

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
4th June 2019

PRESENT: Cllr T Brown Mayor
Cllr Mrs C Brown
Cllr P Rapi
Cllr L Blackhall
Cllr Mrs S Skyrme-Blackhall
Cllr Mrs T Evans
Cllr T Hallett

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

49. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Mrs Lane and Cllr Mrs T Rossiter. The Clerk told Councillors that Cllr Mrs Rossiter was currently recovering at home after a recent knee operation.

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

The Mayor declared interest in item 15.

51. TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT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 Mr Hallett and seconded by Cllr Mr 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That items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

52. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 21st May 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

53. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

30. 462. Open Evening for Potential New Councillors

The Clerk told councillors that an open evening had been arranged for Tuesday, 11th June, at 6pm.

478. Tenby Harbour

The Dredging Meeting has now been confirmed as taking place on Tuesday, 25th June, at 10am. The Clerk said he was in discussion with regard to the location of the meeting.

33a. Battery Gardens

Cllr Mrs Brown asked if it would be possible for her to be present during the forthcoming meeting.

40. Development of Land at Brynhir

The Clerk told councillors that the meeting between Tenby Town Council and members of Pembrokeshire Council had now been confirmed as taking place at County Hall on Thursday, 13th June, at 3.30pm. There had been some discussion for a special meeting to take place after the preliminary meeting between TTC and PCC but Cllr Mrs Brown is concerned that it may be too late if there is no involvement now. The Mayor suggested more discussion takes place in private.

41. South Parade - Bins

The Clerk told councillors that he had written to PCC clearly stating the view of TTC and it was suggested by Mr Mike Harries of PCC that TTC write to the businesses with our concerns.

However, the Clerk wondered how we would be in a position to do this as TTC do not hold the Trade Waste Agreements with the businesses, TTC do not know who holds a TWA and who does not. Furthermore, TTC would not be in a position to enforce.

Mr Paul Watkins, Waste Improvement Manager, further replied to the Clerk saying *'the issues are not related in any way to the presentation of the waste for collection because the waste is contained within locked wheeled bins and presented in a location from which we can collect. The fundamental problem is the lack of waste storage space for some businesses which necessitates the bins being stored on the Parade. Irrespective of who is asked to collect this waste, PCC or any private contractor, the same issues will exist i.e. lack of waste storage space within the curtilage of the business premises. In our opinion this is not an issue for the Waste Department and cannot comment further'*.

Cllr Mrs Brown asked that this matter is elevated to a higher level. Cllr Mr Blackhall felt that the position of TTC has been clear from the outset. Bins are not wanted on the Parade. If all properties on the other side of the town walls were to put their bins on the Parade then the walls would be covered. We cannot be clearer, we want them moved. They can be transported home and collected from there. There are solutions he said. PCC should make it clear to all or any organisation that they should not be put on that area and licenses should not be

issued if there is not space to house rubbish. In many instances these bins are cluttering up the highway.

He suggested writing to the Leader and Chief Executive saying that this is unacceptable and we couldn't have been clearer, they must take waste away from their premises.

Cllr Mr Hallett said that previously it would be requested that all should have the facility to store waste. These walls are iconic and it's a disgrace he added.

The Mayor said that he had witnessed businesses putting out rubbish on the pavement on Tuesday. There was already a caddy full of glass bottles on the Parade awaiting collection next Monday and the amount of cardboard being piled against the Five Arches overnight on a Sunday for a Monday collection was also a concern. There is a Health and Safety matter he suggested, surely we should not have to put up with this.

Cllr Mr Rapi is also concerned with the amount of wooden pallets that he sees around Tenby especially on the junction of Upper Frog Street and George Street.

The Clerk then read a comment that had recently been posted on Facebook

'TTC, please do more to support your local businesses who, on the most part, are overwhelmed with waste during high season. The trade waste collection service offered by PCC is inadequate and we need you to lobby for change on our behalf. Taking waste offsite every day is not a solution everyone can work with. I don't have a work vehicle and really don't want to put smelly bags and food waste caddies in the same care that I use to transport my small kids around. There seems to be large strip of unused space down the side of the De Valence. Would you support the placing of a few large bins there businesses to use? That would keep the waste out of sight until collection day at least. I really would love if you could help us to find solutions rather than simply stating over and over that the current situation with bins on the parade is unacceptable.'

Cllr Mrs Brown told councillors that from the moment waste is put out from the De Valence, people start adding to it and by the time it is actually taken away the area is chocablock. The alleyway cannot be used as this is a fire escape. Cllr Mr Rapi suggested checking the CCTV to see if the perpetrators can be identified.

TTC are happy to offer solutions said Cllr Mr Blackhall. Please come to the council office for extra bins, use the boot of your car, the food bins are lockable and shouldn't spill and they are washable.

The Mayor asked if we could write with our concerns to the next level of officers. The Clerk had already copied in Mr Brown so members felt it needed to be elevated to the Chief Executive and Leader.

Cllr Mr Rapi said that previously he had mentioned that collections may be good late at night instead of the early morning. Mr Brown had said he would look

into it but there had been no follow up, he feels this would help alleviate the problem. Could this matter be followed up with Mr Brown at PCC?

43f. Wheelchair Beach Access

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall told councillors that she was delighted to announce that Tenby is getting its first purpose designed beach wheelchair. We were told it couldn't be done, well it can, she said. Tenby's glorious blue flag beaches should be available to everyone and this is the first step.

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall and the Clerk had had their second meeting with Mr Alan Hunt, Access Officer for PCC last Thursday.

They visited Dennis' Café at Castle Beach and then continued on to the Harbour and North Beach, to get an idea of accessibility and storage. These chairs are quite different obviously and access and storage were challenges.

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall thanked Mike Lindsay, of Dennis' Cafe for agreeing straight away to store a wheelchair and she had heard early today that NPCPA had agreed to supply the wheelchair for Castle Beach, promising to move speedily so that it is available for the rest of the season.

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall was hopeful to get beach wheelchairs for North and South Beach too. Adult cost is about £4,000 and child's about £1,500. Purpose built wheelchairs are just one aspect of making our town more accessible and we will do more. We welcome ideas from people and offers of support so that we can all 'push' forward together she added.

43 g. Christmas Festivities

The Mayor told councillors that a meeting had been held last Monday but unfortunately quite a few could not make it. Cllr Mr Rapi told the Mayor that he was happy for the De Valence to help in any way they can as in previous years.

The Mayor told councillors that he personally would like to entice crafts and Christmas traders in and for the event to have a more Christmassy feel in Tudor Square. He was to meet Emily Ruff in order to scope some ideas. An idea is perhaps to have the event over 2 days, possibly incorporating Tenby Round Table's Santa Run.

He said any and all ideas would be greatly appreciated and any members of the public wishing to get involved would be welcome to come along to the next meeting.

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

- a. NP/19/0263/FUL – Demolish existing lean to study and external w.c., construct single storey flat roofed rear extension with balcony over – Walmer House, Deer Park, Tenby

Cllr Mr Blackhall commented that it doesn't appear to look out onto anyone and Cllr Mr Hallett thought it was a great improvement and recommended accepting the proposal. Cllr Mr Rapi seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable.

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

- a. Mr Simon Rutherford via email – Wales Skinnydip

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall commented that it is for a very good cause. The Clerk told councillors that he had had preliminary discussions with PCC and feasibly it could be done. Cllr Rapi suggested that North Beach may be a better location. Cllr Mrs Evans thinks it's a great idea and should be a great event. It will get people talking she said and can do only good. Cllr Mrs Brown asked who would get permission. The Clerk replied it would be up to the organisers to liaise with PCC. The Mayor said, with the agreement of all councillors that TTC would be happy for this charitable event to go ahead.

It was suggested that Mr. Rutherford ask PCC as to what was required to stage the event.

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

The Mayor asked if any councillors had queries. Cllr Hallett enquired as to when the photocopying contract is due to be renewed and the Clerk believed it to be 2020.

Cllr Mrs Brown proposed accepting the accounts and Cllr Mr Hallett seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

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

57. **TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR SUBMISSION TO EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2018-2019**

Cllr Mr Blackhall proposed accepting the Accounting Statements and Annual Governance Statement saying that all regulations have been fully complied with. He then congratulated the professional manner in which the staff had prepared the relevant documentation. Cllr Mr Hallett seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That the Accounting Statements and Annual governance Statement for submission to external audit for End of Year accounts 2018-2019 be approved.

58. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

De Valence Pavilion

Cllr Mrs Brown told councillors that the DVP had recently had new tiered seating installed on the balcony and can now sit up to 550. There is a big event on this Friday which is a sell-out. There is a busy summer ahead with no weekend free until December.

Skate Park

There is a meeting next week.

Mayor's Engagements

The Mayor had attended a Dementia Friendly meeting which is encouraging carers and those affected by dementia to come along and get support and friendship. There is also an opportunity for café and shop owners to come along and gain ideas on how to make their businesses more dementia friendly. There are funding possibilities available and he was wondering if there is a possibility to host a meeting of this sort once a month in Augustus Place. What can we do to help to make Tenby a dementia friendly town he asked, adding that there would be another meeting on 27th June between 2pm and 4pm.

He had attended Tenby Museum for an open evening and it had been both fantastic and fascinating. On 2nd June he would be returning as there was to be a D Day exhibition. What an amazing place he commented.

On 28th May he had helped with a beach clean organised by KIK Plastic. On standing on the North Beach he had commented on how clean the beach looked and yet 32lbs of plastic waste had been collected, a lot of it being straws. There is hopefully going to be another clean in the middle of summer and then one more at the end of the summer. He added that it would interesting to see the difference in the amounts collected.

Later this week he was off to Caldey Island having been invited by Mr Ben Childs to have lunch and a tour of the Abbey. The Mayor then thanked all those who had voted for him to be Mayor as he felt the experience was really broadening his horizons.

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

Cllr Mr Hallett had read recently that Borth had lost 18ft of sand revealing a fossilised forest. He commented that it was not only Tenby losing sand.

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

This matter had been covered earlier in the meeting.

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

Again this matter had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

62. UPDATE ON PLASTIC FREE TENBY INITIATIVES

Cllr Mr Blackhall thanked the Mayor for his recent involvement with the KIK PLASTIC tour and added that he hoped to have some activity to report from the Plastic Free Group in the near future.

63. TO CONSIDER THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TAXI RANK IN TENBY AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS – CLLR MRS BROWN

The Mayor left the Chamber and Cllr Mrs Brown took the Chair.

Cllr Mrs Brown feels that an additional taxi rank during the daytime hours say from 8am to 6pm would alleviate the pressures currently outside Sainsbury's and Tudor Square. Night time taxi ranks appear adequate but with the added pressures of taxis from outside the area coming in during the day, better use may be made of the strip next to the Five Arches on the Parade.

She commented that this is currently a half hour stop and shop parking area that is constantly being abused and not regularly enforced and would be more beneficial to those needing taxis. She asked would TTC support a new taxi rank in this area for daytime use. Licenses that are issued to taxis are county based not just town based and one of the additional problems faced is that when fares are dropped in Tenby by outside firms, taxis quite often wait for a return fare for which they cannot be blamed.

However, this can put pressure on local taxi firms and cause them to lose fares. Cllr Mr Rapi thinks this is a brilliant idea saying that taxis wait on St George Street sometimes with their engines running and often block the street. Cllr Mr Blackhall wondered if having a taxi rank outside the Five Arches may mean there are no taxis outside Sainsbury's for the shoppers needing lifts. There are now up to 6 local taxi

firms all trying to make a living, it's a shame that the area by the multi-storey was removed.

Cllr Mr Rapi was concerned that drivers may do U turns instead of actually driving round the circuit if a rank was by the Five Arches but Cllr Mrs Brown added that due to the area in Tudor Square quite often taxi drivers resort to doing U turns.

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall commented that taxis park all the way down Tudor Square and, at very busy times, they park across the square causing great congestion adding that anything that can be done would be welcome.

Cllr Mrs Brown asked what time the Traffic Wardens are on duty and remarked that they do not take responsibility for resolving traffic jams. PCC do a 3 month assessment and review of the town's parking restrictions. Could we contact County and ask for them to run a consultation on the creation of a new taxi rank by the Five Arches?

Having spoken to Mr Ben Blake, the Clerk said that strong evidence would need to be provided stating that it would be used by taxi drivers if the existing stop and shop facility was to be removed. Cllr Mrs Evans commented that the stop and shop bays are quite handy during pedestrianisation. Cllr Mrs Brown asked if members supported a letter being written to PCC.

RESOLVED

That PCC be asked to consider turning the stop and shop parking bays by the Five Arches into a taxi rank as part of their next review of parking restrictions in the town.

The Mayor returned to the Chamber.

64. TO CONSIDER SAND ON SLIPWAYS AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS – CLLR MRS BROWN

Cllr Mrs Brown is concerned about the South Beach area. While the sand appears to be going from the lower part of the beach there is actually a rise in levels at the top end which is worrying in that vehicles including ice cream vans cannot get down on to the beach from the car park.

The area was cleared about 6 to 8 weeks ago but needs desperately to be addressed again. She said she understands its nature's way but the hand railings cannot even be found.

Cllr Mr Rapi believed it has been cleared twice since the end of February but due to easterly winds the car park filled with sand again. The initial clearance of sand was very thorough but the subsequent one, not so he said believing that the shape of the new building where the Fountain's café used to be is such that the wind is funnelled in two directions causing the build-up of sand.

Cllr Mrs Brown said that wheelchair users used to be able to get down to the beach using a boardwalk, but that this was now covered.

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Brown did say that due to time constraints they had been unable to get to that area on the day of their meeting but that they hoped to visit shortly to look at wheelchair access. She had hoped that South Beach Bar and Grill or the Lifeboat may be able to assist with storage of a beach wheelchair but pointed out that due to the steepness of slipway access it is usual for the normal wheelchair to be used right down to the beach and then transfer is made actually on the beach.

Cllr Mr Blackhall said on North Beach, the way we manage movement of sand the current dredging method just moved sand from one end to the other. There was a time when the sea would have come up and consequently washed the sand away. Now due to the height of the sand, the sea does not have that effect and there is no opportunity to wash sand away, thus having a knock on effect.

65. TO CONSIDER GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS – CLLR MRS BROWN

Cllr Mrs Brown knows that currently we retain PCC gardeners but the grass cutting has been contracted out. Unfortunately they appear to be inexperienced and are not entirely sure what is weed and what is flower. There was noticeably poor and irregular cutting at Tyssul Court affecting the light into the lower rooms. Cllr Mrs Brown suggested that when the grass is next cut that the Clerk request the Area Maintenance Manager takes a walk around to see the results.

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

a. Leisure Centre

The Clerk told councillors that Mr Bowen from the Leisure Centre would be available between 1pm and 8pm on Thursday, 13th June, if any members wished to meet with him with enquiries.

b. Link Officer Scheme

The Clerk had received a letter from PCC announcing the termination of the link officer scheme.

c. Posters on Railings

The Clerk spoke of the railings at the top of the Norton by junction of White Lion Street being a very popular spot for posters and advertising banners.

A blind eye tended to be turned if it was advertising a Tenby based charity event so long as it only went up for a week prior to the event because, by the time the banner was reported and enforcement carried out, the event was usually over and the banner removed.

However, with an increasing number of events going on complaints from Paxton Court were increasing, particularly over the number of banners in the

summer. The roundabout is also a tricky one and the number of banners could be distracting for drivers unfamiliar with the area when negotiating it.

Now there appear to be private enterprises and also events from outside of Tenby using these railings for banner advertising and in one case the banner had been erected 5 weeks prior to the event. When a resident complained a PCC officer took it down but this had led to the event organiser questioning why this banner had been removed when others had remained given that it too had been to raise money for charity.

The Clerk had spoken to Mr Marc Owen who felt that, in the interests of fairness and transparency, perhaps no banners/posters should be allowed and he welcomed feedback from the town council.

Cllr Mr Rapi believes that if the advertisement is for a town charity and being held in Tenby then it shouldn't be taken down. The railings are owned by PCC and they should have a policy in place he felt.

The Clerk pointed out that actually putting posters up is regarded as fly-posting and finable.

The corner of South Parade and White Lion Street is also a problem commented Cllr Mrs. Brown saying she had to remove one banner left up long after an event herself.

Cllr Rapi felt that TTC should say to Marc Owen we would still like local Tenby charity events to be able to use the railings for banners.

The Mayor commented that the railings are in the ownership of PCC so they have a policy and their decision is their decision at the end of the day.

Cllr Mr Rapi felt strongly about the A frames saying that if PCC are suggesting clamping down on posters and banners then they should do the same with A frames.

Cllr Mr Blackhall pointed out that the railings on The Green is also a problem and the matter needs to be dealt with consistently. The situation regarding charity banners on the Norton is genuinely understood but the railings could be covered all the way down to the Croft if it gets out of hand.

Cllr Rapi proposed writing to PCC for the matter to be sorted and also for the A frame issues to be addressed. Cllr Mrs Brown seconded the proposal. Cllr Mr Blackhall abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED

That Mr Marc Owen be contacted and informed that TTC felt an 'accommodation' could still be reached in relation to banners advertising Tenby based charity events, but, if the banners were all to be removed that the same approach should be taken with A boards.

67. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 18th June 2019 at 7.30 pm. Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall gave her apologies.

68. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

State of South Beach – Cllr Mr Rapi

69. 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”

70. TO CONFIRM PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Proposed by Cllr Hallett and seconded by Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall.

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 21st May 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

71. MATTERS ARISING

a. Tenby TIC

A meeting has been arranged for Tuesday, 25th June, at 8pm. The Clerk had written to stakeholders asking for a preferred convenient time and then again suggesting a time. Those who had replied, said that this suggested time would be good.

The Mayor has asked the Clerk to price up various costing possibilities of manning the TIC as he doesn't believe that selling coffee and cake is going to generate enough income to cover the cost of staffing it.

He suggested that if all the businesses whose leaflets are currently being displayed made an annual contribution then this would help greatly. Kiln Park has also said that caravan sales made from leaflets identified as coming from the TIC will attract a £500 'commission' pay out.

Cllr Mr Hallett commented that companies pay leaflet distributors so why not pay to display them. He feels it is reasonable to come up with a charging policy and rates depending on location. All and any ideas would be welcome as we want to keep the TIC open. Cllr Mr Rapi seconded the Mayor's suggestion to put it to the forthcoming meeting that PCC consider a fee be charged for leaflets distributed through the office.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____