

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 26th January 2016

PRESENT

Councillor P Rapi
Councillor Mrs. S. Lane
Councillor L. Blackhall
Councillor Mrs. C. Brown
Councillor Dr. P. Easy
Councillor M. Evans
Councillor B. James
Councillor Mrs. T. Rossiter
Councillor Mrs. S. Williams

Mayor

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A. Davies

Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer

340. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. Thomas, Councillor Mrs. Durham, Councillor Rossiter and the Assistant Clerk

341. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs. Lane declared a personal interest in 5b

Councillor Dr. Easy declared a personal interest in Agenda item 17 (Brynhir)

Councillor Mrs. Williams declared a personal interest in 9c and 10b

342. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter, 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Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

343. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

For accuracy the Clerk noted that Councillor Mrs. Durham had been in attendance at the meeting but was not recorded in the list of those present.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Lane, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter and:

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 5th January 2016 be confirmed and signed as accurate with the addition of Councillor Mrs. Durham in the list of attendees.

344. MATTERS ARISING

The only matters arising were those highlighted by The Clerk as follows:

325 – Battery Gardens

Councillor Mrs. Lane felt that any refurbishment or enhancement of the garden would have to result in a low to no maintenance end product. She considered either Option 4 or 5 in the designs submitted by Mr Rees, PCC would meet this.

Councillor Mrs. Rossiter agreed but felt that the newly installed palm trees should also be retained.

The Clerk reminded members that the Town Council would have to meet half the projected £20,000 to £25,000 costs of enhancement and would also have to undertake ongoing maintenance.

Councillor Blackhall asked if there was any indication as to on-going maintenance costs as it would be useful to have an idea of figures.

Councillor Mrs. Lane proposed that the Town Council indicate to the Regeneration Team that in principle they were still in agreement to part fund the enhancement of the garden based on Option 4. However, they still required information as to on-going maintenance costs. Councillor Mrs. Rossiter seconded.

Resolved that Town Council indicate to the Regeneration Team that, in principle, they were still in agreement to part fund the enhancement of the Battery Garden based on design Option 4. However, they still require information as to on-going maintenance costs.

329a. Tenby House Hotel – New Year’s Eve fireworks

Councillor Mrs. Lane declared a personal interest as a close friend of the applicant and left the Chamber.

The Clerk presented members with a breakdown of the costs for fireworks as requested.

Councillor Mrs. Rossiter commented that the town council had always helped fund the cost of insurance, not the cost of fireworks themselves.

It was noted by Councillor Mrs. Brown that there was a cost of £300 as an additional premium to set off the fireworks and proposed the town council contribute this amount.

Councillor Dr Easy agreed that this would be appropriate expenditure as it was towards insurance and not the fireworks themselves. However, he added that, as this was an annual event, it would be useful to receive any request for funding well in advance in the future.

Proposed Councillor Mrs. Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter and:

Resolved that, under Section 144 LGA 1972, TTC contribute £300 towards the cost of insurance for the town’s New Year’s Eve fireworks.

Councillor Mrs. Lane returned to the Chamber.

334a. Nominations to TTC Planning Sub-committee

The Clerk requested the council nominate seven members to sit on the new planning committee.

Meetings would be in the daytime, the same week as full council meetings, and would have plenary powers. If there were no plans to discuss, the meeting would not be held. All councillors could attend the meeting but voting rights would only be vested in the seven nominated councillors.

Councillors Mrs. Williams, Rapi, Mrs. Lane, Dr. Easy and Blackhall indicated they would be prepared to sit on this committee. Councillors Mrs. Thomas and Hallett were nominated in their absence. Councillor Mrs. Brown indicated that she would be prepared to sit on this committee if either Councillor Mrs. Thomas or Councillor Hallett declined.

345. TENBY CHRISTMAS LIGHTING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Councillor Mrs. Lane, in moving the recommendations of the committee, felt that the contractors do a fantastic job and it would be sensible to accept their suggestions. Councillor Mrs. Rossiter seconded, noting that it had been a particularly difficult year for the contractors due to the atrocious weather and they deserved public recognition for all their hard work.

Resolved that the recommendations of the Christmas Lighting Committee be adopted.

346. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF TENBY CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES MEETING

The Mayor reported that at the recent Chamber of Trade and Tourism meeting, members had felt that three events were too many and wanted to join forces with the Town Council on their event.

After outlining the discussions held at the Festivities meeting Councillor Mrs. Lane felt that the view of the Chamber needed to be reported back to the committee for further discussion.

Proposed Councillor Mrs. Lane, seconded Councillor Mrs. Brown and

Resolved that the matter be considered again at the next Festivities Committee meeting.

347. TO RECEIVE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD WITH PCC TO DISCUSS TENBY AVENUE CENTRE

The Clerk indicated that Mrs. Kate Schofield, whose sister, Maggie, attended the Avenue Centre, was present in the public gallery. She had visited the offices to ask if the council would consider holding a public meeting on the issue. The Town Council had also been invited by Jonathan Griffiths, PCC's Head of Adult Care, to attend a meeting at Tenby Cottage Hospital at 4 pm on 15th February to discuss and update on the consultation process.

Resolved that the meeting be suspended to invite Mrs Schofield to the table to outline her request for a public meeting in more detail.

Mrs. Schofield explained that she was aware that the town council, like centre users, carers and the public at large in Tenby was concerned about PCC's consultation on the future of the Avenue Centre.

She outlined concerns about the report presented to PCC's Cabinet which had led to the consultation exercise and explained that a small group of family/carers of Avenue Centre

attendees were trying to fight what she felt was a clear desire on the part of PCC to close the Centre.

She felt that the county's Director of Social Services and Leisure, Mrs. Pam Marsden, had 'missed the point of the All Wales Care Act'; should not have used the matrix of needs as a benchmark for her proposals and appeared to have little knowledge of what actually went on at the Centre.

Tenby had always taken the Avenue Centre into its being and she felt a public meeting would enable the small group to harness local support, knowledge and expertise to form a serious campaign to fight any suggested closure.

Councillor Evans was of the opinion that, while the consultation was to consider the future of the Centre, he was in no doubt that it was really a fight for the Centre's life.

He felt that public meeting would be useful but he also felt that the Town Council should also be pressing for an independent audit of each individual Centre user's needs and the needs of their carers. He further felt an appropriate and sufficient level of independent advocacy was needed for service users and their carers.

As a county councillor he was aware of the savings that PCC needed to make, but he felt that these savings needed to be justified. It was his view that the proposed cut to services at the Avenue Centre had not been justified nor its implications thought through.

He was pleased that Mrs. Marsden had indicated that the consultation period would be extended, but Mrs. Schofield expressed concern that the people determining the length of the consultation were also those who were making proposals about the future of the Centre.

She pointed out that Portfield in Haverfordwest was modelled on Tenby. If PCC were considering making savings in provision, why were they not considering provision across the whole county rather than just isolating Tenby.

Councillor Evans felt TTC needed to devise a strategy, part of which would involve calling a public meeting which would be open to all those who were concerned about the future of the Centre, not just Tenby residents. He again stressed the need for independent assessment and advocacy for service users and their carers. He felt the strategy should also include enlisting the assistance of our MP, directly elected AM and our regional AMs. He felt TTC should meet with Mrs. Schofield and her group to enable them to tease out answers to their questions from PCC and he also felt that all County councillors and community councils whose electors were also users of the Centre should be brought into discussions.

The Mayor thanked Mrs. Schofield for her input and the meeting reconvened.

Members felt that TTC should do all it could to support the fight to retain the centre and welcomed the strategy outlined by Councillor Evans.

As such it was proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Blackhall and:

Resolved that Tenby Town Council implement a strategy to fight any proposed closure of Tenby Avenue Centre. This strategy to include calling an open public meeting; communicate to PCC that an independent audit of the needs of Service users and their carers be carried out; that an appropriate and sufficient level of independent advocacy was needed for Service users and their carers; that TTC enlist the assistance of our MP,

directly elected AM and regional AMs; that TCC meet with Mrs Schofield and her campaign group for further discussions and that all County councillors and community councils whose electors were also users of the Centre should also be brought into discussions.

348. 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/15/0652/FUL – Mr Robert Bennett, Brynteg Farmhouse, Litchard Hill, Bridgend – Replacement of existing ground floor principal elevation timber windows with upvc windows; replacement of existing ground floor side (north) elevation timber French door – Flat 1, Kilmore, Harding Street, Tenby.

After viewing the plans it was proposed by Councillor Dr Easy, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Brown and resolved to:

RECOMMEND

Approval

- b. NP/15/0282/FUL – Mr P Seward, Sea Vista, Crackwell Street, Tenby – Alterations to dwelling including raised roof level to front building and new mansard storey to rear wing, new garage and boat at road level – Sea Vista, Crackwell Street, Tenby – revised plan which removes garage element.

Members reviewed the amended plans but still expressed concern about the development and the effect of the rear extensions on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter, seconded by Councillor Blackhall and

RESOLVED

To defer decision until after a meeting on site with PCNPA officers.

- c. NP/16/0016/FUL – Mrs Sharon Britton, Newlyn, Park Place, Tenby – Rear single storey kitchen extension, Newlyn, Park Place, Tenby

Councillor Mrs. Williams declared a personal interest as the owner of a property in the same street and took no part in the voting.

After viewing the plans it was proposed by Councillor Dr Easy, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Brown and resolved to:

RECOMMEND

Approval as an appropriate level of development which will enhance the amenity of the property.

- d. NP/16/0021/ADV – Mr David Bowles, Co-operative Food Group, 4th Floor, Dantzic Street, Manchester – Signage – The Co-operative Food, The Green, Heywood Lane, Tenby.

After viewing the plans it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Lane, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Brown and resolved to:

RECOMMEND

Approval

349. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

- a. PCNPA – NP/16/0010/TPO – two lime trees on northern boundary to be pollarded, Greenwood Lodge, Heywood Lane, Tenby.

Resolved to voice no objection to the proposal

- b. PCNPA – St Catherine’s Island appeal hearing date (for information)

Resolved to note the information.

Councillor Blackhall expressed disappointment that the appeal was being heard in Pembroke Dock as many people from Tenby may be interested in attending. He felt the Planning Inspectorate should be informed that there are plenty of suitable venues in Tenby for such a hearing.

- c. PCNPA – Appeal against enforcement notice – Cadwaladers, Cheltenham House, Tudor Square, Tenby

Resolved to note the information.

350. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism – December minutes

Resolved to note the information.

The Clerk noted that the Chamber had agreed to pay the town’s membership of European Walled Towns. He had recently received an invoice for this year’s membership.

Resolved that the invoice be forwarded to the Chamber of Trade and Tourism

- b. Cllr. Peter Stock – Local Government reorganisation

Cllr. Stock called for Tenby Town Council to respond to the consultation on the Local Government (Wales) Bill opposing the amalgamation of Pembrokeshire with Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion.

Councillor Dr Easy felt that it was too late for members to consider this as the sub-committee had already responded to the consultation. This consultation was on the draft Bill and opposition to the proposed merger should have been voiced during initial consultations before the Bill was formulated.

The Bill was concerned with far more than just should Pembrokeshire remain and was a complex piece of legislation. He felt any 'Save Pembrokeshire' campaign was outside the scope of this consultation exercise.

d. HM The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon – a guide to taking part

Councillor Mrs. Lane wondered what had happened to the town's Millennium beacon. Councillor James noted that it was stored in the Cemetery.

The Clerk confirmed this but added that, when the Sea Cadets had looked into using it for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, it was found to no longer house the burners.

Councillor Mrs. Lane wondered if TTC could pay to have it refurbished and the Sea Cadets be asked to consider taking on lighting it to mark HM The Queen's 90th birthday,

Both Councillor Evans and Councillor Mrs Williams felt that Giltar Point would be a better location for a bonfire type beacon and Councillor Evans suggested TTC discuss the idea with Penally Community Council.

However, Councillor Mrs. Lane felt that Tenby should provide its own beacon.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Brown, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lane and:

Resolved that TTC buy a new beacon at a cost of £299 and the Sea Cadets be asked if they would co-ordinate its lighting.

There were 3 abstentions.

Councillor Mrs. Rossiter recalled that she had once suggested that Crackwell Gardens be renamed Princess Diana Gardens, although this had not received support. She wondered if consideration could now be given to renaming these gardens Queen Elizabeth II gardens. It was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion.

e. Dr S Jones, PCC – Support for Town Councils

Councillor Blackhall welcomed the charter as a positive move, although he did feel it implied more as to what town and community councils could do for Pembrokeshire County Council than vice versa.

He noted that there was an enhanced expectation that town and community councils could deliver services but there was no reference to the financial implications of this.

He felt more work was needed as to consultation with town and community councils and the operation of area boards. There was also no reference to the relationship between County councillors and town and community councils. TTC was fortunate to have a good working relationship with its county councillors but not all town and community councils were so lucky and felt that this aspect should be considered.

Councillor Evans noted how pleasing it was to see that town and community councils' relationship with PCC was improving.

351. ACCOUNTS FOR DECEMBER 2015

The Clerk presented the accounts for December 2015 which included scheduled payments, un-presented cheques, receipts, account balances, budget monitoring to date and bank reconciliations.

Councillor Mrs. Rossiter proposed acceptance of the December 2015 accounts, seconded by Councillor Dr. Easy.

Resolved that the accounts for December 2015 including scheduled payments, un-presented cheques, receipts, account balances, budget monitoring to date and bank reconciliations be accepted.

352. GRANTS

a. Tenby Civic Society – Allens View

Councillor Mrs. Lane felt that this was a project that TTC should be supporting and, while noting the request for £200, wondered if TTC could offer more funding.

The Clerk outlined that there was presently £281 remaining in the grants budget.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Lane, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Brown and:

Resolved that under Section 19a, Local Govt. (Misc. Provisions) Act 1976 TTC provide a grant of £250 to Tenby Civic Society for the maintenance of Allens View for recreational purposes.

It was further

Resolved that The Clerk liaise with the Civic Society to see if TTC staff could assist in providing manpower.

353. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Mrs. Lane, reporting on Tenby in Bloom activities, was pleased to reveal that Tenby had been put forward for Britain in Bloom again this year.

Tenby in Bloom were planning a launch event in March to invite people to come along with their ideas.

The Clerk reported that, while Councillor Mrs. Thomas was unable to be present, she had deposited a report of the most recent SEPCHN meeting in the office for members to read. A report of this meeting had also appeared in the local press.

354. MEDIA

The Clerk pointed out that a recent press article on Tenby's Finest Fish and Chip Shop had indicated that a planning inspector had agreed with TTC and PCNPA and dismissed the appeal against refusal of planning permission to extend opening hours.

355. TENBY AVENUE CENTRE

This item had been covered earlier in the meeting.

356. BRYNHIR

Councillor Mrs. Rossiter reminded members that this item was on the agenda to keep TTC informed of progress on the site.

- a. Andrew Davies-Wrigley, PCC (via e-mail) – First let to local community

Resolved to note the information.

- b. Nigel Sinnett, PHA – Local connection policy

Resolved to note the information.

357. BEACH PARKING

As Councillor Rossiter was not present it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting

358. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

The Clerk had been notified that a road closure would be in force on Lower Frog Street from its junction with The Paragon to St George Street for five days from 1st February 2016 to allow for the installation of telecom cable ducting work.

359. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 16th February 2016 at 7pm. Representatives of the Community Health Council will be in attendance to give a presentation on the work of the Council.

Apologies were received in advance from Councillor Rapi and Councillor Mrs Brown

360. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Renaming of Crackwell Gardens – Councillor Mrs. Rossiter

Tenby Town Walls – Councillor Blackhall

Audit of Beach Facilities – Councillor Evans

Heywood Court Play Park – Councillor Evans

Corporate Responsibility – Councillor Evans

361. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Dr Easy, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter

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.

362. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 5th January 2016 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

363. MATTERS ARISING

33a Tenby WiFi

Councillor Blackhall said that there would be a meeting of the Regeneration Team WiFi implementation sub-committee the following morning to move progress towards an Easter launch.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____