

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
27th MARCH 2018

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs S Lane Mayor
Councillor Mrs C Brown
Councillor Mr M Evans
Councillor Mr L Blackhall
Councillor Mr T Brown
Councillor Mrs T Rossiter
Councillor Mrs S Skyrme-Blackhall
Councillor Mrs S Williams
Councillor Mrs C Thomas
Councillor Mr T Hallett
Councillor Mr P Rapi

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Davies Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs S Thompson Assistant to the Clerk
Councillor Mr R Kilmister Cabinet Member Responsible for Finance

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Kilmister.

Cllr. Bob Kilmister, Cabinet member responsible for Finance introduced himself to Council saying that this scheme is designed to give back to the community and combat the effects of second home ownership.

PCC had agreed in 2016 to introduce a 50% council tax premium on second homes in the county. The additional revenue generated would be split equally between affordable homes provision and community projects. In the first year of implementation (2017 – 18) the amount likely to be generated was not known so the Community element was used to assist things like Citizen's Advice and youth services.

From 1st April 2018 PCC would be introducing a community grant scheme which will allow town and community councils and the Third Sector to bid for funding from the Community Element for specific projects. The total raised through the Second Homes premium for the forthcoming year was £1.95 million which meant that £1 million was available towards affordable housing and nearly £1 million for community grants.

The aspiration was that this grant system would enhance Pembrokeshire communities and help negate the impact of second home ownership within a community area. The fund would grant up to 80% of a project which proved that it had the support of the community and met PCC's Wellbeing objectives.

The community body making the grant application would have to match fund the remaining 20% but this did not necessarily mean cash support but 'in kind' support could also be included. These grants could also be used to lever in additional grant funding, e.g. from the National Lottery, and could eventually deliver some very big and exciting projects.

Grants could be for Capital or Revenue projects but, if used for revenue funding, must be proved to be sustainable after the grant period ended.

It was recognised that some communities had a larger ‘pot’ of potential funding than others and some 25% of the total premium raised was to be allocated to a fund that all communities in Pembrokeshire could apply to. However, places like Tenby, who already had a substantial pot compared to other areas, could still potentially have a scheme part funded from this general pot if it was meritorious enough.

There was also the possibility that some communities could join forces to deliver a project that would benefit them all.

Cllr. Kilmister said that this was the trial year for the scheme as this was unique to Pembrokeshire. While other Authorities levied a Second Homes premium, all revenue raised by them was used for affordable home provision.

PCC had to ensure that the premium raised was used for the correct purposes and if any of the ‘community element’ money was not spent it would be allocated to the affordable housing pot.

PCC had also allocated resources to provide help and advice to communities to get schemes going and to guide them through the grant application process. The grant bids would be assessed by a panel of three Cabinet members, assisted by two officers, based on a set criteria. The grant application paperwork would be available shortly and PCC would also be conducting a number of roadshows to outline the scheme to communities.

Cllr Brown asked if you could apply for more than one grant at a time and how soon could an application be made. Cllr. Kilmister said that organisations could submit bids for different projects as of 1st April. However, it was anticipated that not many organisations would have bid ready proposals and more would be forthcoming towards the end of the financial year. As such PCC had allowed two years to draw down the funding for the scheme before it was reallocated to the affordable housing pot

Cllr Mrs Brown asked if any community group could submit an application. Cllr. Kilmister replied that the criteria on who could apply would be on the PCC website but the organisation would have to be constituted.

Cllr Rapi asked if the monies needed to be claimed in one year or was there a rollover. Cllr Kilmister reiterated that there would be a two year leeway, but the money could not be banked up year after year until a suitable project came forward.

Cllr Evans appreciated that some of the smaller villages with few second homes had small pots and understood the rationale behind the ‘general’ fund of £226K. However, he stressed that he felt the grants were to aid key areas suffering from a large percentage of second home ownership and this was a great fund to have for those areas.

Cllr. Kilmister added that he intended PCC’s sign department to make plaques made that will displayed so that all will see what projects had been funded by second home tax money.

Cllr Blackhall welcomed the initiative and felt that this could deliver £1 million over the next 10 year period. He anticipated lots of projects coming forward and felt the town should be planning for at least the next 5 years to ensure funds were distributed fairly.

Cllr Kilmister agreed forward planning was important and unless a project was sustainable for a minimum of 5 years he felt PCC would be unable to support it. Pembrokeshire was developing a blue print for this scheme and he anticipated that changes will be made as lessons were learned but he was confident that this scheme could deliver substantial benefits for communities.

Cllr Blackhall wondered how the recently completed Regeneration Masterplan report for Tenby would fit in with the scheme. Cllr Kilmister said this would be assessed as part of the agreed process but the aim was to ensure that bids were scored fairly for all.

This scheme was not to tackle deprivation or provide ‘nice to do’ projects but to address the impact second home ownership had on a community. Cllr. Blackhall felt that a project costing a small amount could have as much of an impact as a large one while communities coming together for a ‘pooled’ bid could benefit a wider area, which was a reason forward planning over the longer term was vital.

Cllr Evans asked if schools were eligible to bid for funding. Cllr. Kilmister said that funding elements that were part of statutory provision were ineligible but community focused applications for example by a PTA could be.

Mr Gardiner of the Tenby Civic Society asked if there were evaluation/criteria sheets available. Cllr. Kilmister apologised that they were not as they were being finalised but they would be available in two weeks.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Mayor declared an interest and asked the Deputy Mayor to chair this item. Cllr Rapi also declared an interest and then both left the Chamber.

Mrs Yvonne Uka thanked the Council for allowing her to speak on behalf of shop owners. There appears to have been a lack of communication between PCC and the traders regarding the ongoing works in St George Street which have caused major disruption to businesses operating in that area.

Mrs Uka said that in a letter to traders in December it was estimated that the work would take approximately 4 weeks but it is now looking more likely to take 18 weeks. The traders felt no consideration had been given by PCC as to what was the ‘quiet time’ to carry out these works and many shop keepers felt they had had the worst February half term trading for a number of years as a result.

There was no attempt to move equipment and materials from the site at weekends and safety barriers not installed correctly which was not only off-putting to visitors but also raised Health and Safety concerns as people had been witnessed sitting on equipment on weekend evenings. Electricity had also been cut off three times, twice by Western Power errors and once by PCC workmen accidentally cutting through cables.

Traders also felt little thought had been given as to how businesses would get deliveries of stock. Mrs Uka felt that, with the delays resulting in work coinciding with other works in Bridge Street, there was only one way into and out of town which meant people were being deterred from coming into town and this was detrimental to all.

Mrs Uka admitted that the bad weather had possibly led to delays but the road works gone on for a lot longer than planned. There was no consistency the traders felt that these delays would not have been tolerated if this had been a private contractor as there would have been penalty clauses. The traders also wondered where PCC were finding the money to deal with this overrun, given that they were experiencing budget pressures.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter sympathised that this work has taken longer than first thought but felt the work badly needed doing.

Cllr Blackhall also expressed sympathy and felt that these concerns should be forwarded PCC to take account of future schemes so that a proper assessment could be made as to how access to businesses was maintained and to ensure the works were clearly signposted.

Mrs Uka stressed that all the traders were asking for was better communication and fair access to their businesses. One shop owner was even asked to 'jump over concrete'.

Cllr Mrs Brown said that TTC would reiterate these concerns to PCC and ask for better communication.

Cllr Evans suggested a Schedule of Works needs to be in place before work recommences. He felt that the work needed doing as it was becoming unsafe but better communication was paramount.

Cllr Brown suggested TTC approach Pembrokeshire County Council immediately to ask that they improve liaison with the traders before the works recommenced after Easter.

Cllr Rapi and the Mayor returned to the Chamber.

421. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

None received.

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

None declared by Councillors.

443. 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 Hallett and seconded by Cllr Blackhall.

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

444. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 13th March 2018 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

445. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Long Course Weekend

The Mayor asked if there were any further thoughts as to positioning of the LCW flags as she felt this needed to be sorted as the event will be upon us before we know it. She suggested perhaps where the current town flags fly on the Town Walls. Cllr Mrs Brown thought that the plan was to present prizes beneath the flags and that this may prove difficult. It was suggested that the church be asked and perhaps the flags be positioned where the Christmas tree usually stands. Cllr Hallett will have a look at points along the Five Arches for existing flagpoles. Cllr Brown suggested enquiring if the flags could be temporarily sited for a presentation at the Church and then be moved to the town walls for the rest of the year. Cllr Mrs Brown agreed and Cllr Blackhall said that he would make enquiries with the Church before Mr. Evans was contacted..

403. 389. To Receive Reports by Councillors on Outside Bodies

Cllr Mrs Thomas had previously told Councillors that a member of Hywel Dda University Health Board would like to come and talk to Council but this had been cancelled as so many other councils had come forward wanting explanations on the Transformation documents. It had now been decided that there would be a meeting in Haverfordwest to which 2 Councillors would be invited. There were also plans to hold a drop in centre session in Saundersfoot.

Cllr Mrs Thomas was not happy as she had wanted the discussion open with press present so that options could be disclosed to all. She added that all must be encouraged to attend the drop in sessions. All must take part and all must have a say.

Cllr Rapi said that he had recently attended a meeting in Carmarthen explaining the Plans. There were currently 6 options but this would be whittled down to 3 options before consultation began. This transformation is being led by Clinicians rather than administrators and it was absolutely fascinating. Glangwili is full to bursting and has faults but they have high hopes for this transformation. There are issues that need to be put right. People must go and understand the options which have been developed by the clinicians and are a focused and detailed approach. Cllr Hallett said it would have been good to receive feedback from the meeting attended by Cllr Rapi but it was explained that this particular meeting was a pre-meeting requested by local Plaid Cymru representatives.

405b. Mr Stephen Benger, PCC Highways - comments on traffic arrangements proposed by NP/17/0722/OUT

The Clerk told Councillors that Caroline Bowen, of PCNPA had a few other planning matters to sort out in relation to this application but once these were resolved then a site meeting will be arranged.

411. Five Arches Car Park Planning Application

The Clerk had attended the meeting and the Committee had voted against their Officer's recommendations. The car park had therefore been approved but there

is now a cooling off period to see if Committee members change their minds. The matter will be reconsidered at the next Development Management committee meeting.

412. Brynhir

The Clerk had received a reply from Cllr. Mrs Pat Davies saying that she welcomed a meeting with TTC but asked if it could be at a later date as the new proposals for the site were in the early stages of development. A current valuation being sought and it would be more helpful to discuss the proposals when costings etc. are to hand. Cllr Blackhall thanked Cllr. Mrs. Davies and said that it was fine to wait for all the relevant information but hoped the meeting would be sooner rather than later.

415a. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

The Clerk advised Councillors that the Mayor does not want the payment available under Determination 52. As these determinations were reviewed and voted on annually, the Clerk advised that, for 2018-19 the council could agree not to authorise this payment. Cllr Hallett proposed and Cllr. Blackhall seconded.

Resolved

That Tenby Town Council does not authorise a Civic Head payment to the mayor as outlined in Determination 52 of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales 2018-19 proposals.

415e. Tenby Museum

The Clerk reminded Councillors about the meeting being held at Tenby Museum at 3.30pm on 28th March 2018.

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

- a. NP/18/0142/TPO – Mr. Richard Reed, Trevayne Farm, Monkstone Point, Saundersfoot – Sycamore – reduce southern canopy by 3 m, Leyland Cypress – reduce 3 trees by 8 m to 11 m (not part of TPO) – 23 Trafalgar Road, Tenby

Cllr Hallett recommended approval as this improves light and also addresses a health and safety concern. Cllr Mrs Brown seconded.

RECOMMEND

Considered against all relevant policies, members recommend approval of this application.

- b. NP/18/0162/FUL – Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Charnley, Chorlton House, 21 High Street, Tenby – External alterations to provide dormer windows (retrospective) – Chorlton House, 21 High Street, Tenby
- c. NP/18/0163/LBA - Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Charnley, Chorlton House, 21 High Street, Tenby – External alterations to provide dormer windows (retrospective) – Chorlton House, 21 High Street, Tenby

It was agreed that the above items be taken together. The Clerk told Councillors that these alterations were approved in 2016 but that the dormers that have been installed are actually bigger than shown on the plans. Cllr Hallett said that this was just one more example of retrospective planning. Cllr Mrs Thomas could see no problem with the application and proposed accepting the application, Cllr Rapi seconded.

RECOMMEND

Considered against all relevant policies, members recommend approval of this application.

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

- a. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism – February minutes

Noted.

448. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

De Valence Pavilion

Cllr Mrs Brown informed Councillors that the Greenhill School Transition Concert was to be held at the De Valence on 28th March and that the Fleetwood Bac concert being held on Saturday 31st was now sold out.

St Teilo's Governors Meeting

Cllr Mrs Williams had attended her first meeting as Governor and concerns had been raised over traffic speeding past the school on Greenhill Road. Governors will be looking in to flashing warning speed signs. The Mayor said that Tenby Town Council are more than happy to lend their support.

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

Cllr Mrs Brown asked that a letter be written to Saundersfoot Council congratulating them on being in the top ten places to live in Wales, Cllr Hallett seconded.

Resolved

That a letter be written to Saundersfoot Community Council congratulating the village on being named as one of the 10 best places to live in Wales.

Cllr Blackhall had noticed on social media several posts highlighting issues of fly tipping on South Beach. He commented that this is actually a crime and the perpetrators obviously have no respect for Tenby or the environment. Every day there are people who walk the beaches, cleaning and picking up litter and he hoped that if there are vehicles involved in this fly-tipping that CCTV is checked and that they are prosecuted.

450. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE SALE OF LAND AT BRYNHIR

Cllr Mrs Rossiter would like it noted that she had revisited the Minutes of 16th February 2016 which had shown that it was she, in fact, that had requested that the matter of Brynhir be kept on the Agenda.

451. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON SOUTH PARADE

Cllr Blackhall told Councillors that the meeting with PCC had been excellent. More work was needed to progress things and a meeting of the Town Regeneration Team will be called shortly to move things along.

452. JUBILEE SKATE PARK

Cllr Mrs Brown said she had been looking hard at options to extend the skate park after Cllr Mrs Thomas had been approached by users who felt it was too small for their needs. A meeting has been arranged for 9th April 2018 at 6pm in the Mayor's Parlour and parents and children interested in joining the Committee and who have interest in the project should attend. After listening to Cllr Kilmister Cllr Mrs Brown felt that this was an ideal project for a funding bid to the second homes pot under a social benefit and wellbeing umbrella.

453. UPDATE ON PLASTIC FREE TENBY INITIATIVES

The next meeting will be on the first Wednesday of the month at Caffi Pura at 5pm when they were hoping to have the initial application for Plastic Free Tenby completed ready to submit. Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall said the main launch beach clean being held on 14th April will cover all the beaches and teams will be arranged. The Clerk advised Councillors that litter collecting items (grabbers and bags) could be collected from TTC office. He had also spoken with Mr Tebbett of Tenby Coastguard who said they were interested in going over the cliffs to do their annual cliff clean as part of the initiative. Mr. Nick Young, of PCC, had advised the Clerk that any bagged rubbish collected on the day could be put by the bins and he would arrange collection.

454. HYWEL DDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD TRANSFORMATION CONSULTATION

This had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

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

a. Licensing Sub Committee Tenby Rugby Club

Cllr Mrs Thomas, Cllr Mrs Rossiter and Cllr Evans declared an interest at the point and took no part in the discussion that followed.

The Clerk commented that members would have seen the outcome of the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting in the press. Unfortunately PCC has mislaid TTC's letter of objection and he had not been allowed to make representations to the sub-committee as the objection was deemed not to have been received within the consultation period.

As a result he felt that, in future, TTC needed to back up any hard copy correspondence sent to County Hall with e-mail copies to the relevant officers.

Cllr Mrs Brown said she feels it is absolutely disgusting that Tenby Town Council could not be heard, not allowed to speak and unable to share concerns raised. In fact, it was felt that Tenby deserved an apology. This venue is no longer a Club and it being described as a function centre. This was misleading it is a Pub. TCC had questions over door staff and the implications of not having them on the potential effect on residents of the area could not be raised.

The Mayor commented that this venue was no different to any pub in town.

b. Welsh Government – Green Paper Consultation Document – Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People

The Clerk advised that the Welsh Government were again considering merging Unitary Authorities and had produced a Green Paper on their proposals for consultation. There was little in the Green Paper relating to the future of town and community councils as the Government were waiting for feedback from the Independent Review Panel in July. If TTC wished to comment on the Green Paper members had until 11th June.

c. Cruse

The Clerk confirmed that a letter of thanks had been received from Cruse.

d. Draft PCNPA Local Development Plan

The draft deposit Local Development Plan would be considered by the PCNPA committee on Wednesday and would then be going out for consultation. The Draft was available online on the PCNPA website if members wished to view it in advance.

e. Casual Vacancy

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no call for an election from the electors of the South ward and therefore the Council could initiate the co-option procedure for filling the vacancy. The Clerk will put the necessary advertisement in the Tenby Observer.

456. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 10th April 2018 at 7.00pm.

Two members of the National Theatre of Wales will be in attendance to give a presentation on their next exciting project which will centre on Tenby.

457. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None proposed.

458. 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”

459. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of 13th March 2018 be confirmed and signed as accurate.