

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20th September 2011

PRESENT

Councillor T Hallett Mayor
Councillor Mrs Evans
Councillor P Rapi
Councillor Mrs Thomas
Councillor Mrs Brown
Councillor Mrs Putwain
Councillor Mrs Williams
Councillor M Evans

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ALSO PRESENT

Inspector K Griffiths
Councillor David Neale
Mr S Bines

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Griffiths to the Council meeting. The Inspector was accompanied by Councillor David Neale who was also welcomed. Insp. Griffiths gave an update following on from PC Lewis' report at the last meeting. An incident occurred last weekend in George Street resulted in 2 people being arrested and bailed; two further people have been arrested relating to this incident.

An overview of the section was given as follows: 477 recorded crimes occurred, compared to 529 recorded last year over the same period, during August the figures were on a par with last year. At present the focus is on anti social behaviour and complaints related to noise issues in specific local areas, these being: DJ's Penally; The Sands Saunderfoot and Deer Park Taxi Area Tenby.

The police have increased patrols of these areas when patrons are vacating the premises to try and reduce the noise levels by their presence.

Reassurance was given by Inspector Griffiths in light of all the news coverage of cuts in the police force, she has been assured there are no PC or PCSO cuts happening but senior ranks of Inspectors/Sergeants are being reviewed and there may be some movement in Pembrokeshire at this level, if this affects Tenby she will inform TTC as soon as she is able.

On a positive note relating to staffing, more funding for extra PCSO in the area is under discussion, more information will follow as and when available. Two Criminal Investigation Department Officers will be based in Tenby again from next week, which will only enhance the service locally.

Councillor Mrs Williams expressed praise of how caring and positive the police handling came across on the recent 24/7 programme.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked whether PCSO Idwal David would be returning to Tenby, the Inspector confirmed he would be returning in January 2012, PCSO Mandy Goodland who has been unwell has returned on light station duties and at present to maintain the level of community policing attempts are being made to second a Crymch PSCO to Tenby.

The Mayor thanked the Inspector for her update and for making the town a safer place to be. Both the Inspector and Councillor Neale left the Chamber.

The Mayor then thanked Mr S Bines for waiting and invited him to give his presentation. After handing out OJO Entertainment De Valence Update Proposal booklets (copy attached to the main minutes). Mr Bines gave a brief outline of the key points from the previous meetings held with Tenby Town Council and the Proposed De Valence Trust Committee. He proceeded to discuss how the structure could be operated taking into consideration all the worries and concerns expressed by the council. The proposal would be phased in 3 stages.

Phase1 – Refurbish the Lounge/Café/Bar

The main Bar

Focus on summer bookings

Phase2 – Upgrade production in main hall

Main Hall facelift

Re launch venue

Phase 3 – Main Hall full refurbish

All work would be carried out as profit is generated, reinvesting the profit in the venue so no extra outlay from the Council would be sought. Discussion took place relating to sound proofing of the front of the café and this would be addressed along with discussion over any planning issues that would need to be considered.

Councillor Rapi asked if a time scale of the phases was known, Mr Bines said it would depend on generation of revenue. Councillor Mrs Evans felt Mr Bines should be aware that two cafes have failed in the past, he was aware and felt he has the drive, vision and passion to try having seen the accounts for 2008/9, he is confident he would generate profit. Mr Bines felt the Councils nervousness and feels the only way forward is to remove the risk factor from the Town Council.

Discussion took place relating to Rate Relief when Tenby Town Council lease the building to the De Valence Trust, the Clerk outlined the information available at present and would be seeking further clarification in due course.

Councillor Mrs Evans expressed her feelings that the Town Council would be again paying the trust rent for the offices in a building they already own, asking if a better option may still be available like a separate access into the Mayors Parlour, which could house the Council Office as well. Councillor Mrs Thomas thanked Mr Bines for a very professional presentation. Councillor Mrs Brown explained Councillor Mrs Lane will be shortly calling a meeting of the proposed De Valence Trust to express their preferred wishes for the way forward; the Town Council will be discussing the options available in due course.

The Mayor thanked Mr S Bines for his presentation and he left the Chamber.

Before the commencement of the main agenda the Mayor asked all Councillors to stand to join him in a minute's silence, in memory of the Miners who died at the Gleision Colliery.

183. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor D Morgan, Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor Mrs Lane and Councillor L Blackhall.

184. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None received.

185. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Putwain, seconded by Councillor Mrs 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.

186. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 6th September 2011 be confirmed and signed as accurate with the following amendment:

168g –Lighting, Castle Hill

Councillor Mrs Putwain explained it was not resolved by Council to forward the photographs of the lighting on Castle Hill to Mr I Westley PCC.

Resolved for this sentence to be removed from the minutes.

187. MATTERS ARISING

154 – Family Play Park

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported that a very positive meeting had taken place last Friday with Ms S Henahan PCC, she explained that TTC has £20,000, PCC also have re commenced a scheme with up to £20,000 available and TTC may be able to precept a further amount in the next financial year. To make up the rest of the money required to provide the play equipment Ms Henahan is researching avenues of funding that may be accessible, information obtained will be reported back at the follow up meeting on September 23. A gathering of the Facebook community has taken place with three Town Councillors able to attend; many fundraising ideas were discussed, with a keenness to commence raising money as soon as possible. Councillor Mrs Thomas had been approached by a member of a local organisation in relation to the play equipment and after discussion it was suggested that if a local group wished to sponsor a piece of equipment this idea could be facilitated. The Clerk explained that to move the process forward it was agreed that a decision on the preferred provider was needed so TTC can work with the provider fine tweaking the concept to obtain final costings, before the next stage of applying for grants. It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans to discuss the three quotes in private all Councillors voted in favour of this move.

Resolved to move discussion on the Family Play Park providers into Private Business.

The clerk informed Councillors that, as TTC has a proven track record of maintaining their portion of the play park, PCC would prefer to lease the remaining park to TTC and not involve a third party. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas to write to Dr Jones to begin the process of Tenby Town Council leasing the whole of the Family Play Park from PCC.

Resolved to write to Dr Jones PCC to commence the process of leasing of the whole Tenby Family Play Park to TTC.

Councillor Mrs Brown apologised to Councillor Mrs Evans explained she was wrong in thinking a Trust or Management Committee needed to be set up for the play park, but as Councillor Mrs Evans had previously stated a Community Group was all that was needed. She continued by saying the group wished to commence a petition, were willing to collate letters of support for the facility and would commence fund raising once the Town Council have secured the lease. Councillors agreed they are happy for the group to go ahead with these plans. Councillor Evans reaffirmed the Clerk's request for Councillors to decide on a play park provider to move the process forward swiftly, he continued by asking if the Local MP and Assembly Member could be informed and invited to the Play Park meetings from the start as they have a tremendous amount of resources and knowledge to help fast track the project forward.

Resolved for the Clerk to invite the local MP Mr S Hart and AMs Mrs A Burns and Mrs. J. Watson to a Family Play Park meeting to request their support and assistance in any way.

168a – Tenby Harbour Seagulls

Councillor M Evans and the Clerk met with Mr Glenville Codd PCC to discuss the concerns related to the rubbish bins on the harbour. Mr Codd had found one lid and replaced it, he was also aware of the second bin lid's whereabouts so would ensure its return and allocate a third bin with a lid, this should then deter the seagulls.

168d - Traffic management along Heywood Lane and Narberth Road

The Clerk distributed an e-mail he received today from Mr Darren Thomas outlining the action plan PCC have for the traffic management of Heywood Lane and Narberth Road. Councillor Evans suggested that the council await the collation of the strip monitoring survey and then follow up the situation for further information.

Resolved to await the strip monitoring results and then request follow up information from Mr Darren Thomas PCC.

168f - Tenby Civic Society – Town Walls

The Clerk informed Councillors that Ms Melissa Howells was no longer the link between Cadw and PCC so Mr P Nicholas PCC had been contacted. No reply had been received as yet. So it was

Resolved for the Clerk to write again with Tenby Town Council concerns and copy the letter to County Councillor M Evans.

168g - PCC – Street lighting , Castle Hill

The Clerk reported he had received no reply to his e-mail relating to the lighting on Castle Hill. Councillor Mrs Putwain said she was happy to e-mail the photographs to the Clerk to forward them to Mr I Westley at PCC and await a reply.

Resolved for the Clerk to forward Councillor Mrs Putwain’s photographs of the lighting on Castle Hill to Pembrokeshire County Council.

171 – De Valence

The Clerk reported he had spoken verbally to Mr R Spencely of Silent World who explained they no longer were interested in leasing the De Valence Building as their backer preferred an alternative local site that did not present the logistical problems related to sea water. The Clerk had requested written confirmation of the conversation but unfortunately nothing has arrived to date

188. 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/11/357 – Mr and Mrs Richard Lindsay, Lynguard, Greenhill Road, Tenby – Two storey extension of dwelling into existing adjoining barn/redundant stables, Lynguard, Greenhill Road, Tenby.

All Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application, proposed approval by Councillor Rapi, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans.

RECOMMEND

Approval

b.NP/11/351 – Mr Alan Jenkins, British Telecom, PP8B Swansea TE, The Strand, Swansea – Remove glazed panels, install four pressed metal louvers instead at Telephone Exchange, The Norton, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application, proposed approval by Councillor Mrs Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

RECOMMEND

Approval

189. CORRESPONDENCE

a.Mrs Maureen Griffiths – Dangerous road surface (copy of letter sent to PCC)

Councillor Mrs Thomas felt that the cobbled streets need to be reviewed to make them safer. There are many pitted areas and puddles are forming where they have sunk. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain to write to PCC and ask for an assessment and plan to make the cobbled streets safer.

Resolved to write to PCC to review and assess the safety of all the cobbled streets.

b.Chamber of Trade and Tourism July minutes

Councillor Mrs Brown asked Councillors if they are happy to be involved in the Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations that will be arranged, joining with the Chamber of Trade. Councillor Mrs Evans proposed that the 5th June 2012 would be a fitting date to officially open the Family Play Park, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

It was resolved to aim to hold the official Family Play Park opening on 5th June 2012.

Councillor Mrs Brown also asked if the members on the Christmas festivities committee were happy to be involved this year. Councillor Mrs Williams wished to be put forward to help.

Councillor Mrs Putwain requested if anyone knew the whereabouts of the Millennium Beacon, as the sea cadets had made enquires. The Mayor said he had seen it in the rough ground at the New Cemetery but was unsure if it was still there. The Clerk also confirmed it was last seen in the Cemetery. It was

Resolved for the Mayor to check the Cemetery area for the Millennium Beacon and report back at the next meeting, its position and accessibility to be moved.

c.PCC (via e-mail) – Dog ban signage

Discussion took place on the information received, it was also requested by Councillor Evans that the Council continue to monitor the beaches regularly to ensure we maintain the blue flag status. It was

Resolved to note and monitor the dog ban signage.

d.Mr Blake Shaw, Tenby Sailing Club – Tenby harbour events (copy of letter sent to Councillor Mike Evans)

Discussion took place and Councillor Evans explained he had already forwarded this letter to Mr N Henstridge PCC and Mr G Kingston at PCC.

Resolved to note the letter.

e.PCC (via e-mail) – Garden waste collections

Councillor Evans wished to thank Mr Watkins for such an informative letter and proposed to invite Mr Paul Watkins to a Council meeting at his convenience to show the alternative green waste disposal receptacles available and discuss the available options further, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved to ask Mr Paul Watkins PCC to attend a Tenby Town Council Meeting at his convenience to show examples of the alternative green waste disposal receptacles available.

f.Tenby Civic Society – Various matters for consideration

Councillor Evans and the Clerk explained they actually spoke about Brother Thomas Gardens at their recent meeting with Mr G Codd PCC. The Garden is tired in appearance and needs some tender loving care. Councillor Evans had discussed with several local people and Cafe Vista were happy to lock and unlock the garden on a regular basis, he also felt after discussing and hearing the history behind Brother Thomas an interpretation panel situated in the garden would be a lovely gesture and perhaps the Civic Society would like to arrange this, with funding provided by TTC. It was suggested that the Tenby in Bloom Committee also be forwarded the letter for consideration.

Resolved for the Clerk to send the Tenby in Bloom Committee a copy of the letter and ask if they would be willing to include the areas in their plans

The area by the Lifeboat station owned by Dwr Cymru was discussed and it was agreed this could be made into a garden but Councillor Mrs Putwain said the gate would need unlocking first and so proposed we write and ask Dwr Cymru for access first, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved to write to seek permission from Dwr Cymru to gain access into this area via the locked gate to create a garden.

Resolved to write to Tenby Civic Society thanking them for their suggestions, also asking if they would be willing to collate the information for the interpretation board in Brother Thomas Garden.

Councillor M Evans left the Chamber.

190. DE VALENCE

a.Hire fees

Councillor Mrs Evans suggested that clarification and setting of Charity Rate Hires would be a great help to the Council Office when enquiries are made. Discussion took place on various amounts before it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Evans to charge a reduced Charity Hire Rate of £200, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

The Clerk asked Councillors if the De Valence was still going to be let by the Town Council in 2012 as he was starting to have hire requests for dates in the New Year, or were they going to make a decision on the Option proposed by Mr S Bines this evening. Councillors felt they needed more information on the legalities concerning a lease of the building and also clarification relating to Rate Relief. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Putwain, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans for the Clerk to seek advice and clarification on leasing legalities and rate relief.

Resolved for the Clerk to prepare a report after seeking advice and clarification on rate relief and leasing legalities. Also to clarify his position with Mr L Harding PCC in relation to a possible conflict of interests by being both the Town Clerk and De Valence Trust secretary.

191. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None.

192. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Mrs Brown expressed how well the Ironman event was organised and facilitated by Activity Wales team and thanked them for bringing this fantastic event to our town, she looked forward to next year. Councillor Mrs Putwain said she had no strong views either way but it was not all an unmitigated success as a number of carers had difficulties getting to their clients/patients and some businesses had reduced revenue on the day. Councillor Mrs Williams, a marshal herself, felt that all people were accommodated and allowed to pass through where possible and over all it brought the community together. The Mayor added his congratulations to all the local competitors and will be inviting them all personally to his quarterly function, he also thanked Activity Wales for inviting him to meet and greet competitors from all over the world.

The Mayor also said he had the pleasure to meet Rebecca Soni an American Olympic Gold Medallist who was visiting to promote Tenby to all the athletes in America.

193. FAMILY PLAY PARK

Discussed earlier.

194. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Actions and updates from 6th September 2011

Councillors read the update and thanked the Clerk for the update.

195. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 4th October 2011 at 7.30pm.

Apologies received in advance from Councillor Mrs Brown.

196. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None received for the next meeting but two items received for the 18th October 2011 – Royal Gate House Development and PCC Housing Officer both items requested from Councillor Mrs Brown.

197. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Evans, 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.

198. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council Meeting held 6th September 2011 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

199. MATTERS ARISING

181 – Purchase of Accounts Software

The Clerk informed Councillors the accounts software is on order, but as they are bringing out an updated version this month, he will delay delivery to coincide with the updated version.

200. DE VALENCE

182 – De Valence Security Lighting

The Clerk explained that unfortunately during replacement of the 3 faulty emergency light fittings it was discovered that others have also failed. Two more were on order and once these have been fitted the system will be fully functioning.

201. FAMILY PLAY PARK

The Clerk outlined the three Play Park Provider concept drawings and costings:

SMP £100,000
Lapset £ 77,300
Urban Recreation £ 84,228

The Clerk pointed out that the Lapset quote did not include groundworks. Discussion took place between all Councillors relating to all providers it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans to select Urban Recreation.

Resolved for Urban Recreation to be informed that they are the chosen provider, inviting them to attend a Family Play Park meeting in due course to fine tweak the design before grant applications are submitted. Also to inform and thank the other two companies for their input.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____