

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD 15th DECEMBER 2020

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs S Skyrme-Blackhall Mayor
Cllr Mrs Tracey Evans
Cllr T Brown
Cllr L Blackhall
Cllr T Hallett
Cllr D Morgan

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

The meeting was held remotely due to coronavirus restrictions

The Mayor thanked Cllr Ronowitz for the absolutely fantastic work done on the door-step delivery of Christmas dinners to our Senior Citizens with Tenby Round Table. It ran so smoothly and all were very grateful. It was worth it to see their faces and well done to all involved. The Clerk told councillors that a letter had been received from Mr Adam Uka on behalf of Tenby Round Table.

171. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

None.

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

None disclosed at this time.

173. TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT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 T Hallett and seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans.

174. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 1ST DECEMBER 2020

Proposed by Cllr Blackhall to be a true and accurate record of the meeting seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans.

175. ANY MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Page 99 Item 159: The Clerk read the letter of thanks to TTC for their support of the Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner received from Mr Adam Uka, chair of Tenby Round Table. The Mayor reiterated her thanks to all involved.

Page 101 Item 143: The Clerk told councillors that plans are well advanced to arrange a drive around Tenby by Father Christmas and the Mayor. The Clerk and Mayor will finalise timings based on the weather forecast and the Clerk will talk with Dave and Sion tomorrow. Arrangements should be finalised on Thursday. The Clerk is hopeful that he will be able to get the details into print but will definitely have information on social media sites.

Page 101 Item 160: The Clerk had sent an email with TTC's suggestion on Tenby Market, and it had been noted that PCC do not normally community asset transfer revenue generating assets as a policy but Mrs McLeod-Baikie will have a discussion with the relevant cabinet member and director as to whether it could be an option to consider.

If given the green light, an Expression of Interest form will need to be submitted. The Clerk recommended setting up a working party just to complete the EoI form.

The Mayor thanked the Clerk saying that unfortunately Cllr Evans was not present this evening.

We've had this conversation with PCC from the start, said Cllr Blackhall, and we cannot be in a position where only items they are prepared to discuss will be ones that cost us money. We are not going to invest as a partnership in things that are losing money. This is part of the reason that no asset transfer took place in the past, no community can take on assets that are losing money. We want to carry on with this discussion but it is about a working partnership. This money will be reinvested in Tenby and this needs to be made clear in discussions about asset transfer.

Page 102 Item 102: In relation to the Five Arches, the Clerk said he will look to setting up the working party in New Year.

Page 103 Item 162: The Clerk told councillors that the working party had met in relation to Newell Hill and Cllr Evans was to meet with the Clerk to compose a letter which would be written to Cllr Michelle Bateman and copied to various councillors and officers. This letter was to be emailed to others in the working party for agreement prior to being sent out. The Clerk is still waiting a reply from Cllr Evans in order to set up his meeting.

Page 105 Item 164: The Clerk has written to Cllr Mrs Bateman asking for a meeting and is still awaiting a reply. Cllr Blackhall asked that this item be placed on the Agenda for next meeting.

Page 106 Item 165: The Clerk asked if Cllr Mrs Evans still has contact details for gentleman from Penally who offered his help with the railway station. He had lost the gentleman's information when his system had crashed last summer. Cllr Mrs Evans believes she still has this information and will look it out for the Clerk.

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

As two further planning applications had been received which required comment before the next scheduled meeting, the Mayor asked if councillors were happy to take these

items this evening. Cllr Hallett proposed the items be discussed and Cllr Brown seconded.

a. **NP/20/0469/CAC – DEMOLITION OF OLD OUTSIDE TOILET AND UTILITY AND REPLACEMENT EXTENSION. REPLACEMENT WINDOWS THROUGHOUT – 2 SOUTH PARADE FLATS, SOUTH PARADE, TENBY**

Most of work has already been done commented Cllr Hallett and moved that it be granted. Cllr Morgan seconded.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies in the Local Development Plan, particularly Policy 30, members can see no adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

b. **NP/20/0521/FUL – PROPOSED GROUND AND LOWER GROUND FLOOR FAMILY ROOM AND GARAGE EXTENSION – 10 UPPER HILL PARK, TENBY**

Cllr Hallett expressed concern with windows overlooking Number 9. Also the boundary on the top side next to Number 8 may be made unsafe if no reinforcement work is carried out he said. Cllr Blackhall reinforced what Cllr Hallett said, adding that there are number of questions whether this can be seen as over development, whether it impacts on others and also is this setting a precedent. This needs consideration by full committee and not by officers said Cllr Blackhall recommending rejection on grounds of potential over development, possible adverse effects on neighbours and the impact on area. Cllr Hallett proposed and Cllr Blackhall seconded.

RECOMMEND

Refusal. Considered against all the relevant policies in the Local Development Plan, members feel that this would be over development of the site and would be contrary to Policy 30 a and b in that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of neighbours and would be incompatible with its surroundings.

c. **NP/20/0540/FUL – REPLACEMENT EXTERNAL REAR STAIR TO FLAT AND WALL AND FENCE TO CREATE REAR ROOF TERRACE – BALI HAI FLAT, UPPER FROG STREET, TENBY**

Cllr Blackhall said, just in terms of the roof terrace, in the past there have been concerns to ensure no overlooking of other peoples' property. TTC should ask are Park officers' content that the terrace will not be overlooking other properties. He was not opposing the application but just asking if PCNPA are content that this has been adequately considered? Cllr Mrs Evans seconded.

RECOMMEND

While members are not opposed to the application, they would seek clarification that planning officers are content that the proposed roof terrace would not create over-looking issues for neighbouring properties contrary to Policy 30a of the LDP.

d. **NP/20/0577/FUL – PARTIAL DEMOLITION OF RETAIL UNIT WITH REBUILDING AND ADDITION OF FIRST FLOOR ABOVE SHOP WITH PITCHED ROOF TO PROVIDE A FIRST FLOOR FLAT – FOUR SEASONS, UPPER PARK ROAD, TENBY**

Cllr Blackhall said, in principle, he has no problem with the application but suggested that the planning committee should consider that no windows were overlooking properties to the rear of Trafalgar Road. On inspection he doesn't think there are but this should be clarified. Secondly, he felt PCNPA should ensure access is maintained to those properties at the rear of Trafalgar Road. Finally, that PCNPA should ensure that the Salvation Army have been fully consulted. He also asked if the pitch roof is in keeping with the area. Cllr Blackhall believes it is but would welcome dialogue from the Conservation Officer in relation to any design issues.

Cllr Hallett seconded Cllr. Blackhall's views.

RECOMMEND

While members are broadly supportive of the application, when considered against the relevant policies in the Local Development Plan, with particular reference to Policy 30, members would seek assurance that there are no proposed windows to the rear elevation that would affect the amenity of neighbours in Trafalgar Road. They would also seek assurance that access to the rear of properties in Trafalgar Road is maintained; that the neighbouring Salvation Army hall has been informed of the application and that the Conservation Officer is content that the proposed pitched roof is of a design compatible with the area.

e. **NP/20/0582/FUL – CHANGE OF USE OF GROUND FLOOR COMMERCIAL UNIT FROM A1 RETAIL TO MIX OF A1 (RETAIL) AND A3 (CAFÉ) – 17 HIGH STREET, TENBY**

The Mayor said she is not entirely happy about this application and went around the table for councillors' comments.

Cllr Blackhall firstly asked the Clerk whether there would be an issue in terms of the total number of A3 facilities in area. He personally did not see a general problem and it was lovely to have on offer artisan gifts and coffee combined.

His issue was that, within the application, it refers to an additional 20 covers on tables outside of the property. Given the property and its location with the entrance to an accountants, a bank, another retail outlet and the entrance to St Mary's maintained for general access, he was not sure whether it was possible to get 20 covers for the building.

Cllr Brown noted that the premises was already open and this is retrospective planning. Given that, he felt that great use was being made of the small space and this was an excellent way for businesses to diversify. He commented that High Streets will be more for socialising in the future but he too was greatly concerned as to where they will sit 20 people outside.

Cllr Brown would accept the change of use application but would reject the application for space for outside. Cllr Blackhall fully supported the development but felt their expectations for use of outside space was unrealistic. The Mayor concurred. Cllr Brown proposed accepting the change of use but refusal of the outside space. Cllr. Blackhall seconded.

There is no way that 20 covers outside is going to work, agreed the Mayor. She applauded those opening businesses but the use of outside space is a different issue.

RECOMMEND

Members support the change of use in line with Policy 44 of the Local Development Plan as it sustains local employment in the face of a changing ‘High Street’ dynamic. However, members note that the applicant will also seek permission from Pembrokeshire County Council for use of the pavement and highway to provide outdoor seating for up to 20 covers. Members feel this should be resisted given the application site’s close proximity to the entrances to another retail premises, a bank, an accountancy firm and St. Mary’s Church.

177. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

- a. Marine Licensing – Marine Licence Application, Seaweed farm off Tenby and Caldey Island

Is this a new application asked Cllr Hallett? The Clerk said that this is not a new application but an updated submission showing the specific coordinates of the proposed seaweed farm.

Cllr Hallett is still concerned that this kelp will be harnessed to ropes and that, in its natural state, would focus on rocks. He again questioned whether the kelp would have to be genetically modified to grow this way. He also raised concern that marine life will be disturbed by this project.

Cllr Blackhall agreed with Cllr Hallett saying that we need to be really careful that this was not dabbling with the natural environment. There are concerns, this is an area where we need to have conversations with neighbouring partners such as Saundersfoot and particularly with our local fishermen.

The Clerk told councillors that he has passed the information on to the chair of the Tenby Harbour Users Association but has received no reply other than that the organisation is looking into the details.

Cllr. Blackhall noted that the timetable to respond to the consultation is really tight with Christmas and New Year in the way. He wondered if it would be possible to invite people to a Zoom meeting on 4th January? Can we invite the THUA, any boat owners in Tenby harbour and Saundersfoot Port Authority, he asked?

This area is just outside a special area of conservation, there is another off Dale, Cllr. Blackhall continued, feeling that we should be linking up these two areas. He suggested that a representative from the National Park also be invited to the meeting.

There is concern that if this licence is granted will they then want to extend more around the SAC, Cllr Blackhall added. We need to be really careful on this first application. Cllr Mrs Evans seconded Cllr. Blackhall's proposal that the Clerk should try and arrange a meeting.

Cllr Blackhall was also happy to have a conversation with local fishermen out of Tenby to gather their views.

b. Dafydd Llewelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner – Policing Priorities 2021/22 Survey

The Clerk explained to councillors that this is a Survey that the Police and Crime Commissioner would like all to complete. He was asking what do the community need, what are our policing priorities for 2021-22. There is a link to the survey if members would like to complete it.

Cllr Blackhall urged people to look at the survey and make their comments know. TTC and the community have always talked about wanting more policing in Tenby, particularly at key times. The more we put those things into consultation, the more we can see what is being done in response to it.

The Mayor asked if we can put this on the website and social media for the people of the town to participate. Cllr. Hallett felt the police should be thanked for all the work done in the past. The Mayor agreed commenting that she and the Clerk had spent a considerable time liaising with the police on various matters this year.

178. 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

The Clerk said there were no items of concern. Cllr Blackhall noted under uncashed payments, a payment to PCC for watering of flowering beds. Do we know how many hours this represents, he asked? Cllr Blackhall said he is not expecting an answer from the Clerk now but asked for a report back at next meeting.

Cllr Hallett proposed accepting the accounts and thanked the Clerk once again for all his hard work, Cllr Brown seconded.

RESOLVED

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

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

- a. As all are aware Mrs Ward's funeral will be this Thursday. We are intending to pay a council tribute by accompanying her on her final journey out of town.

The Funeral cortège will be departing at 10.30 am from Augustus Place to travel around town before heading to the crematorium. In discussion with the Mayor, it is suggested that councillors meet at the De Valence at 10 am to be ready to escort the cortege to The Norton junction to pay our final farewells. Bright colours had been requested by family.

- b. The Clerk told councillors that he had received some sad news this week in that County Council Traffic Officer Ben Blake had sadly passed away after a brave fight against cancer. He was sure that members would wish to extend sympathy to his family.

Mr. Blake was an excellent officer who helped us solve a great number of traffic issues in town, the Mayor said. He was also a lovely man.

Cllr Hallett said Mr. Blake had been a good man to Tenby and to TTC. Cllr Blackhall agreed commenting that, in every dealing with Mr Blake, he had found him absolutely straight, and completely open into looking to help the town and not hinder it. He was a fantastic officer and public servant who always tried to find solutions to whatever problem we presented him. Cllr. Blackhall said he would like TTC to write to PCC and Mr. Blake's family to express our condolences and thanks for the work Mr. Blake did over the years to support our town. Cllr. Hallett seconded. Cllr. Mrs. Evans agreed this was very sad news.

- c. Mr Brian Jones, a former partner at TTC's accounting firm, Ashmole and Co, has also sadly passed away. He was the lead accountant on TTC finances for a number of years said the Clerk and he owed Mr. Jones a personal debt of gratitude for the assistance he had given him getting through his first few External Audits. The Mayor asked that a letter be written to Mr Jones' wife offering our condolences and also one to the partners at Ashmole and Co.

180. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 5th January 2021 at 7.30pm. Cllr Hallett asked if this would be conducted by Zoom and the Clerk said that this was probably going to the case for a long time yet. He felt Welsh Government may even have to revise the legislation relating to conducting council meetings currently in force until May given way the way Covid-19 was going.

181. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Not at this time.

182. 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"

Moved by Cllr Hallett, seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans.

183. TO CONFIRM THE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER 2020

Proposed by Cllr Hallett to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 1st December, seconded by Cllr Brown.

184. ANY MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were none.

185. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE WORKING PARTY HELD 8TH DECEMBER 2020 AND CONSIDER

RESOLVED

That the Budget be set at £221,933.88 for 2021-22 and that the precept requirement be set at £197,746.29. Further that an additional £3201.01 be allocated from reserves to help fund proposed expenditure to retain the Band D equivalent at 2020-21 levels.

Cllr Blackhall then paid tribute to Cllr Brown and the Mayor for work they had done in an incredibly difficult year. Nobody takes office of mayor expecting to be locked down with all the issues encountered but they have both represented this town in very difficult circumstances, he said.

Cllr. Brown said Cllr. Mrs. Skyrme-Blackhall deserved the credit for keeping peoples spirits up with a big smile. He would also like to thank Cllr Mrs Evans as well. No-one had a crystal ball at the start of the year and it hasn't been a walk in the park. This year has been about Tenby and the people of Tenby.

Cllr Blackhall then offered a huge thank you to the Clerk, Tommy and Sharon. All have adapted and worked incredibly hard to keep the functions of the council going while also offering support to the community.

The Mayor thanked everyone and wished everyone safe Christmas and a Happy New Year before closing the meeting.

Mayor

Town Clerk

Date
