

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
19th FEBRUARY 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Mr L Blackhall
Councillor Mr P Rapi
Councillor Mr T Brown
Councillors Mrs T Rossiter
Councillor Mrs S Skyrme-Blackhall
Councillor Mrs T Evans
Councillor Mr T Hallett
Councillor Mrs S Williams

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

In the absence of both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor the Clerk asked that under Schedule 12 of the LGA 1972 a chairperson be proposed. Cllr Mrs Rossiter proposed Cllr Blackhall and Cllr Mrs Williams seconded.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Blackhall chair the meeting in the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Blackhall took the chair.

373. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies received from the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cllr Crockford.

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

Cllr Mrs Rossiter declared her personal interest in item 13.

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 TO AGREE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMITTEE MINUTES OTHER THAN THOSE MARKED NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEING GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS PRESENT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That items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

376. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 5th February 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

377. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION ONLY

316b. Tenby TIC

The Clerk explained that PCC Cabinet had recommended that the Tenby TIC will cease to function as a stand-alone office as of April. PCC would be looking at revenue generating ideas over the summer and liaising with interested parties to find a more permanent solution until October when a final decision will be made. This recommendation was due for ratification at PCC's full council meeting on Thursday.

It therefore appeared that PCC had granted a temporary stay of execution as requested by TTC and we now need to work together to find an alternative way to keep the facility open.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter fears that losing the Tenby TIC will mean that it will be down to the Clerk and the Clerk's assistant to deal with queries as the Council office would be where visitors will come for information. She feels that this is wrong as the office is busy enough. Cllr Hallett believes that as a main tourist hub, it is a damn shame that this facility is being lost. Although this is a modern world, not all are up to speed with apps and Google.

The Clerk said that Mr P Ashley-Jones would welcome a further meeting to discuss the future.

Cllr Hallett asked if we could have access to daily records as to footfall at the TIC. He believed that the employees keep personal records but they are not readily available. Cllr Mrs Williams asked that we request access to this information.

Cllr Blackhall told Councillors that a meeting is needed as soon as possible to include those representatives who were present at the previous town council arranged meeting. He asked that the Clerk obtain some potential dates from Mr. Ashley-Jones. Cllr Mrs Williams asked if we could utilize the Freedom of Information Act in order to gain access to the information.

Cllr Rapi asked if we could not access the Enhancing Pembrokeshire fund to finance the retention of the TIC and protect jobs. The Clerk said he would have to check the eligibility criteria for the Enhancing Pembrokeshire fund, pointing out that this fund is designed to mitigate against the effects of second home ownership on the resident population. He also reminded Councillors that PCC had said that staff would not be made redundant but redeployed.

338a. Dog Fouling

The Clerk told Councillors that 20 more fines had been issued across the county as of a week last Monday. PCC were looking into breaking down the fines issued by area to supply the information requested by Council.

355d. 12 St David's Close, Tenby

Cllr Rossiter took no part in this discussion.

The Clerk told Councillors that he had spoken with the Case Officer. Historically PCNPA had been happy to come out to site meetings to go through any issues. However due to their delegated powers, they are now standing back and cannot be seen to be involved in any open discussion between interested parties to retain their impartiality.

If the application conforms to policy, officers can determine without recourse to the Development Management Committee. They can also mitigate against written concerns through liaison with the applicant or conditioning.

The Clerk's understanding therefore was that the Case Officer would not call, or attend, the site meeting requested by the town council but would be happy to attend a Council meeting to discuss any aspects of a plan that the Council are unclear on.

TTC could, however, arrange their own site meeting.

PCNPA have already received the letter from the neighbours in relation to this application, which had been raised with the applicant. The Case Officer was given to understand that revised plans were being prepared and privacy issues relating to the flat roof can be addressed through conditions.

Cllr Blackhall asked that a letter been written to the Head of Planning for clarification as to officer attendance at future site meetings

Cllr Brown suggested a site meeting. Cllr Hallett suggested we need to act fast and seconded the proposal adding that Councillors could then meet with the PCNPA officer back at the office if necessary.

RESOLVED

That a site meeting be arranged in respect of this application.

Further resolved that clarification be sought as to PCNPA case officer attendance at site meetings requested by the town council.

364. Tenby Bandstand

The Clerk had met with Mr McCarthy who said that possibly PCC could provide paint and it would be down to the TTC to find volunteers to do the painting.

365. Newell Hill

The Clerk had written to Mr D Thomas at PCC who confirmed that he would ask an officer to look at the site and report back to him. Cllr Mrs Evans asked if the matter had been mentioned to the Police.

366. Parking Arrangements at Tenby Leisure Centre

Again Mr D Thomas was looking in to the matter. It was noted that hedging around the parking bays had already been cut back.

367d. Railway Station Audits

The Mayor together with Cllr Blackhall, Cllr Brown and Cllr Mrs Evans had attended the Railway Station and the Clerk had forwarded a list of suggested improvements to Mr Greenwood and Transport for Wales. The Clerk had been advised that a deep clean was planned for before Easter.

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

a. NP/19/0017/FUL – Use of land for hand car wash facility including associated canopy and storage structures – Land adjacent to the Co-op, The Green, Tenby

Cllr Hallett was concerned are that there are old services connections and wondered if wash off from the vehicles would be in to the storm water drains or going straight in to the Ritec – he would like confirmation that drainage will be to the right pipe. Build-up of sludge was another major concern. He felt any approval should be subject to assessment of water not going to the Ritec and management of sludge wash. Cllr Mrs Rossiter feels it is a brilliant idea and, with the inclusion of the concerns raised by Cllr. Hallett, proposed accepting the proposal Cllr Mrs Williams seconded. Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall added that it was nice to see the Green coming back to life.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable. However, they suggest that care is taken to ensure that any connections to the foul water system prevents waste water draining into the nearby Ritec river and that a plan for the management of any sludge resulting from car washing activities is sought to address any potential contamination issues.

b. NP/19/0037/FUL – Flat roofed garage and utility side extension – Milton, Serpentine Road, Tenby

Cllr Mrs Williams asked if there had been any objections. The Clerk indicated that there had been none. Cllr Hallett proposed accepting the application and Cllr Rapi seconded.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable.

c. NP/18/0747/FUL – Demolition of former Reeves Calendars and Five Arches Press offices and the redevelopment of the site for 29 residential dwellings and associated landscape and infrastructure works – Former Printing Factory, Knowling Mead, Tenby

Cllr Hallett commented on the dense nature of the development and the narrow access, noting that vehicles are to be utilizing the bus bay for waiting whilst under development. Clarification was needed as to how vehicles, furniture lorries, etc. were to be managed when the site was active as there was not room for any more.

Cllr Mrs Evans said cause of great concern to her was the narrow walkway. This will be a major construction site, asking if the area would be fenced off.

Members felt the volume of cars could be increased by 50 or so by this development and pointed out that this is a major walking route for families to the schools located in Heywood Lane.

Cllr Rapi felt that social housing in Tenby is desperately needed and this is great use of the area.

The Clerk said that he had been in contact with Asbri Planning who have said that statistically there are less cars per household in relation to social housing than to general housing. This was an ATEB site for social housing and the planners felt that less than 1 car per dwelling was possible. They accept access is narrow but access would be for cars and vans as opposed to the lorries that used to service the factory.

Cllr Brown feels that social housing is desperately needed in Tenby and is fully supportive of building social housing but he has grave concerns over access and health and safety issues regarding the play area. He himself is a resident of Knowling Mead, albeit the other side, but he knows children cross the road for school at this point and there could be an incident. He asked if there was no way that the road could be widened.

Cllr Rapi agreed there could be a risk but measures will be put in place to ensure that the area is securely fenced off. It is the responsibility of the developers to ensure that all is in place, the walk way will be fenced off and between 8 -5 are

the permitted work hours. They also would have restrictions in place observing the times when children and families were making their way to and from school. Pembrokeshire Highways have no objection, supporting plan when submitted.

The Clerk then read certain conditions and comments made by the Highways Department.

Cllr Hallett said that the law demands that the working area will be fenced off.

Cllr Brown said he is fully aware of the plans but is concerned about after the construction is completed, there will be a lot of children making their way across, and there is still a chance that a child may run out.

The Clerk pointed out that PCC had requested Section 106 funding for improvements to the footpath.

The Chair commented that £300 per house did not seem to be huge amount and perhaps additional 106 contributions should be asked for, possibly to refurbish the play area in addition to other items.

Cllr Brown asked for more pavement and the Clerk confirmed that this is what PCC are proposing to do through Section 106 funding.

Cllr Hallett commented that many of the garages are not being used and perhaps they could be taken down to improve access. Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked if traffic calming could be looked in to.

Cllr Brown proposed accepting the proposal but asking for extra Section 106 monies for improvements to pavements and the refurbishment of the play area. Further that consideration be given to traffic calming measures and an investigation be carried out as to whether the garages were in use and, if not, could they be removed to improve access.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable. However members note that PCC Highways have requested Section 106 for footway improvements which they feel are imperative and this should be pursued. They also wonder about the possibilities of the introduction of some traffic calming measures in Knowling Mead given that this application site is on one of the main walking routes from this area of town to the schools in Heywood Lane. Members also request that additional Section 106 funding be sought for the refurbishment of the play area in Knowling Mead which would be the closest such facility to this site. Members also suggest investigations be undertaken into the ownership of the garages to the rear of Knowling Mead adjacent to this site as their removal could also assist in alleviating traffic movement concerns.

d. NP/18/0730/LBA – Replacement of front doors, internal alterations – Ocean Commotion, Lower Frog Street, Tenby – AMENDED PLANS

Cllr Hallett asked for clarification and once satisfied, he proposed accepting the application. Cllr Mrs Skyrme- Blackhall seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable.

e. NP/19/0068/FUL – Dormer extension, insertion of velux rooflights for loft conversion – 40 Lady Park, Tenby

Cllr Mrs Williams asked if there had been any objections received from neighbours. The Clerk said there were none. Cllr Brown proposed accepting and Cllr Mrs Evans seconded the proposal.

RECOMMEND

Approval. Considered against all the relevant policies within the LDP members consider this proposal to be acceptable.

379. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS:

a. Tenby Civic Society

Noted. Chair thanked Tenby Civic Society for their comments.

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

a. PCC – Request for views on draft Street Trading Policy

Cllr Rapi expressed his concern over the exemptions referred to in the policy but The Clerk pointed out that these were covered by a different law.

Cllr Rapi said he is in favour of badges, set positions and other control of street traders but expressed concern about the service providers in particular tattooists and hair-braiders.

Cllr Hallett asked who vets the badge and what guidelines are being followed. The Clerk said that this was covered in the draft policy.

Cllr Blackhall felt that while the policy was very good it does not address the tattoo artist and hair braiders, and therefore it really does not solve the problems Tenby experiences. He understands the difficulties, feeling that this issue can only really be addressed by the introduction of a Bye Law.

Whilst TTC could support the vast majority of proposals in the draft policy the absence of proposals to deal with service provider operations on the streets negated much of the good intent of the policy. He suggested we ask PCC to not adopt the policy until such time as we are able to sit down and have conversations with them on the service provider issue.

The Clerk reminded members that last year Mr Marc Owen said that the Welsh Government will not consider moving forward with a byelaw unless there was substantial evidence that these service providers were causing a nuisance and a byelaw was needed in the public interest.

To date Mr Owen has received no such evidence despite two public requests and he cannot fight our corner without this hard evidence.

Cllr Hallett felt that this was disappointing, adding that people were quick enough to take to Facebook to complain.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked if Mr Owen had been down to Tenby in the summer to witness the inconvenience caused by these people. The Clerk said that Mr. Owen was well aware of the issue but reiterated the fact that he needed written evidence, preferably including photographs showing that these service providers were being a nuisance by causing obstructions etc.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked that a report be put into the local press to explain the position that TTC are in and ask that residents write in with any concerns they may have.

Cllr Brown questioned the difference between pedlar and service provider and the Clerk explained.

The Chair then proposed that TTC write to PCC and thank them for their work and amendments. However we should add that service providers are trading on our streets in significant numbers and causing significant nuisance by blocking footpaths and access ways, using monuments for advertising purposes and obstructing access in and out of town. As a consequence he proposed that TTC again ask for a Bye Law to be introduced preventing such activities.

He added that it must be recognised that, in order to take this forward, correspondence from individuals and businesses was needed and he suggested that TTC conduct an awareness campaign over next couple of months asking every resident in Tenby effected to write to Tenby Observer, TTC, Mr Owen and the leader and CE of PCC.

He suggested TTC produce a leaflet informing people what they need to do to ask for a Bye Law.

He also proposed that TTC write to PCC saying that we support the draft street trading policy but urging them to again consider introducing a byelaw. He added that copies should be sent to Mr Owen, Mr Ian Westley and leader, Cllr. David Simpson.

Cllr Rapi supported the proposal but added an amendment that Cllr Paul Miller, Cabinet Member for Tourism, be added to the list of those to be informed. Cllr. Blackhall was happy to add this to his proposal.

Cllr Hallett expressed his concern over obstructions being caused in the event of an emergency and the potential cost of life should obstructions continue.

RESOLVED

That TTC write to PCC in support of the proposals within the draft Street Trading Policy but pointing out that the good intent of the policy would be undone if ‘service providers’ were still able to operate unchecked and unregulated on the town’s street.

Further that the County Council be urged to again look at the introduction of a byelaw to address this anomaly.

b. PCC – Variation of waiting restrictions, Serpentine Road, Tenby

Cllr Hallett commented that this should have been introduced a long time ago and Cllr Mrs Evans remarked on how chaotic at school drop off and pick times the area is. On safety grounds this is necessary.

RESOLVED

That TTC inform PCC that they welcome the introduction of additional waiting restrictions in Serpentine Road.

c. Mr. G. Fry – Parking enforcement in Tenby

Noted.

381. TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL’S FINANCIAL RISK FOR 2019/20

The Clerk pointed out that he had added to the financial risks in relation to maintenance of the cemetery and he had also taken into account that the De Valence Pavilion Trust had installed a CCTV system in the building.

RESOLVED

That the Council’s Financial Risk Assessment for 2019/20 be approved.

382. TO CONSIDER CANDIDATES FOR CO-OPTION TO THE CASUAL VACANCY IN THE SOUTH WARD

The Clerk presented letters from people expressing an interest in co-option to the vacancy on Tenby Town Council and members were allowed a period of time to read them. Cllr Rapi noted the expressions of interest but felt it may be better to invite the applications to the next meeting to give a small presentation prior to Council making a decision. He put this forward as a proposal with Cllr Hallett second. Cllr Mrs Rossiter

felt that the letters were quite detailed and gave members enough information to make a decision that evening. She proposed that the decision be made and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans.

Cllr Blackhall put Cllr Mrs Rossiter's proposition to the vote and it was agreed by the majority. Therefore Cllr Rapi's proposal fell and Cllr Mrs Rossiter's proposal became the motion.

RESOLVED

That members vote this evening.

Following a secret ballot, by substantive majority, it was

RESOLVED

That Mr Viv Perry be co-opted to Council.

The Clerk will write and invite Mr Perry to join Council. Councillors congratulated Mr Perry on his appointment

383. TO RECEIVE REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None noted at this time.

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

Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall noted in a recent report that shrubs had been stolen from the entrance to Tenby Cemetery on Slippery Back. Cllr Mrs Skyrme-Blackhall and Cllr Hallett had visited the cemetery a few weeks prior and were saddened at how tired it looked. She listed a number of aspects that needed attention. The Clerk commented that a Cemetery Management Committee meeting was to be held on Monday at the Cemetery and he would invite the Contractor to attend when these matters could be considered further.

385. TO RECEIVE UPDATES AS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AT BRYNHIR (IF ANY)

The Clerk had prepared notes from the meeting he had attended at County Hall and asked if Councillors had any comments. PCC has listened to TTC regarding affordable housing provision and the concerns of residents. There is to be a 10m ecology buffer zone from the tree line, creating a walk around and through the site. There is to be a children's play area and environmental enhancements. The final development may be slightly less than previously thought.

There would be a significant majority of social housing with some open market and self-build.

Cllr Blackhall felt it had been a positive meeting and Cllr Mrs Pat Davies had agreed to hold further meetings going forward.

Cllr Hallett asked after the entrance to the site and was told it was likely to be as originally suggested along Sperricombe Lane.

Members felt the progress was welcome with Cllr Blackhall adding that, whilst the development is not universally popular, ideas and concerns are being listened to.

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

The Clerk told Councillors that he is still waiting on results of the tender process. He had had a brief meeting with Ms Henehan and she suggested that if no tenders were forthcoming then a different approach could be taken. A further discussion will be had at that point.

387. UPDATE ON PLASTIC FREE TENBY INITIATIVES

Nothing to report at this time.

388. TO CONSIDER THE CONDITION OF THE BOUNDARY WALL AT LEXDEN TERRACE AND AGREE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS – CLLR. MRS. ROSSITER

Cllr Mrs Rossiter grew up opposite Lexden Terrace and the wall had never been painted then, it had been natural stone.

Some years ago the wall had been painted but it was now looking shabby. This is an iconic spectacular Grade 2 listed building and if the boundary wall was to remain painted then it should be maintained properly as it was currently an eyesore.

Cllr Hallett wondered if the wall was included in the Grade 2 listing, and the Clerk said he would verify this.

Cllr Mrs Rossiter asked that a letter be written to the owner of 1 Lexden Terrace who she believed was responsible for the boundary wall to ask that maintenance either be kept up or, if not, perhaps consideration should be given to the wall being brought back to its natural stone. Cllr Brown seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED

That a letter be written to the owner of 1 Lexden Terrace to ask that maintenance either be kept up or, if not, perhaps then consideration should be given to the wall being brought back to its natural stone.

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

None noted.

390. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th March 2019. The Clerk gave his apologies as he has been asked to accompany PCC officers to Ireland to outline Tenby's Ironman experience to municipal representatives in the town of Youghal, who would be hosting the inaugural Ironman Cork in June.

391. TO PROPOSE ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- a. Condition of Tenby Market Façade – Cllr Mrs Williams
- b. Condition of Grass around War Memorial – Cllr Blackhall
- c. Condition of South Beach area including slipway – Cllr Rapi
- d. Water flow from storm pipes under Paragon – Cllr Rapi

392. 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”

393. TO CONFIRM THE PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF 5TH FEBRUARY 2019

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of the Tenby Town Council meeting held 5th February 2019 be confirmed and signed as accurate.