

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5th February 2013

PRESENT

Councillor T Hallett Mayor
Councillor A Brown
Councillor P Rapi
Councillor Mrs Brown
Councillor Mrs Rossiter
Councillor W Rossiter
Councillor L Blackhall
Councillor Mrs Putwain

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

366. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from, Councillor Mrs Lane, Councillor Mrs Thomas, Councillor Mrs Durham and Councillor Dr P Easy.

367. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared a personal interest on item 7a, 7d and 8a, Councillor L Blackhall declared a personal interest on 9a.

368. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Brown, seconded by Councillor P Rapi.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

369. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 22nd January 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

370. MATTERS ARISING

348 – Dog Control Orders

Councillor Mrs Rossiter asked if any response had been received from PCC in relation to concerns expressed by TTC with regards to the PCC Dog Control Orders. The Clerk reported no response has been received.

354 – Hywel Dda Health Board

The Clerk reported letters have been sent to all local Assembly Members highlighting our cause and requesting their support to save Tenby MIU. Freedom of Information requests have been submitted to the Hywel Dda Health Board with a reply stating if they are able to disclose the information we will receive confirmation by 20th February 2013.

355 – Royal Gate House

The Clerk reported Mr S Fry contacted TTC office to explain the reasons for the pause in work on the Royal Gate House site; this information was confirmed by Mr R Scourfield PCNPA, with work having now recommenced. Mr Fry offered to attend any Council meeting to provide updated information as required.

371. REPORT OF MEETING

Resolved that the Notes of the Tenby Town Council meeting with Mr R Hamer PCC and Mr G Howell Capita Symonds held 29th January 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate with the following inclusion:

To add the word painting to the phrase improved Multi Storey Façade.

372. PLANNING APPLICATION

Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared an interest on the following application remaining in the chamber however taking no part in discussion or vote.

a. NP/13/0036 – Mr Alan Gold, Lundy, 34 Upper Hill Park, Tenby – Demolition of extension and garage and construction of two storey extension, 34 Upper Hill Park, Tenby.

The Clerk outlined that a previous application on this property had been approved by TTC and was still live; this application is not an amendment or replacement but a new application. Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor A Brown proposed approval as the application will enhance the property with no adverse effect on neighbouring properties, seconded by Councillor L Blackhall.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it will enhance the property with no adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter rejoined the meeting.

The Clerk suggested that planning applications NP/13/0032 and NP/13/0033, being the main and listed building application be considered together. Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed both applications be discussed together, seconded by Councillor L Blackhall.

Resolved that NP/13/0032 and NP/13/0033 planning applications be discussed together.

b. NP/13/0032 – Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest – Construction of pedestrian pier, bridge and pontoon perpendicular to the north side of the outer pier, Outer Pier, Tenby Harbour, Tenby.

Councillors viewed the planning application; all positive and negative concerns were expressed and discussed in depth.

Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed rejection as the construction of the pedestrian pier; bridge and pontoon would be out of character within Tenby Harbour, seconded by Councillor W Rossiter.

Councillor Mrs Brown gave a counter proposal, no objection in principle to the construction of a pedestrian pier; bridge and pontoon on the north side of the pier, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

The Mayor outlined the counter proposal and held a vote, resulting in five votes for two votes against. Therefore it was resolved to

RECOMMEND

Approval as it will enhance the facilities of the Harbour.

c. NP/13/0033 – Listed Building - Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest – Construction of pedestrian pier, bridge and pontoon perpendicular to the north side of the outer pier, Outer Pier, Tenby Harbour, Tenby.

Councillors viewed the planning application before all positive and negative concerns were expressed and discussed in depth.

Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed rejection as the construction of the pedestrian pier; bridge and pontoon would be out of character with Tenby Harbour, seconded by Councillor W Rossiter.

Councillor Mrs Brown gave a counter proposal, no objection in principle to the construction of a pedestrian pier; bridge and pontoon on the north side of the pier, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

The Mayor outlined the counter proposal and held a vote, resulting in five votes for two votes against. Therefore it was resolved to

RECOMMEND

Approval as it will enhance the facilities of the Harbour.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared an interest on the following application.

d. NP/12/0567 – Mr Neil Finlay, Thorncastle, Ludchurch – Replace rear conservatory with two ground floor extension over existing garage – 11 St. David’s Close, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application in great depth, taking into consideration the letter of objection received from a neighbouring property. Councillor A Brown proposed refusal as the proposed planning application would almost double the footprint of the building and have an adverse effect on the neighbouring property’s light, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

RECOMMEND

Refusal on the grounds of scale and mass as the application would almost double the footprint of the building and have an adverse effect on the neighbouring property’s light.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter rejoined the meeting.

373. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism (via e-mail) – Christmas lighting displays

Councillor Mrs Brown responded to the request from Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism in relation to the Christmas lighting, clarifying that the contract states the Christmas lighting will be ready for switch on the Friday before the 1st December every year. In view of the system used each frame has its own time control set to illuminate at 3 pm, any earlier during daylight hours would not prove effective, however to carry out an official switch on would require a lot of manpower and not practically be achievable. Therefore if the Chamber of Trade wished to organise anything to enhance the Christmas festivities TTC would be happy to offer support. In relation to items being attached to the small flag poles, these are privately owned and can be used by individuals to provide decorations if they desired.

She continued explaining complaints had been expressed to her that Tenby's Christmas lights are not as modern and pretty as other local towns, however she personally felt Tenby's are unique and provided solely by TTC and maintained to a high standard.

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed that if any surplus Christmas lighting allocation remained at the end of the financial year, costings be looked into to light the South Parade trees, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

The Clerk reported he had been disappointed by the Christmas tree supplied this year and expressed this disappointment to the supplier on behalf of TTC. He confirmed he would be trying to source a different supplier for Christmas 2013.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter said previously the Christmas lighting committee had discussed lighting for the Parade and Warren Street lampposts as businesses in this area would welcome lights. The Clerk reported he had been informed by PCC lighting engineer that since the replacement street lights in Warren Street the posts are not strong enough to withstand the load capacity of Christmas lights. To illuminate the Parade some trees would be missed as the lights need to be powered from the existing lampposts.

Councillor W Rossiter felt the Parade to the Cenotaph is very dark and a welcome to Tenby display would brighten and benefit the area.

Councillor Blackhall agreed that lighting along the Parade should be a priority if funding allowed.

Councillor A Brown stated he had personally noticed some Christmas lighting displays going off earlier than expected, approximately 10.30pm.

The Clerk agreed to liaise with the Christmas lighting contractors about the timer setting concerns for next year and discuss costings for lighting along the Parade. He was aware that due to the extreme wind and rain experienced this Christmas the contractors had many problems with whole units tripping out. Despite repeatedly repairing and replacing several components they still failed to work and continued to trip.

Councillor Mrs Brown expressed praise for the contractors and no criticism at all as they worked extremely hard to keep the lighting functioning against the extreme weather conditions this year. It was

Resolved that TTC reply to Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism outlining information relating to the Christmas lighting commencement date and time clocks, offering support to anything they would like to do to enhance Christmas festivities.

Resolved that costings are requested to provide Christmas lighting along the Parade if any surplus funds remain within the Christmas Lighting budget at the end of the financial year 2012/13.

b. WAG Petitions Committee – Tenby MIU petition

The Clerk reported that Mr W Powell AM, Chair of the Welsh Assembly Petitions Committee had requested the views of TTC on the consultation exercise undertaken by the Hywel Dda Health Board and if the general public had been given sufficient opportunity for meaningful feedback on the proposed changes to healthcare services.

Councillors felt very strongly that the answer was a resounding no; spending time outlining many reasons why to clarify the statement. The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs Thomas had requested comments be included from Mr Mansel Thomas Chairman of SEPCHN, who expressed that the Hywel Dda document and consultation process was very vague with no substance to the questionnaire.

Councillor Blackhall felt it was a very expensive paper exercise with a set of proposals they were going to go ahead with despite what anyone said. Feedback clearly showed excessive weight to the closed household questionnaires with disregard to the vast majority of local open questionnaire responses.

The Clerk outlined that Councillor Mrs Thomas had requested the following question be submitted to Hywel Dda Health board: ‘In light of the results of the recent consultation which show considerable opposition to proposals relating to the closure of Tenby MIU and the transfer of its services to local GPs, Tenby Town Council now ask the Board if they will discontinue these proposals? Should the Board continue with this proposal in defiance of public opinion will they assure TTC that Tenby MIU will remain open and operational until an agreement is made with the local GPs to take over these responsibilities? He continued by circulating a copy of the response received from Mr C Martin Chairman, Hywel Dda Health Board. It stated the board did consider local concerns to the closure of the MIU when making their decisions this is why they have proposed to trial a summer service at weekends and evening out of hours for the eight weeks increase in population during the tourist main holiday period.

Councillor Blackhall felt that surely anyone would make sure a replacement service was being provided before closing the present one; a response of 80% highlighted the strong feelings of the local public who do not want the service to close.

Councillor Blackhall proposed that the Clerk compile and send a strong letter of response including all the points outlined by TTC, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

Resolved that the Clerk compile and send a strong letter of response on behalf of TTC to Mr W Powell, AM, Petitions Committee, National Welsh Assembly for Wales.

374. DE VALENCE

a. To receive minutes of the De Valence Committee meeting held 29th January 2013 and agree action in response

Councillors took time to read the recommendations made by the De Valence Committee, it was proposed by Councillor A Brown, to accept the recommendations of the De Valence Committee, seconded by Councillor P Rapi.

Resolved that the recommendations of the De Valence Committee be accepted.

Councillor Mrs Brown said she would negotiate with Miss C Graham to assist with the planning of the promotion evening on the lines of the one she has arranged previously, proposing to run this event in March 2013. She continued by requesting any old or new photographs Councillors may have of De Valence functions be handed into the office so she can discuss the possibility of a Tenby Times feature.

The Clerk reported Mr A Llewellyn, Plumbing & Heating Engineer had telephoned TTC office to apologise for the delay in completing the heating system, unfortunately a delay occurred in the construction of the ducting system. The heating is a bespoke system specifically designed for the De Valence so the ducting has to be specially fabricated to marry up with existing under-ceiling heating outlets and delivery is expected by 14th February 2013. Fitting will take approximately one week, it is envisaged that the system should be installed during the week commencing 21st February 2013. In view of the delay an alternative heating system will be delivered for the event booked on 15th February.

375. ACCOUNTS FOR JANUARY 2013

Councillors discussed the accounts. Councillor L Blackhall proposed acceptance of the accounts for January 2013, seconded by Councillor A Brown. The Mayor expressed his thanks to the Clerk for his hard work.

Resolved that the accounts for January 2013 be accepted.

376. GRANT APPLICATIONS

a. Films 4 Tenby – Insurance costs of Tenby’s Pop-Up Film festival

Councillors discussed the request in great detail having mixed opinions relating to the information provided. It was felt that some important details like the proposed date of the event and the cost of the insurance were not provided. However it was highlighted how much work and effort has been put in to provide a new event for Tenby and it should be encouraged and welcomed.

Councillor Rapi proposed TTC support the event, providing a donation of up to £200 towards the public liability insurance for the event once the policy is in place, seconded by Councillor W Rossiter.

Resolved under Section 145 (LGA 72) to forward a cheque for up to £200 towards the public liability insurance when the policy is in place for Tenby Pop-Up Film festival.

The Clerk reported he had received a request from Ms Neal BBC Wales reporter for a TTC comment in relation to the Film festival event. He asked if it was the wish of Councillors that he prepare a comment for the press release on their behalf. It was

Resolved that the Clerk provide a TTC comment for the BBC Wales press release on the Tenby Pop-Up Film festival.

b. Bobath Children's Therapy Centre

Councillors discussed the grant application request; however it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Rossiter that TTC support their work but regrettably they would not be providing a donation as it falls outside the remit of their grants and donation policy, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that a letter is sent to Bobath Children's Therapy Centre with regret that unfortunately they fall outside TTC remit of the grant and donation policy.

377. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None noted.

378. MEDIA ITEMS

The Clerk informed Councillors that Tenby had featured in an online survey by the USA's Fox Media group noting that Tenby was ranked in the top 10 best small towns in Europe.

He continued relaying a letter received in the office from Mr G Fry with an attached Western Telegraph newspaper article stating that Cardigan had successfully won a campaign to reduce the rates for 27 businesses, saving £83,000. Noting he had previously asked TTC to call a meeting to try and address this issue for Tenby businesses, Mr Fry reiterated how important it was that Tenby try to obtain a similar reduction.

Councillors discussed that they were aware Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism had been trying to address this issue for some time.

Councillor Blackhall proposed TTC should be seeking how Cardigan addressed this issue, requesting where Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism are with their bid to tackle the rate reduction appeal and seek their views to take the matter forward, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Resolved that TTC contact Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism explaining about Cardigan and seeking their views to take the matter forward in relation to a Business Rate reduction.

379. GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME

Deferred to the next agenda as Councillor Evans not in attendance of this meeting.

380. TENBY WEBSITE/CAMERAS

Councillor W Rossiter reported he had been researching where web cameras are presently sited and where they would be of more benefit to promote the beauty Tenby has to offer. He noted three potential sites:

- Park House
- Harbourmaster's Office
- Tenby Museum

Discussion took place suggesting a way forward, firstly making enquiries in relation to obtaining sponsorship and permission. Councillor A Brown felt that the town centre should be considered as a possible site showing our very busy thriving town. Councillor Mrs Putwain felt that during the winter months the area looks less attractive and if consideration to a loop system Summer images during this time would be more effective. Discussion continued on the next step forward. It was

Resolved that the Clerk investigate Webcam providers and possibilities.

381. TENBY COTTAGE HOSPITAL

Councillor Blackhall recapped on information reported in the last meeting relating to the possibility of Tenby Cottage Hospital's present site becoming the Health Hub for South East Pembrokeshire. He proposed TTC write to Hywel Dda Health Board requesting a meeting to commence engagement of how Tenby Cottage Hospital site can become the Community Health Hub, seconded by Councillor A Brown.

Resolved that TTC write to Hywel Dda Health Board requesting a meeting to commence engagement of how Tenby Cottage Hospital can become the Community Health Hub for South East Pembrokeshire.

382. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

The Clerk reported he had received an e-mail from the Police & Crime Commissioner requesting views in relation to the precept and Police & Crime plan outlined for the next five years. Unfortunately they require feedback on the 23 page document by Friday 8th February 2013. Following discussion it was felt TTC response should be made clear that they welcomed the document but strongly felt that police presence in the town was getting less and counter services provided were less adequate.

Resolved that the Clerk respond to Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Commissioner highlighting TTC feelings and concerns in relation to the present police service in Tenby.

The Clerk informed Councillors to note that heavy machinery would be working and repairing the sea wall below the North Cliff over the next few weeks. Overnight the machinery will be parked on the North Walk.

The Sergeant of Arms Mr J Morgan had highlighted a concern to the Clerk recently in relation to the town's Book of Remembrance held in St. Mary's Church. He had the honour of reading the list of the Fallen at the Remembrance Day service and noted that the list of those who died in the First World War were inscribed on vellum, whereas those who died in the Second World War were on a typed loose leaf sheet inserted in the back of the book and the young soldier who died in Afghanistan was on a hand written loose leaf also tucked into the back of the book.

He felt that all the Fallen deserved to be inscribed on vellum within the Book of Remembrance and, as it is the 100th Anniversary of the start of the First World War next year, perhaps TTC would consider supporting a project to upgrade the Book of Remembrance to coincide with this. If there was support the Church could proceed with obtaining costings.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt it was the duty of Tenby Town Council to remember and respect those that gave their lives for us, she proposed costings be obtained, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that the Clerk liaise with St Mary's Church to obtain costings to enable all those who gave their lives in the Second World War and subsequent conflicts to also be inscribed on vellum within the Book of Remembrance.

383. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 19th February 2013 at 7.30 pm.

Apologies received in advance from Councillor Mrs Putwain.

384. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Signs – Councillor Mrs Brown.

Paragon Sea Wall – Councillor P Rapi.

Mayor Elect – Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

385. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Blackhall, seconded by Councillor A 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.

386. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 22nd January 2013 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

387. MATTERS ARISING

None noted.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____