

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014

**PRESENT**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

The Clerk reported that unfortunately the Mayor was unable to attend due to an official engagement in Haverfordwest. Councillor Blackhall proposed Deputy Mayor Councillor P Rapi take the chair, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

**Resolved that Deputy Mayor, Councillor Rapi take the chair.**

Councillor Rapi welcomed Mr P Deverson who attended to discuss Tenby Street Trading licenses, specifically relating to his recent application refusal.

The Clerk gave a brief update for Councillors on the process that has been followed in relation to PCC and TTC responses on Mr Deverson's proposed street licence. He explained the initial request related to trading on the Esplanade; however it was South Parade Mr Deverson had requested. Therefore the application e mail from Mr M Owen PCC was amended and re submitted to TTC. Councillors initially agreed to Mr Deverson trading on the Esplanade, on a very small majority; however TTC refused the South Parade street trading licence request.

Mr Deverson asked for clarification why TTC opposed his application, as he personally felt it was unfair when another stall already has permission to trade on South Parade, and they are not local people.

Councillor Mrs Durham explained it is nothing personal; however TTC do not want anyone trading by the town walls. They would even like the present traders by the Five Arches removed; however this has proved difficult. She said Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism are running a street market in Tudor Square for 16 weeks a year and this would be an ideal opportunity for Mr Deverson to trade.

Mr Deverson explained PCC would give him permission to sell specific canvas pictures but not photographs and he felt this was wrong as his local business in the area has changed over the years and now he produces photographs instead of canvases.

Councillor Rapi said TTC receive multiple complaints from local businesses, as they pay high business rates and feel street traders can take their trade without paying the same rates. Therefore TTC do not want to see multiple street traders everywhere throughout the town.

Councillor Mrs Thomas said Tenby Town Walls are iconic and she personally would ban anyone trading near them.

Councillor Mrs Brown joined the meeting.

Councillor Blackhall felt street trading has now become a difficult issue. Even taking photographs of the iconic Five Arches proves difficult for holiday makers as well as professionals, to capture the walls without traders. Tenby needs to take a hold on the situation; ideally he would like to start with a clean sheet and then allocate street trading licenses as and when in specified areas, keeping the Five Arches and South Parade clear. He is aware that businesses are paying substantial rates and an ideal solution needs to be achieved for all. The present situation is far from ideal.

Councillor Johns asked Mr Deverson if he had used or planned to use the organised street market. Mr Deverson said he had waited for the outcome of his street licence before looking into a stall on the market. As he did not want to be limited to once a week for 16 weeks weather permitting he had refrained from spending out on stock until he had a plan of action.

Councillor Rapi explained to Mr Deverson that TTC could re visit the decision at a future TTC meeting if he could provide new information relating to his street trading licence application. However Mr Deverson felt TTC had made a decision and they would be unlikely to change their minds. He thanked Councillors for listening before leaving the chamber.

The Clerk reported Mr M Owen, Street Care, PCC, had forwarded another street trading licence application that will be considered at the next TTC meeting. However the applicant Mr Chiffi had asked if Councillors could be made aware of his business venture prior to the formal discussion. Mr Chiffi was present to give a brief back ground on his proposed business and street trading application.

Councillor Rapi welcomed Mr Chiffi who proceeded to explain his business venture the 1<sup>st</sup> mobile Barista Coffee van in Wales. He proposed to attend large events to supply take away good quality coffee. However, while his business is in its infancy he would like to trade in Tenby between events. He had discussed possible trading areas/ sites where his van could be parked with Mr M Owen and County Councillor Evans.

Tenby Town Councillors felt several sites outside the town walls could possibly be acceptable however they expressed concern if he trades within the town walls as he would be taking trade from many established premises that sell coffee.

Mr Chiffi explained he had carried out market research and gained the support of many existing Café/Restaurant owners as he was mindful he would be competing with them for trade.

Councillors mentioned several additional question/concerns they would need to consider like the quality of the coffee, competitive prices, litter from disposable cups, allocation of sites and the ability to move from site to site during the day.

Councillor Rapi outlined that as the street trading license application had not been officially presented, TTC were unable to make any comments at this time; therefore he thanked Mr Chiffi for providing the additional information and hoped the responses and questions from Councillors had been helpful. Mr Chiffi then left the chamber.

Councillor W Rossiter expressed concern that TTC should be mindful to not set a precedence for others with business ideas to come before the Council prior to their application being submitted.

**469. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from the Mayor and Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

**470. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

The Clerk provided personal interest advice in relation to the Tenby Primary School Planning Application on the agenda. Councillors appointed to School Governing Bodies have a personal but not prejudicial interest. Councillors with Children, Grandchildren or Great Grandchildren attending the schools have a personal interest, and should consider whether it may be a prejudicial interest.

He continued explaining as his wife is a member of the teaching staff at the school he has a beneficial interest therefore he would be leaving the chamber during discussions on the planning application.

Councillor Rapi, Councillor Blackhall and Councillor Dr Easy declared personal interest in item 7a as appointed School Governors. Councillor Mrs Durham, Councillor Mrs Thomas, and Councillor Johns all declared a personal interest in item 7a.

**471. ITEMS TO PRESS**

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, 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 two letters in relation to Planning Application NP/14/0113.**

**472. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate with one typographical amendment.**

#### 473. MATTERS ARISING

##### 435b – Tree Works – Butts Field Car Park, Tenby

The Clerk provided Councillors with information following the site meeting on the tree works application for Butts Field Car Park. Councillor Hallett, Councillor W Rossiter, Mr M Higgins PCNPA and Mr R Cook PCC were also in attendance.

He continued explaining a walk around the area took place highlighting the trees that will receive thinning to give others room to grow. Trees to be removed are marked with an orange spot of paint if Councillors wish to visit and see the extent of works to be carried out. A larger issue was relating to the forty trees overhanging the public toilets and coach park area as they appear to be in poor health. It was felt a more detailed tree surgeons survey was required to assess the trees before a decision to remove these trees can be made. Mr Cook PCC agreed to arrange a tree surgeon to carry out the survey; however if the cause of the trees poor health is Honey Fungus this cannot be proven until the autumn, when the fungus is detected. As funding for the proposed tree works is available presently: therefore this may prove a problem.

Mr Higgins agreed to carry out ongoing monitoring and arrange a follow up meeting when the tree surgeons report is available. The Clerk said if the trees have to be removed there may be possible funding available for a community orchard; however the survey report is required before this or alternative options can be considered.

##### 460 – Pembrokeshire Housing Policy Allocation

Councillor Mrs Brown asked if Pembrokeshire Housing Department had responded to TTC's request to provide up to date information on social housing allocation. The Clerk reported Ms L Hambidge will be happy to attend; however the first date she is available is the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014. It was

**Resolved that TTC arrange the meeting with Ms L Hambidge, Head of Housing, PCC for 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**

##### 433 (415c) – Signage outside former Rowe's Butcher, High Street, Tenby.

Councillor W Rossiter asked if any new information had been received in relation to the signage outside former Rowe's Butchers. The Clerk reported he had received no further information. Councillors expressed their disappointment at the signage still being in situ after many weeks since the initial enforcement referral.

#### 474. PLANNING APPLICATION

The Clerk left the chamber.

a. NP/14/0185 – Mr Jake Morgan, Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest – Demolition of existing infant school and erection of new English medium community school, Tenby Junior Community School, Heywood Lane, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application in detail. Councillor Blackhall expressed concerns in relation to the usable internal layout as it is a curious piece of design,

specifically highlighting the distance the hall is away from classrooms. Councillor Mrs Brown felt the school will not be large enough for the proposed numbers of children for the future.

Councillor Mrs Durham felt it was a shame and tragic that the beautiful infant school building is being demolished; surely there is an alternative community use for it. Councillor Mrs Putwain also felt an alternative use for the infant school must be available.

Councillor W Rossiter had reservations about the whole project and stated he did not agree with the proposal.

Councillor Mrs Thomas felt the decision on the school planning application/proposal; has already been made before TTC even comment.

Councillor Hallett felt the external aspect of the building looked like 'Cell Block H'. He agreed that the infant school should not be knocked down. He noted the children's play area is fairly small and may cause problems with noise disturbance for other classes when being used at different times for different age groups throughout the day.

Councillors continued to discuss a proposal in great depth, noting concerns in relation to traffic management previously expressed.

Councillor Dr Easy felt Tenby should not be left behind without a new modern educational facility in the area. He felt statistical evidence was needed to say the school is physically not large enough for the proposed pupil figures in the future.

Councillor Dr Easy and Councillor Blackhall both felt the reason for the demolishing of the infant school, to provide a rugby field was probably due to the fact when a green space is built on an alternative green space has to be provided.

Following further discussion Councillor Dr Easy proposed TTC welcome the modern purpose built school for Tenby; however they have reservations in relation to the internal design the possible future capacity and traffic management issues that have been highlighted previously, seconded by Councillor Blackhall.

## **RECOMMEND**

**Approval as members welcome the modern purpose built school for Tenby; however they have reservations in relation to the internal design the possible future capacity and traffic management issues that have been highlighted previously.**

The Clerk re-joined the meeting.

## **475. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Solva Community Council – Open letter to Cllr Jamie Adams, leader, Pembrokeshire County Council

Councillor Mrs Putwain said she whole heartedly applauded Solva for having the courage of their conviction to write to PCC. She proposed TTC send a letter to Solva Community Council endorsing and supporting their letter sent to PCC in relation to the alleged failures in

monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

She continued, proposing if Councillor J Adams has time to visit Solva Community Council, TTC should write and invite him to a meeting to discuss the alleged failures in monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall and cutbacks in County Council service provision, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt the IPPG have made many mistakes led by Councillor Jamie Adams and the Chief Executive Mr B Parry-Jones. The IPPG have spent local money on a barrister to defend the Chief Executive and this is extremely disheartening in light of all the cut backs PCC have drip fed to TTC and other Councils. She said PCC should be leading our authority and put money into Pembrokeshire so we can all be proud of what they are doing not wasting money sorting out misdemeanours. We as the general public would not get away with the misdemeanours like they have.

Councillor Hallett felt that it was wrong the Chief Executive was not suspended while the investigation was going on, remaining in post and attending meetings.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt the information relating to PCC has and still is not being reported adequately in Tenby's local news paper; therefore the local electorate are not fully aware of all that has been happening. However, the Pembrokeshire Herald had printed so much more information for locals, keeping them informed of the situation as it unfolded.

Councillor Blackhall felt Town and Community Councils do not have enough interaction to collectively work together on important local issues. He said they should meet together periodically to discuss local issues and TTC could offer the De Valence to host these meetings.

Councillor Rapi said he had accessed the recent Pembrokeshire cabinet voting figures on line in relation to the vote of no confidence in the Chief Executive of PCC, and agreed that no one had approached or asked the locals who voted all the Councillors into post for their views.

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported that all other County Councillors are attending their Community Council meetings and providing information on local issue; however we have to continually ask for information, it is not given regularly. TTC should write again and invite both Tenby County Councillors to the next meeting to provide up to date information about Tenby and Pembrokeshire important issues.

The Clerk reported that our North Ward County Councillor is invited to every TTC meeting and our South Ward County Councillor is summoned to every meeting as a Tenby Town Councillor.

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed TTC write and invite Tenby County Councillors to the next TTC meeting to discuss matters relating to the alleged failures in monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Councillor Blackhall supported the invite; however he proposed an amendment that the invite be in private not public session. Councillor Mrs Brown felt things should be discussed in public, everyone should be aware of what is happening locally. Councillor W Rossiter felt if TTC can hear the information then Tenby General Public should be able to hear it too.

Councillor Blackhall withdrew his amendment proposal.

**Resolved that TTC write to Solva Community Council stating they fully endorse and support their letter sent to PCC in relation to the alleged failures in monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall.**

**Resolved that TTC invite Tenby County Councillor to the next TTC meeting to discuss matters relating to the alleged failures in monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall.**

**Resolved that TTC write and invite Councillor J Adams to a TTC meeting to discuss the alleged failures in monitoring, scrutiny and governance procedures at County Hall and cutbacks in County Council service provision.**

b. Sinead Henehan, PCC (via e-mail) – WAG Support Welsh High Streets Campaign

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported on a recent programme highlighting the project planned for Manchester, to provide a friendly environment for their older generation. It included increasing benches and Public Convenience facilities. She felt Tenby could take some of these ideas forward for our town.

Councillor Mrs Durham felt Tenby should be nominated for this programme.

The Clerk had discussed this e-mail with Mrs J Merrony as Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism as they also felt PCC had not given enough time for a response to be collated and forwarded for the Welsh High Street Campaign.

Councillors discussed the advantages of this project before it was

**Resolved that the Clerk respond on behalf of TTC and nominate Tenby for the Welsh High Street Campaign. Councillors' ideas for the town enhancement should be e-mailed to the Town Clerk for collation, before submitting to Ms S Henahan, Regeneration Department, PCC.**

#### **476. ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH**

The Clerk reported the March Accounts had been agreed previously and therefore this was an agenda error.

#### **477. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Mrs Brown reported the De Valence had two recent successful events. The Wrestling and Boxing evenings were well attended. This week she looked forward to the Bingo evening and National Scooter Rally event in the De Valence.

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported on the Tenby in Bloom committee meeting. She was happy to say several local organisations have given donations to maintain the level of funding needed to provide the high standard of attraction Tenby needs to as a vibrant holiday resort. Following discussion by Councillors on the generous donations it was

**Resolved that TTC send a thank you letter to these organisations along with the Tenby in Bloom letters of thanks.**

**478. MEDIA ITEMS**

None noted.

**479. SOUTH BEACH STONES**

Councillor Mrs Putwain reported she had been informed that the stones on South Beach remained a problem and therefore could Mr Thomas be asked again if he is able to come and advise TTC on how we can improve this matter in any way. The person had also commented that when the beach groins were in situ the excess stone problem did not exist; therefore was there any way of asking for an experiment project to put the groins back.

Councillor W Rossiter said two weeks ago the sand was back and covered the stones and now this week the stones are exposed again due to the weather coming in from the East. This matter needs to be addressed as we do not want the beach to look like the winter in the middle of the summer when we and others expect the lovely clean sand. He suggested a mechanical instrument is needed that would pick up the stones and move them to the other end of the beach nearer Giltar Point.

Councillor Hallett reported from an environmental view the groins were a waste of time. The sand has always been controlled by the tide, with the easterlies taking it out and the westerlies bringing the sand back. Nature will look after itself and if we interfere we will end up making a mess.

Councillor Rossiter said when the groins were there the sand was 100 feet high and the groins did stop the stones.

Councillor Rapi said we have no control over the tide movement; however he too remembers years ago when the sand was plentiful; therefore something has altered the environmental impact.

The Clerk reported he had sent a second letter to Mr Thomas and unfortunately he had not received a response as yet. He was aware Mr Thomas had carried out extensive research on the beaches and therefore was the best person to advise the Council on their concerns. However there may be information held by PCC that Mr Thomas produced.

Councillor Blackhall asked if PCC had responded to TTC letter of concern relating to the review of coastal environment following the severe storms earlier in the year. The Clerk said he wrote to Mr Emyr Williams, PCC, however he had received no acknowledgment letter. Councillor Rapi said PCC have a retreat policy and intervention is not favoured at this present time.

Councillors still felt if other parties were expressing concern like the Golf club and Kiln Park then TTC and PCC could work collectively with them on coastal erosion issues.

Following further discussion it was

**Resolved that the Clerk try again to contact Mr Thomas to see if he is able to attend a TTC meeting to provide advice on the South Beach Stone problem.**

**480. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS**

The Clerk reported he had received notification of a temporary road closure on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014, between 1-8pm for Crackwell Street, as the Carten cycle challenge from Cardiff to Tenby would be finishing down on the harbour. Limited vehicle access to properties with off road parking would be marshalled during the closure.

He continued informing Councillors the Tenby Observer are running two advertising features and asked if TTC would like to be part of the features. Tenby Rugby Club has won through to the Pembrokeshire Knockout Cup Final; therefore a feature will congratulate their achievement and wish them well for the final game. The second advert would be a feature to support National Newspaper Week. Councillors discussed the requests before; Councillor Hallett proposed TTC insert an advert in recognition of Tenby Rugby Clubs achievement, seconded by Councillor Mrs Durham.

**Resolved that TTC place an advert in the Tenby Observer in recognition of Tenby Rugby Clubs achievement on reaching the Pembrokeshire Knockout Cup Final.**

**481. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved that the next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 6.30 pm.**

**482. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Synchronisation of PCNPA Planning Application response time – Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Car Parking Fees – Councillor Rapi.

**483. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

**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.**

**484. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate.**

**485. MATTERS ARISING**

468 – De Valence

Councillor Blackhall reported that further discussions had taken place with the people interested in leasing the De Valence Cafe. They have prepared a business plan and provided references

for the De Valence Trust; therefore the next step will be to agree and finalise the paperwork of the lease in the next 10 days.

Councillor Mrs Durham said it will be a very positive move to see the café being used.

Councillor Blackhall added that Hafal, the group that provides support for people with mental issues have expressed an interest to work in some way with the café licensees.

He continued highlighting forthcoming events in the De Valence including Wrestling for six weeks in the summer, Tenby Rugby Club annual dinner/dance and another possible boxing event.

#### Jubilee Play Park and Skate Plaza

The Clerk reported a few equipment issues have occurred. The toddler bucket swing broke during the Easter bank holiday weekend; therefore it was removed and a replacement ordered. Secondly PCC play park inspectors highlighted the bucket swing bushes are worn bringing the integrity of the swing into doubt. The swing was therefore removed on health and safety grounds. Costings have been received for both repairs; it will cost approximately £400. The repairs have been sanctioned and the swings will be back in action as soon as possible. Tenby Jubilee Play Park Committee has kindly contributed towards the repair costs.

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_