timing for the Destination Pembrokeshire Conference. It was

Resolved that the Clerk would confirm the agenda details and timings for the Destination Pembrokeshire Conference and inform all Councillors by e-mail.

d. Mr Beor-Roberts – Five Arches car park

Councillors discussed the information and in light of the scheduled PCNPA committee meeting on the car park. It was

Resolved that the information be noted.

e. Streetcare, PCC – Street Trading request

Councillor Mrs Durham asked how many times does TTC need to inform PCC that they request no more street trading licenses to be issued.

Councillor Evans reported that he was aware Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism are planning to schedule approximately fourteen dates for Street Markets, and if this applicant meets the criteria for selling local produce he would be more than welcome to hire a stall. It was

Resolved that TTC write to Mr M Owen, PCC and reiterate that TTC do not wish for any more street trading licences to be issued. However the applicant could be informed of forthcoming street market dates that he may wish to attend, if he meets the local produce criteria.

f. PCC – Community engagement event, 10th February 2015

The Clerk reported that the community engagement event is an open invitation for town residents to attend, to meet and hear information relating to Pembrokeshire County Council. It would be an opportunity to meet the new interim head of service who will be in attendance.

Councillor Evans said PCC are promoting a more open and transparent approach. However it is an opportunity to voice any concerns relating to the proposed financial cuts as non statutory services will slowly be diminishing.

331. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None noted.

332. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Mrs Brown reported on the BBC news item noting that Mr L Andrews, Assembly Minister would be looking into reducing Council Senior Officers salaries and requested the

figures local authorities spend on senior management's car leasing contracts, specifically highlighting that PCC past Chief Executive appears to have been allocated a Porsche as his preferred lease car. She felt that reducing the salaries would be a cost saving exercise and this money could be allocated to fill some of the shortfall incurred to prevent local services being reduced.

Councillor Rapi reported that in Camping and Caravanning Magazine there is a full colour spread of Tenby Castle Beach. Councillor Evans added that Tenby Castle Beach had successfully regained its Blue Flag status.

333. WIFI/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Councillor Rapi reported that he felt disheartened that he was not permitted to use his electronic tablet device at the last TTC meeting. He felt receiving his agenda electronically saved TTC photocopying, paper and postage costs. He asked if Councillors really objected to TTC moving forward into the twenty-first century with electronic technology.

Councillor Mrs Brown personally felt she did not object to others using electronic devices but she would find it difficult to use and would prefer to keep her paper hard copy.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter agreed with Councillor Mrs Brown and requested to receive a paper copy agenda.

Councillor Mrs Putwain reported that an MP had been caught playing an internet game on his tablet device in the House of Commons and it would be a distraction if a message came through, human nature would mean the person would want to read it. In light of these details she would prefer paper copies and not the use of electronic devices.

Councillor Rapi responded by informing Councillors that TTC has no internet coverage within the Mayor's Parlour so no internet distractions would be possible. He proposed Tenby Town Councillors be granted permission to use electronic devices at TTC meeting if they had the relevant devices and wished to use them, seconded by Councillor Dr Easy.

Resolved that Tenby Town Councillors be granted permission to use electronic devices at TTC meetings if they had the relevant devices and wished to use them.

Councillor Mrs Thomas requested if training could be given to those Councillors requesting to use their electronic devices. Councillor Evans reported that assistance was available if Councillors needed.

The Clerk requested that any Councillor wishing to receive Agenda information electronically could inform TTC office staff at their earliest convenience.

334. NARBERTH ROAD

Councillor Rapi and Councillor Johns both expressed their continued concern for safety of children crossing the Narberth road at peak times. Councillor Evans asked if the Clerk had forwarded the correspondence on the same subject between Tenby Civic Society and Mr D Thomas, Highways Officer, PCC.

The Clerk reported that he had copies of all correspondence and précised the information for Councillors. He was aware a Highways Engineer is working on monitoring and reviewing the Narberth Road junction. During a half hour morning period the PCC engineer noted 400 traffic movements in the area mentioned. Several options have been discussed including a roundabout; however some ideas have been ruled out for specific reasons. Councillor Mrs Thomas asked if both County Councillors were aware of the concerns relating to Narberth Road. The Clerk reported both County Councillors have been copied into all correspondence.

Councillor Evans said he was aware of the correspondence and personally felt there was a simple solution, on the lines of the Controlled Crossing by Kiln Park, Penally. These traffic lights remain green until the crossing is activated by pressing the button like a pelican crossing.

Councillors discussed all the possible options for the junction in detail, discussing the ideas from vehicle and pedestrian angles.

Councillor Evans proposed TTC write to Mr I Westley PCC and request consideration for a controlled crossing in the vicinity of the present island crossing on Narberth Road, Tenby, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr I Westley PCC and request consideration for a controlled crossing in the vicinity of the present island crossing on Narberth Road, Tenby,

335. SOUTH BEACH BIN

Councillor Johns reported that a waste bin is desperately needed on Tenby South Beach at the bottom of the zigzag walkway. He first noted and reported his concern in October, that dog owners were piling bags of dog excrement where the bin used to be sited. Sadly the problem has continually occurred every week, and now it has become an issue that desperately needs solving.

Councillor Mrs Brown said it is not the fact of just putting a bin in situ, it is that there is no beach cleaning service during the winter and therefore it would not be emptied.

Councillor Evans reported beach cleaning throughout Pembrokeshire ceased for the winter period on 30th September 2014. He personally felt there should be some flexibility on beach cleaning cessation dates as October half term was warm and many tourists came for the week, proving that beach cleaning was needed. He continued explaining that TTC needs to write to Mr I Westley

and explain the problems that are occurring due to the cessation of the beach cleaning service during the winter months when people still visit beaches.

Councillors reported that members of the general public are taking ownership of the certain areas where they live. A local couple are clearing Harbour Beach and a businessman is clearing Castle Beach.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported that there are bins in South Beach Car Park and at the top of the zigzag walkway; however people would like a bin at the base of the walkway.

Councillor Hallett asked if beach cleaning for twelve months of the year was a stipulation to retain the Blue Flag Beach award.

Councillors Evans said littering is not acceptable and leaving these bags of excrement is littering by dog owners. He proposed TTC write to PCC and request consideration for a bin to be placed at the bottom of the zigzag walkway and emptied by the PCC worker who is emptying the bin in South Beach Car Park, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that TTC write to PCC and request consideration for a bin at the bottom of the zigzag walkway, and if it could be emptied by the PCC worker who is emptying the bin on South Beach Car Park.

336. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Tenby Library

The Clerk reported that following the consultation on library opening hours PCC Cabinet had passed a revised scheme of opening. The proposed amended opening hours for Tenby are:

Monday 10am-5pm

Tuesday 10am-6pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10am-5pm

Friday 10am-5pm

Saturday 10am-12.30pm

b. Road Closure White Lion Street, Tenby

The Clerk reported a recently postponed road closure would now be taking place in White Lion Street on Monday 26th January 2015 for the whole day.

c. Heywood Court

The Clerk reported carriageway resurfacing work will take place from 17th February 2015 for a proposed duration of seven days.

d. Pathway from Park House Nursing Home to Bells Corner

The Clerk outlined for Councillors information only that PCC will be commencing work on a five week project to create a pathway from Park House Nursing Home to Bells Corner, commencing on Monday 26th January 2015.

337. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 7.30pm.

338. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

White Lion Junction/the Norton/High Street - Councillor Mrs Rossiter

Trial Period Pedestrianisation – Cllr. Rapi

PCNPA - LDP Progress Report/Development - Councillor Evans

We are watching you eyes - Councillor Evans/ Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

339. 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.

340. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 6th January 2015 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

341. MATTERS ARISING

301 - Dog Fouling

Councillor Evans reported that there is more dog excrement around Tenby than ever, and noted there are no tourists visiting at this time. The Clerk added that several complaints had been received in relation to the TTC decision to remove the dog waste bag dispensers.

Councillor Evans proposed TTC office displays a sign stating Dog Waste Bags are available to be purchased from TTC office, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that TTC display a sign stating Dog Waste Bags are available to be purchased from TTC office.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____