

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 25th November 2014

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Lane	Mayor
Councillor P Rapi	
Councillor L Blackhall	
Councillor Mrs Brown	
Councillor Mrs Rossiter	
Councillor H Johns	
Councillor Dr P Easy	
Councillor M Evans	
Councillor W Rossiter	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A. Davies	Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs L Hensman	Assistant Clerk

ALSO PRESENT

Inspector M McSweeney	Dyfed Powys Police
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The Mayor welcomed Inspector Mark McSweeney who was in attendance to discuss recent local police matters. The Clerk explained following receipt of two letters of concern addressed to TTC it had been decided to give the Dyfed Powys Police Inspector the opportunity to respond to the letters in the presence of Councillors.

Councillor Mrs Lane and Councillor Mrs Rossiter declared a personal interest and took no part in any discussion on the following matter.

Inspector Mc Sweeney thanked TTC for the opportunity to speak on an ongoing live investigation. He asked Councillors for any information they had been made aware of verbally or from a media source before he provided a clear account of facts he was permitted to share in view of the ongoing investigation.

He provided the following press statement:

In response to the concerns and adverse publicity associated with the incident of disorder in Tenby on Saturday November 8th, Inspector Mc Sweeney reassured the community that a significant amount of work has been done and is ongoing in Pembrokeshire, in particular Tenby, working with partner agencies, licensee's and the community to reduce the impact of the late night economy in the town. Progress has been made in particular with the reductions in violent crime and anti-social behaviour over the last 12 months due to Operation Lion.

Inspector Mc Sweeney said: "Matters were progressing in respect of complaints that have subsequently been received, and appropriate action will be taken imminently in relation to any offences identified.

This was an isolated incident, and he was keen that it should not tarnish the good work that has been seen locally over the past months”.

Following delivery of the permitted information Councillors responded with support and their personal concerns.

Councillor Mrs Brown praised the local licensees, doormen and police for the manner in which they handled the incident and felt the BBC press interview had caused much of the bad information circulating the town verbally.

Councillor Rapi expressed concern as to why the situation was not stopped earlier before the main incident occurred. The Inspector outlined his awareness of the logged telephone contact information available; highlighting the speed of response by all officers attending the incident. He praised all the local doormen that were deployed from other establishments to assist in controlling the situation.

Councillor Blackhall felt that the isolated incidents, although infrequent appear to be occurring when internationals are on. The Inspector agreed that there is a more significant presence on the street on these days; however over the last two weekends there has been a successful Blues Festival and international games with no incidents recorded. Therefore it appears that this was an isolated incident, as officers are out on foot all weekends.

Councillor Blackhall felt the last two weekends were typical events occurring in Tenby when people enjoy themselves without any incidents occurring. He did feel that as a gesture of good will it would be nice if the visiting Rugby Club allegedly involved in the incident could contact the business owner who had his window damaged during the fracas.

Councillor Mrs Brown informed the Inspector of future events occurring in the De Valence to raise awareness of officers on duty on the relevant nights. The Inspector explained that discussions were ongoing to ensure numbers of officers are on duty for all Christmas Events and he is in the process of negotiating additional staff resources for next summer.

Councillor M Evans joined the meeting.

Inspector McSweeney explained that Section 27 orders previously used by the police have now been replaced with Section 34 and 35. These sections give powers to the police to prohibit a person from an area for up to 48 hours; however the reasons do not have to be alcohol related, as was the case with Section 27 orders. The Designated Public Places Order is due to commence in December and will give the police powers to prevent drinking on the streets in designated areas.

Additional information about local policing included performance figures for South Pembrokeshire was positive. Student police officers have been recruited for the area and will be commencing duty soon.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Mc Sweeney for providing up to date information before he left the chamber.

266. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs Putwain, Councillor Mrs Thomas, Councillor Mrs Durham and Councillor T Hallett.

267. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Councillor M Evans declared a personal interest in Item 9a.

268. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Rossiter, seconded by Councillor W 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.

269. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Clerk reported Councillor Hallett contacted TTC office to request an accuracy amendment to the minutes. Page 121, 2nd paragraph should read ‘Councillor Hallett felt clarification was needed as to where PCNPA define the centre of Tenby, as the Five Arches car park is geographically within the centre of Tenby, but not within the commercial centre.’

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 10th November 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate with the following amendment: Councillor Hallett felt clarification was needed as to where PCNPA define the centre of Tenby, as the Five Arches car park is geographically within the centre of Tenby, but not within the commercial centre.

270. MATTERS ARISING

252 - Matters Arising - Proposed Service Charges to ex-council houses purchased under ‘Right to Buy’ scheme

The Clerk reported he had received a response from Mrs Alison Lee, Cabinet Minister for Housing, PCC stating she fully concurred with Mrs L Hambidge that unfortunately due to the short response deadlines the Welsh Assembly have put on the consultation they are unable to call a meeting in Tenby. However she said staff in the housing department would be more than willing to discuss by phone any concerns expressed by a property owner. She felt the personal approach to individual’s questions had proved more effective following the main meetings held in other towns.

Councillor Evans explained he had also spoken to Mrs Lee who gave him similar information and added that if a further consultation process was to follow the department would schedule a meeting for residents in Tenby.

231 - (183) - Tenby Town Walls

Councillor W Rossiter asked if the two large stones missing from the town walls by Imperial Arch had been noticed as this concern was not noted on Cadw action plan. All Councillors noted the area concerned and requested the site be included on the Cadw list. It was

It was resolved for the Clerk to request if Ms P Groom, Cadw could add the two missing Town Wall stones adjacent to Imperial Arch to her action plan request for PCC to address.

Councillor Blackhall asked if the digital copy of the 1990s Town Wall Survey had been found. Councillor Evans and the Clerk were aware Mr Daniel Davies PCC had located a hard copy but it had not been received in TTC office. It was

Resolved that Councillor Evans and the Clerk would chase up the delivery of the Town Wall Survey document.

240f - Sea Gull Proof Bags - Award Nomination

The Clerk reported that unfortunately PCC and TTC had been unsuccessful in achieving the award for the Sea Gull proof bag initiative. However a Certificate of Commendation had been received and he had requested a copy of the certificate to display in Tenby.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked for clarification of the next stage in the process following the Sea Gull proof bag trial. The Mayor said she had requested a meeting with Mr R Brown, PCC to discuss how to take the Sea Gull proof bag scheme forward among other maintenance delivery issues. The Clerk was in the process of arranging a suitable date for this meeting.

254a - Five Arches Car Park - Planning application NP/14/0402

The Clerk reported that the Five Arches Car Park planning application would be discussed by PCNPA committee on Wednesday 3rd December. As TTC views differed from PCC and PCNPA the request had been made for a representative to speak for five minutes during the consideration of the application. TTC had previously resolved that the Town Clerk would attend should this be the case and therefore he had registered his intent to attend and speak to provide TTC views.

255c - PCC - Review of Library Opening Hours

The Clerk reported he had received correspondence from Mr M Cavanagh, Head of Cultural Services, PCC outlining that some town and community councils have requested costings for the proposed hours of closure for specific libraries and therefore he felt all councils should be aware of this option. However he was aware that not all councils would have the funding to cover the shortfalls and would not be able to contribute.

Councillor Blackhall felt this was not an option at all. If the library service shortfall was picked up by TTC the local people would be paying twice for the same service. It seems that cuts at

County level are being added to town level and TTC needs to make it clear now that some of the services may be picked up and undertaken if an enhancement can be made to the service and not just to cover the shortfall. Letters like this one could be sent out from every head of department in PCC asking for town and community councils to make up a shortfall to keep services at existing levels as all departments were facing budget cuts.

Councillor Evans said he had met with the people responsible for sending out these recent consultations on reductions in library service hours and he said there are large changes to the funds received from the Welsh Assembly for Pembrokeshire and therefore inevitably there will be cutbacks. TTC looked at the library situation and chose Option 2 as the most appropriate solution. He personally felt the Tenby Library was a district library serving all of South East Pembrokeshire, including Penally, New Hedges, St Florence and the wider area where Greenhill pupils that use the library services live. Therefore it would be unfair for one Council to pay for the service shortfall; it would need to be proportioned appropriately if considered.

He continued stating that TTC were against any reductions but looking pragmatically at available options.

271. REPORT OF THE TENBY STREET MARKET MEETING

The Clerk explained his report on the Tenby Street market meeting was self explanatory.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked why the local Member of Parliament and a local Assembly Member felt the market should be discontinued. The Clerk said as far as he was aware Mr Owen had received letters following their reading of the local businesses petition.

272. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk reported he had received an additional planning application NP/14/0432 which required a response before the next meeting and asked if it was Councillors wish to consider the application at this meeting. Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed to accept the additional planning application NP/14/0432, seconded by Councillor Rapi.

Resolved that members consider the additional planning application NP/14/0432.

a. NP/14/0619 – Mr Will Griffiths, 79 Knowling Mead, Tenby – Retrospective application for the construction of decking with gazebo in north east corner of garden, 79 Knowling Mead, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Mrs Brown proposed approval as it will improve the amenity for the applicant and have no adverse effect on neighbouring properties, seconded by Councillor Rapi.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it will improve the amenity for the applicant and have no adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

b. NP/14/0432 - Ground floor alterations and sun room extension together with first floor extension and provision of additional parking spaces, 8 Hill Park, Tenby.

This was an amendment to the previously approved application. Councillors discussed and viewed the application. Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed approval as it was a positive improvement, bringing the building back into use as a family home, seconded by Councillor Dr Easy.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it was a positive improvement, bringing the building back into use as a family home.

273. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCNPA – Update on Local Development Plan Land Allocations

Councillor Blackhall pointed out an observation on HA752, noting that PCNPA recognise a need for alternative car parking, yet they have recommended refusal of the Five Arches car park.

Councillor W Rossiter requested clarification of which area HA727 actually referred to. Councillor Evans explained it was the area on the left before Bells Corner.

Councillor W Rossiter asked why PCC sold this area of land instead of holding onto it for social housing development. Councillor Evans responded explaining that PCC do not develop land at present and therefore do not stock pile land. Therefore it was sold off and the capital receipts have been used for capital products like refurbishment of Tenby Leisure Centre. At present PCNPA policy states that 60% of development should be for social housing, therefore developments are not happening as 60% is not a viable proposition for a builder to undertake, so we have sites like Brynhir and the Old Cottage Hospital site just left undeveloped.

The Mayor referred to HA752 asking if PCC only acknowledge car parks they own. Councillor Evans explained that in the LDP car parking in Tenby is ring fenced. If a car park is built on they have to provide an alternative area for parking.

The Clerk reported on NP/07/218, South Beach, Tenby. He had received a reply from Mrs J Gibson, PCNPA who explained she had no further news on this site. The developers went into liquidation and the site has been officially put onto the open market for sale. The official affordable housing element will still stand for this development, therefore the situation is stagnant at present.

Councillor W Rossiter personally felt that building many houses on Brynhir would spoil the landscape.

MA706, the Clerk reported that workmen had commenced demolition of the buildings on the Delphi site and affordable housing will be provided in this area. Councillor Evans said Pembrokeshire Housing had bought the site for an affordable housing development.

274. CORRESPONDENCE

a. PCC – Free Parking (for information)

Councillors unanimously felt free parking in Tenby during weekends in December was a very positive move by PCC for the benefit of businesses and locals.

b. Mr Keith Walker (via e-mail) – Tenby concern

Councillors felt this letter of concern was addressed earlier during discussion with Inspection McSweeney, it was

Resolved that a letter of response be sent by the Clerk to Mr K Walker.

c. Mrs Gill Cope (via e-mail) - Wales Online report

Councillors felt this letter of concern was addressed earlier during discussion with Inspection McSweeney, it was

Resolved that a letter of response be sent by the Clerk to Mr Gill Cope.

d. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism – October minutes

Councillors reviewed the minutes. It was

Resolved that Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism minutes be noted.

e. Sandy Davies (via e-mail) – Contact the elderly – Pembrokeshire Group

Councillors discussed the concept of the idea behind the Contact The Elderly Group and suggested various options and avenues that can be followed. It was felt that the Salvation Army already provide a service and the Tenby Friendship Group meet regularly to also provide a service. It was

Resolved that TTC forward the information to the De Valence Trust to liaise with Mrs A Elms, Tenby Friendship Group to see if an additional service can be commenced or the present service enhanced.

f. Mr Roger Handcock (via e-mail) – Copy of e-mail sent to Cllr Mike Evans

Councillor Evans clarified that the area Mr Handcock is referring to is not in his ward, however he has arranged a meeting with him next week to discuss the matter.

275. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Rapi reported he attended the Tenby Remembrance Service with Tenby Male Choir in St Mary's Church, along with several other Councillors, it was an enjoyable evening.

Councillor Blackhall reported on the hugely successful Blues Festival Weekend at the De Valence, followed by the successful Greenhill School Students Reunion. Forthcoming events to look forward to include the Young Farmers Queen's Ball, New Years Eve Fat Barry's Soul Band and Marshals Trade Show. Regular bookings are being taken and he asked if anyone is free to help at any event they will be made very welcome.

Councillor Evans said without the De Valence venue and two very hard working Councillors all the events would not go ahead, therefore it shows the need for the facility.

Councillor Dr Easy reported he had attended St Teilo's Catholic School Governors Finance meeting where they carried out positive budget monitoring.

The Mayor reported Father Christmas is coming to Tenby on Saturday and will be arriving by Lifeboat. The superb Christmas tree has arrived and is up and a press release itemising the events occurring every week till Christmas will be coming to fruition this week. Businesses will be offered the opportunity to donate £10 to the Festivities and receive publicity during the event as often as possible during the three weeks.

Councillor Mrs Brown thanked Councillor Mrs Lane and the festivities committee for all their hard work to plan the weekly events and she wished them every success for the Festive Celebrations.

The Clerk expressed his thanks to Tenby Fire Brigade and Anglo Holt for erecting the Christmas tree, and St Mary's Church for allowing the tree to be sited back in the Square.

276. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor W Rossiter reported on the recent TV programme, Tony Robinson, Walking through History. He was walking through North Pembrokeshire and talking about the Norman Invasion. Councillor W Rossiter expressed how disappointed he was that they talked about invading Pembrokeshire by sea and never mentioned Tenby, it was very remiss of them to leave Tenby out of the whole program.

277. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Stackpole Walled Garden Trustees Presentation

The Clerk reported that Councillors had been invited to attend the Stackpole Walled Garden student presentations on Friday 12th December at 12 noon; he asked if any Councillors were able to attend. Following discussion it was

Resolved that the Mayor would attend if her diary was free.

b. PAVS - Chance to Re Imagine Public Services in Pembrokeshire

The Clerk read out the details for a meeting on Friday 5th December, from 10.30 am till 1.30 pm in Crundale, Haverfordwest. The meeting will discuss the contribution that the third sector and local partners can make in terms of developing new models of public service delivery and building resilient and age friendly communities. Following discussion it was

Resolved that the Town Clerk attend on behalf of TTC.

c. Temporary Road Closure - White Lion Street

The Clerk reported that a temporary road closure of White Lion Street would take place on Monday 1st December to allow services to be connected to the new hotel complex. Vehicles would be only permitted to turn right out of Upper Frog Street, Tenby. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

278. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting, a town council finance meeting, will take place on Tuesday 2nd December at 7.30 pm. The next meeting of full council will be on Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7.30pm.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter gave her apologies in advance.

279. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None noted.

280. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

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.

281. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 10th November 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

282. MATTERS ARISING

266a - Tenby Regeneration

Councillor Evans asked if any information had been received from Ms Henehan following the last regeneration meeting. The Clerk reported he had no further information from Ms Henehan, however he had received one of the three WIFI quotes for the town coverage. The Mayor reported that Mr P Williams had attended the Regeneration meeting and had proved to be a very valuable member on the team to assist in driving the projects forward.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____