

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs Lane	Mayor
Councillor Mrs Rossiter	
Councillor T Hallett	
Councillor Mrs Thomas	
Councillor H Johns	
Councillor Dr P Easy	
Councillor Mrs Brown	
Councillor Mrs Putwain	
Councillor L Blackhall	
Councillor W Rossiter	

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr G Tapley	Brother Thomas Garden
Marcus Beck	Freshwest Designs
Simon Macro	Freshwest Designs
County Councillor M Williams	Tenby North Ward

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

The Mayor welcomed Mr Tapley who attended to discuss Brother Thomas Garden, Crackwell Street, Tenby.

Mr Tapley gave a brief history of the garden and how he became involved in taking responsibility for the cleanliness and tending of the flower beds, with support from Tenby in Bloom. He continued by outlining his vision for the future of the garden. The area has been neglected over the years and yet it has great potential to become an open air theatre site as well as a restful area to sit and relax, close to the town centre, with an amazing view and sheltered from the elements. To increase its usage seating would be adapted and increased along with the possibility of a covered area to extend its usage. Presently it only has one seat and a canopy that looks more like a bus shelter. The ideas had been discussed with local artistic designers, who were also present to show examples of work they have produced for other Councils. They produce structures requiring minimal maintenance and built to last for 25 years or more. The designers are local Tenby gentlemen; in light of this they would give their design time free of charge to enhance the area of beauty. However Mr Tapley explained he would need to fund raise for the capital cost, with the aim to apply for match funding from regeneration grants. Following discussion with PCC Regeneration department, they explained to even apply for grant funding PCC would require confirmation that TTC will take responsibility for the long term maintenance of Brother Thomas Garden.

He continued explaining Rotary International have several years ago giving funds to the garden and have said they will consider assisting with a specific project; therefore with this in mind he has planned to attend a meeting to provide a presentation for the members.

Several contacts with theatre groups like the Minacs theatre group have been made as this area would lend itself perfectly for such groups. The plays will be designed as poor man's theatre (minimal props); however the theatre productions would be organised once the area is prepared. He felt even small orchestras may utilise the space to create an event with an amazing backdrop.

Mr Tapley asked if TTC would consider taking on the proposed ideas for Brother Thomas garden. The way forward initially depends on this first link, obtaining written support from TTC to guarantee maintenance support for the future, in addition allowing grant funding applications to be accessed.

A question and answers session occurred including who would organise the events in the garden. Mr Tapley said he would initially start the process as he has a theatre background and connections; however he hoped charity organisations like the Rotary would consider the option of coordinating events in the future. The capacity for watching a play was estimated at approximately 80-90 people.

He envisaged stewards marshalling the perimeter wall as Councillor W Rossiter felt people could watch for nothing, rather than paying to enter the garden. The garden would be maintained as a communal space when not used for events.

Councillor Johns asked who would be responsible for Licences and Insurance for the area during events. Mr Tapley envisaged a Trust being formed to manage these matters of concern; however this may be something the Rotary organisation may consider covering initially.

Performance timings and duration were discussed in response to Councillor Mrs Putwain's question about noise levels for local residents. Mr Tapley felt that orchestras would perform occasionally and plays or concerts he anticipated finishing by 9pm approximately.

Mr Tapley thanked Councillors for their time before he left the chamber with his design colleagues.

The Mayor welcomed County Councillor Williams explaining both Tenby County Councillors had been invited to discuss concerns raised due to PCC budget cut and the issues documented in the local press over the scrutiny etc which Councillor Mrs Brown felt was distracting PCC from the routine actions they should be making on behalf of their electorate.

Councillor Williams explained that sadly as many may have seen from the recent live podcast PCC meetings were embarrassing and exhibited shambolic behaviour. He felt all the problems are occurring due to the cabinet set up. The Independent Councillors make the decisions and other Councillors are starved of information. The Independents meet before a cabinet meeting to discuss and plan their course of action.

However he did feel the cabinet set up improved following the Estyn report. Unfortunately the improvement only lasted for approximately six months. Prior to 1996 decisions were made by all County Councillors and these members met three times a week; however meetings are now replaced by seminars.

He felt PCC are obsessive about keeping the Band D council tax rate the lowest in Wales, initially not a bad thing, however sadly this has resulted in reduced quality of services provided.

All Councillors discussed the salary being taken by the Chief Executive, considerably higher than the prime minister; they all felt it was totally ridiculous when so many cuts have been made in the PCC budget, resulting in Town and Community councils picking up the cost of maintaining vital services.

The Chief Executive financial situation and the European grant funding matter are being investigated by the Police; therefore costing more money, resulting in even less services being provided in the county and evident locally.

Councillor Williams referred to the Williams commission report looking into the 22 unitary authorities and reducing them to 12 larger authorities which he felt are unsustainable.

Pembrokeshire County Council is still a failing authority and Education is still in special measure; however a senior member of staff to the education team has been employed from Carmarthenshire which he felt was a positive move.

Councillor Williams express disappointment that PCC are lenient with the truth about what will happen to Tenby Indoor Market and Harbour; despite repeatedly asking for the future plans nothing is discussed. Facilities like hospital care have deteriorated over the years to a very sad situation now. He relayed a medical story when he was on holiday showing they are providing a better service in some of the poorest EU countries than our present health service situation.

Over all he felt very proud to be a member of PCNPA; however he felt personally embarrassed by PCC.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked if all local Town and Community Councils collectively worked together on a united front like Solva Community Council, would this challenge or achieve anything. Councillor Williams felt Solva had led the way in the fight and others should unite to support them. However he felt it was a sad situation Town and Community Councils are paying out for the services PCC are cutting, they should not be doing this as they do not have the funding like large council authorities.

Councillor Blackhall felt if Town and Community councils do not take on the withdrawn services, continuity of services would be lost and towns appeal will deteriorate. Therefore he felt local councillors should come together and work together with a united front to challenge the actions and changes made by the County Council.

Councillor Williams felt a fundamental flaw in PCC is Councillors standing under the Independent party and not speaking out for their beliefs. The electorate need to know what their manifesto is and see them fighting for what they believe is the right prioritising of actions for the town and county. With the independent party you have no idea of their priorities or convictions as they can change.

It was suggested again to get all the South East Pembrokeshire Councillors together to work together for the good of the area. The Mayor said it had been tried and failed before 15 years ago. However Councillors felt there may be more support and willingness to work together at this time due to all the recent events highlighted by media coverage relating to PCC issues.

Councillor W Rossiter discussed questioned the vast amount of funding allocated for the new English and Welsh medium primary school new build, specifically asking if it was really needed to be spending such a vast amount of money. Councillor Williams said statistics have shown that more parents are applying to have their children educated through the medium of Welsh than ever before; he felt in light of these statistics it was an essential move to take the schools forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He continued explaining that the excellent Welsh unit in Greenhill school is thriving and striving to prepare for the influx of Welsh speakers wishing to be taught through the medium of Welsh at secondary level.

The Clerk asked if Councillor Williams could shed any light on the drip feeding information process that has occurred following cuts made in PCC budget. Specifically when will the drip feeding information from PCC stop as TTC does not have bottomless reserves of money to pick up the shortfall? Councillor Williams suggested the Clerk contacts Mr Mark Lewis for next years budget costs before TTC set their budget for 2015/16.

15. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Councillor P Rapi and Councillor Mrs Durham.

16. **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

Councillor Mrs Brown declared a personal interest in Item 12b, Councillor Dr Easy declared a prejudicial interest in Item 9a, Councillor Mrs Putwain declared a personal interest in Item 11d and The Mayor declared a personal interest in Item 9c and 12b

17. **ITEMS TO PRESS**

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor 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.**

18. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate:**

19. **MATTERS ARISING**

479 - Tenby South Beach Stones

Councillor Hallett asked if any feed back had been received from Mr Thomas to TTC's request for information relating to the South Beach increased stone cover of the sand. The Clerk reported he had sent a second letter and in addition spoken to Mrs Thomas who agreed to pass the request on to her husband; however sadly still no further communication had been received.

20. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate:**

21. **MATTERS ARISING**

None noted.

22. **PLANNING APPLICATION**

Councillor Dr P Easy left the chamber.

The Clerk informed Councillors he had received two letters from neighbours expressing their concerns for the following planning application and was it the wish of TTC to take these letters into consideration. Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed TTC take the letters into consideration, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

**Resolved that TTC take the two letters of correspondence from neighbours adjacent to the property, planning application.NP/14/0205.**

a.NP/14/0205 – Mr John Robson, Astoria, Serpentine Road, Tenby – Proposed sub-division of existing site to create new two storey detached dwelling and associated forecourt parking, Astoria, Serpentine Road, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application, with consideration to the adjacent properties concerns. Councillor Mrs Brown recommended refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

## **RECOMMEND**

### **Refusal on the grounds of over-development of the site.**

Councillor Dr Easy rejoined the meeting.

b.NP/14/0224 – Mr John Williams, The Overhang, 219 North Court, Haverfordwest – Change of use of building to an indoor climbing centre and shop (D2/A1), The Old Lifeboat House, Castle Slipway, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed approval, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

## **RECOMMEND**

### **Approval.**

Councillor Mrs Rossiter left the chamber.

c.NP/14/247 – Mr Phillip Williams, Bridge House, Bridge Street, Tenby – Alterations and extension to existing kitchen to include new utility room and alterations to garden level outside kitchen to create new terrace area, Bridge House, Bridge Street, Tenby.

The Clerk outlined that the listed building planning application had been received and was it Councillors wish to take the applications together. Councillor Mrs Brown proposed acceptance of the listed planning application to be discussed along with the main application, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

### **Resolved that NP/14/0246 listed building application be considered along with NP/14/0247.**

NP/14/246 – Mr Phillip Williams, Bridge House, Bridge Street, Tenby – Alterations and extension to existing kitchen to include new utility room and alterations to garden level outside kitchen to create new terrace area, Bridge House, Bridge Street, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed both planning applications. Councillor Blackhall recommended approval as the development is in keeping with the design of a listed building, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

## **RECOMMEND**

### **Approval as the design is in keeping with a listed building within the area.**

Councillor Mrs Rossiter re-joined the meeting.

d.NP/14/0234 – Mrs Sarah Simpson, Whitbread Group PLC, Houghton Hall Business Park, Porz Avenue, Dunstable, Bedfordshire – Premier Inn branded signage for new build hotel, Premier Inn, The Norton, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Blackhall expressed concerns as some of the signage will be internally illuminated and although the site is outside the conservation area it is in very close proximity to it. Councillor W Rossiter expressed concerns in relation to the height of the signage. Councillor Hallett expressed concern relating to the light

pollution. Councillor Blackhall proposed refusal as it would result in internally illuminated signage being adjacent to the town's conservation area, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

## **RECOMMEND**

**Refusal as it would result in internally illuminated signage being adjacent to the town's conservation area.**

### **23. PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE**

#### a. PCNPA – Community driven renewable energy projects.

Councillor viewed the information, it was

**Resolved that the information be noted.**

The Clerk informed Councillors he had received two letters from PCNPA referring to previous planning applications that TTC's response differed to PCNPA officers; therefore it has been referred to National Parks Committee. The applications refer to NP/14/0153, 19 Lady Park, Tenby and NP/14/0113, change of use from fishmongers to small scale art gallery and cafe, Penniless Cove Hill, Tenby.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked what TTC can do now and if letters of objection or concern from local residents are taken into consideration at the meeting. The Clerk explained that TTC are given the opportunity for someone to attend the meeting and speak for three minutes; however we have to write and inform them we will be attending to be given the allotted time to speak.

**Resolved that Councillors would note the information and await the outcome of PCNPA committee meeting.**

### **24. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### a. Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism – April minutes

Councillor viewed the Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism minutes, it was

**Resolved that the information be noted.**

Councillor Hallett conveyed his thanks to the Chamber for continually providing information to Councillors following their meetings.

#### b. Mr Ben Blake, PCC – Restriction of Horse Drawn Carriages – Walled Town, Tenby Town Council

Councillor Mrs Putwain felt surely there is an alternative way of deciding on which horse drawn carriage will be selected for the season rather than the proposal stated they will be picked out of a hat. She continued that assessment on smartness, accuracy of historical information talk on the town and value for money would be a better way of allocating permission. The best applicant should be given the license certainly not awarded by drawing lots.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked the Clerk if he was aware of any other horse drawn carriage applications other than the one currently in operation. The Clerk reported he was unaware of another application; however he was aware that requests would be made direct to PCC and not via TTC.

Councillor Mrs Thomas felt that the town did not lend itself to more than one operator; therefore she agreed we do not want more than one horse drawn carriage in Tenby.

The Mayor expressed concern that the present Horse and Carriage operator disrupts the flow of traffic and raises her voice to car drivers and pedestrians using the carriageways, when she is in transit. Therefore she asked if Tenby really wants this service on our streets. Previously the service was manned calmly and friendly and the Mayor said she personally has been shouted at when driving her car into town. TTC should have more of a say on who is operating the service as we are the people dealing with the concerns being expressed.

Councillor Hallett agreed that standards for the horse and cart need to be set.

Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed TTC agree there should only be one horse drawn carriage in Tenby; however we feel the quality of criteria for allocation should be judged on the smartness of appearance, the quality of commentary about Tenby and the consideration to other road users. Tenby Town Council would be happy to undertake the process of assessment, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Councillor Dr Easy asked if TTC would be happy to undertake the assessment process could be added.

**Resolved that TTC agree there should only be one horse drawn carriage in Tenby; however we feel that, in addition to all legal requirements, that the quality of criteria for allocation should also be judged on the smartness of appearance, the quality of commentary about Tenby and the consideration to other road users. Tenby Town Council would be happy to undertake the process of assessment.**

c. MAWWFCR staff (via e-mail) – Proposed merger of Mid and West Wales Fire Control Room

Councillors discussed the concept of the merger and expressed interest in clarifying which County Councillor is our representative on these matters. The Clerk felt it is possibly Councillor Keith Lewis as he has been included in the e-mail.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt we should support MAWWFCR as TTC do not want just one call centre as they will have no idea where places like ‘Martletwy’ are.

The Mayor felt TTC should ascertain who our County Councillor Representative is, and re agenda the item for discussion and decision at the next TTC meeting.

**Resolved that TTC ascertain who our County Councillor Representative is for Mid and West Wales Fire Authority and re agenda the item for discussion at the next meeting.**

d. Dr Zeraschi, chair of Governors, St Teilo’s School – Copy of letter sent to Mr Westley PCC

Councillor Dr Easy reported as TTC School Governor Representative he was totally unaware of these concerns until he read this letter in his agenda, received at the same time as his fellow Councillors. However he was aware that the work is shoddy and requires further attention. Councillor Mrs Thomas felt TTC should write to Mr Westley and ask for a copy of his reply to the school on this matter, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown who in addition asked for a letter to be sent to Dr M Zeraschi on TTC actions in this matter.

**Resolved that TTC send a letter to Mr I Westley in relation to the St Teilo’s School matter, requesting a copy of his response letter to the school on this matter. A letter to be sent to Dr M Zeraschi outlining TTC actions in relation to St Teilo’s School Governors concerns.**

## 25. LICENSING

### a. Mr Luca Chiffi – Street Trading licence

The Clerk reported Mr M Owen had informed him of Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism's views in relation to Mr L Chiffi's request for a Street Trading License. They felt Tenby has an adequate amount of rate paying premises that serve coffee.

Councillor Dr Easy said he would have been surprised if Tenby Chamber of Trade had supported the application; however he felt TTC should be supporting a young local entrepreneur person, presenting himself well with a business plan. He had discussed his venture with local competitors and presented the vehicle he will be using for people to see. He felt it will become a feature in the area and in addition he has taken on board previous information and given some thought to sites he would like to trade from. TTC should be seen to be giving careful consideration to this street trading request.

Councillor Mrs Brown agreed with Councillor Easy that the sites discussed outside the town walls should be considered as the gentleman has worked hard to promote his venture; it will not be a permanent fixture as he intends to trade mainly at local events.

The Mayor reminded Councillors that it is TTC policy not to support street trading applications and to be mindful of the recent application that was refused by TTC.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter agreed with Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism it is quite right not to support the application as it is setting a precedent inside or outside the town walls. Some hotels along the Esplanade do offer tea and coffee service facilities to non residential guests.

Councillor Mrs Thomas reminded Councillors of the ice cream van issue several years ago along the town walls and felt we do not want to rekindle this type of trading.

Councillor Blackhall still felt that all existing street trading licences should be revoked as in the present situation Tenby is stuck with automatic annual renewed permits. However he did see the benefit of this application, but still felt a complete review of the street trading system should be undertaken as we are stuck with the present framework.

The Mayor said people paying rates are struggling in the present economic climate and several are or will be going out of business; therefore TTC policy was to not support street trading.

Councillor Dr Easy proposed TTC give Mr L Chiffi permission for a street trading license to trade outside Tenby town walls, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

The Mayor reminded Councillors of TTC policy and their recent decision on a previous street trading licence before taking a vote on the proposal.

The vote result was 5 for, 4 against therefore the proposition was carried. Therefore it was

**Resolved that TTC support Mr L Chiffi's street trading licence specifically for outside Tenby Town Walls.**

Councillor Mrs Putwain asked if the Clerk could obtain clarification from Mr M Owen, Street Care PCC in relation to the positioning of the white tent trading on the Parade in close proximity to the Five Arches, as TTC has asked previously for them to be a certain distance from the historical arches. In addition she requested if it could be monitored and recorded in some way the days and times the same street trader is operating.

Councillor W Rossiter asked while the Clerk is writing to Mr M Owens could he request an update on the 'A' Frame situation previous highlighted by TTC.

**b. Tenby Summer Spectacular Committee – Premises licenses, Tenby Harbour**

The Mayor proposed Councillor Hallett take the chair in her absence on the following item, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas

**Resolved that Councillor Hallett take the chair for the next agenda item in the Mayor's absence.**

Councillor Mrs Brown asked if the Clerk could outline the process organisations have been through so far in discussing with the local police and PCC on licensing of the summer spectacular Events. They felt the present licensing system was not 'fit for purpose'.

The Clerk explained he is now free to speak on the matter as he is no longer a Round Table member due to the age restrictions. He was aware Tenby Round Table, Rotary International and Tenby Lions have met several times with PCC licensing and Local Police as each organisation ran the events in a different format and the police expressed public safety concerns. It was felt that a united format needed to be addressed to assist the police in monitoring and policing the events. Therefore a collective Harbour License has been created for all to use; however a Temporary Events Notice license should be applied for by individual groups running a bar area on the harbour.

Councillor Brown asked if the sailing club would also need to apply for a TEN for their outside bar during spectacular events, the Clerk said they would now need to apply for a TEN.

Councillor Mrs Putwain asked for clarification of the hours the Harbour license will run from, the Clerk confirmed it stated 3pm – 10pm covering live music, recorded music and dance.

Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed TTC have no objections to the Tenby Summer Spectacular premises license for the Harbour, seconded by Councillor W Rossiter.

**Resolved that TTC have no objections to the proposed Summer Spectacular premises licence for Tenby Harbour.**

The Mayor returned to the chair.

**26. ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL 2014**

Councillor W Rossiter commented on the Bobby Van cheque payment and wondered if TTC still needed to support this venture. The Clerk reported that actually the cheque had never been cashed and in view of the date it was first written the official auditors felt this item could now be removed from the accounts as it is no longer valid.

Councillors discussed the accounts. Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed acceptance of the accounts for April 2014, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

**Resolved that the accounts for April 2014 be accepted.**

**27. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND COMMITTEES**

Councillors discussed and clarified representatives on all outside body committees. The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs Durham had commented when giving her apologies for the meeting that she had never been asked to attend a Tenby Leisure Centre meeting; therefore was there any

point in the committee remaining on the list. Apparently following discussion with the Clerk Mr Thomas TLC manager said he only calls a meeting when there is something to be discussed. The Clerk felt that the recent planning application for improvements' to the facility should have been an ideal reason for a meeting. However the Mayor felt TTC should keep the link with local groups and organisations therefore they should receive the annual letter letting them know who their TTC representatives are.

The list was worked through with the following amendments and comments:

Councillor H Johns to fill the Tenby Leisure Centre vacancy.

Mr C Williams and Mr Evans to be removed from the Tenby Railway Committee representatives list.

Tenby Market Hall representatives to be included in the list – Councillor M Evans and Councillor H Johns.

**Resolved that the amendments be made to the Outside Bodies and Committees representatives list and each group be informed of their TTC representative.**

**28. SIGNATORIES FOR CHEQUES FOR YEAR 2014-2015**

The Clerk outlined the present cheque signatories, Councillor Hallett, Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor Mrs Thomas and Councillor Mrs Lane. Following discussion by Councillors it was proposed by the Mayor to leave the signatories as at present for 2014 – 2015, seconded by Councillor Dr Easy.

**Resolved that TTC four signatories of cheques remain unchanged for 2014/15.**

**29. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Mrs Brown reported on the success of the spectacular Scooter Rally weekend event recently held in the De Valence. In addition she explained three bingo sessions have proved successful, well supported by local and nice to see Councillors attending. She outlined the forthcoming Rugby Club Dinner scheduled for later this month.

Councillor Blackhall added that he would like to attract more local volunteers to help run the De Valence events to keep the facility open and functioning. He thanked Council staff and Councillor Mrs Brown for their continued support to the De Valence.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported she had attended along with the Mayor the official launch of Wales in Bloom at the Senydd, Cardiff.

Councillor Mrs Putwain attended the Tenby Charity Trustees meeting.

Councillor Mrs Thomas asked to report on a Health issue in private matters.

**30. MEDIA ITEMS**

Councillor W Rossiter reported on a television programme he watched on toilets throughout the world. It was a hard watch of poor conditions in Bangladesh and Japan; however suddenly the back drop of the programme was beautiful Tenby, where they proceeded to visit the Tudor

Merchants House toilet and explain the history. He remarked on an unexpected surprising report, however another visual positive for Tenby.

**31. PARKING IN TENBY**

Councillor Mrs Rossiter reported she had been approached by a local resident on the harbour; they explained how an enforcement officer arrived in a van and checked the lady's car. He proceeded to say you have 58 seconds left on your parking ticket. The lady rushed to get to the machine in a panic. Her point was that while the officer was patrolling car parks, traffic congestion is at a peak in Tudor Square most mornings. Therefore surely the officer should be monitoring the congestion not looking for the odd car parking fine.

Councillor Mrs Brown had witnessed enforcement officers in a van down on South Beach car park and wondered why they are using vans for this purpose.

In light of this incident Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed the Clerk write to PCC and obtain information on where the car parking fine money is going, i.e. is it paying wages or used for road repairs. Secondly could they supply figures on how many parking tickets were issued last year 2013/14, how much revenue was received from this process and where do the enforcement officers use now for their base, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

**Resolved that TTC write to Mr M Owen PCC and request figures for the number of parking tickets issued last year 2013/14, how much revenue was received from these fines, where is the money spent and where do the enforcement offices now use as their base.**

**32. TOWN GARDENS**

The Mayor said people now know about the cut backs PCC have made in their financial budget covering many services. However the appeal and visual impact visitors receive when arriving is vital for the tourist industry and economy. In light of this, the cleanliness of the town along with floral displays is an important part of promoting beautiful Tenby. Within the last few weeks the Mayor explained she has given short talks to several organisations and they have generously pledged financial funding for specific projects, like the station and The Green. The Ladies Circle and a couple of generous American visitors have donated money for Tenby in Bloom work. However once the flowers etc have been purchased we have to find a way of watering them as PCC employees will only tend plants they have inserted in the flower beds. Therefore she asked if TTC would consider contributing to the cost of providing a watering service during the summer period. She explained PCC sub contract the present gardeners and they have suggested TTC sub contract the sub-contractors to carry out the watering tasks and PCC will allow the use of the apparatus to facilitate this service.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked if costings are available for the watering service. The Mayor explained she had an idea of the costs however figures need to be discussed in private matters.

Councillor Mrs Brown proposed TTC come on board to assist with the financial costs of watering the additional town flower beds, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

**Resolved that TTC pledge support to assist with the financial costs of watering the additional town flower beds; however the financial contribution needs to be discussed in more detail when costings are available.**

### 33. SOUTH PEMBROKESHIRE HUNT MEET

Councillor Blackhall explained that following discussion at the Christmas Celebration Festivities meeting it was mentioned that perhaps the South Pembrokeshire Hunt meet could provide a procession through Tudor Square; however in light of previous conflict he felt discussion on this matter should be run by the TTC before they approach the hunt organisers.

Councillor Mrs Putwain expressed strong reasons why the hunt should not return to Tudor Square and how dubious she felt about the event returning to Tenby at all.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt it was a tradition that brought a colourful attraction to the town and as they are not hunting it would add to the Christmas festival season. A meet is a totally different meaning to a hunt.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt it was a spectacle, nice to see and they are not going to hunt to kill foxes. Therefore she would totally support it.

Councillor Mrs Putwain said the dogs are purposely kept hungry so we would be naïve to think they are not prepared for hunting. People do not want to see the hungry dogs running around the area.

The Mayor said protestors are not always peaceful and they were the ones who were breaking the law. Her comment was from personal experience when she sadly had her Grandchildren present and they witnessed the event.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed TTC invite the South Pembrokeshire Hunt to meet in Tudor Square this Christmas, seconded by Councillor H Johns.

The Mayor took a vote on the proposal resulting in 3 for, 3 against and two abstained. The Mayor used her vote to support the proposition. Councillors felt the police should be consulted on the proposed invitation to the Hunt. Therefore it was

**Resolved that TTC write and invite the South Pembrokeshire Hunt to meet in Tudor Square this Christmas. The Clerk to consult on the matter with the Local Police before sending the letter.**

### 34. SYNCHRONISATION OF PCNPA PLANNING APPLICATION CONSULTATION PERIOD

Councillor Mrs Putwain expressed concern about the discrepancy in the times allocated by the PCNPA on planning matters. She assumed these would be uniform, however they are not. It was demonstrated by a hypothetical case.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, a resident receives notice that a neighbouring property has a forthcoming planning application, and is told comments must be submitted in writing by the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Meanwhile, the Town Clerk receives a similar notice, stating that the Town Council must comment on the application at their next meeting, as a decision will be made on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The resident goes about their business, mulling over how to phrase any objections or comments, secure in the idea they will have plenty of time, and that their comments will be considered by all concerned.

At the Council meeting, someone asks whether any objections have been received. If the answer is in the negative, the natural assumption is that all residents have had ample time, but are happy with the plans.

The explanation is that the decision to be made on the 14<sup>th</sup> is whether to delegate the proposal to officer, or whether a full meeting will be necessary because one or more of the statutory consultees have objected.

We all live in the area and have good working knowledge of the town, but we cannot know all the details of every property. The plans we are given of the relevant area are not always accurate, and give no indications of contour, which can have a great effect on matters of overlooking other properties.

The people who really know what is involved are the residents, but their comments may be considered by only one individual, after the plans have passed through the other stages, and she felt this to be ridiculous and uncaring of residents.

Therefore Councillor Mrs Putwain proposed TTC write to PCNPA and request residents' comments by the same deadline as those of statutory consultees, or earlier if possible, to give the consultees awareness of residents concerns. To allow comments by e-mail as well as in writing. To pass comments received onto the statutory consultees by e-mail in time for their meeting and to warn residents that their comments may not get full consideration unless they submit them at the earliest opportunity, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

**Resolved that TTC write to PCNPA and request residents' comments by the same deadline as those of statutory consultees, or earlier if possible, to give the consultees awareness of residents concerns. To allow comments by e-mail as well as in writing. To pass comments received onto the statutory consultees by e-mail in time for their meeting and to warn residents that their comments may not get full consideration unless they submit them at the earliest opportunity.**

### 35. CAR PARKING CHARGES

In the absence of Councillor P Rapi the Clerk reported that he had sent two letters to Mr I Westley about car parking issues and he had not responded or acknowledged receipt of the letters. County Councillor M Williams felt this was a fundamental failing not to acknowledge receipt of a letter therefore if the Town Clerk forwarded copies of the letter to him tomorrow he would follow up the issue personally.

### 36. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

#### a. Dog Waste bag provision

The Clerk said he had prepared the dog waste provision report for Councillors to consider the 10 options available; however he fully understood that Councillors would need to discuss the matter in more detail and eliminate some of the options.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter said she did not want to lose the service completely and asked if a roll of cheaper bags could be sourced.

Councillor Mrs Brown would not like to see TTC go down the line of fixed penalty enforcement and therefore would like to keep the system as it is for this summer period with a review before the next budget setting meeting.

The Mayor brought Councillors attention to the footnote explaining about a University Case Study enquiry and felt Tenby would be happy to be part of the study. She also agreed that the dog bag service needed to be reviewed in November 2014 before the next budget setting meeting.

Councillor Johns would like to consider the option to franchise out the service.

Councillor Mrs Brown thanked the Clerk for a very informative report and TTC agreed to await further information from the university carrying out research/study into dog fouling.

Councillor W Rossiter reported on a Dutch system where they are experimenting with collecting excrement to turn it into electricity.

Following discussion it was

**Resolved that Councillors would be happy for Tenby to be part of the University Case Study into dog fouling, monitor the dog waste bag situation during the summer and revisit the options report prior to budget setting in November 2014.**

b. Calendar of TTC meeting for the year 2014/15

The Clerk handed out a copy of the Calendar of forthcoming TTC meeting dates for the year 2014/15.

c. Temporary road closure

The Clerk reported the section of White Lion Street from the junction of Upper Frog Street to High Street will be closed on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May from 8am to 6pm. This is to enable the positioning of the canopy on the Royal Gate House site building.

d. Seagull Proof Bag Trial

The Clerk reported as Councillors are aware the Seagull proof bag trial is expected to commence during the summer 2014. The bags have been printed and the letters to accompany the bag is written by PCC; however they requested if TTC could fund the pre-paid envelope postage costs for returning the surveys.

Councillor Blackhall expressed dismay that the trial will possibly save PCC hundreds of pounds in street cleaning and waste management and now they want the £50 postage from TTC. Following discussion it was

**Resolved that a letter is sent to PCC explaining sadly in light of the recent cuts in PCC budget and TTC having to fund some of the vital services they have no surplus precept money for the postage.**

Councillor Mrs Rossiter requested that the Clerk write to the Welsh Assembly and thank them for the new link road from St Clears to Llanteg, as it has improved access considerably, bringing additional business and revenue to Pembrokeshire. In addition she asked why Tenby was not included in the recent Queen's visit, when she visited everywhere else in close proximity.

**37. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 7.30pm.**

**38. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Town Twinning – Councillor Dr Easy.

39. **PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

**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.**

40. **MINUTES**

**Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate.**

41. **MATTERS ARISING**

468 – De Valence

The Mayor asked if the people interested in leasing the café had provided a Business Plan and references. Councillor Blackhall reported he had received a business plan, one written and one verbal reference.

The Mayor requested confirmation of when the lease will be confirmed. Councillor Blackhall said he would be calling a De Valence Trust meeting in two weeks time to co-inside with the next TTC meeting.

468 – Jubilee Play Park

The Clerk reported the toddler bucket swing has been replaced and the giant swing parts are still on order; therefore it will be repaired as soon as they arrive.

42. **FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS**

a. To confirm the Internal Auditors for 2014/15

The Clerk reported that Ashmole & Co had been used as Internal Auditors by TTC since he had been employed as Town Clerk and he was pleased to say they had a good working relationship. Following further discussion Councillor Mrs Rossiter proposed the Clerk arrange for Ashmole & Co to continue as the Internal Auditors for TTC 2013-14, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

**Resolved that the Clerk arrange for Ashmole & Co to continue as the Internal Auditors for TTC 2014-15.**

43. **TENBY DOCTORS SURGERY**

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported on recent private and confidential correspondence she had received in relation to patient concerns about Tenby Doctors Surgery. Councillors present explained they had also heard many comments relating to changes and difficulties accessing appointments, they were aware new signage in relation to appointments was now on display in the surgery and apparently Saundersfoot Surgery had closed their books. Following discussion about the concerns expressed Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed TTC write to the LHB expressing concerns about what is happening at Tenby GP surgery, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

**Resolved that TTC write to the LHB expressing TTC concerns about what is happening at Tenby GP surgery and copy the letter to Tenby County Councillors, Assembly Members, the CHC and Mr M Drakeford, Health Minister, Welsh Assembly.**

**44. TOWN GARDENS**

The Mayor explained she had discussed the matter with Mr R Brown, PCC in relation to sub contracting the gardeners they presently use, he had verbally agreed that the lorry with the water container can be used this year to water additional plants; however details would need to be finalised once costings have been established. The Mayor and Town Clerk will liaise with PCC to obtain further details.

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_