

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14TH MARCH 2017

PRESENT

Councillor L. Blackhall	Mayor
Councillor Mrs. C. Thomas	
Councillor W. Rossiter	
Councillor T. Hallett	
Councillor Mrs. S. Williams	
Councillor M. Evans	
Councillor Mrs. S. Lane	
Councillor Mrs. C. Brown	
Councillor Dr. P. Easy	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. A. Davies	Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs. Sharon Thompson	Assistant to the Town Clerk

419. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors P. Rapi, B. James and Mrs. T. Rossiter. The Mayor welcomed Councillor Dr. Easy back after his recent illness, saying he had been missed.

420. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillors Evans, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Williams declared their interests in 7d and 10a. Councillor Dr. Easy declared his interest in Item 14. The Clerk stated he would withdraw from Item 10a due to his friendship with the applicant's family.

421. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Hallett and seconded by Councillor Rossiter

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

422. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 28th February 2017 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

423. MATTERS ARISING

413 1. - Proposed Food Festival

The Clerk has spoken with Mr Owen who advised that South Parade wasn't really an option as the festival organisers would like an enclosed environment for the food festival. Councillor Mrs.

Brown asked if the food festival was going ahead and Councillor Mrs. Lane reminded Councillors of a previous food festival organised by PCC which was closed down within half an hour by its own Environmental Health department. The Clerk advised Councillors that the organization of this event will involve all departments of the County Council thereby hopefully avoiding any potential issues.

424. ACTIVITY AND PROGRESS TRACKER

The Mayor thanked those who had provided useful suggestions and said he would work towards completing the tracker ready for the next meeting.

425. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS

- a. NP/17/-126/ADV – Mrs. Phillipa McMullan, Card Factory, Century House, Brunel Road, Wakefield 41 Industrial Estate, Wakefield – New fascia sign – 10 High Street, Tenby

Councillors Dr. Easy and Rossiter agreed that the sign was an ugly one but that an effort was being made by removing the illumination. Councillor Hallett asked if it takes into consideration the Heritage plan and if so, proposed that this be approved. Councillor Thomas seconded the proposal

RECOMMEND

No objections, but members wonder if the applicants have given consideration to heritage plans as this location is within the conversation area.

The Mayor suggested that both items b. and c. be considered together, this was agreed.

- b. NP/17/0100/FUL – Mr. Lorne Alway, Gwynne House, 3 Bridge Street, Tenby – Alterations including new second floor extension and roof terrace over; also construction of dormer structure at roof level – Gwynne House, Bridge Street, Tenby AND
- c. NP/17/0101/LBA – Mr. Lorne Always, Gwynne House, 3 Bridge Street, Tenby – Alterations including new second floor extension and roof terrace over; also construction of dormer structure at roof level – Gwynne House, Bridge Street, Tenby

Members were concerned that the application would adversely affect not only the appearance of the building but of the whole harbour streetscape. Councillor Mrs. Lane was concerned that roof terraces can be quite invasive to other neighbouring properties and Councillor Hallett explained how the building will be quite different to its neighbouring property. Councillor Mrs. Thomas believed that this extension and roof terrace will not be in keeping with the building nor the whole street. Councillor Mrs. Lane

proposed rejecting the application as the iconic streetscape and roof line needs to be protected. Councillor Mrs. Thomas seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Refusal as members feel that it would be contrary to Policy 14 of the Local Development Plan in that the development would have an adverse effect on the distinctive appearance and setting of the area. Additionally that should our views not be taken in to consideration that a site visit be arranged prior to a decision being made.

- d. NP/17/0111/FUL – Salt House Ltd., c/o agent Roger Etchells and Co., The Old Bank, Kilwardby Street, Ashby De La Zouch – Change of use of ground floor from retail (Class A1) to café/restaurant (Class A3) and the erection of external blind/awning – Westgate House, South Parade, Tenby

Councillors Evans, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Williams left the Chamber.

Councillor Hallett commented that there were already awnings further along the street. Councillor Mrs. Brown expressed concern with the amount of cafes and pubs now in the Town and said she was pleased that a chemist and the Card Factory had moved in to Tenby but she was not in favour of another food outlet. The Clerk pointed out that the application was not covered by Policy 50 of the LDP as it is located outside the primary retail area. Councillor Mrs. Thomas suggested marketing ourselves as a food town though Councillor Hallett mentioned that, unfortunately, the restaurant next door had not been successful.

The Clerk pointed out that viability of the business was not a planning consideration. Councillor Brown felt that a point should be made that there are enough cafes and food outlets in town and the Clerk suggested that we could express our concern in this regard but this was not a reason for refusal of the application in this instance. Councillor Brown proposed that we accept with reluctance making a point that there are too many A3 premises currently in Tenby and perhaps to invite an Officer to come and speak with Councillors. The Mayor said that this is a matter for consideration for the LDP and Councillor Dr. Easy confirmed that there would be a similar problem. The Planning Authority seem to be unable to do anything about this and perhaps extending the primary retail area under their control may be a way forward. Councillor Mrs Brown stated that this is another iconic Tenby location which should be protected. Councillor Mrs. Thomas seconded.

RECOMMEND

While members can see no planning grounds for refusal, they are concerned about the proliferation of applications to change A1 and B2 uses into A3 uses which could

adversely affect the vibrancy of the town by creating a concentration of non-retail uses. Members suggest that consideration be given to extending the primary retail area of the town to include areas fronting the conservation area as part of deliberations on the new LDP.

Councillors Evans, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Williams returned to the Chamber.

- e. NP/17/0138/LBA – Mr. Johnny Thomas, Tirdail Lodge, Nantgaredig, Carmarthen – Paint façade of house – Shellback Cottage, Crackwell Street, Tenby

Councillor Rossiter said he was in favour of something happening to the front of this property, seeing it returned to its original stonework would be interesting and he was happy to endorse the application. Councillor Evans enquired as to the nature of the name and Councillor Hallett gave a brief but very interesting history to the name, Shellback Cottage. Seconded by Councillor Hallett

RECOMMEND

Approval as the proposal will enhance the property and is in keeping with neighbouring buildings.

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a letter from NPCPA to say that the application NP/17/0022 which TTC had rejected was going before a development management committee meeting on 22nd March to determine outcome.

Councillors Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Lane and Evans left the Chamber.

Councillor Mrs. Brown asked if we could put in writing our concerns about there being too many cafes already in Tenby. Councillor Dr. Easy asked to be reminded on what grounds we had rejected the original application and the Clerk referred to previous Council Minutes. Reading from these minutes it appears that it included losing too many B2 spaces outside of town walls in addition to the site possibility affecting the amenity of two nearby places of worship. Councillor Mrs. Thomas suggested it may be better that properties are being used than empty and again, there may be an opportunity to market Tenby as a gastro town. Councillor Mrs. Brown feels that our views should be expressed maybe by letter as to how many food outlets Tenby already has and that we would rather offices. Councillor Dr. Easy said that this should be part of the Tenby Town Plan to ensure we retain the right retail balance.

Councillors Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Lane and Evans returned to the Chamber.

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

a. Mrs. Gail Rees (via e-mail) – The Esplanade

Councillor Mrs. Thomas feels that this letter should be supported and that the County Council and Church should meet to discuss and resolve this matter. The Clerk had received an email from County Council and was reminded that previously a sign had been designed but rejected by TTC as it had been too big and quite the eyesore. Mr Blake will be in Tenby on Thursday and will hopefully be able to draw up a new proposal. Councillor Hallett commented that this was an iconic viewpoint and that drivers were busy looking at the view and not the road signs. Councillors Mrs Brown and Evans agreed that it is a very confusing parking area between resident permit parking, disabled parking and unrestricted parking and after a long drive perhaps this could be too much to take in. The Clerk pointed out that part of the problem is that many tourists believe this road leads to the car park. Councillor Hallett suggested that all car parks should be noted on the signs. Councillor Rossiter wondered if there was a chance that a road could go through Rectory Car Park and out on to The Esplanade but Councillor Evans pointed out that due to structure changes, this is not feasible. The Clerk will respond to Mrs Rees advising of the outcome of Mr. Blake's investigations.

b. Boundary Commission for Wales – the 2018 review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales – Secondary Consultation Period

It was resolved that this letter be noted.

c. Steve Morbey, PCC (via e-mail) – Anti dog fouling initiatives

Councillor Mrs. Thomas thought this was a lovely idea and it would be wonderful if Greenhill, Tenby Youth Club or those studying Welsh Bacc could get involved. Councillor Rossiter said he can't understand why dog wardens are not allowed the use of surveillance cameras, perhaps dog owners would take the problem seriously if they thought they were being caught on camera.

427. TO RECEIVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR FEBRUARY

The Mayor asked for any comments and pointed out the £7.24 which was not yet resolved.

Resolved that the accounts for January (including scheduled payments, un-presented cheques, receipts, account balances, budget monitoring to date and bank reconciliations) be accepted.

428. LICENSING APPLICATION

a. The Cove Inn, High Street Tenby

Councillors Evans, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Williams and the Clerk left the Chamber.

Councillor Mrs. Thomas said there had been no objections and both Councillors Hallett and Mrs. Brown commented on this being existing licensed premises which had run very well as a successful business for many years. Councillor Hallett approved the application and Councillor Mrs. Brown seconded this

Resolved that the Council make no representations on this application to the Licensing Authority.

Councillors Evans, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Williams and the Clerk returned to the Chamber.

429. APPLICATION FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE

a. Cruse Bereavement Care

Councillor Mrs. Lane asked how much we had given in previous years. The Clerk advised that several applications for grants have been received in the office and, in line with council policy he had filtered out ones without a direct local connection. In the past the Council has supported Cruse in some years and not in others.

Councillor Evans suggested a £50 donation and Councillor Mrs. Lane seconded

Resolved that a donation of £50 be made to the local branch of Cruse Bereavement Care

430. TO RECEIVED REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

De Valence Pavilion

Councillor Mrs. Brown reported that work on the De Valence Pavilion was coming along really well and also within budget. Lots of items had been paid for up front and she was really pleased with all the jobs that were getting done. Deadline for re-opening on 6th April was looking good. Councillor Mrs. Brown invited Councillors to pop in and take a look. The Mayor took the opportunity to thank the volunteers who were helping on such a massive task. Councillor Hallett also took the opportunity to thank all those involved in revamping the De Valence Pavilion.

Youth Club

Councillor Evans had missed the Mayor earlier at the Youth Centre's open day but was pleased

to report that County Council had invested in the Greenhill Community Education Centre and that there was no longer an axe over their head. Councillor Evans asked if there was a comprehensive list of activities available to youths in the town and, if not, asked the Clerk if he would be in a position to compile one so that it could be posted on the noticeboard to let youngsters know what's going on in Tenby. The Mayor followed on saying that Leah Walker was in charge and that PCSO Idwal David had previously worked out that there was about 103 organisations out there that youngsters could be involved in. The Youth Council and Club were also in the process of setting up Facebook pages.

MIU Walk-in Service

Councillor Mrs. Thomas had heard from Mansel Thomas reporting back from the Implementation Group Meeting to say that nothing negative was going on and that matters were progressing. There was to be a further meeting on 11th April for a progress report. The Mayor thanked Councillor Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Thomas for their tireless efforts on the project.

Mayor's Engagements

The Mayor had earlier been at the Youth Club's open day and was pleased to advise that numbers were increasing. The Mayor had also attended an Army Cadets meeting in order to present a Cadet with his Sergeant's badge. The Army Cadets Corps were engaged with lots of positive activities and were looking to manage the area around the unit between themselves and Greenhill. He had also attended the blessing of the new Tenby Church in Wales VC Primary School by the new Bishop of St Davids.

He had attended the Pembrokeshire Play Conference which was looking at play opportunities and the range of organizations available to support children at play - looking in particular at promotion of activities and volunteers. Unfortunately the Sea Cadets are still struggling to recruit volunteers to help run the Tenby Unit.

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

Councillor Mrs. Thomas had a copy of various signs that Padstow Town Council are using around their town and wondered if we could use something similar, stating its time the town needs to up its action. The Clerk noted that one of the signs related to street trading under the 1982 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act. Street trading was managed well by PCC using this legislation, unfortunately Tenby's problems centre around the fact that those involved are not street traders, but service providers who are not covered by the Act. Councillor Mrs. Thomas suggested a meeting to see if these services providers could be encouraged out of the Tenby Town Square and Five Arches area, perhaps getting them to trade on the Parade or Esplanade. Councillor Evans advised that something along these lines had previously been done, licensing

the service providers on the proviso that they move away from the Tudor Square and Five Arches and this had for a while, in a way, self-regulated itself. Councillor Mrs. Brown commented that a good meeting had previously been held but that we needed to keep at the forefront of Marc Owen's mind that we really want to pursue a Byelaw. We understand that this won't be in time for this summer perhaps and that it will cost a great deal but as the only town in Pembrokeshire who have this problem, we need to push PCC.

432. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE SALE OF LAND AT BYNHIR (IF ANY)

No further updates to report at this time.

433. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Update on Town Council election procedure

The Clerk outlined the procedure for submission of nomination forms for candidates wishing to stand for this year's Town Council elections on 4th May 2017. He had enough nomination packs for serving Councillors wishing to stand again and he outlined the eligibility criteria. PCC had asked if town clerks could assist in the completion and submission of nomination forms and the Clerk said he was happy to do this. Nomination papers had to be in by 4pm on 4th April and the town clerk was prepared to take completed forms over to County Hall for those members unable to get there during office hours. He proposed doing this on Friday, 31st March. He reminded members that there are 2 wards with 7 seats in the South Ward and 6 in the North Ward. Members can stand in either Ward and can submit nomination papers for both but under new rules, if they have submitted papers for both Wards they must withdraw one before 4pm on 4th April or all nomination papers will be invalid.

b. Welsh Government White Paper

The Clerk explained that consultation is now open on the new White Paper on the future of Local Government in Wales. The main thrust of the proposals was the introduction of regional committees to deliver certain services. There was very little mention of the future of town and community councils. The Welsh government were proposing a comprehensive review of this sector prior to making any proposals. The Clerk asked if Councillors wished to respond to the consultation and if so, suggested that the sub-committee of Councillor Dr. Easy, Councillor Blackhall and himself who had responded to previous White Papers on this issue may be the appropriate avenue to formulate a response on behalf of the Council.

If was proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Hallett and

Resolved that Councillors Dr. Easy and Blackhall work with the Clerk to formulate

a response to the consultation

c. Castle Walls

The Clerk advised Councillors that the weeds on the Town Walls were to be sprayed and growth removed. Work will commence this coming Thursday weather permitting.

d. Castle Hill Cannons

The Clerk reported that the work undertaken on the Cannons had been completed in 2 days. They now had wonderful new bases and were just awaiting the plaques to be cleaned and re-sited. Thanks to the Council, the foliage had been cut back and although it would be a long process the cleaning up of the area was going well. The railings were also being replaced at the top of the High Street opposite WH Smiths and the Mayor commented on the liaison between PCC and TTC working really well.

e. Jubilee Play Park

The Clerk advised that the retaining wall was now complete on the Jubilee Park and the Mayor said that the Youth Club were interested in taking part in any consultation regarding equipment for the play area. Councillor Rossiter asked if anything could be done about the pathways in the area but was advised that this was a matter for PCC. The Clerk said that the annual inspection had highlighted the wear and tear causing erosion to the slope at the top of the bank slide. He had discussed it with our Contractors who had suggested several options including wooden decking or astro turf to resolve this issue.

It was resolved that the Clerk look in to the best option to resolve this issue.

f. Battery Gardens

The Clerk advised that the Battery Gardens enhancement works had moved to the Tender stage. On looking at the design it was noted there was a flower bed which TTC would have been expected to plant. He had advised PCC that the flower bed was not required as TTC were looking for a neat area with minimal maintenance and this flower bed was now to be removed.

Also there are new benches going in to the garden and so there are 10 benches that could be relocated. Several possible sites were suggested and the Mayor suggested members have a look at potential sites. Councillor Rossiter asked after the survey of seating that was being undertaken by the Civic Society stating that perhaps they could be more particular where benches are placed in future. The Clerk needs to let Mr Rees know where these benches from the Battery can be moved to within the town otherwise PCC will utilize them in other areas. It was suggested that this be considered as an agenda item at

the next meeting.

434. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th March 2017 at 7.30pm.

435. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Location of seats

436. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Rossiter.

Resolved that the Council (or Committee) moves into private session under the Public Bodies (admission to Meeting) Act of 1960 by virtue of the business to be transacted would be prejudicial to members of the Public.

437. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 28th February 2017 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

438. MATTERS ARISING

Town Crier/Mace Bearer

Resolved that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk convene after the meeting to review the candidates.

439. NEW PROJECTS, REGENERATION AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Mayor had met with Ian Westley recently and discussion regarding the reserves of the Council and how it may be used took place. Informal discussion took place regarding housing and the work Councillor Evans has undertaken with PCC as to current housing availability and project ideas including the Regeneration Committee working on Battery Gardens and also, a possible cinema screen for the De Valence. The Mayor believed PCC were prepared to put approximately £10,000 towards this project. Councillor Hallett asked where this would be housed and the Mayor explained where it may go. Councillor Hallett moved that the Regeneration Team take this idea forward with the Mayor saying that it would greatly enhance the building. Councillor Mrs. Brown asked that the Council pause on this idea as the Trust may not have the finances left following refurbishment. There will be an AGM of the Trust in early April and then Councillor Mrs. Brown said she may be in a position to update Councillors and the Regeneration Team on the Trust's position.

Councillor Evans said he fully supports the principal of a cinema being introduced in to Tenby and there are big community grants to towns who currently don't have a cinema. He did suggest however that we really needed to engage lottery and Welsh Government funding. Councillor Mrs. Brown expressed concern that TTC money should really be reserved to pay for the Byelaw discussed earlier which she hoped would be introduced at some stage.

The Mayor said he had mentioned the Byelaw to Mr. Westley amongst other matters. Mention had been made of the Town Councils and Link Officer initiative and Mr. Westley would be feeding back on the opinions expressed. If Mr Westley wanted to send out a signal of intent that things had changed at County Hall getting a win on the Byelaw would show that we're working together. Mr. Westley agreed that the matter is being passed around like a hot potato and that he would speak with Darren Thomas, Head of Highways, to ask for an update. Councillor Evans said there are reserves there now and when needed, the precept can be adjusted accordingly to facilitate expenditure. Councillor Rossiter asked what the effect would be if a Byelaw was introduced. The Clerk advised that the Byelaw would have to be enforced by PCC and that it is Darren Thomas' department that will have to enforce it. This was why his input was needed.

Councillor Evans reminded us of some of the new initiatives that had also been mooted, for example the fitness stations that Councillor Mrs. Thomas had suggested and enhanced play areas for Heywood Lane and Knowling Mead which County would match fund. Councillor Mrs. Thomas thought it may be a good idea to ask for sponsorship and Councillor Hallett brought up the fact that there is often little thought given to future maintenance and that perhaps some of these projects need to be self-sufficient.

440. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Town Council Insurance

Councillor Mrs. Lane asked the Clerk what his opinion was on the matter while Councillor Mrs. Brown stated that all insurances were going up, and it could be prudent to fix a fee for the next three years. Councillor Mrs. Brown proposed that the Council take up the offer of the 3 year deal, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lane.

Resolved that the Town Council accept our insurance provider's offer to renew the three year agreement to secure a reduced premium.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____