

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4th September 2012

PRESENT

Councillor T Hallett Mayor
Councillor Mrs Lane
Councillor Mrs Durham
Councillor Dr P Easy
Councillor P Rapi
Councillor Mrs Thomas
Councillor W Rossiter
Councillor L Blackhall
Councillor Mrs Brown
Councillor Mrs Rossiter

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

154. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Putwain and Councillor A Brown.

155. CLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared a personal interest on item 7b, Councillor Blackhall declared a personal but not prejudicial interest on item 10.

156. ITEMS TO PRESS

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

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

157. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 24th July 2012 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

158. MATTERS ARISING

136 – Street trading within the Five Arches

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported the Ice cream seller on The Esplanade is not on the move as they should be. The clerk clarified that the Ice Cream seller has a street trading licence so can remain stationary.

Councillor Blackhall expressed dismay that PCC are still issuing street trading licenses despite TTC requesting no more to be permitted without prior consultation. It was proposed by Councillor Blackhall that a letter be sent to Mr M Owen PCC, Street Care informing him of TTC feelings in relation to issuing the Ice cream sellers street trading licence, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Councillor Mrs Lane took no part in discussion on the street trading matter.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Mr M Owen PCC expressing TTC feelings in relation to issuing a street trading licence to the Ice Cream sellers on The Esplanade, Tenby.

140a – Mr G Fry – Tenby rates

The Clerk reported he had not arranged a meeting relating to Tenby business rates during August as this is the busiest part of their season and businesses would experience difficulties attending. Following receipt of a second letter from Mr Fry, Mr C Osborne, Chairman, Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism was contacted; he failed to see what this type of meeting would achieve. The Clerk requested clarification from TTC if they wished to pursue this meeting further.

Councillor Mrs Lane was unaware that TTC had requested a meeting. Councillor Mrs Brown explained Chamber of Trade and Tourism has been working for two years on the business rates issue in Tenby. During this time they have sent out questionnaires, involved the local MP and AMs some businesses have supported them during this time, it is an ongoing issue they are continuing to fight.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lane that TTC do not follow up arranging a meeting, leaving it to Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism, with a letter of explanation forwarded to Mr Fry explaining TTC's position, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that TTC does not arrange a meeting in relation to Tenby Business rates as Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism are still working on the issue. A letter to be sent to Mr G Fry informing him of TTC decision and suggesting he may call his own meeting.

142 Hywel Dda – Tenby Cottage Hospital MIU

The Mayor responded to the comment made by Hywel Dda in relation to the closure of the Tenby MIU, "that feelings of local residents was evident but can be exaggerated by influential people." He felt statistical figures can also be influenced by people and encouraged the community to keep up the fight to prevent the closure of the MIU.

147 – Clerk's items – Tenby Railway Station Lighting

The Clerk reported a 75% success rate has been achieved in relation to the lighting on the station. Three out of four lights are working; unfortunately the one not working is on the steps leading down to Greenhill Road.

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that following the clerk writing to all Community Councils with stations along the Pembroke Dock to Swansea Railway Line, several letters of support along with picture evidence have been received, clarifying that many Councils share Tenby's concerns. Councillor Mrs Lane felt the information now requires collectively sending to the Welsh Assembly Government.

The Mayor asked if Whitland to Fishguard railway line stations had been included in requests for letters of support as they are all in West Wales. Councillor Mrs Brown felt the project at present is quite large and the route chosen related to the impression tourists receive when travelling to Tenby, she suggested they could collate their own information if they feel strongly about their stations.

159. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCNPA – Local Development Plan – draft supplementary planning guidance.

Councillor Mrs Lane reported that documentation on the draft Local Development Plan is available to be viewed by any Councillor at PCNPA office. The Clerk reported he has a DVD copy in the Town Council office which can be viewed at any time.

b. PCNPA – Application for tree works TPO 99, rear of 8 Mayfield Drive, Tenby.

The Mayor as tree warden outlined the tree works proposed and why it is required for health and safety reasons, recommending the work is carried out. Councillor Mrs Lane proposed no objections to the tree works being carried out, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Recommend that the tree works be carried out for health and safety reasons.

160. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Mr H Miller PCC – street Trading, Tenby (letter of 27th July and supplemental letter of 15th August)

Councillor Mrs Thomas felt this was the first time a major response had been received from PCC on the service providers' issues. She suggested a letter be sent to Mr H Miller PCC thanking him for the information and a working party be formed to research the information received in much more depth. Councillor Mrs Lane proposed a letter is sent to thank Mr H Miller for the information and a separate meeting be arranged to research the documents in more detail, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that a letter thanking Mr H Miller PCC for information he provided in relation to service provider issues and actions other Councils have taken. The Clerk will arrange a meeting of a subcommittee of TTC to consider this documentation in detail.

b. Mr G Aspley, G&I Roofing Services – Copy of letter sent regarding issuing of parking ticket in Tenby (for information).

Councillors noted this information. Councillor Mrs Thomas requested clarification from the Clerk if all letters relating to similar parking issues are kept for future reference. The Clerk assured Councillors that all letters are kept on file in the office.

c. Hywel Dda Health Board – Your Health, Your Future: Consultation Our Communities (invitation for two Councillors to attend consultation event on 27th September)

Councillor Mrs Thomas explained that confirmation of attendance at this consultation meeting need to be returned by 17th September, she will be attending to represent TTC along with Councillor Blackhall. Unfortunately many Community Councils will be unaware of the ability to attend this meeting due to their first meeting falling after the return date.

Resolved that Councillor Mrs Thomas and Councillor Blackhall attend the Your Health, Your Future Consultation meeting on 27th September at the Queens Hall, Narberth.

Councillor Mrs Brown reported she had attended the SEPCHN meeting earlier in the day along with Councillor Mrs Thomas and Councillor Blackhall. Sadly no press were in attendance to report on this meeting. Information relating to the proposed closure of Tenby MIU and the plan

of action SEPCHN is taking to prevent this closure was delivered. At present they are proposing the GPs will take over the role treating minor injury patients, at their present premises. Unfortunately no one is aware of the GPs feelings to the proposal, despite requests for a response from them. New Community Hospitals are being built elsewhere in the North of the county, at great expense. Sadly Tenby's facility, which is only six years old is under threat of closure and a waste of resources. The whole town and outlying district need to become aware of the situation, involving as many people as possible in the fight to keep the facility open.

d. Rotary Club of Tenby – Copy of response to Tenby Civic Society questionnaire.

Councillors discussed and noted the information.

e. Welsh Government (via e-mail) – Consultation on Statutory Guidance on the power to promote or improve Economic, Social or Environmental Well-Being.

The Clerk explained this act has been in place since 2000 but the guidelines on how to use it have only now been produced. This act is an additional arm County, Town and Community Councils can use if legislations are not already in place. Councillor Mrs Lane felt this legislation is worth further research to gain understanding, noting there is a section entitled by laws. Councillor W Rossiter proposed a copy of the booklet 'Localism in Practice 3 (2011)' be requested, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lane.

Councillor Mrs Lane proposed the TTC group forming to research into service providers could research this documentation at the same time, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that the Clerk request a copy of the booklet 'Localism in Practice 3 (2011)' and this documentation be discussed at the meeting arranged to consider the service provider documentation.

f. Community Health Council –Your Health, Your Future – formal consultations

Councillors discussed this issue earlier in the meeting.

g. Mr Gethin Williams – Tenby Vets RFC Golden Oldies Rugby and Family Festival

Councillor Mrs Lane felt this was a lovely idea, but as we have no twin town perhaps 10 (Assaye) Battery could be contacted to see if they have a veteran rugby team willing to play. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Lane to forward contact detail to Mr Williams of 10th Battery seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that the Council support the idea of a Rugby Festival and that the Clerk send contact details of 10 Battery to Mr Gethin Williams.

h. Mr William Rogers – Tenby Railway Station

Councillor Mrs Lane proposed we send Mr Rogers a letter including information of the discussions earlier in the meeting relating to the railway station, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr Rogers informing him of documentation being prepared to send to the Welsh Assembly relating to the railway stations along the Pembroke Dock to Swansea Line.

i. Friends of Tenby Museum – Thank you letter

Councillors noted the information.

161. ACCOUNTS FOR JULY 2012

Councillors discussed the accounts, proposed acceptance of the accounts for July 2012, by Councillor Mrs Thomas, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lane.

Resolved that the accounts for July 2012 be accepted.

162. ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST 2012

Councillors discussed the accounts; the Clerk reported that the Dyster Fountain had come in £15,000 under estimate. The Mayor congratulated Abbey Masonry on completion of the fountain and may it remain for a long time. Councillor W Rossiter enquired about the way water is supplied to the fountain; the Clerk replied the fountain is operated by a push button system dispensing fresh water through the marble dolphins. The Clerk clarified that the surplus money has been loaned to the Friends of the Jubilee at present to allow completion of the Play Park and Skate Plaza project. Proposed acceptance of the accounts for August 2012, by Councillor Mrs Lane, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that the accounts for August 2012 be accepted.

163. DE VALENCE

a. Cancellation/Hires

The Clerk outlined the reason for several cancellations. He continued by reporting on the work that has been carried out already by the De Valence Caretaker. Councillor Blackhall noted the positivity of the work that has already been done and congratulated the new member of staff at the De Valence/Tenby Town Council.

162. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported she had attended various functions as Deputy Mayor, during the Mayor's holiday, wearing the Deputy robes had been positive with the mace bearers using the bailiffs' staves instead of the maces. Meeting locals and visitors had been very enjoyable.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for her work in his absence and commented that it was nice to see the Deputy Mayor Robes being used.

Councillor Mrs Lane reported that Tenby had won Wales in Bloom this year making it the 28th win. She felt winning is all down to having pride in your town, thanking the schools, their head teachers, businesses, local organisations and PCC gardeners/staff for all working together and getting involved. Presentations take place on Friday 14th September in North Wales.

Britain in Bloom results will be in Gurnsey on 6th October 2012, where it will be revealed what level Tenby attained as we have already won by being selected to be judged from all the coastal towns in Wales..

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Mrs Lane and her team along with PCC gardeners for all their hard work and dedication.

163. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Rapi reported that Ysgol Greenhill School's GCSE results are outstanding this year and requested that TTC spread the word to filter out into the Community the positive results achieved.

Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed a letter be sent to Mrs J Kingston Headteacher, Greenhill School, congratulating them on their excellent GCSE results, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Mrs Kingston Headteacher, Greenhill School, congratulating them on their excellent GCSE results.

164. JUBILEE FAMILY PLAY PARK

Councillor Mrs Durham reported it was nice to see so many children using the Jubilee Play Park continually throughout the summer. The Mayor congratulated everyone who worked to achieve the finished Play facility in Tenby.

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that the Friends of the Jubilee Play Park had raised £1600 during the month of August; running stalls at the Round Table and Lions spectacular events, with a donation of £1000 from the Lions International, Tenby Branch. Provisional plans are in place for a big fund raising event in February 2013 to help repay the outstanding £13,000 loan. Any offers of help from locals would be very much appreciated.

The Clerk reported that County Councillor M Evans has worked hard on aspects of the Jubilee Park, including obtaining an extra picnic table. However a few older skateboarders felt it was positioned in the wrong place and moved it. The picnic table will be returned to the original position and be bolted down for health and safety reasons as soon as possible. Any children using it for skateboarding activity in its present position do so at their own risk. Recently a small area on the skate plaza required attention by the developer, Urban Recreation. A financial retainer was held back for six months to cover any small teething problems that may occur.

165. ROYAL GATE HOUSE

The Clerk reported he had received an e-mail from Mr S Fry requesting to attend the next TTC meeting to provide an update on the Royal Gate House site. Unfortunately he has a meeting in Cardiff in the afternoon of the 12th September so may not arrive to start at 7 pm. The Clerk wondered if Councillors were happy to commence the meeting and adjourn business when Mr Fry arrives? Councillors agreed to commence the next TTC meeting at 7pm and adjourn business when Mr S Fry arrives.

Councillor Mrs Brown said depending on the outcome of the proposed update at the next TTC, we need to make more progress in relation to the site than we did this year. If nothing is imminent we should push to have attention to the hoardings etc early in 2013, requesting regular meetings to obtain a more positive outcome to the appearance of the site.

Resolved that TTC will commence the meeting at 7pm on 12th September 2012, adjourning business on the arrival of Mr S Fry who will be attending to provide an update on the Royal Gate House.

166. BUS SHELTER – PARK HOUSE COURT

The Mayor reported he had received several requests for a bus shelter to be sited at the entrance of Park House Court. When relatives visiting residents and patients at the Cottage Hospital ward are waiting for a return bus to Tenby they have to cross the main road and stand in an exposed area in all weathers. A further development is proposed for the site and one may be incorporated into these plans. The Clerk outlined that only part of the area is in Tenby remit.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported she had previously suggested that Silcox include going into Park House Court on their route, as it is mainly the older generation that are visiting friends and relatives. This would solve a problem and save them having to cross the busy main road.

Councillor W Rossiter said it would also provide a service for staff who walk down the main road in all weathers.

Councillor Mrs Rosssiter proposed a letter be sent to Silcox Coach Company requesting consideration be given to altering the bus route slightly to include entering Park House Court in both directions, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lane.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Silcox Coach Company requesting consideration be given to including entering and leaving Park House Court on selected routes.

167. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Actions and updates

The Clerk clarified the items within the update, adding the following items.

The report in the Tenby Observer following the meeting with Mr Richard Brown War Graves Commission confirmed he was very happy with the maintenance of the War Graves by Tenby Sea Cadets and is going to access funds to double the maintenance grant allocated annually.

Mr Brown is sure he has located the two missing war graves and will inform the Sea Cadets in due course. He asked if an information sign about the War Graves could be sited within the Old Cemetery.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lane to write to St Mary's Parochial Council requesting an information sign relating to the War Graves on behalf of the War Graves Commission, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

As Mr Nixon declined to attend the meeting a report will be sent to him by the War Graves Commission.

The Mayor thanked the Clerk for all his hard work on the War Graves resulting in a satisfactory outcome. Councillor Mrs Lane hoped Mr Nixon will appreciate all the work that has been put into the maintenance of the War Graves.

Resolved that a letter be sent to St Mary's Church Parochial Council requesting the sighting of an information board about the War Graves within Tenby Old Cemetery.

Councillor W Rossiter felt unclear of the way forward following the recent Civic Amenity site meeting. Councillor Mrs Lane explained that some Councillors present were unable to express any views as they would be consultees in any forthcoming planning application. Tenby Town

Council requested to keep the amenity site within Tenby, however the only alternative site they could offer had already been dismissed by the Environment Agency, as it is on a fluvial and tidal flood plain. Councillor W Rossiter felt no one had given this site any further discussion as it has areas of rough edged land not used for parking. Councillor Mrs Lane added that Tenby cannot afford to give up extra car parking spaces in the tourist season.

Following further discussion between Councillors, the Mayor clarified historical information relating to the flood plain.

168. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 18th September 2012 at 7.00pm.

Apologies received for this meeting from Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

169. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Tenby Harbour – Penniless Cove – Councillor W Rossiter.

Staffing in Private – Councillor Mrs Lane.

170. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Lane, 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.

171. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 24th July 2012 be confirmed.

172. MATTERS ARISING

152 De Valence Lighting Desk

The Clerk reported that, unfortunately, the Lighting Desk ordered was out of stock, so a replacement alternative model has been ordered for the same price. It should be delivered for use by the weekend.

Councillor Mrs Lane reported she has been trying to get a local heating engineer to visit and prioritise the De Valence heating system requirements. Unfortunately he has not been able to attend. In view of this it was felt that the heating concerns need to be addressed as a priority. Councillor Mrs Lane will make some enquires with local engineers to find an alternative heating technician.

Clarification was requested, and received, on the financial amounts the Mayor and Clerk have executive powers to approve. Councillors agreed this will enable some of the urgent tasks to be completed promptly.

The Mayor suggested a De Valence Trust meeting be called as soon as possible to try to access grant funding that is currently available. Councillor Blackhall confirmed he has e-mailed Sinead Henahan PCC regeneration department in relation to grant funding.

Councillor Mrs Thomas left the chamber.

173. Local Government (Discretionary Payments) (Injury Allowances) Regulations 2011

The Clerk explained the documentation relating to paying discretionary Injury allowances, stating that the Pensions Department are requesting TTC policy decisions regarding these payments. He informed Councillors that Carmarthenshire County Council, the lead authority in the LGPS have decided not to pay these allowances.

Councillor Blackhall proposed that TTC should adopt Carmarthenshire's policies relating to opting out of discretionary payments and injury allowances, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lane.

Councillor Mrs Brown abstained from the vote.

Resolved that TTC does not implement an injury allowance under LGPS (Discretionary Payments) (Injury Allowances) Regulations 2011

The Clerk informed Councillors he will be attending a meeting on 20th September 2012 to obtain information relating to automatic enrolment into employment pension schemes. This means that all employees have to be entered into the pension scheme, but can opt out, replacing the employee opting in scheme that exists at present. The scheme is being phased in on a rolling program based on employee numbers, during the next few years.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____