

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 28th February 2012

PRESENT

Councillor T Hallett Mayor
Councillor Mrs Evans
Councillor D Morgan
Councillor Mrs Williams
Councillor Mrs Rossiter
Councillor P Rapi
Councillor L Blackhall
Councillor M Evans
Councillor Mrs Putwain

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

418. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Thomas and Councillor Mrs Brown.

419. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None disclosed.

420. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Rossiter, seconded by Councillor Mrs Williams.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

421. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 14th February 2012 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

422. MATTERS ARISING

381 – Hywel Dda

The Clerk gave an update from Councillor Mrs Thomas. Following a meeting with Mr Martin Chairman Hywel Dda Health Board, Tenby MIU will be re opening in April 2012 for fewer hours than previously operated, the exact opening hours will be publicised later this week. Review of the unit hours will take place again in June 2012.

404b – West Wales Maritime Heritage Society – Tenby Lugger Project.

The Clerk reported Reverend Reed and his colleagues will attend TTC meeting on 13th March to provide an update on the Tenby Lugger project.

404c – Mr G Longster, PCC – Education provision, Tenby.

The Clerk said he had received provisional dates 20th, 21st or 22nd March for Mr Longster to discuss primary provision in Tenby, the actual date was to be confirmed the following day and councillors would be notified accordingly.

Councillor Blackhall joined the meeting.

423. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. NP/12/0057 – Mrs Debbie Hughes, The Panorama Hotel, The Esplanade, Tenby – Construction of two new rear dormer windows, replacement roof light and internal alterations to attic room configuration, Panorama Hotel.

b. NP/12/0083 (Listed Building) – Mrs Debbie Hughes, The Panorama Hotel, The Esplanade, Tenby – Construction of two new rear dormer windows, replacement roof light and internal alterations to attic room configuration, Panorama Hotel.

Planning applications NP/12/0057 and NP/12/0083 were discussed together Approval, proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs Williams as it is in keeping with local surrounding properties.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it is in keeping with surrounding properties.

c. NP/12/0094 (Advert) – Mr Colin Jones, White Knight Laundry Services Limited, 36 High Street, Tenby – Surface mounted coloured upvc sign fixed to fascia above shop front, 3 White Lion Street, Tenby

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Approval, proposed by Councillor Rapi, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans as it is consistent with policy on signage.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it is consistent with policy on signage.

Councillor M Evans joined the meeting but took no part in voting on the planning applications, remaining to advise members on procedure as required.

Councillor Hallett declared a personal interest and took no part in the following planning application.

d.NP/12/0086 – Mr Stephen Lewis, Hill Cottage, Heywood Lane, Tenby – Provision of off-road parking for two cars to include part removal of stone wall with reconstruction of wall with visibility splays, associated construction work to include lowering of kerbs, Hill Cottage, Heywood Lane, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Refusal proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans on health and safety grounds specifically relating to children using the public footpath as it is the main route to the schools from the town centre and the proposed entrance is situated very close to a main road junction. Further that the removal of part of the wall would have a detrimental effect on the character of the building.

RECOMMEND

Refusal on health and safety grounds. Vehicle access and egress could be detrimental to children using the public footpath as it is the main route to the schools from the town centre and the proposed entrance is situated very close to a main road junction. Further that the removal of part of the wall would have a detrimental effect on the character of the building.

Councillor Evans and Councillor Hallett rejoined the meeting.

424. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCNPA – Application for tree works TP031 – Car park and surrounding area, Upper Park Road, Tenby.

Councillor Hallett outlined details about the Sycamore Trees, recommending this work be carried out. It was proposed by Councillor Blackhall, seconded by Councillor Morgan to support the work proposed.

Resolved that the proposed tree works be supported.

b. Mr David Rees (via-e-mail) – Spread of wind turbines in Pembrokeshire

Discussion took place between Councillors, it was

Resolved to note the information.

c Countryside Council for Wales – Review of mountain, moor, heath, down land and registered common land in Wales.

Discussion took place, it was

Resolved to note the information.

d.Mrs Jane Gibson PCNPA (via e-mail) – Planning in the Park – Consultee involvement.

Discussion took place between all Councillors. It was

Resolved that the Clerk arranges a workshop/presentation on planning applications with Mrs J Gibson PCNPA for a Tuesday evening Council Meeting in June or July.

425. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Hywel Dda Health Board – Pre-Consultation Engagement

Councillor discussed that the best person to represent Tenby Town Council at the Hywel Dda Health Board workshop meeting would be Councillor Mrs Thomas. It was

Resolved that the Clerk ask if Councillor Mrs Thomas wishes to represent TTC at the Hywel Dda Health Board workshop and report back her decision at the 13th March meeting.

426. GRANT APPLICATION

a. Pembrokeshire Mencap – Rebuilding of Society’s website

Councillor Mrs Evans felt as Tenby residents benefit she proposed donation of £50 be made, seconded by Councillor Morgan.

Resolved under Section 137 LGA 1972 to donate £50 to the local Mencap branch.

427. DE VALENCE

Councillor Blackhall declared a personal but not prejudicial interest on the De Valence.

Councillor Mrs Evans said she had a huge amount of respect for anyone running an event in the De Valence, but felt should the Town Council be running the events themselves to receive the profits, so the money could be used for maintenance of the building. The Trust needs to consider adopting a business attitude to running the De Valence as no provision has been put into the pot for any maintenance and it is costing the Town Council money to run the events.

Councillor Blackhall replied we do get a fee for hiring the hall and a percentage of the bar takings, with no financial risk being undertaken by TTC or the Trust if events fail. He noted Councillor Mrs Evans comments and will relay them to the Trust at their next committee meeting.

Councillor Evans added that there is a knock on effect from staging events in the De Valence like people staying in local hotels. This benefits other local businesses and brings the hall use back to the community. At present the building

is being utilised by the town for various meetings as well as events, so the more it is used during the year the more the overall running costs will reduce.

Councillor Mrs Evans appreciated the comments of her fellow Councillors but the De Valence is not cost neutral and should not be allowed to fall into a state of disrepair. She felt an opportunity may be being missed to actually make money.

Councillor Hallett added that no Community Hall building he is aware of ever makes a profit but it provides a facility to be used by the community.

a. Hall hire – 28th July 2012 – Smiths Indeed (tribute band)

b. Hall hire – 24th August 2013 – Wedding reception/evening party

Following discussion of agenda item 11a and 11b, it was proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rossiter to accept both hires.

Resolved that both hires are accepted.

c. PCC – Marriage licence (previously held by Trust)

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt that to continue the marriage licence in the De Valence was an expense that was not justified at this time.

Councillor Evans felt TTC should allow the licence to lapse when it expires.

Resolved that the marriage licence at the De Valence should not be renewed at this time.

Councillor Blackhall reported on recent events held at the De Valence, including feedback received from the hirers expressing their thanks to the helpful Tenby Town Council staff.

428. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Morgan said he attended Tenby Infant Schools tree planting event to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, 120 trees were planted including a Royal Oak.

Councillor Mrs Evans reported she will be representing TTC at Tenby Junior School sponsored walk for Help the Heroes on Friday 2nd March; all donations of sponsorship would be gratefully appreciated.

429. MEDIA ITEMS

None noted.

430. JUBILEE FAMILY PLAY PARK

The Clerk gave an update with the following information:

- Fundraising is continuing with bolts selling well.

- Grant applications are being made.
- Urban Recreation have visited to review the plans for the skate facility following adjustments requested at the recent skateboard meeting. They will forward the revamp of the design, which will incur no extra costs.
- Urban will require a firm order by March 19th to ensure opening on the proposed date. Friends of the Jubilee Play Park are considering their option to fund the fall short.
- Councillor Mrs Williams said Tenby Infants School had raised £100 for the Jubilee Play Park fund.

Councillor Morgan reported concerns that had been expressed by residents of Queens Parade in relation to the skate park. They feel it is proposed for the wrong place, but provided no alternative preferred site.

431. ROYAL GATE HOUSE

The Clerk informed members that the planning application to remove certain conditions in relation to the cinema element of the Royal gate House development had been refused at the meeting of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The owner of the premises had since reported verbally that this would mean a 6 to 12 month delay to any start in work on the site.

Councillors discussed the concerns in relation to the appearance of the hoardings around the Royal Gate House site. Councillor Blackhall felt action should be taken sending out a clear message from TTC to ensure that the hoardings are addressed to make a more attractive, safe and secure perimeter to the site. A reasonable deadline should be set for the work and enforcement action considered if not addressed in this time scale.

The Clerk reported he had received a letter from PCNP in relation to the untidy state of land at the Royal Gate House. They are establishing whether a breach of planning regulations has occurred, a site visit is planned and the investigation will be carried out within 12 weeks. Councillor Evans said that a report is being formed and will be fed back in 3 weeks time to PCNP.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter expressed concern over the overgrown Buddleia on the site, but was more concerned if any undesirable animals were making their home in the undergrowth. She added sadly the owner has not helped the town at all with the state of his other buildings.

Councillor Mrs Evans supported both previous Councillors comments and felt that other towns had experienced similar sad situations where fires etc had caused devastation to buildings but they had moved on and rebuilt facilities within a year or two and yet here we are nearly four years on from the fire and nothing is progressing. We need to set time limits and threaten legal action to move forward.

Councillor Mrs Williams felt a reply to the PCNP letter was needed saying we are not satisfied with their reply and 12 weeks is too long a duration for the investigation report.

Councillor Rapi felt it may be time for legal advice to be sort. Councillor Mrs Evans added that rate payers in the town would consider legal advice to be money well spent.

Councillor Mrs Putwain expressed concern in relation to the state of the pavement along the side of the hoardings as it is uneven and it is only time before an injury is sustained.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter to write back to PCNP and say TTC are not satisfied with their recent reply.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Mr Liam Jones PCNP stating that TTC are not satisfied that it will take 12 weeks to investigate if a breach of planning regulations has occurred at the Royal Gate House Site.

Proposed by Councillor Rapi, seconded by Councillor Morgan, to seek legal advice, firstly from Mr R Lewis at PCC.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr R Lewis PCC to seek advice into what legal action can be taken in relation to the Royal Gate House site.

Proposed by Councillor Blackhall, seconded by Councillor Mrs Evans, to write to ask PCC to look into the issues relating to the Royal Gate House site within a set time scale and compulsory purchase of the site.

Resolved that a letter is sent to the appropriate department at PCC to look into compulsory purchase of Royal Gate House site.

432. PUBLIC SHELTERS

Councillor Mrs Putwain explained that we have a lovely shelter on the Esplanade with no roof and no replacement shelters on the North Walk, which have been promised many times. She requested a letter be sent again to ask if even half of the Esplanade shelter could be roofed and are they going to replace the shelters on the North Walk taken away many years ago, seconded by Councillor Mrs Williams.

Councillor Evans said he would arrange a meeting to discuss the Esplanade shelter with Mr Codd PCC as it was in his ward.

The Clerk explained Pembrokeshire Engineering had salvaged the roof from both shelters in the Jubilee Park, making a replacement frame for the large shelter. The large shelter has been returned to the park and is awaiting completion. Councillor Evans said that Pembrokeshire Engineering were also looking into utilising the

small shelter roof to make a new shelter to replace the concrete block shelter on the zig zag.

Resolved that Councillor Evans will arrange a meeting with Mr G Codd PCC to discuss roofing the shelter on the Esplanade, while the Clerk will write and clarify the plan for the North Walk replacement shelters.

433. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Actions and updates from 14th February meeting

The Clerk clarified points within his actions and updates report highlighting the Localism Act to give power to local communities to reclaim back local assets of land. In England there are guidelines as to how powers can be used under this act but the Welsh Government has given no guidelines at present.

In relation to the speed cushions proposed for Heywood Lane the Clerk had received a telephone call from a resident in Kilgetty asking Councillors when making decisions about the speed cushions to consider members of the general public with back pain problems, explaining that when travelling on public transport they have no control when being driven over them and receive considerable pain and discomfort.

Councillor Mrs Williams reported that car owners are parking on the pavement very close to the Heywood Lane/ Serpentine Road junction and when a traffic enforcement officer was asked to address this issue the officer claimed she had no authority in this case. The Clerk outlined his understanding of who had the authority to deal with these issues and would pass the concerns onto the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Resolved that the Clerk would inform the Neighbourhood Policing Team of the concerns over pavement parking on the junction of Heywood Lane/Serpentine Road, Tenby.

b. Update on enhancement works

The Clerk reported unfortunately, due to unforeseen works, the Tudor Square enhancement team failed to get Church Street opened before British Gas had closed White Lion Street, This had caused a few traffic diversion issues but Church Street would be open by the end of the week.

Councillor Mrs Putwain reported that the diversion sign instructions during the enhancement scheme are not very clear for locals.

Resolved that PCC are informed of the unclear temporary diversion signage in Tenby during enhancement work.

c.Planning Correspondence NP/12/0002

The Clerk informed Councillors that PCNP had agreed with TTC and refused planning permission at Fairview, Church Park, Tenby, due to the size and design of the balcony being incompatible with the scale and a visual intrusion to the surrounding properties.

d.Pembrokeshire Coast National Parks – Big Welsh Coastal Walk

The Clerk informed Councillors he had been asked to make them aware of the Big Welsh Coastal Walk Celebration, arranged to get as many people as possible out walking the coastal path on May 5th. Maps and plans were available for all groups interested in joining in.

434. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 13th March 2012 at 7.00 pm. This will include an update on the Tenby Lugger from Rev D Reed.

435. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None noted.

436. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Rossiter, seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

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.

437. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 14th February 2012 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

438. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____