

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
12TH DECEMBER 2017

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs S Lane	Mayor
Councillor Mr L Blackhall	
Councillor Mrs C Thomas	
Councillor Mrs T Rossiter	
Councillor Mr T Hallett	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A Davies	Clerk to the Council/Financial Officer
Mrs S Thompson	Assistant to the Clerk

276. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Mrs Williams, Cllr Mrs Brown, Cllr Brown, Cllr Mrs Ward and Cllr Rapi.

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

None disclosed that this time.

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 TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT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Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

279. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 28th November 2017 be amended to show Cllr Brown present and then confirmed and signed as accurate.

280. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

241. Battle's End

The Clerk told Councillors he had met with an architect and was now awaiting a quote for the War Memorial project.

264b. PCNPA – Date of Appeal NP/17/0178/FUL

Cllrs Blackhall and Mrs Williams had attended the appeal and the only feedback so far from Cllr Blackhall was that the officer has the power to determine the outcome.

265b. Owen Roberts, PCC – 361 (Pembroke Dock to Tenby) bus service

The Clerk had been copied in on a letter from Owen Roberts, PCC, being sent out to Neil Westerman today. The letter looked promising in relation to services but he felt he was unable to reveal to Councillors the content at this time as Mr Westerman had not received it.

270. Retrospective Planning Applications

The Clerk had written to the AMs as requested. Those who had responded so far said that they will bring the matter up with the appropriate minister. The Mayor said it was a ridiculous situation and Cllr Hallett said that it had been a bugbear of his for a long while. Cllr Mrs Rossiter said that those who do not comply should be fined if they do not abide by the rules and regulations. Cllr Hallett thinks it's a grey area which needs to be tightened up as soon as possible.

281. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD 30TH NOVEMBER 2017 TO DISCUSS SOUTH PARADE

Cllr Mrs Thomas thought it had been a very positive meeting with all being in agreement. The Mayor was thrilled by what she had read and said TTC needed to keep on top of things. The Clerk brought up Cllr Blackhall's idea to form a working party and Cllr Mrs Rossiter said it was important that all are singing from the same hymn sheet.

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

NP/17/0689/FUL – Mr. William Howells, Peter House, Heywood Lane, Tenby – Demolition of external store and garden shed to rear. Construction of 2 storey rear extension and single storey wrap around extension to rear and side (west) elevation – Peter House, Heywood Lane, Tenby

The Mayor asked Councillors if they had had an opportunity to look at the plans and all confirmed that they had.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed accepting the application as it looked a nice family house that would benefit from more space. Cllr Mrs Thomas seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Tested against all relevant polices of the LDP, particularly 30, the proposal does not have an adverse impact on amenity or the appearance of its immediate neighbourhood.

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

- a. Dafydd Llewelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner – 2018/19 Police Precept Consultation

Noted. Cllr. Mrs Thomas said that individuals could respond if they so wished.

- b. Gemma Bevan, PCC – Dogs Trust promotions

Cllr Mrs Thomas felt happy for this to go ahead and was pleased that permission had been sought beforehand. She added that this was a rather nice event to take place during the summer as so many of our visitors to Tenby have dogs. Traders would not be welcome.

- c. Mr Charles Fecci – Christmas festivities

Cllr Hallett opened by stating that letters should be addressed correctly and respectfully. The Mayor thought the letter was disgraceful and if Mr Fecci views were so strong, he should consider joining the Festivities committee himself.

In response to various issues raised the Mayor pointed out that advertising is an expensive business and mentioned the fact newspaper advertising features were dictated by the number of advertisers. Obviously more Saundersfoot businesses had chosen to take part in their feature, making it larger. Mr Fecci would have been more than welcome to advertise in the local press if he had wished to do so.

The Clerk apologised for the oversight with regard to Mr. Fecci's offer to provide snow on the day. He had missed this being mentioned at the relevant festivities meeting.

The Mayor felt aggrieved that Mr Fecci chose to mention the fact that she had been on holiday prior to the event, citing this as a reason for 'lack of communication'. She was entitled to take holidays and had actually shortened her break by a day to return and support the event.

Members of the RNLI, Tenby Fire Station, Tenby Round Table, Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism, De Valance Pavilion Trust and Tenby Town Council had met throughout the year to organise and work together towards the Christmas festivities programme - this event benefits the trades' people of Tenby by drawing residents and visitors alike to the town.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter added that she thought the Christmas lights were magnificent and questioned if Mr Fecci had any idea how much it all cost. She too invited him to join the Festivities' Committee.

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

Cllr Mrs Thomas thanked the Clerk for his efforts and proposed accepting the accounts. Cllr Mrs Rossiter queried Budget Head 84 - Park and Ride asking if this sum was for the Salterns Car Park scheme. The Clerk confirmed it was. Cllr Mrs Rossiter seconded acceptance also thanking the Clerk for his sterling work.

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

285. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TO AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

- a. Tenby House Hotel – Assistance towards the insurance costs for New Year’s Eve Firework display

Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed contributing the same amount as in previous years (£300) towards the NYE firework insurance costs. The organisers do a fantastic job with the firework display each year and it wouldn’t be the same without them. Cllr Hallett seconded the proposal.

Resolved that under Section 144 of the LGA 1972 that a contribution of £300 be made towards the cost of insurance for the New Year’s Eve fireworks.

286. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Mayor would report on her numerous engagements after Christmas.

287. TO CONSIDER ANY MEDIA ITEMS RELATING TO TENBY TOWN COUNCIL OR TENBY AND AGREE ACTION IN REPOSE

None.

288. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE SALE OF LAND AT BRYNHIR (IF ANY)

None at this time.

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

This matter had been covered earlier in the meeting.

290. TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF A PARK AND RIDE SERVICE FROM NORTH BEACH CAR PARK TO TENBY HARBOUR DURING PEDESTRIANISATION

Cllr Mrs Rossiter said she will keep pursuing this matter as she feels a Park and Ride Service is very important for tourism and locals alike, benefiting Castle Hill, boats and all associated with the harbour and town area. Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked if there was any chance that TTC could part fund a service from the Tourism budget. The Clerk replied that he had enquired with Mr Hubert Mathias, of PCC if a charged for service was an option but at this time no firm costings have been received.

An option could be that TTC could offer to fund 50 percent of any shortfall. Cllr Mrs Rossiter said we must press on as time is passing and the summer season will be here before we know it. The Clerk said that no budget provision had been allowed for this year but suggested using funds from reserves if PCC agreed to the idea. Budgetary provision could be made in subsequent years. Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed and Cllr Mrs Thomas seconded.

Resolved

That the Clerk write to PCC to ascertain their views on introducing a charged for Park and Ride provision from the North Beach car park with any income shortfall being shared on a 50/50 basis between TTC and PCC.

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

The Clerk advised Councillors that the TTC Christmas lunch was on Thursday, 21st December at 2pm.

292. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 2nd January 2018 at 7.30pm.

293. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEM FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

294. TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC TO RESOLVE FROM THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS UNDER THE "PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT OF 1960"

295. MATTERS ARISING

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The Mayor suggested setting up a Committee to look at ways of taking this forward. Cllr Blackhall said that PCC are looking at Carmarthen County Council to see how their asset transfer was managed as they not sure how and what it all entails. TCC want to ensure a good deal.

The Mayor felt we may have to consider working together with our neighbouring communities for example on sharing equipment.

Cllr Mrs Thomas felt we had no choice but to consider this as a way forward otherwise the gardens could face 'managed decline'.

Cllr Hallett said there could be problems with loaning out the equipment. The Mayor felt it may not work for all communities but TTC needed to start looking at this now. Cllr Blackhall commented that he had had a useful scoping conversation with Cllr. Phil Baker, of Saundesfoot on this issue earlier in the week.

Cllr Mrs Thomas suggested we reach out to the Community. She commented that, perhaps if the item could be put on our Agenda saying we are seeking help for our gardens we may get volunteers, sponsors or people ‘adopting’ a garden.

The Mayor said that Tenby Lions were giving £500 towards The Green this year but unfortunately it seemed to be the same generous people/organisations year after year. We need to talk to more organisations.

Cllr. Mrs. Thomas reiterated that we need to find out what the statutory and non-statutory items are to be. We may, in the future, find we are being asked to take on more services, which could put us in the same situation as PCC find themselves in now where cuts in some things have to be made to keep others going.

The Mayor felt that TTC was one of the first being communities approached with this idea but it appeared that all town and community councils would eventually be asked the same questions.

Cllr Blackhall asked what would happen to PCC’s management budget under asset transfer. There would be a reduction of the County’s operations budget but would they be reducing their management budget too? Could we be paying for people to manage very little through PCC’s precept while also funding operational costs and management ourselves?

The Mayor said there were a number of different options ranging from Service Level Agreements to full transfer. This was why TTC needed to re-constitute its Gardens Committee to look at all the options and get proper answers from PCC.

TTC needed to focus on looking after our town and keeping standards up.

She suggested a visit is needed to where PCC get their bedding plants from to see how it all works and find out if there are cheaper ways of ordering, possibly through local suppliers.

She added that if TTC took over the gardens we needed to ensure that there were watering facilities in place. The Clerk advised Councillors that Dwr Cymru’s costs to get water to the Rotary Gardens alone could be in excess of £2000. The water firm had also said that they could only guarantee 1.5 bar of pressure in town. The PCC gardeners have said in the past that low pressure is the main issue in those gardens that already have watering facilities.

The Mayor said that this was another issue a Gardens’ committee could look into.

296. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE BUDGET WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD 5TH DECEMBER 2017 AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS

The Mayor say she was happy to accept everyone’s proposals. Cllrs Mrs Thomas and Mrs Rossiter felt that matters had been very well discussed. Cllr Blackhall added that 5% is a lot less than the 12.5% PCC are looking at. TTC were looking to commit over £100K on projects during the year. Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Rossiter that the minutes be accepted and all the recommendations be adopted. Seconded by Cllr Hallett.

Resolved

That the minutes be confirmed and all recommendations be agreed and adopted.

297. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD WITH MR RICHARD BROWN, PCC ON 5TH DECEMBER 2017.

Discussion on this matter had been dealt with earlier in the meeting

Resolved

That the information be received.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____