

TENBY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TENBY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14th October 2014

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Lane	Mayor
Councillor P Rapi	
Councillor Mrs Rossiter	
Councillor T Hallett	
Councillor Mrs Brown	
Councillor Mrs Durham	
Councillor Mrs Thomas	
Councillor H Johns	
Councillor W Rossiter	
Councillor Mrs Putwain	
Councillor M Evans	

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ALSO PRESENT

Father Michael Fewell	Mayor's Chaplain
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The Mayor welcomed Father Fewell to TTC Autumn Quarterly meeting and invited him to open the meeting with prayer.

OPENING PRAYER

Father Michael Fewell, the Mayor's Chaplain, opened the meeting with prayers.

207. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Dr P Easy and Councillor L Blackhall as they are attending PCC Budget meeting on behalf of TTC.

208. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None noted.

209. ITEMS TO PRESS

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that items of Correspondence and Committee Minutes other than those items marked Not for Publication be given to members of the Press present.

210. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Tenby Town Council held 30th September 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

211. MATTERS ARISING

162 – Dog sign provision in Tenby

Councillor Rapi asked if any further information had been received in relation to new dog signage on Castle Beach, Tenby.

The Clerk reported he had discussed TTC beach signage request with Mr M Dennis, PCC for a sign on Castle Beach, stating ‘no dogs - unless on a lead to embark on Caldey boats’. Unfortunately the signage would be erroneous as the by-law specifies the area is an exercising area for dogs. However Mr Dennis said he would discuss appropriate wording for new signage with PCC Graphics department, and if TTC as previously suggested would consider funding the sign he would be very grateful.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter said technically the by-law and signage is not clear if dogs need to be exercised on or off leads; therefore it needs to be much clearer.

Councillor W Rossiter asked if Tenby really wants dogs to be on Castle Beach at all, if we want to keep the ‘blue flag award’. Therefore he suggested we consider a complete blanket dog ban or request PCC to look into amending the by-law to state ‘no dogs - unless on a lead to embark and disembark onto Caldey boats’.

Following further discussion Councillor W Rossiter proposed TTC ask PCC to look into amending Castle Beach dog ban by-law, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rossiter.

The Mayor proposed an amendment to the proposition, adding the inclusion of ‘no dogs - unless on a lead to embark or disembark onto Caldey boats’, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

Resolved that TTC discuss with PCC the possibility of amending the beach dog ban by-law, requesting no dogs - unless on a lead to embark or disembark onto Caldey boats’.

183 Tenby Town Walls

Councillor Mrs Thomas asked if any response had been received from PCNPA in relation to the weeds growing on the town walls. The Clerk responded stating Mr R Scourfield is chasing Cadw and getting no response. Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed TTC keep e-mailing all contacts and in addition ask Tenby Civic Society and Tenby Historical Society if they would support TTC concerns, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that TTC maintain e-mail contact with Mr R Scourfield, PCNPA and Cadw. In addition TTC request support from Tenby Civic Society and Tenby Historical Society in relation to concerns of weed growth on the town walls.

196. Planning Application - NP/14/0483 – Shearwaters, North Cliff, Tenby.

The Clerk reported Mr Liam Jones, Planning Officer, PCNPA had responded with proposed dates for a site meeting at Shearwaters, North Cliff, Tenby. He has a scheduled meeting arranged with the developer and owners and therefore has requested if TTC could meet with him on Friday 17th October at 10am. Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor W Rossiter and Councillor Hallett agreed to attend along with the Clerk.

Resolved that Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor W Rossiter , Councillor Hallett and the Town Clerk would attend the planning application site meeting, NP/14/0483, Shearwater, North Cliff, Tenby on Friday 17th October 2014..

212. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

a. NP/14/0536 – Mr Gus Graham, 10 Seascape, Tenby – Remove existing flat roof and replace with new pitched roof creating games room at first floor level, covert existing south facing dormer windows to juliet balconies – 10 Seascape, Tenby

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed approval as it enhances the property and improves the family amenity without creating an adverse effect on neighbouring properties, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it enhances the property and improves the family amenity without creating an adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

b. NP/14/0538 – Mr Fawaz Abbas, Tenby Dental Haven, Ace Court, Warren Street, Tenby – Change of use of lower ground floor from ancillary storage to dental laboratory at Ace Court below Tenby Dental Haven – B1 use – Tenby Dental Haven, Ace Court, Warren Street, Tenby.

Councillors discussed and viewed the planning application. Councillor Hallett proposed approval as it makes better use of an under utilised area of the building, seconded by Councillor Mrs Brown.

RECOMMEND

Approval as it makes better use of an under utilised area of the building.

213. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Mr M Owen, PCC – Feedback on Ironman Wales 2014

The Mayor said PCC had requested feedback on the Ironman Event 2014; she personally felt TTC unanimously welcomed and supported the Ironman Event. Therefore any comments made are to enhance the event not criticise it in any way. Councillors discussed and commented on each point as follows:

1. Road Closures

The Mayor was aware several businesses had difficulty receiving their deliveries due to the implementation of an extra road closure on St Florence Parade, Tenby. Delivery drivers were given an alternative route; however it caused traffic congestion within the area.

Councillor Evans said TTC welcomed the change of the venue for the Expo, however earlier consultation with businesses and residents about St Florence Parade, road closure could have reduced the anxiety and stress caused when vital deliveries for the weekend were needed and access denied. The Clerk reported following several complaints in TTC office he ascertained from PCC that the road was closed for health and safety reasons due to the sheer volume of

pedestrians within the Expo vicinity. The situation improved once an enforcement employee was deployed to the area to provide information to the public.

Councillor W Rossiter said on the Monday following the event most roads were cleared and opened; however The Esplanade was still not accessible and incurred traffic jams during the final clean up process.

TTC recommended earlier consultation with businesses and residents on all planned road closures. In addition they felt liaison with TTC office on any road closure amendments or changes as and when they occur would be beneficial.

2. General Traffic Management

Councillors felt organisation and delivery of services was excellent and improvement was noted year by year.

TTC recommended maintaining the present excellent organisation and delivery of general traffic management.

3. Park and Ride facilities

Councillor Rapi felt there was a little confusion over the drop off and pick up points when using the park and ride facility at The Green, Tenby; therefore he felt better temporary signage was required. Councillor Evans was pleased to report that extra buses were required due to the service running at maximum occupancy. Over the years the service has increased as more people become aware of the service and it can only be a positive benefit for the area. However during specific times the volume of supporters was bound to increase especially when the run was taking place in and around Tenby streets.

TTC recommended temporary bus stop signage be used to denote pick up and drop off areas to enhance the useful and efficient service.

4. Community Impact

Councillors unanimously expressed praise for the brilliant event, creating a phenomenal response from all including athletes participating. Ironman has proved to be a fantastic way to showcase South Pembrokeshire especially Tenby and the surrounding area. Councillors were proud of the way the majority of locals embrace the event.

Councillor Evans felt the amount of local participants entering the event is creating a lasting legacy. Personal fitness of so many locals has increased, as well as an increase in the usage of Tenby Leisure Centre. Many children have been inspired and now realise that swimming, riding a bike and running is an enjoyable experience.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt Ironman here in Wales has done exactly what the Olympics ethos provided for London, creating a legacy for all generations.

Councillor Hallett praised the amount of young people that take part in Ironman Kids. They are the future and it is pleasing to see the numbers increasing year after year.

TTC praised the success of the event and highlighted the positive benefits including individual fitness levels, encouragement and education on the benefits of healthy exercise being passed on to children. The increased usage of leisure facilities promoting swimming etc for enjoyment. Ultimately additional usage of the leisure facilities will have an influence on safeguarding the future of the service.

5. Public liaison

Councillors generally felt fewer problems were occurring; therefore information about Ironman is obviously filtering out, as well as being verbally passed on by locals.

The Clerk did report that the size of the booklet maps had been mentioned several times with requests for a larger document and clearer advice on the closures within Tenby town itself.

Plenty of signage denoting road closures is out early and noticeable. However people are unsure which way the road is closed when it states closed north or south bound, east or west bound. Councillor Evans suggested a compass is etched on the signage to aid directional support for specific roads.

TTC recommended to clarify specific directional road closures for people, perhaps a compass could be inscribed on the sign denoting the relevant direction. (ie – road closed to north bound traffic).

6. Public perception

The Clerk reported there is still a little negativity to the event when people feel inconvenienced by road closures. The Mayor felt the negative impact was getting smaller and smaller each year.

Councillor W Rossiter reported on the appeal from people outside our County who are not aware of the road closures for Ironman when visiting for the day and perhaps we could try in other newspaper publications to make them aware. The Mayor felt people can access information on the internet prior to visiting the area. Councillor Mrs Rossiter said the Welsh newspapers publicise the event very well every year.

TTC felt a small amount of negativity to the event was still evident; however it is getting smaller year by year.

7. Overall event impact on your community

Councillor felt collectively the overall feed back on Ironman is positive.

TTC felt the overall feed back on Ironman is positive.

8. Future improvements

Noted under each heading.

9. General observation

Councillors expressed the desire to keep the Ironman event in Pembrokeshire for as long as we possibly can. Councillor Mrs Brown felt other Tenby events like the Caldey swim and the Long

Course entrant numbers had increased due to Ironman. The De Valence Café reported a very good weekend during Ironman. The De Valence main hall was used for athlete and marshal briefings; however she felt perhaps the De Valence facilities could be offered and used more during the weekend.

The Clerk said it would be beneficial for Tenby if PCC could liaise with TTC office a little more prior to and during the event.

TTC recommended the De Valence facility be offered for additional usage during the weekend and request PCC liaise with TTC office in relation to any changes to details made prior to, or at short notice during, the event.

Ultimately TTC wished to maintain the positivity of the Ironman experience and keep the event locally for as long as possible.

214. ACCOUNTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2014

Councillors discussed the accounts for September 2014. The Mayor reported on the refurbishment to the ladies Mayoral Hat that was 1st used by Elizabeth Jenkins in 1927. The company were able to preserve and use the gold braiding from the original hat creating a very professional finish.

Councillor Mrs Brown requested a breakdown on the expenditure for the Jubilee Play park; the Clerk responded by explaining the costings for the swing repair, the new climbing wall and general maintenance costs were all included. Councillor Hallett proposed acceptance of the September 2014 accounts, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that TTC accept the September 2014 accounts.

215. REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Mrs Brown reported the De Valence new front doors have been fitted and the carpet laid by TP Hughes in the main hall, both look very nice and brighten up the facility. Last weekend saw the annual Round Table Beer Festival that went well.

Forthcoming events include a Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism Hallowe'en Party following the children's town trail. They are also planning a Christmas Party in December, to make good use of the community facility.

The De Valence Pavilion Trust meeting was postponed due to Councillor Blackhall attending the PCC budget meeting therefore the DVPT meeting will be scheduled for 28th October at 7pm.

Councillor Hallett reported he attended, along with Councillor Mrs Thomas, the Tenby Civic Societies unveiling of the Walled Towns Friendships, Pirian Declaration Plaque. The plaque is sited on Tenby Town Walls in close proximity to the 'Five Arches'.

The Mayor reported on her recent busy schedule including:

- a) The official opening of the McCarthy & Stone Later Living apartments, stating how impressive the development was and sending her best wishes to all those fortunate to live in such a lovely environment.

- b) A Church service for the Gild of Freemen in Haverfordwest.
- c) The opening of the Round Table Beer Festival.
- d) She joined Mid and West Wales Firemen who gathered at Tenby Fire Station to celebrated all firemen that competed in Ironman Wales.
- e) Pembroke Fair official opening, where the showmen stated they would like to see St Margaret's Fair, Tenby re-instated in a smaller way. In light of this she had been looking into the Charters with the Town Clerk prior to commencing talks if it could be re-kindled for the future.
- f) The Britain in Bloom presentations will be taking place in Bristol later this week. She would be attending with Tenby Mayoress, Miss Sian Waters.

The Mayor continued explaining that during her Quarterly Celebration that evening she would be launching the Friends of Tenby in Bloom initiative. As many people would like to help Tenby in Bloom but for many reasons are not able to give time or are not able to provide physical support, they now would be able to make to become a friend of Tenby In Bloom. For a financial donation of £20 towards the group they will receive a certificate and pin badge in recognition of their support of the cause. During the year a coffee morning would be held for friend of Tenby in Bloom. The fund raising Bingo night at the De Valence continues to run weekly and is well supported by locals of the community.

216. MEDIA ITEMS

Councillor Mrs Thomas reported on the recent letter in the Tenby Observer from Mr John Griffith's, former Tenby Town Councillor. He highlighted the possibility of following the path of Flint in North Wales who called a Referendum to save their medical facility. He suggested Tenby call for a Referendum to reopen Tenby MIU.

Councillor Mrs Thomas felt the referendum action needed to be discussed in detail to see if the people of South Pembrokeshire felt this was an option and that they wished to collectively go down this route. The item had been placed on the next SEPCHN meeting agenda; however she felt it was important to bring the subject before TTC to gauge feedback.

Councillor Mrs Brown expressed total agreement with the possibility of calling for a referendum to re-open Tenby MIU as it was another way of the community showing to the LHB that the locals really feel the need for the facility.

Councillor Hallett felt TTC could contact Flint Town Council to gain more information on their experience following the referendum process.

Councillor Mrs Thomas explained that a referendum is not legally binding and the LHB do not have to take any notice of the document. However, she still felt it was important to consult with the community to see if there was a wish to pursue this line of attack,

The Clerk reported on information he had obtained in relation to a referendum. He was now aware that each Town or Community Council would have to call a meeting of their electorate to ascertain if they wished to call a poll. One hundred and fifty electors, or 10 per cent of the community if less than 150, are required to sign to call for a poll, in order for a referendum vote

to take place. He was aware it cost in the region of £3000 in Flint to organise the poll and each individual community would have to fund the cost in their area.

Councillor Evans asked if perhaps the South East Pembrokeshire area could collectively call for a poll and incur only one set of costs. The Clerk said he would discuss the matter with Mr G Morgan, Election Officer for Pembrokeshire.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt following the referendum line of action could be a very grey area if Tenby pays and fights the cause and another local town/community does not want to follow the line of action because of financial cost implications. She asked where would they stand when needing to use the facility if it is reopened. Therefore she felt a collective South East Pembrokeshire line of enquiry would be a feasible way forward.

Councillor Mrs Thomas proposed TTC write to all South East Pembrokeshire County Councillors and Community Councils to gauge their views and interest in perusing the Referendum process to re-open Tenby MIU, seconded by Councillor Hallett.

Resolved that TTC write to all South East Pembrokeshire County Councillors and Community Councils to gauge their views and interest in pursuing the Referendum process to re-open Tenby MIU.

217. TOURISM IN TENBY

Councillor Mrs Brown said following the TTC meeting where Councillor Evans suggested TTC should be pro-active and focus ideas to produce a one year, /three year and /five year action plan for Tenby, she felt now was the time to take this idea forward to the next stage. Therefore she proposed TTC contact Planed to ask for their advice and possible assistance, to update Tenby's previous 2007 action plan, seconded by Councillor Mrs Thomas.

Resolved that TTC contact Planed to ask for their advice and possible assistance to update Tenby's previous 2007 action plan

218. NARBERTH ROAD CROSSING POINT

Councillor Rapi reported on the dangerous island crossing point on Narberth Road, situated opposite Glenview Crescent. It is a bottle neck area for traffic and only two pedestrians can stand on the island safely whilst fast traffic is passing. He felt the area was an accident waiting to happen. The specific time when the area is at its most dangerous is 15.15 pm when the Junior School pupils finish at the end of their school day.

Councillor Johns added that the area becomes more dangerous when buses are negotiating the junction and passing these pedestrians. In addition the Preseli School bus actually stops to drop off pupils on the junction at this same point. Many children can be standing on the traffic island when all this traffic is surrounding them; therefore he too had serious concerns for pedestrian safety.

Councillor Rapi proposed TTC write to PCC and ask if a Pelican Crossing could be considered for this specific area, seconded by Councillor Johns.

Councillor Evans fully supported the concerns of his fellow Councillors and added that a pelican crossing would be an excellent safety measure as it would mean the island removal and allow a free flow of traffic. If a raised walk area was permitted on a main road it would greatly reduce fast traffic as well but unfortunately raised walkways are not permitted on main 'A' roads.

Resolved that TTC write to Mr Darren Thomas, Highways Manager, PCC and request consideration for a pelican crossing where the present island crossing point is situated on Narberth Road, opposite Glenview Crescent, Tenby.

219. FIRE ENGINE ACCESS AROUND TENBY STREETS

Councillor Hallett reported he personally had concern about Public Emergency Vehicles, specifically Fire Engines access the Pedestrianisation area during Café Culture. He said tables and chairs exceed the permitted areas allocated and although businesses are aware of their boundaries, customers are not fully aware and spread the furniture out encroaching on the emergency access areas. Therefore he felt markings in the form of studs should be placed denoting the boundary area of all Café Culture permitted areas to prevent miss use of the facility. Councillor Mrs Putwain agreed Restaurants and Public Houses know where their imaginary boundary lines are but holiday makers have no ideas of the restrictions in place.

Councillor Hallett proposed when TTC meet with Mr M Owen, Street Care, PCC the matter of marking Tenby pedestrianisation café culture boundaries is discussed, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Councillor W Rossiter felt Tenby did not want lines everywhere on the floor marking our streets. Councillor Hallett said he suggested sunken studs that would not be excessively noticeable; however they would serve the purpose.

Resolved that when TTC meet with Mr M Owen, Street Care, PCC the matter of marking Tenby pedestrianisation café culture boundaries is discussed in detail.

220. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Meeting with Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism on Pedestrianisation

The Clerk reported TTC had resolved to meet with Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism to discuss possible options for pedestrianisation, however Tenby Chamber were keen to get moving on these discussions and have arranged to meet with Mr I Westley, Mr B Blake, Mr M Owen and Tenby County Councillors. In light of this they have invited several members of TTC to join the discussion on the 24th October 2014, 10 am, at the Fourcroft Hotel.

The Mayor felt before any Councillor attends this meeting TTC needed to formulate what the Councils proposal is for pedestrianisation in the future. She felt several Councillors have personal views on the future of pedestrianisation; therefore in order for TTC views to be put forward, formulation of TTC view needed to be established.

The Clerk felt TTC representatives should attend the meeting with a listening brief and an open mind, without any mandate. This information would then be fed back to Council to allow formal discussion on the matter.

Councillor Mrs Rossiter felt Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism seemed to be trying to push their ideas forward by calling the meeting. The Clerk responded stating that pedestrianisation is governed by legislation and no one can change the legal documentation without formal consultation.

Councillor Mrs Durham felt the meeting was only to listen and discuss possible options and not a decision making meeting.

Councillor Mrs Putwain felt it was essential the views of TTC are put forward at the meeting and any suggestions by other parties be brought back to full council.

The Clerk explained the process of how the meeting with PCC had evolved and now it was arranged. Councillor Evans felt PCC senior officers time is difficult to obtain and as Tenby Chamber have acted promptly this open meeting time should be valued and used wisely as it may be many months, and even into next year before another meeting could be scheduled. Open minds to all ideas should be given to contraction or expansion of pedestrianisation.

Councillor Evans proposed that all Councillors wishing to attend should be put forward for the meeting.

Following further discussion the following Councillors requested to attend the meeting, Councillor Mrs Thomas, Councillor Mrs Putwain, Councillor Mrs Brown, Councillor Hallett, Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor Mrs Durham and the Town Clerk. It was

Resolved that Councillor Mrs Thomas, Councillor Mrs Putwain, Councillor Mrs Brown, Councillor Hallett, Councillor Mrs Rossiter, Councillor Mrs Durham and the Town Clerk.

b. Meeting with Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism to review Tenby Street Market

The Clerk reported that Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism had requested to make the Street Market review meeting more public by inviting all signatories on the petition opposing the market. However Mr M Owen, PCC requested the initial review meeting should be between Tenby Chamber of Trade and TTC. Therefore the small scale meeting will take place on the 12th November 2014 at 11 am, at the Fourcroft Hotel.

Councillor Evans felt it was very fair for Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism to consider taking the chair of a meeting when fifty people would be against the street market. The Mayor felt someone independent of the market would be better placed to chair the market meeting.

Councillor Mrs Brown felt it was the Tenby Chamber of Trade and Tourism's market licence in question; therefore they are the ones calling the meeting.

Councillor Evans felt the chair of the meeting should be elected on the day from the people who are in attendance.

221. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th October 2014 at 7.30pm.

Councillor Evans gave his apologies in advance for the next meeting.

222. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None noted.

223. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Proposed by Councillor Hallett, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

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.

224. MINUTES

Resolved that the Private and Confidential Minutes of Tenby Town Council Meeting held 30th September 2014 be confirmed and signed as accurate.

225. MATTERS ARISING

None noted.

226. FINANCIAL OFFICER/CLERK'S ITEMS

a. Periodic review of Financial Regulations

The Clerk explained that the Financial Regulations report was self-explanatory and the need for review had come about due to the Welsh Assembly bringing new acts into power; therefore he had to ensure TTC regulations comply.

Following discussion Councillor Hallett proposed TTC adopt the proposed amendments to TTC financial regulations, seconded by Councillor Mrs Putwain.

Resolved that TTC accept and adopt the amendments to the Financial Regulations.

Mayor _____

Town Clerk _____

Date _____