

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
10TH DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Cllr T Brown Mayor
Cllr Mrs C Brown
Cllr H Whitehurst
Cllr L Blackhall
Cllr Mrs S Lane
Cllr Mrs S Skyrme-Blackhall
Cllr Mrs T Evans
Cllr D Morgan
Cllr T Hallett

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Davies Clerk
Mrs S Thompson Assistant to the Clerk

293. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Mrs Rossiter, Cllr Rapi and Cllr Ronowitz.

294. TO DISCLOSE ANY PERSONAL INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS LISTED BELOW

Cllr Hallett declared a personal interest in 6c Planning Application.

295. TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Lane and seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans

The Clerk said that he had received a number of additional planning applications that PCNPA required determination on prior to our next scheduled meeting. Were members happy to take them this evening? Cllr Mrs Lane proposed taking the additional planning applications and the Mayor seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

296. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 26th November 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

297. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a. Page 139 Item 278a – Planning Application, Crackwell Street

The Clerk read out a response received from Mr Rob Scourfield:

If we are to take both applications to members, I will need a clearly substantiated objection from your Councillors, bearing in mind the condition proposed below.

Requiring our Members to make the final recommendation on the premise that there are concerns about the cliff is in my view not substantive. A pre-commencement condition requiring a report as outlined below should suffice, and really is the premise of the expert.

I look forward to your thoughts.

Cllr Blackhall said there is considerable concern and ongoing cliff management in this area, it is reasonable to expect this matter to go before a full committee. We are no experts but it is vitally important that this should be considered by representatives of PCNPA's Development Management Committee. Cllr Hallett reminded councillors that this area is located on the Ritec fault and there are quite often falls. There is no guarantee of stability, he added and this approach could save the applicant money in the long run.

Cllr Blackhall proposed replying asking for the evidence of experts suggested regarding stability be brought before the DMC before a decision be made. Cllr Hallett seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That TTC respond to Mr. Scourfield stating that members feel that the view of experts into the stability of this area should be considered by the Development Management Committee before a decision is made.

b. Page 139d Item 278e – Tenby in Bloom

Cllr Mrs Lane told councillors that she and the Clerk had met PCC on site at Paragon Gardens. She thanked the council for allowing us to get on with the scheme. Areas discussed were the middle and top beds.

There were concerns as to the empty flower beds in the summer months as there are more children. A low fence, possibly chain was discussed together with coloured stones/boulders on different levels. The idea was to ensure the gardens were colourful, attractive and tidy.

PCC have assured that hedges will be trimmed and gardens litter picked. Once initial outlay was made, together with savings already being made due to reduction in floral bedding here and elsewhere, we should be well within the budget, Cllr. Mrs. Lane said.

Hopefully concerns will be allayed and this will prevent closure of the garden and provide a serene place to sit.

The Clerk said the idea is to replicate the floral displays using the coloured stone and boulders.

Cllr Hallett queried how the job would be undertaken and it was explained that a membrane would be laid to prevent weed growth.

c. Page 143 Item 282 – Development of Land at Brynhir

The Clerk told councillors that he had yet to receive a reply from Cllr Mrs Bateman.

d. Page 143 Item 281 – Tenby Tourist Information Centre

Cllr Mrs Lane asked if the comments by PCC members at Cabinet relating to the TIC could be referred to here.

The Clerk explained that what Cllr. Mrs. Lane was referring to was that, both in the webcast and a report of the Cabinet meeting on page 8 of the Tenby Observer, the cabinet member responsible for tourism had expressed an opinion that the closure of the TIC was 'long overdue' and it was 'old hat' and 'not needed'.

He explained that Cabinet has resolved that Property and Regeneration officers were to be tasked to negotiate with TTC over the possible asset transfer and subsequently these officers are now looking for dates to come and meet with councillors.

Cabinet have also agreed a new community asset transfer policy in line with the model policy suggested by Welsh Government which would be the way forward being looked at by PCC.

Cllr Mrs Brown agrees with Cllr Mrs Lane in that she too has also changed her mind over the course of the last few months regarding the future of the TIC.

TTC need to concentrate, carefully listening to what is being proposed by PCC before making a final decision.

Cllr Blackhall felt the discussion warranted a separate meeting rather than the relevant officers allocated some time at a future council meeting. Clarity was needed entering into discussions to ensure all avenues have been explored.

TTC will need to go away and discuss the information offered at the forthcoming meeting.

It was suggested that the relevant officers be invited to a special meeting of council on 14th January at 6pm.

e. Page 144 Item 283 – South Parade

Cllr Mrs Brown agrees with Cllr Mrs Lane. The Regeneration committee has not met for some time and is now needed to discuss a way forward to light the walls.

She felt we needed to dispose of the idea of a feasibility study for the lighting and streetscape enhancement as the quotes received were very high. There was a need to simplify and just get on with TTC's own plan for lighting.

PCC are simply not moving on this, she continued. Grant funding is available she believes and there was nothing to stop some up lighting going ahead.

She suggested TTC get some pricings for this and leave what happens to the rest up to PCC.

The Clerk said he had written to the Cabinet member responsible for Infrastructure, Cllr. Phil Baker about the condition of the Parade and copied Head of Highways and Construction Mr. Darren Thomas and Head of Environmental Services and Public Protection Mr. Richard Brown into the email.

Cllr. Baker had replied noting that these heads of service had been copied into the email and was awaiting the comments of both before replying.

f. Page 11 Item 284 – South Beach Groynes

Cllr Hallett said the sinking was actually 0.5cms in 100 years not per year.

298. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

- a. NP/19/0610/FUL – Change of use of the ground floor of the application property from a former dental practice to a 2-bedroom self-contained flat with internal alterations and change of use of the lower ground floor from a dental ancillary storage use (D1) to an office (B1) – Aces Court, Warrant Street, Tenby

Councillors recalled this being discussed previously. Councillors felt that this was work was consistent with the development and a much needed upgrade and improvement.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the policies of the LDP members have no objection to this application and feel it is consistent with the remaining development and upgrades it to bring a much needed improvement to the building.

- b. NP/19/0618/TCA – 4 x Leylandii- dismantle to ground level – Washeteria, The Green, Tenby

The Clerk explained that this was a slightly different application in that council were being asked if these trees merited a tree preservation order as they were in the Conservation Area.

Cllr Hallett has no objection to these being removed but felt that they should be replaced by a holly or broadleaf oak, hazel or beech. He said that there had been some talk of them blocking view but the reason for their removal is health and safety. Cllr Blackhall proposed accepting on the condition that the trees be replaced with those suggested by Cllr Hallett. Cllr Hallett seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Members see no merit in introducing a TPO for these trees but feel that a replacement programme of more native species like holly, broadleaf oak, hazel or beech could be considered to protect the railway line.

- c. NP/19/0640/TPO – T1 sycamore – fell; T2 sycamore – fell; T3 sycamore – fell; T4 pine – crown raise lower branches to the height of the first significant fork – Ty Isaf, 22 Haytor Gardens, Tenby

Cllr Blackhall proposed accepting the application and Cllr Mrs Lane seconded.

RECOMMEND

Members have no objection to these proposals.

Extra Planning Applications

Cllr Hallett proposed taking the next two applications as one and Cllr Mrs Lane seconded the proposal.

- d. NP/19/0646/LBA – Demolish existing lean-to study and external WC; construct single storey extension and balcony – Walmer House, Deer Park, Tenby
- e. NP/19/0646/FUL – Demolish existing lean-to study and external WC; construct single storey extension and balcony – Walmer House, Deer Park, Tenby

The Clerk gave some background to this application. Originally councillors had recommended accepting the proposal but due to concerns raised by the adjacent property over possible invasion of privacy, the original application had been refused by PCNPA.

Members studied the plans and noted that a screen was being proposed to reduce invasion of privacy issues but members felt that a screen could easily be removed by future owners.

Asked if TTC have heard any objections over this new application, the Clerk said that none had been received but this was also the case on the original application where neighbours' concerns had been raised directly with PCNPA.

Cllr Mrs Lane said that while she had no issues with the extension she was concerned over the balcony and possible invasion of privacy. She recommended the application be refused on these grounds. Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Refusal. While members have no objection to the extension, they are concerned about the effect of the balcony area on the amenity of neighbouring properties when considered against relevant policies in the LDP.

- f. NP/19/0627/TPO – Tree works in relation to PC-19-11-07/11/2019 – Hafod Y Werydd, Heywood Lane, Tenby

Cllr Hallett had concerns for a Yew tree that had been planted in the grounds by a previous owner but this was not listed. The Mayor proposed accepting and Cllr Mrs Lane seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Members have no objection to these proposals.

- g. NP/19/0656/FUL – Proposed new garage – Oaklands, Marsh Road, Tenby

Cllr Mrs Lane proposed accepting the application and Cllr Mrs Evans seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies in the LDP members have no objection to these proposals.

299. TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR NOVEMBER (INCLUDING SCHEDULED PAYMENTS, UNPRESENTED CHEQUES, RECEIPTS, ACCOUNT BALANCES, BUDGET MONITORING TO DATE AND BANK RECONCILIATIONS) AND CONSIDER ANY ISSUES ARISING

Cllr Mrs Lane recommended accepting the accounts and Cllr Hallett seconded the proposal thanking the Clerk for his hard work.

RESOLVED

That the accounts for November (including scheduled payments, unpresented cheques, receipts, account balances, budget monitoring to date and bank reconciliations) be approved.

300. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

De Valence Pavilion

Cllr Mrs Brown told councillors that the De Valence will host a concert on the weekend which is a Queen & U2 tribute then Welsh Wrestling returns at the end of December. The Trust were now registering for VAT as the income threshold had been reached. Grants were being applied for ceiling and stage lighting.

Mosaic

Cllr Mrs Evans asked what the next move should be as there had been no response from Transport for Wales. Councillors asked the intended position of the mosaic at the railway station. Cllr. Mrs. Lane said she had the name of a contact who may be able to help.

Carol Service

Cllr Hallett had attended a Carol Service which he had thoroughly enjoyed.

Mayoral Engagements

The Mayor had attended the Tenby Round Table Senior Citizen's meal and found it to be very festive. The school play he too had thoroughly enjoyed.

The Library had played host to a Christmas Coffee Morning with choirs and he remarked on how good the singing was!

The Christmas Festivities day had gone very well. He was amazed at the amount of people saying it was lovely to see so many children. Cllr Blackhall said it was great to see so many there and he thanked Cllr Mrs Lane for resurrecting the event some years ago and the Mayor for continuing in the tradition.

It was an excellent event and we must stay upbeat about the things we do well. People were talking so positively about it all.

Cllr. Blackhall thanked our lighting contractors for getting everything sorted in time despite delays in the arrival of the new displays.

Cllr Mrs Lane wanted to mention both Seren and Kelly Williams dancers, the weather was so very cold but they were absolutely brilliant. Thanks also to Friendship Club, Laura Morgan, the Salvation Army, the RNLI, the Clerk, the Coastguards, Tenby firefighters, Steve Briers, Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall, the Town Crier, Tenby House Hotel for the snow, Mr Eric Vickery for the sweets and generally a huge thank you to the all residents of Tenby who supported the event and helped make it such a success.

301. TO CONSIDER ANY MEDIA ITEMS RELATING TO TENBY TOWN COUNCIL OR TENBY AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE

None noted.

302. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AT BRYNHIR (IF ANY)

Covered earlier in meeting.

303. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON SOUTH PARADE (IF ANY)

Covered earlier in meeting.

304. TO CONSIDER ANY FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

a. BT consultation on removal of payphones

BT were consulting on the removal of a further 29 payphones in the county, two of which were in Tenby.

Cllr Hallett feels that they are a part of the iconic set up of the town. He asked who would look after them if they were to be kept. Cllr Mrs Lane said the telephone situated in St Julian's Street was an eye sore as it was not looked after.

Members said that the use of the phones is not itemised into emergency and non-emergency but it was noted that these phones have been used far more than the others which councillors had previously asked to keep.

Cllr Mrs Brown said that should they be kept they need to be cleaned regularly as some of them are disgusting, constantly filthy and covered in stickers.

Cllr Whitehurst agreed with the Mayor in that it would be inconsistent if we were to agree for these to be removed when we had said that others with far less use should be kept.

Cllr Mrs Evans proposed keeping the payphones and Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall seconded the proposal.

Cllr Mrs Brown abstained from voting.

RESOLVED

That BT be informed that the two payphones in question should be retained.

b. Costings for Flowers

The Clerk had received a quote for £6,180 for bedding plants for 2020 from PCC. He told the councillors also that Mr McCarthy had also offered to provide the town with 3 further floral towers that Milford Haven no longer require at a cost of £400 per tower.

The question was raised as to where they may be located. Suggestions included North Slip or perhaps by the Five Arches. Cllr. Blackhall suggested that Cllr Mrs Lane and the Clerk liaise with Mr. McCarthy as to locations should council be in agreement that they be acquired.

The Mayor proposed we accept the three towers as money has been saved already by the reduction in gardens. Cllr. Mrs Lane seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That the cost of floral bedding for 2020 be accepted and that the three spare floral towers be acquired at a cost of £400 each.

c. 2020/2021 Police Precept Consultation

The Police and Crime Commissioner was asking councillors to make the public aware of his consultation on the Police precept for 2020/21.

How many more police officers could we afford if there was no police and crime commissioner asked Cllr Blackhall.

d. Tenby House Hotel New Year's Eve

Mrs Leslie Fisher had written to TTC asking if a contribution towards the public liability insurance would be possible as in past years. Cllr Hallett proposed the sum of £400 and Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That under Section 144 of the LGA 1972 a contribution of £400 be made towards the insurance costs for the New Year's Eve firework display.

305. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 7th January 2020 at 7.30 pm.

306. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr Blackhall would like to invite the Director of Education, the Head of Ysgol Greenhill School and the Chair of Governors to sit and talk about how education is working in our town. Is there anything we can do, or contribute to help the improvement needed and support those committed to the youth of our town. How do we improve, how do we support you better? We know everyone is working hard but can we help to make it even better?

307. TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS UNDER THE "PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT OF 1960"

308. TO CONFIRM THE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12th NOVEMBER 2019

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 26th November 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

309. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Page 146 Item 292a. - DVP Trust

RESOLVED

That Cllr. T. Brown be appointed to represent Tenby Town Council on the De Valence Trust.

Page 148 Item 292c. - Children's Beach Wheelchair

The Clerk asked if we had any costings for the children's wheelchair and was told it is the same cost as an adult wheelchair.

310. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE WORKING PARTY HELD 3RD DECEMBER 2019 AND CONSIDER ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

RESOLVED

That the recommendations of the Finance Working Party be accepted and agreed.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____