

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING (1) HELD
8TH JULY 2026

Present: Cllr Dai Morgan Mayor
Cllr Tom Sloan
Cllr Sam Skyrme-Blackhall
Cllr Laurence Blackhall
Cllr Phil Spence
Cllr Anna Bolton
Cllr Jayne Badham
Cllr Tara Carmody

Also present: Sharon Thompson Deputy Clerk

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Phillips and Cllr Carmody who may be late.

2. TO DISCLOSE ANY PERSONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS LISTED BELOW

The Mayor declared personal interest in Item 3.

The Mayor proposed Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall to the Chair as most recent previous Mayor. Cllr Sloan seconded the motion and all were in agreement.

Cllr Morgan left the Chamber and Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall took the Chair

3. TO CONSIDER GRANTING THE FREEDOM OF THE TOWN TO TENBY SEA CADETS ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall said *It is with great pride and respect that this proposal is submitted requesting that Tenby Sea Cadets be awarded the Freedom of the Town of Tenby in recognition of their 75 years of outstanding service to our community.*

For three-quarters of a century, Tenby Sea Cadets have been far more than a youth organisation. They have been a cornerstone of our town, providing generations of young people with opportunities to develop confidence, discipline, resilience, leadership, teamwork and a strong sense of civic responsibility. Their influence reaches far beyond the parade ground or training deck, helping to shape young people into responsible, compassionate citizens who go on to serve their communities with pride.

Since their formation, hundreds of local young people have passed through the doors of the unit. Many have pursued successful careers in the Armed Forces, emergency services, maritime industries, education, healthcare and countless other professions, carrying with them the values first instilled by the Sea Cadets. Others have remained within the organisation as volunteers, ensuring that future generations benefit from the same opportunities.

The commitment of the volunteers who have dedicated thousands of hours over the past 75 years cannot be overstated. They have given their time, experience, and unwavering support without expectation of reward, motivated only by a desire to invest in the young people of Tenby. Their service embodies the very best of community spirit and voluntary commitment.

Tenby Sea Cadets have proudly represented our town at civic ceremonies, remembrance services, national events and charitable occasions. They have marched with dignity, honoured our veterans, supported local events and strengthened the bond between the Armed Forces and the civilian community. Their smart turnout, professionalism and conduct have consistently reflected credit upon the town they represent.

The Freedom of the Town is among the highest civic honours that can be bestowed. It recognises exceptional service, enduring commitment and a lasting contribution to the life and identity of a community. Few organisations embody these qualities more completely than Tenby Sea Cadets.

As the unit celebrates its 75th anniversary, this milestone presents a unique and fitting opportunity for the people of Tenby to formally acknowledge the remarkable legacy that has been built over generations. Such an honour would not only celebrate the achievements of those who currently serve but would also recognise every cadet, volunteer, instructor, trustee and supporter who has contributed to the success of the unit since its establishment.

Granting the Freedom of the Town would send a powerful message that Tenby values service, dedication, volunteerism and the investment made in its young people. It would become a lasting symbol of gratitude from the community to an organisation that has quietly and faithfully served it for 75 years.

It is therefore respectfully proposed that Tenby Town Council confer the Freedom of the Town upon Tenby Sea Cadets during their 75th Anniversary celebrations in recognition of their exceptional contribution to the civic, social and community life of Tenby and with sincere appreciation for their enduring service over the past seventy-five years.

May this honour stand as a tribute not only to their proud history but also as an inspiration for the generations of Sea Cadets yet to come.

Cllr Sloan added that all that they do should be celebrated. TSCC are self-funded with no external support, they should be noted as exceptional.

The honour would be conferred under Section 249 of the LGA 1972 (as amended in 2009)' requiring a two-thirds majority of members present said Cllr Blackhall.

We value what they have done and what we hope they continue to do.

TSCC attended the first post-lockdown Remembrance Sunday rebuilding to over 40 members, they are a huge part of Tenby's history.

Cllr Bolton feels it would be an opportunity to celebrate with all organisations. Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall recalled that TTC used to hold Quarterlies. To recognise those people within our community, to say thank you and to present a unique scroll. A nod from the Town. Hundreds of young people have passed through the unit, many going on to armed forces, emergency services and other professions.

Recipients receive a special scroll but the honour confers no legal privileges.

Research into founding members and their descendants to be included in anniversary recognition. There was an appeal recently for people to come up with memories.

Councillors noted the importance of recognising all contributors – founders, past volunteers, instructors, cadets and not just the present unit. Individuals such as RB and KB were mentioned as historically significant contributors worth acknowledging.

Celebrations of all our organisations. Brownies and Guides had a big celebration recently. TTC should explore a broader community celebration event to recognise all local organisations eg RNLI, fire service, rugby club, football club to name a few. This should be a future Agenda item.

Freedom of the Town is awarded rarely and is not given lightly. It was last awarded approximately 3 years ago and prior to that not for 50 years.

It was proposed by Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall, seconded by Cllr Tom Sloan and unanimously agreed that

Tenby Sea Cadets be granted the Freedom of the Town of Tenby.