

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
4TH FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Cllr T Brown Mayor
Mrs C Brown
Cllr H Whitehurst
Cllr P Rapi
Cllr L Blackhall
Cllr M Evans
Cllr M Ronowitz
Cllr Mrs S Lane
Cllr Mrs T Rossiter
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
Mr Phil Baker PCC

The Mayor welcomed County Councillor Baker to the meeting.

Cllr Baker told councillors that the purpose of the Community works Grant Scheme was to accommodate requests from Town and Community Councils to aid little schemes that they may have wanted doing for a number of years. They were the sort of schemes that will mean a lot to a community but would never be likely to be at the top of the list for action by Pembrokeshire County Council.

As Cabinet member for Infrastructure he has, therefore, set up a pot of money to help alleviate this. It had taken longer to set up than he thought as he had to bid for capital funding but there was now a fund of £100,000 - roughly £10,000 per town. He had had to work out how to roll out the scheme within the community and his view was that to get something meaningful. It had to be a simple form for simple projects.

A maximum of £10K for a project was available with a minimum 'buy-in' from the town or community council of 10% but the more that the council could put in would help on the score matrix relating to awarding of grants.

The scheme would be run through the engineering team at PCC with Mr Steven Benger being the first port of call. As of yet no bids have been received and he was happy to guide councils through the process.

Councillor Baker said he was aware that some communities had small schemes that had sat waiting for years. This grant would provide a quick fix.

Councils were not expected to undertake the tendering process for the works required, this would be through PCC's engineering team. Route the proposed scheme through Mr. Benger and his team would evaluate and cost.

Cllr Mrs. Brown was given confirmation that, although the maximum grant amount is £10,000, a more costly scheme could be undertaken if the town council put up the difference.

She also asked who would be responsible for future maintenance on completion, with Cllr. Baker confirming that this would fall to PCC as it would be their asset.

Cllr Brown explained that while there are plans by TTC to see the skate park being extended, the pathways outside, which were not TTC's responsibility, are potholed and very steep. There have been incidents of wheelchairs and prams running away, she said, asking could the grant be used for a new pathway. Cllr. Baker confirmed that this was the type of thing he had in mind when he proposed the scheme.

Cllr Mrs Lane asked if the grant could be used say to tend the gardens that have been left by the PCC but was advised that this was not for maintenance other than highways issues. Cllr. Baker said perhaps the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Fund would be a better route for grounds maintenance.

Signage, pathways, and widening visibility splays by removing hedge banks are amongst the works eligible for the grant, Cllr. Baker added.

Cllr Blackhall said this was a great initiative but £10, 000 would not go far.

With regards to signage, some are superfluous and could they be removed with this grant to make way for clearer new signs. Cllr. Baker said that Area Maintenance should already be able to assist with removal and he was happy to receive a list of superfluous signs that needed removing.

He was also aware that there were issues relating to finger post signs around the town and this grant could be used for their replacement.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked if the monies could be used for signs that TTC had previously paid for asking people to not feed the seagulls but was advised that it is more highway type signs as opposed to one off information signs.

In the past, the pedestrianisation scheme has seen the hire of traffic lights and daily set-up and removal, commented Cllr. Blackhall. Could the introduction of bollards and permanent traffic lights be a potential scheme, seeing it also had an 'invest to save' element which could be the 'match fund'.

Cllr. Baker said that, as this was a new grant scheme, there would be a learning curve but bollards would be a perfect use for the grant as are lights. However, he stressed that there was not a huge pot of funding available but if successful this year he would hope to repeat the scheme next year.

This was an opportunity to get £10,000 for a Tenby scheme and he looked forward to Tenby's list! Cllr Mrs Lane asked if the strip along St Florence Parade may be eligible for the grant, and Cllr Mrs Rossiter mentioned Tyssul Court and the verge on Station Road as a potential project.

Cllr Rapi apologised for arriving late and asked if the South Parade in general had been mentioned? There is an attempt to get a town team going and perhaps they could look at maybe

part funding lighting up the town walls and pavement improvements. The Community Works Grant could go towards the 20% that the council need to put towards the EPF pot.

The question was then raised should PCC not be responsible for reinstating the pavement following the removal of the trees.

The Clerk reminded those round the table that there was a discussion on floodlighting the town walls to wash the walls in colour on special occasions. The Regeneration Team had looked at the state of pavement following the removal of trees and had felt it worthwhile to all at the same time. However, the bid towards the feasibility study on the project was disproportionately high and the project was on hold.

Cllr Mrs. Brown said the holes, cobbles and pavement were dangerous and that something needed doing. It has been 3 years since the trees came down.

Cllr Mrs Lane said TTC's idea had been to light up the walls which TTC were prepared to undertake as part of a bigger project but TTC are in no position to undertake all of the Parade on its own. Maybe these issues should be discussed separately. It is PCC that needs to undertake the repairs to the pavement and PCC are in a better position to find funding. Cllr Hallett added that 10 years was needed for the ground to recover from the disease.

Cllr. Baker said that he and the Clerk had exchanged emails on the condition of the pavements on South Parade and he was going to discuss the matter in a meeting with Mr. Darren Thomas on Thursday.

350. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

None received.

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

Cllr Mrs Rossiter declared interest in item 14.

352. 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 Hallett.

RESOLVED

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

353. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 21st January 2020 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

354. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

a. Page 176 Item 338 – Parking Issues

The Clerk told Councillors that unfortunately Mr Ben Blake was unwell and is currently on leave. He was waiting to hear when Mr. Blake was back in work to arrange another meeting.

Cllr Mrs Evans then asked to bring up the following:

I bring this matter before you tonight in the hope that it can be acted on as soon as possible.

On Sunday night I had a knock on my door by an extremely upset and exasperated Firefighter that lives in my street. He was absolutely furious to report that once again his car had been blocked in and he was unable to leave the street to attend a shout. He had no choice but to run up to the fire station as he had no idea whose car it was and as he is the driver of the engine it cannot leave without him. This has happened many times before and quite frankly he is at his wits end. I have had the pleasure of living next door to a firefighter for the past 20 years and I am always in awe of how quickly they respond. From the time the bleeper goes to the fire engine leaving the station, they have a phenomenal response time.

When our firefighters are called out, they must treat every shout as a matter of life and death and quite obviously every second is precious. If our firefighters cannot leave their street then surely lives are being put at risk. This is something that affects the whole town, not just Newell Hill.

I implore the residents and visitors of Newell Hill to think before they park. We have a high proportion of firemen and lifeboat men in our street and blocking people in is no longer acceptable. I understand the frustration of not being able to park but double parking is not the answer. Residents also have major concerns about emergency vehicles being able to get in.

I also understand that irresponsible parking is becoming a whole town problem with concerns surrounding the schools and more recently the Croft.

I would like to propose a meeting as soon as possible with all emergency services and the relevant people from County Hall to discuss access and parking issues across the town.

Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall seconded the proposal.

The Clerk said that he was aware that the Police inspector and Marc Owen were meeting in town to discuss multi storey parking issues in the near future. Perhaps a meeting could be arranged to coincide with this.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk arrange a meeting between TTC, the police and Mr. Marc Owen as soon as is practicable.

b. Page 180 Item 341 – Brynhir

The Clerk told councillors that Cllr Mrs Bateman had promised to return to him with a meeting date once arranged.

c. Page 181 Item 343a

The Clerk said that he had yet to hear from Steven Richard Downes but that Mrs Lear, Chair of Governors at Greenhill School and Mr McGovern, the Head, had arranged a meeting for 7.30pm on 25th February. Cllr Evans asked if this was their only available date. The Clerk replied that it appeared so.

d. Page 179 Items – Road Markings

The Clerk again told councillors that Mr Blake was currently on sick leave.

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

Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed that the following two items be taken together and Cllr Hallett seconded the proposal.

a. NP/19/0591/FUL – Provide handrailing around existing dwarf parapet to balcony area to permit use as a balcony for flats 5 and 6 on first floor. Remove existing Juliet balcony railings to 2 pairs of double doors – 5 and 6 Glendower House, The Norton, Tenby

b. NP/19/0592/LBA – Provide handrailing around existing dwarf parapet to balcony area to permit use as a balcony for flats 5 and 6 on first floor. Remove existing Juliet balcony railings to 2 pairs of double doors – 5 and 6 Glendower House, The Norton, Tenby

Councillors could see no problem with the application. Cllr Mrs Lane proposed accepting the application and Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies in the Local Development Plan, members feel the proposals will have no adverse effect on the character of the building or its position within the Conservation Area.

356. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

a. Mr Richard Cole – Tenby Railway Station

Cllr Mrs Evans was thrilled with the letter received from Mr Cole and proposed organising a meeting with him as soon as possible. Cllr Mrs Lane seconded. The Clerk wished to thank Paul from the Tenby Observer for passing the information regarding Mr Cole on.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk liaise with Mr. Cole to arrange a suitable meeting date.

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

Cllr Hallett thanked the Clerk for all his efforts and proposed accepting the accounts. Cllr Mrs Rossiter seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

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

358. **TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL RISK FOR 2020/21**

Cllr Mrs Lane asked if the Clerk was happy with everything and he confirmed that he was. Cllr Mrs Lane proposed acceptance and Cllr Hallett seconded.

RESOLVED

That the Council's Financial Risk Assessment for 2020/21 be approved.

359. **TO ELECT A MAYOR FOR 2020/21**

The Mayor went around the table and all Councillors declined the offer to stand except Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall who said she felt it would be an honour to be Mayor of Tenby and wished to be considered. The Mayor indicated he also wished to be considered for another term of office.

Cllr Mrs Lane proposed Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall as Mayor for 2020/21 and Cllr Mrs Rossiter seconded the proposal.

Cllr Mrs Brown proposed the Mayor, Cllr T Brown, as Mayor for 2020/21 and Cllr Morgan seconded.

As two members were to be considered, Cllr. Mrs. Brown proposed that Standing Order 47 be suspended and voting take the form of a secret written ballot. Cllr. Mrs. Rossiter seconded.

RESOLVED

That Standing Order 47 be suspended and voting take the form of a secret written ballot.

Councillors then took a secret ballot and, upon counting, the Clerk declared that Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall had the majority vote and had therefore been elect to serve as Mayor of Tenby for 2020/21.

RESOLVED

That Cllr. Mrs. Skyrme-Blackhall be elected to serve as Mayor of Tenby for 2020/21.

Cllr Mr. Rossiter wished it to be known that the result of the ballot showed no detriment on the good year of office of the current mayor and the Mayor said it was lovely to have 2 people wishing to stand. This was a credit to the Town and Council.

Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall thanked councillors for electing her.

360. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

DE VALENCE PAVILION/SKATE PARK

Cllr Mrs Brown told councillors that there was a Ska night coming up at the Pavilion on Friday. Applications for funding for both the extension of the skate park and improvements to sound and lighting at the Pavilion had now gone to PCC.

ST. JULIAN'S CHURCH

As Church Warden of St Julian's, Cllr Blackhall told councillors that the Church was planning a walk around Castle Hill with reflection points at various places. Unfortunately, it looked like PCC were behind on their maintenance schedule as once again the wishing seat was overgrown and everywhere was looking rather untied. Also, the area at the back of the lifeboat station needed attention. He asked that we enquire as to what is happening. The Clerk said he would contact Mr. Neil McCarthy.

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

Cllr Hallett had found a lovely photograph of Tenby in the Western Mail and showed councillors.

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

The Clerk told councillors that Mrs Bateman was arranging a meeting with the relevant parties and would return to him shortly.

363. TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATES ON SOUTH PARADE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

The Clerk reminded councillors that Cllr Baker would be bringing this matter up with Mr Darren Thomas on Thursday.

364. TO CONSIDER CELEBRATIONS OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

Cllr Blackhall asked people to come forward and suggest what may be fitting ways to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day. Maybe a small service at the War Memorial, floral tributes, all suggestions welcomed. He asked the public have a think and contact the Town Council. He wanted to stress the importance that recognition is given for the sacrifices made.

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

- a. The Clerk had received a letter from Trish Putwain who, on behalf of the Tenby Weather Observers, is looking out for volunteers. Information available at the office or from Mrs. Putwain.
- b. Sandy Bear Children's Bereavement Charity, who TTC have supported in previous years, wish to let everyone know that they are holding a major fund raising event at St David's Cathedral on 20th June at 7.30pm.
- c. The Clerk had been informed by PCC that the licensing sub-committee will be meeting on 18th February to consider Bar 10's application to extend their licensing hours. If someone wished to attend to make TTC's representations, he needed to let the licensing department know who would be in attendance five working days before the hearing. Cllr. Rapi indicated that he would like to attend on the Town Council's behalf.
- d. A Road Closure Notice had been received for 2 days from 25th March 2020 between Clicketts and Marsh Road to allow electrical pole changes to take place.
- e. Beatrix Potter Society annual membership has come up for renewal and the Clerk wished to confirm with councillors that they wished to continue paying membership to the society. Currently the fee was £35 per year.

Cllr Mrs Lane felt the council should continue to be part of the Beatrix Potter Society to recognise the connection between the author and the town. Cllr Mrs Brown seconded.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter recalled that the developers of the former Guildhall, when they had received the go ahead, had promised a Peter Rabbit statute in their garden area as this was close to the garden on The Croft that had been the inspiration for Mr. McGregor's Garden but this had never come to fruition.

RESOLVED

That the Town Council continues with its membership of the Beatrix Potter Society.

366. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 18th February 2020 at 7.30pm.

367. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None proposed at this time.

368. 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”

369. TO CONFIRM THE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21ST JANUARY 2020

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 21st January 2020 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

370. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Now that Cllr Ronowitz has returned from holiday, a meeting will be arranged to discuss a business plan for the Tourist Information Centre.

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

- a. HM Land Registry – Notice of an application for registration of a person in adverse possession

RESOLVED

That the information disclosed by the Clerk be noted.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____