

MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING HELD 5TH MARCH 2024

Present: Cllr Dai Morgan Mayor
Cllr Charles Dale
Cllr Sam Skyrme-Blackhall
Cllr Michelle Evans
Cllr Laurence Blackhall
Cllr Emma Lewis
Cllr Laura Crockford
Cllr Duncan Whitehurst
Cllr Tom Sloan

In attendance: Mr Andrew Davies Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Sharon Thompson Assistant to the Town Clerk

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The Mayor welcomed councillors and Anthea Phillips from Lewis, Lewis & Co Solicitors.

184. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs Phillips and Hallett.

185. TO DISCLOSE ANY PERSONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS LISTED BELOW

Cllr Dale declared interest in Item 10a.

186. MOTION TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

As Mrs. Phillips was present to offer legal advice on Agenda Items 20 and 21 and had a long drive home, the Mayor proposed, under Standing Order 10a(vi), to change the order of business to bring forward these items and move into private session.

Cllr Blackhall seconded the motion.

187. 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

188. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF TTC AND DE VALENCE PAVILION TENBY CIC HELD 22ND FEBRUARY (THIS ITEM IS IN PRIVATE AS IT MAY INCLUDE DISCLOSURE OF COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE INFORMATION)

189. **TO RECONSIDER THE RESOLUTION OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO THE LEASE BETWEEN TTC AND THE DE VALENCE PAVILION TENBY CIC FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CIC – CLLR. MORGAN (THIS ITEM IS IN PRIVATE AS IT MAY INCLUDE LEGAL ADVICE OR INFORMATION IN RELATION TO COUNCIL LEASES)**

The Council resolved to go back into public session.

190. **PUBLIC PARTICIATION: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS AND MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING TONIGHTS MEETING AND WHICH IS OPEN FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS ARE EXCLUDED**

No members of the public present.

191. **TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES, EXCEPT THOSE MARKED PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL, BE GIVEN TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT**

Proposed by Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall, seconded by Cllr Lewis.

192. **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 6TH FEBRUARY 2024**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 6th February 2024 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

193. **TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Page 114 Item 174 - Tenby Clean Seas: Cllr Whitehurst reminded councillors that there will be a meeting on 22nd March at 10am. NRW, PCC and Dwr Cymru will be represented and it will be open to public.

Page 115 Item 174 – D Day Events: The Clerk confirmed that the Harbour Master has no problem with the lighting of the beacon on Castle Hill but may not be able to assist as the Waverley is arriving for disembarking in Tenby that evening.

Page 116 Item 175 - Outside Bodies: Cllr Sloan and Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall together with the Mayor have made a commitment to work with Ysgol Greenhill school and young persons and this will be ongoing. Cllr Sloan had passed round a list that had been received from a student who had attended the recent meeting of the school's Senedd.

Cllr. Blackhall felt that it was an interesting list, some things were easy to achieve and it was important that when a student has gone to the trouble to speak to his peers and compile a list then we should listen.

He suggested arranging a forum, either here or school, where councillors can listen and get better insight.

The Mayor agreed. When we last visited the Senedd before Christmas discussions were had on what all would like to achieve, he said. This list is brilliant and has been done off a student's own initiative. It would be nice for them to come here and meet with all councillors.

We should be there to listen to the students, agreed Cllr. Skyrme-Blackhall. This should be about the children.

It was agreed that a more formalised arrangement, i.e. a school liaison sub-committee involving councillors and students and reporting back to full council, would allow the council to be in a better position to consider what was required and how to achieve it.

194. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD 8TH FEBRUARY 2024

Cllr. Blackhall felt it was a bit disappointing that the De Valence was not available on the day due to an event as usually the Festivities were something we have always contributed to together.

Instead of hall being full of children and their families, it will be filled with attendees paying £20 per ticket, he commented. The festivities usually take place around the same time every year and need to be booked in.

Cllr. Dale had some sympathy for the De Valence. When running as a business and you get the chance of a major event on only one particular date, you cannot miss the opportunity, he said. The proposed event enhances the venue and the town.

Cllr. Blackhall accepted this but felt that, in the long term, the De Valence should try and plan to keep the Festivities Day free. It is one of only a few dates per year the venue is required for something that we do for the town, he said.

Cllr. Skyrme-Blackhall said that she had been contacted by Mr Ed Spence of Tenby Round Table, asking about the possibilities of their Santa Run being held on the same day as the Festivities.

Members felt that this could be achieved and that a representative of Round Table be invited to join the festivities committee.

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

- a. **Lauren Price, PCC – Brynhir Development update**

The Mayor asked if there was any more of a timescale than outlined in the update?

Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall commented that she had asked at County Hall why things weren't moving and believes this is why we had received the update.

Cllr Blackhall said he has had too many anguished conversations around the table about Brynhir.

One thing that is a delight is the acceptance of the need for social housing and the commitment of PCC to deliver it, but my real concern is that it is not moving fast enough, he said.

Expectations have been raised. Local families are facing dire conditions in regards to housing and things are only getting worse.

He proposed that the council write to Cllr Jon Harvey expressing real concerns about the timetable of the Brynhir development and call for rigour in relation to dates and deadlines to ensure everything is being done to get spades into the ground. These houses are needed now, he stressed. We need rapid movement from county through the final stages to deliver Brynhir. They need to step on the gas to get it done before the end of this council's term.

This development has been a can kicked down the line, faced opposition and many, many conversations, said Cllr Skyrme-Blackhall. From my perspective though there are over 5,000 waiting for housing, families face overcrowding in 2 bed properties or in hotel rooms. The situation is really difficult. With Brynhir in place it will start a rotation where single people in three bed houses can move to one bed properties and free them up for families.

It won't solve the problem but it will help alleviate it a little; those who are waiting on bronze can move up to gold.

Cllr Blackhall proposed that TTC formally write to Cllr Harvey expressing concerns about the timetable and ask for more rapid progress. He also felt that it should be pointed out that TTC were expecting, as promised, to be involved in local lettings policy which he felt should also apply to properties that are freed up by those who have left to go to Brynhir. Cllr Morgan seconded.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to Cllr. Jon Harvey, PCC's Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery expressing concern at the timetable for Brynhir and request 'rapid progress' through the final stages to see the development completed before the end of the Council cycle (the 2027 election).

Further that Cllr. Harvey be reminded that the town council had been promised an input on the local lettings policy for the social housing within

the development which they hoped would also be extended to include the re-letting of local council properties vacated by tenants moving to Brynhir.

196. **TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR FEBRUARY (INCLUDING SCHEDULED PAYMENTS, UNPRESENTED CHEQUES, RECEIPTS, ACCOUNT BALANCES, BUDGET MONITORING TO DATE AND BANK RECONCILIATIONS) AND CONSIDER ANY ISSUES ARISING**

Cllr Lewis queried wages underspend which the Clerk clarified.

Cllr Morgan proposed accepting the accounts and Cllr Dale seconded.

RESOLVED

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

197. **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:**

a. **Paul Sartori Hospice at Home**

The Mayor said that, sadly, our grants budget for the year was used up.

However, TTC are already raising money for the charity by making it one of the beneficiaries of the St David's Festival. We will also continue to support, and raise awareness of, the Paul Sartori charity as and when the opportunity arises.

Cllr Blackhall told members that St. Mary's Church has also agreed to fund one of the charity's end-of-life support workers for the next five years.

198. **TO CONSIDER THE VACANT TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTED POSTS OF SERGEANT AT ARMS AND TOWN CRIER AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS**

The Mayor asked what was the route for appointment and the Clerk explained that there was no formal process. Sometimes it had just been via 'word of mouth' but on at least one occasion an advert had been placed in the local press for people to express an interest in the position.

There had been no response for Town Crier the last time we advertised.

Cllr Dale suggested asking Mr Ian Thomas if he may be interested in following in his father's footsteps as Town Crier. Sometimes people like to be asked, he commented, volunteering to approach Mr. Thomas.

Cllr. Skyrme-Blackhall said that a gentleman who has recently moved to Tenby had shown interest in Sergeant at Arms. He was a former Yeoman of the Guard (Beefeater) and knew the etiquette involved in the role. She would ask him if he was still interested.

RESOLVED

That some conversations be had with various individuals and that the matter be brought back to the next meeting for further discussion.

199. TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Mayor had attended a very nice service for to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the RNLI at St Mary’s Church along with several other councillors.

He is speaking with various charities but nothing concrete to tell at the present time. He will update at next meeting.

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

The Clerk had no matters to bring to the Council’s attention.

201. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, 2nd April 2024 at 7pm followed by a full council meeting on Tuesday, 2nd April 2024 at 7.30pm.

202. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Feedback from Clean Seas meeting – Duncan Whitehurst

203. 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

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____