

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
16th OCTOBER 2018

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs S Lane Mayor
Councillor L Blackhall
Councillor T Brown
Councillor Mrs T Rossiter
Councillor Mrs C Thomas
Councillor Mrs S Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Davies Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs S Thompson Assistant to the Clerk

214. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall, Cllr Hallett and Cllr Crockford.

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

The Clerk advised that the members of the De Valence Pavilion Trust may have a conflict of interest in 9a as this may be seen to be a competition venue. Thus Cllr Brown and Cllr Mrs Rossiter declared their interest in item 9a.

216. TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT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 Blackhall and seconded by Cllr Brown.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

217. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 2nd October 2018 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

218. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

199. Castle Hill/Town Walls

Cllr Mrs Thomas thanked the Clerk for writing to the various organisations who may be interested in forming a Trust or who may have expertise and talent in this field in a hope that Tenby may follow in the footsteps of Pembroke who have a set up a Trust to take care of their walls. She very much hopes that people come forward.

202c. NP/18/0524/FUL

Alteration of existing shop front to include new entrance to proposed first and second floor flats; existing first floor and second floor maisonette adjusted to form a 1 bedroom self-contained flat at first floor and a second 2 bedroom self-contained flat on the second floor; internal ground floor alterations to refurbish the existing A3 usage to create a bar, restaurant and kitchen facilities; demolition of first floor rear storage building, altium roof light to ground floor and extension to form a first floor dining area for restaurant. – Feccis Ice Cream Parlour, St George’s House, St George Street, Tenby – amended plans

The Clerk told Councillors that he had received an email from PCNPA advising of amended plans showing the traditional shop front door being retained. Any comments from Council were required within the next 7 days.

The Mayor declared her interest and left the Chamber.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Rossiter and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Williams that Cllr. Blackhall take the chair.

Cllr Blackhall thought that the initial plan showing bi-folding doors were nice and very much in keeping with the Café Culture of Tenby Town. However, there were no planning reasons he could see as to why these amendments should be refused.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed accepting the amended plan and Cllr Brown seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. While members were in favour of the original designs, considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members have no objections to these amended proposals.

The Mayor returned to the Chamber and resumed the Chair.

206. Media Items

Cllr Mrs. Thomas followed up the New York Times dubbing Tenby the ‘Iron Town’ suggesting now may be the time to revisit the proposal of introducing adult exercise equipment around Tenby. Cllr Blackhall remembers this proposal as part of the regeneration project but due to a certain chief executive not being in favour of such equipment the idea was not pursued. Perhaps now was the time to push forward. The Mayor commented that she has wanted this project to go ahead for 25 years. Mothers could exercise whilst their children played. Some discussion took place as to the need for a fence if equipment was to be placed in the play park and also on possible location of the equipment.

210. Casual Vacancy

The Clerk told Councillors that the vacancy had been advertised twice due to an error in the initial advertisement. This Friday, 19th October, was the closing date for applications and members would be in a position to consider these at the next meeting.

219. **TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES MEETING HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER**

The Mayor told Councillors that preparations were going well and that the programme was pretty much sorted, saying that any ideas can be added. She hopes that Rotary will hold a 'Bull Run' but the Clerk is waiting on further information. Cartoon characters such as Paw Patrol, Transformers, Batman, etc are all still very popular amongst the different aged children. Mr Deakin, of the Showmen's Guild, had been approached regarding little rides for Tudor Square, making the most of the road closure from 12 noon to 6pm.

220. **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:**

- a. NP/18/0560/OUT – Proposed new dwelling within grounds of existing dwelling – 1 Oakridge Acres, Tenby

Cllr Mrs Thomas feels there is plenty of room for the dwelling. No feedback from neighbours had been received. Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed accepting the proposal and Cllr Williams seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members feel there is adequate space available for this and have no objections to this proposal.

- b. NP/18/0572/TPO – 1 x pine tree – reduction of secondary stem to 2m – Penlee, 8 Mayfield Drive, Tenby

For health and safety purposes Cllr Mrs Thomas proposed accepting the application and Cllr Mrs Rossiter seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members have no objections to this proposal in the interests of health and safety.

- c. NP/18/0571/TPO – Removal of T1 Sycamore and replace with Rowan of fruit species. The remaining trees in the group (Sycamores) to be pruned for highway clearance 5.2m – Jibinc, Mayfield Drive, Tenby

Cllr Blackhall recommended approval of the application again on health and safety grounds and Cllr Mrs Rossiter seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members have no objections to this proposal in the interests of health and safety.

Cllr. Mrs. Thomas was feeling unwell and excused herself from the meeting.

221. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

- a. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - Draft Annual Report – February 2019

The Clerk told Councillors that this report is produced and prepared annually and implemented in February. Proposals are the same as last year except that the £150 contribution to members is now mandatory to all except if they wish to opt out and this must be agreed before start of the next Council year. The Mayor proposed that the money be given to causes within town. Due to tax implications the Clerk had prepared a form. Cllr Brown asked where the monies would go if councillors chose to decline the payment and the Clerk advised the funds would go in to Council reserves. Suggestions that the money could be put towards a cause was further discussed. Councillors should complete the form indicating whether or not they wish to decline the allowance. Cllr Mrs Rossiter had previously written, as had Cllr Mrs Williams, that she did not wish to receive the payment and she liked to think her portion had gone towards the restoration of the parlour chairs.

When asked for any observations Cllr Blackhall suggested that this was an introduction of something quite useless. He also questioned restricting the allowance to the Mayor, this may be fine for a small community like Carew but prohibitive for a town the size of Tenby.

The Clerk commented Councils were able to set a mayoral budget to reimburse the mayor for expenditure related to the role but the allowance in the Panel's report refers to a taxable salary which is for the mayor's personal use as they see fit. Cllr Blackhall felt the council should have the freedom to decide what is appropriate. The Mayor said that the allowance was designed to ensure that anyone could take on the role of Mayor without worrying that they would be left out of pocket and felt it is wrong to have to provide all receipts as there was always something forgotten.

The Clerk felt that there was confusion over the term Mayor's Allowance. The town council sets a budget for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Mayor while fulfilling the role and receipts were required by the Auditors to ensure that this money was properly accounted for. TTC referred to this as the Mayor's Allowance whereas it should really be referred to as the Mayoral

Budget to avoid confusion as the Allowance referred to by the Panel was a wage payable to the Mayor.

Members felt that making the £150 mandatory to all councils would incur unnecessary expense and bureaucracy at a time when councils needed to ensure that services were maintained.

b. Sharon Rees – ‘No Dogs’ sign, Southcliff Gardens

Cllr Mrs Rossiter opened by saying it was a strange letter to receive from someone so fortunate as to have a second home in Tenby. She herself has two golden retrievers, one of which has really bad arthritis. She has to lift her into the car and take them to a suitable place to walk them, saying she could not believe that this lady expected to walk her dog in a public garden.

Some time ago the fence to the garden was reduced in height in an effort to discourage antisocial behaviour, commented Cllr. Mrs Rossiter, feeling that this letter was a joke.

Cllr Blackhall thought it to be the silliest letter he had read. He commented that second home owners were paying one and a half times the council tax was due to the fact that they were causing a shortage of properties available for year round occupation, Council services had to be maintained throughout the year. He could not understand the lady’s argument that stopping dogs using this garden would lead to making the pavements dirtier.

The Mayor commented that there is a kissing gate to stop dogs going in off the street and added that the gardeners have to kneel on the ground and tend the gardens amongst dog waste which was unpleasant and unhygienic.

It was not right, she felt, that people assume it is okay for the garden be used as a dog toilet.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter suggested a stern letter of reply outlining the views of the council. Dogs and ball games have historically been discouraged because of the potential damage to flower beds. Any concerns regarding antisocial behaviour should be directed to the police.

222. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING LICENSING APPLICATIONS AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

a. Tenby Leisure Centre

As a number of members had declared an interest in this item at the start of the meeting Councillors were unable to discuss the matter as the meeting would no longer be quorate.

223. TO RECEIVE THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR’S AUDIT CERTIFICATE AND OPINION ON TENBY TOWN COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR

ENDING 31ST MARCH 2018 AND AGREE ACTION ON ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

The Clerk told Councillors that we had received a qualified opinion as the External Auditor felt they couldn't read the photograph of the Notification of Electors' Rights poster to confirm it had been filled in correctly, which was disappointing. The other matters were errors made by the Internal Auditor while filling in their section of the return. These points would be addressed.

Resolved

That the External Auditor's audit certificate and opinion on Tenby Town Council accounts for the year ending 31st March 2018 be received and any issues noted actioned.

224. TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR SEPTEMBER (INCLUDING SCHEDULED PAYMENTS, UN-PRESENTED CHEQUES, RECEIPTS, ACCOUNT BALANCES, BUDGET MONITORING TO DATE AND BANK RECONCILIATIONS) AND CONSIDER ANY ISSUES ARISING

Councillors were happy with the accounts. Cllr Mrs. Rossiter proposed accepting the accounts and Cllr Mrs. Williams seconded.

RESOLVED

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

225. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Fireman's Carnival

Cllr Mrs Rossiter had attended a meeting at the fire station regarding next year's Carnival. Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked if it would be possible for Tenby in Bloom to have a fire engine floral display overlooking Castle beach to mark the 100th anniversary of the first carnival.

Pembroke Fair

The Mayor had attended the official opening of the Fair in Pembroke. The Showmen had had a good first night but the weather was absolutely atrocious after.

St Matthew's Charter Fair

The Mayor hoped that as many Councillors as possible would be able to attend on Friday for the opening of the Fair. We would be meeting at the De Valence at 11.45, processing to the Fair site for its official opening then returning to the De Valence for a reception.

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

A pod of bottlenose dolphins had ventured in to Tenby Harbour and had been captured on film by members of Tenby Sailing Club. Several publications had picked up on the story.

227. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE SALE OF LAND AT BRYNHIR (IF ANY)

No further updates at this time.

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

The Clerk told Councillors that he had not received a reply from Mr Brown over possible assistance in preparing a tender document but that he was meeting with Sinead Henehan next week. The Mayor felt that this is a vital part of history and not being taken seriously. Perhaps it's time to write to our AM or go further, perhaps a letter to the Welsh Office, as we seem to be getting nowhere. This has been needed for the past 25 years and there was, at that time, money available.

229. UPDATE ON PLASTIC FREE TENBY INITIATIVES

Cllr Blackhall told Councillors that there would be a meeting in November which will be the first in a while due to summer delays and ill health.

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

a. Sandy Bear

Sandy Bear Children's Bereavement Charity had invited a representative of Tenby Town Council to their official launch on Thursday, 18th October 2018 between 3pm and 5pm.

b. TTC Christmas Party

This year the TTC Christmas party will be held in The Cove at 2pm on 20th December. If members will be joining later, eating will be delayed until such time as they can get there, don't forget Secret Santa. Menus will be available shortly.

231. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 30th October 2018 at 7.30pm.

232. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Signs/Flyposting – Cllr T Brown

233. **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”**