

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 22nd January 2013

PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Mr A Armour	Tenby Development Trust
Mr P Bromby	Tenby Development Trust
Ms L Jones	Tenby Development Trust
Ms B Powell	Tenby Development Trust
Mrs J Merrony	Tenby Development Trust
Mr N Gordon	Tenby Development Trust
Mr J Bowen-Rees	Tenby Development Trust
Mr T Wales	Community Health Council

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L Hensman Assistant Clerk

The Mayor welcomed all members of Tenby Development Trust asking if they would introduce themselves prior to delivering their presentation.

Tenby Development Trust Members provided a brief background individually to their present and past employment status. Mr Armour proceeded to deliver a presentation on the project they have developed in partnership with Cardiff Metropolitan University.

The aim is to develop a Tenby 5- Star Hotel School, creating a beacon of excellence for the hospitality industry. The Honours Degree Course in Hotel Management will be run in a local Tenby Hotel, combining practical and theoretical training, condensed into an intensive two year period that would normally take three years. To enable the condensing of the course normal student holiday patterns will be altered to provide an all year round course, therefore giving continuity of learning and experience across the seasons. It is envisaged to commence the first course in September 2015.

Information relating to a similar facility already functioning in Essex was given highlighting its significant achievements and success and noting it has already increased its student capacity.

An internal feasibility study has been carried out and it is planned to have the premises partnership with The Fourcroft Hotel in Tenby. Professor Jones from Cardiff Metropolitan University has designed the course and Pembrokeshire College are very keen on the new initiative. Liaison and discussion has taken place with Pembrokeshire College, who hopefully will be able to direct students to this course.

Presently they provide NVQ Level 2 and 3, students will be able to apply for this course and remain local to Pembrokeshire.

The Tenby Hotel School will be the first for Wales and create a university town, commencing with 30 students every 8 months providing approximately 90 students potentially from British and International backgrounds when fully functioning. The venture will be running all year, student accommodation will be required, their families will visit and customers to the high class hotel and restaurant facility will attract a potential increase of visitors to Tenby. Although the students will be managing the guests from check in to check out they will have professional practitioners overseeing their work. It is estimated that 30-40 staff will be employed in the venture; however accurate figures will follow from the feasibility study. Additional courses to upgrade skills of present local employees may be developed in the future.

The project is an exciting prospect already receiving positive exciting responses with commitment to move the project forward; however plenty of work is still ahead.

The next step in the process is to launch the project publically followed by a feasibility study funded by Pembrokeshire County Council, to enable the development of a business management team to steer the project, create a business plan and validating business models.

A question and answers session followed, clarifying the pupil staff ratio would be high, however Tutor numbers and confirmation of lecture venues has not been fully decided. The course structure and feasibility study will cover all aspects of the project.

The high class restaurant would be providing fine dining all year round and this alone would create an interest similar to high class chef restaurants in places like Padstow, raising the appeal of the whole community.

Councillors expressed how pleased and excited they feel for the prospects of this project. They could see many advantages for the whole local community, enhancing Tenby as they feel it a beautiful setting and a perfect opportunity to promote the area to tourists.

Standards would inevitably be raised across the board and it was hoped the long term goal would be for qualified student to remain in the Pembrokeshire area developing their own businesses and working within present facilities.

The Mayor expressed his own excitement for this project along with positive feedback given by Councillors present; he wished every success for the next step in the process before the Development Trust Members left the chamber.

The Mayor welcomed Mr Tony Wales CHC who attended TTC meeting to provide an update of developments following the Hywel Dda Health Board consultation report.

Mr Wales gave a brief overview for Councillors not present at the recent meeting held on Monday 21st January between County, Town and Community Councillors. At this meeting an action plan was devised for all Councils within South East Pembrokeshire to discuss and consider their intended course of action. The plan contained the following:

- 1) Mayor of Tenby to arrange a protest in support of the MIU, inviting South East Pembrokeshire residents to attend. This is to be held Saturday 29th January between 12 – 1pm outside the Tenby MIU.

- 2) Town and Community Councils to call an urgent meeting to discuss and action the plan.
- 3) Each Community Council to launch a specific Welsh Assembly petition worded to their community needs. Examples and contact details will be sent by e-mail to Community Council Clerks.
- 4) Individual Community Council letters to be sent to the 'Community Health Council' (CHC), requesting they launch a power of referral to the Health Minister for Wales, against the decision of Hywel Dda health board to close Tenby MIU.
- 5) Individual letters from each town and community council to Lesley Griffiths AM, Health Minister for Wales asking her to call in the decision.
- 6) Tenby Town Council to make a Freedom of Information request to the Local Health Board asking which postcodes were used for the closed consultation documents and clarification as to the numbers sent to and returned from these specific postcodes.
- 7) Write to both local GP practices asking for their opinions and intentions relating to Hywel Dda's proposal for them to take over MIU patients. We shall also request if they can confirm the degree of consultation Hywel Dda has undertaken with the GP practices.

Mr Wales explained that the executives of the CHC had met and a press release would be following the following morning. However he could report it had been clarified that the six weeks post consultation period clock commenced count down on 15th January 2013 following the delivery of the report, so a time scale is now known. He clarified that there are many in depth hoops to jump through for the CHC to be able to launch a power of referral to the Health Minister for Wales, against the decision of Hywel Dda health board to close Tenby MIU. He explained he could not comment prior to the press release scheduled for the following day, however he did explain that the Betsi Cadwaladr CHC had released their press statement already stating they were investigating the underpinning of the health proposals and looking to work with the health board to a satisfactory conclusion, keeping their power of referral in reserve if needed.

Mr Wales expressed at the recent Hywel Dda CHC executive meeting how strong and passionate South East Pembrokeshire locals feel about retaining their MIU and Tenby Cottage health service facilities. Ultimately our CHC aim to achieve a local resolution and will follow whichever course of action they feel is in the best interests of the local people. Letters from the local community councils to CHC will add support and weight to all aspects of review.

Councillors thanked Mr Wales for his honest, positive support and encouragement. While they eagerly await the press release, they intend to follow the proposed demonstration in support of Tenby MIU, planned for Saturday 29th January 2013 and submission of the letters to various bodies outlined in the action plan, as Councillors feel strongly that, although it has been denied they are not closing the MIU for financial reasons, it must be fundamentally the reason. The fact that 40% of residents in the South Ward have no form of transport is a grave concern to many if the unit closes.

Mr Wales left the chamber.

341. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Lane, Councillor P Rapi and the Town Clerk.

342. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor L Blackhall, Councillor T Hallett, Councillor Mrs Brown and Councillor Mrs Putwain declared a personal interest on item 23.

343. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Blackhall, 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.

344. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 8th January 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

345. MATTERS ARISING

324 – New Traffic Order, Tenby.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter asked if any correspondence had been received relating to TTC response to the proposed new traffic order for the Norton, Tenby. Councillor Blackhall asked also for feedback in relation to the St Florence Parade concerns expressed at the same time. The Assistant Clerk reported a letter had been received from Mr J Price confirming the order relating to The Norton, Tenby is an unloading bay only, not a parking bay. He admitted that the wording of the letter may have been misleading. In relation to St Florence Parade, Tenby, at present the County Councillor responsible for the south ward is monitoring the parking situation and reporting back to Mr J Price, Traffic Manager PCC. TTC will be informed following the monitoring process.

Councillor Blackhall felt strongly as even this week concerns have been noted and it requires action.

Resolved that TTC continue to express concern over the parking situation in St. Florence Parade and await a further report from Mr J Price PCC.

346. PLANNING APPLICATION

The Assistant Clerk reported one additional planning application had been received requiring consideration before the next scheduled meeting. Councillor Blackhall proposed to accept the additional planning applications, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

a. NP/12/0363 – Creation of balcony to first floor flat, Flat 2, Homelea, Warren Street, Tenby – amended plans

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Evans proposed approval with reservations as there were insufficient plans available to assess and exclude privacy

intrusion to adjacent properties. He requested clarification of this point by PCNPA Planning Officer, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown

Recommend

Approval with reservations as Councillors felt they had insufficient plans to assess and exclude privacy intrusion to adjacent properties. They request clarification of this point by PCNPA Planning Officer.

b. NP/13/0020 – Mr J Chadwick & Mr T Richardson, 9/10, High Street, Tenby – Illuminated fascia & projection sign.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillors welcome businesses in the town and support continual improvement by individual companies to their premises. Councillor T Hallett proposed refusal as the signage does not comply with Tenby Town Council's policy opposing internally illuminated signage within the Conservation Area, seconded by Councillor W Rossiter.

Refused as the signage does not comply with Tenby Town Council's policy opposing internally illuminated signage within the Conservation Area.

347. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. Rob Scourfield, PCNPA – Conservation Area Grants

Councillor Blackhall reported he was pleased to read the information relating to the Conservation Area Grants Scheme and welcomed any further correspondence on the scheme as and when it becomes available. He proposed a letter is sent to Mr Scourfield PCNPA thanking him for the information, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Mr R Scourfield PCNPA thanking him for the information.

348. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism – December minutes

Councillor W Rossiter asked for further information relating to the beer festival item. The Assistant Clerk outlined that a provisional de Valence booking has been taken to stage a fund raising event in October 2013. Councillor Mrs Brown said it will extend the season events and provide something different for the locals. It was

Resolved to note the minutes and thank Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism for the regular information.

b. Pembrokeshire County Council – Dog Control Orders

Councillor Mrs Rossiter, as a dog owner herself, wished to thank Mr Elliot PCC for the information but expressed amazement that the expert providing the information contained within the document felt one person could handle and clean up after six dogs. The practicality of actually doing this in a controlled and safe manner with six dogs on leads is unrealistic. Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed a letter be sent to PCC requesting clarification naming the

expert providing the research information and stating TTC felt it is not possible for one person to manage and control six dogs safely, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Councillors discussed various incidents that had occurred within the Tenby area relating to controlling of individual dogs and incidents of owners refusing to clean up after their own pets. Statistics relating to the 263 complaints received resulting in only 3 fixed penalties being served is evidence that support to fine and tackle the increasing problem is lacking. It was felt there is nowhere to report incidents with the police station shut. Councillor W Rossiter proposed TTC office be placed on the dog prohibition signage already in situ adjacent to the beaches as the place where incidents of dog owners failing to clean up after their pets can be reported, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Councillor Evans felt Pembrokeshire needed to consider the Blue Flag status we are privileged to hold on several beaches, stating we cannot afford to lose this positive status achieved over many years. Protection of the environment we live in as well as the livelihood of the local businesses needs to be of utmost importance. As we have Civil Enforcement Offices in and around the area on a regular basis, with photographic equipment; he proposed we write to PCC requesting if the enforcement officers could undertake this additional duty, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Councillor A Brown asked if horse manure comes under the same environmental law, due to the increased problem occurring around Kiln Park. Discussion continued relating to Lifeguards on the beaches. While they request dog to be put on leads or challenge dog owners who fail to clean up after their dogs, unfortunately they have no enforcement powers. However they act as a strong deterrent.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr M Elliot PCC thanking him for the information; request confirmation of which expert claims a person can safely manage six dogs and further request clarification if horse manure is classified under Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr I Westley PCC requesting if Enforcement Officers could undertake dog fouling duties in addition to their present role.

c. Mrs Fisher (via e-mail) – Thank You

Councillors felt the fireworks enhanced the New Year Eve Celebrations in Tudor Square, it was

Resolved to note the e-mail.

d. Pembrokeshire County Council – Public Rights of Way

Councillor W Rossiter asked if TTC office had a copy of the Public Rights of Way map. The Mayor reported a recent copy had arrived in the office and was available at all times to be viewed. It was

Resolved that the map be put on display in the vicinity of TTC office.

349. DE VALENCE

a. Hall Hire – Ysgol Greenhill School Sixth Form – Formal Ball

Councillor Mrs Brown having read the hire request from Greenhill sixth form felt this was the essence of the regeneration process for Tenby, keeping events local in the Tenby area. She fully supported and would be happy to run the hire, promoting building of relationships with all ages of the community. Councillor Blackhall felt the charge should be £300 as it is a Community Interest Group and he would be happy to support. Councillor Mrs Brown proposed acceptance of the hire for £300, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that the Greenhill Sixth Form Formal hire is accepted at the charity rate of £300.

350. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None reported.

351. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Evans reported a recent article in the Sunday Times highlighting the top one hundred destinations in the world. It ranked Tenby 54th in the world, featuring a double page spread of Tenby Harbour. He felt local residents should continually be proud of its surroundings and how positive the power of advertising is for our town.

352. GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME

Councillor Evans requested this item be deferred until the next meeting to give him additional time to prepare additional information.

353. TENBY REGENERATION

a. Draft notes of meeting held 17th December for discussion and comment

Councillor Blackhall expressed his thanks to PCC for the draft notes on the Tenby regeneration meeting highlighting how positive the feedback had been from those present. He continued stating TTC should use this opportunity to bring ideas together from every group in the area. Following the presentation from the Tenby Development Trust on the Hotel School that was so exciting we need to build on this positivity. He proposed that TTC write to all local organisations, requesting they discuss their individual ideas to regenerate Tenby and follow up with a meeting in two months to share and collate the information, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that TTC send letters with a copy of the draft notes to all local organisations in the area requesting they discuss and present their ideas at a follow up meeting in two months time.

354. HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD

Councillor Mrs Thomas praised South East Pembrokeshire communities for working together to produce an action plan in support of saving Tenby MIU. She hoped everyone would take time to support the proposed demonstration to be held on Saturday 26th January between 12 -1pm at the MIU site. Radio Pembrokeshire, Western Telegraph and Tenby Observer are all featuring the event. She continued to outline the plan of action noted earlier in the minutes. The fight continues it is our National Health Service.

Following discussion it was

Resolved that TTC send a letter to all local Assembly Members highlighting our cause and requesting their support. An additional letter to be sent to Mrs A Burns AM thanking her for attending the recent meeting and her continued support to save Tenby MIU.

Resolved that TTC submit a Freedom of Information request asking for sight of the financial appraisal undertaken on the proposed closure of Tenby MIU to ascertain the cost savings that will be made if the proposal proceeds.

Councillor Blackhall felt we should be positive in supporting Tenby MIU and write inviting members of Hywel Dda Health Board Management Team to a meeting with TTC, to commence engagement into talks now on how the Tenby Cottage Hospital facility can become the Community Hub for the South East Pembrokeshire area. The building is already established and can be ideally utilised as a Community Hub facility for residents now and in the future.

355. ROYAL GATE HOUSE

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that there are many rumours relating to why the work on the Royal Gate House site has not recommenced following the Christmas break.

The Mayor reported information has been received outlining information relating to PCNPA involvement in the recent pause of site work.

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed TTC write to Mr S Fry requesting an update and explanation for the apparent delay of work on site and the Clerk liaise with PCNPA for an update from a planning perspective, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr S Fry requesting an update and explanation for the apparent delay of work on site and the Clerk liaise with Mr R Scourfield PCNPA for a planning perspective update.

356. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

The Assistant Clerk informed Councillors that Mr Rob Hamer, PCC and Mr Gareth Howell, Capita Symonds have requested a meeting to discuss proposals for St Julian Street and Upper Park Road, Tenby. As it is necessary to discuss these plans as soon as possible a special TTC meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 29th January 2013.

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed a De Valence Committee meeting follow the scheduled meeting on the 29th January 2013, seconded by Councillor Blackhall

Resolved that the next TTC meeting will take place on Tuesday 29th January 2013 at 7.30 pm, followed by a De Valence Committee meeting.

357. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 29th January 2013 at 7.30 pm.

Councillor Mrs Thomas left the chamber.

358. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Tenby Web Site – Councillor W Rossiter.

Tenby Cottage Hospital – Councillor Blackhall.

359. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

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.

360. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 8th January 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

361. MATTERS ARISING

None noted.

362. DE VALENCE

a. Café Hire

Councillors discussed in depth all aspects of the proposed hire relating to the De Valence café area for use by a playgroup. Several issues were highlighted including heating, storage, public conveniences and pre booked existing hires.

Councillor Evans proposed approval in principal subject to the appropriate statutory registration required for use by a playgroup, seconded by Councillor A Brown,

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed refusal of the hire as it does not fit the criteria for use by a playgroup, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

The Mayor held a vote, resulting 5 for 3 against, it was

Resolved that TTC approve the potential hire of the de Valence café in principle subject to the appropriate statutory registration required for use by a playgroup.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____