

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 1st December 2014 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm

Present: Deputy Mayor FD John (Chair), DJO Chant, DJH George MC Gray, MGD James, JG Lloyd, CT Taylor, S Williams with CH Gray (Clerk) and PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer).

Mayor DB Halse arrived at 8pm.

389 Apologies for Absence: ES Evans (agricultural competition), K Rose (holiday), BT Price (family commitment) and County Councillor DB Lloyd (holiday).

390 Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to identify any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests that they might have in relation to items on the agenda.

390.1 Cllr Taylor declared a prejudicial interest in relation to Item 23 and left the Council Chamber while the item was discussed.

391 Confirmation of Minutes for:-

391.1 The Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 3rd November 2014 were RESOLVED to be approved.

391.2 The Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 17th November 2014 were RESOLVED to be approved.

Matters Arising

392 COMMUNITY AWARD Nominations for the 2014 community award were received. It was RESOLVED to present Mr John Davies with the award for 2014.

393 CITY HALL The Clerk reported that the application for planning permission had been submitted to the PCNPA by WA Spees on behalf of the City Council and that the tender documents were being prepared.

394 MEMORIAL HALL - Storage Heaters. The Clerk informed the Council that as a result of advice recent received by an independent electrical contractor it would appear more economical to install individual wall heaters that would not require connection to an Economy 7 energy supply. It was RESOLVED to invite revised quotes to be submitted in accordance with the advice.

395 SCHOOL CROSSING NUN STREET The Clerk reported that no further correspondence had been received from the Highway Authority to date.

396 WHITESANDS ROAD The Clerk reported that no further correspondence received from the Highway Authority to date.

397 ST JUSTINIANS

397.1 Members were joined by Mr Peter Howe, Regeneration Officer for Pembrokeshire County Council who wished to discuss the possibility of the City Council taking on the administrative management and financial responsibility of St Justinians. Mr Howe suggested that the Council could submit a proposal to the RNLI to manage the site by employing a harbour master and charging the PBOA a fee to use the slip. Mr Howe suggested an annual figure of £125,000 would ensure that that annual maintenance costs were met whilst at the same time actuating a healthy reserve to pay for the substantial repair cost that were anticipated to be necessary in a few years time. The City Council reiterated their preference for demolition of the slip and were reluctant to commit to the financial liabilities associated with the site. Mr Howe agree to attend a meeting with the PBOA on 11th December with a view to ascertaining the financial position of the PBOA and whether they would be prepared to submit a proposal themselves. Cllr James suggested that the City Council reconsider taking responsibility for the slip. Cllr Chant stated that suggesting that the Council would reconsider its position could give false hope to the boat owners. Cllr Chant informed the Council that Mr Chris Wooldridge was in process of collating information to present to the PBOA. Cllr James informed that Council that a restrictive covenant involving the National

Trust was in place at St Justinians. Cllr James proposed that the Clerk write to the RSPB to obtain their views on the future of the site, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk would do so.

397.2 Howard Richings e-mail of 21st November 2014 together with Rob Scourfield e-mail of 17th December 2013 were RESOLVED to be discussed at a meeting with PBOA at 6pm on Thursday 11th December.

398 ST DAVIDS LIBRARY Mike Cavanagh e-mail of 20th November 2014 was received. It was RESOLVED to ascertain the actual cost implications for the City Council and to request a response to the City Council's suggestion that volunteer library assistants be used to extend the opening hours.

399 ST DAVIDS DAY DINNER Following the abolition of Naas Town Council it was RESOLVED to invite the current County Councillor and former Mayor Willie Callaghan to the annual dinner together with a representative of the Nass Historical Society and Twinning Group.

400 WHITESANDS CAR PARK Gareth Issac e-mail of 25th November 2014 Cost of re-painting road markings estimated at £1000 was received. It was RESOLVED to accept the offer and to instruct Pembrokeshire County Council to undertake both the re-surfacing and re-painting of the car park in May 2015.

Accounts

401 The Responsible Finance Officer reported that the Internal Audit for October 2014 had been completed satisfactorily.

402 Accounts for November 2014.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE NOVEMBER 2014			
Balance as at 25th November 2014		£	
	Current A/c	284257.72	
INCOME	Car Park	1013.00	
	City Hall	211.56	
	Cafe		
	Miscellaneous	79.00	
	Market stalls	75.00	
	Total	1378.56	
	LGA 1972 Sec137 for2014/15 is £10821		LGA 1972 Sec 214 Cemetery
	Last month's donations	150	Total donated 2014/2015
	2014/15 total	1825	
	Balance available	8996	
PAYMENTS		£	
	Admin		Salaries:Clerk & RFO
		165.00	Membership SLCC
		90.04	Phone and Internet
		240.62	Clerk's exps
		17.04	Office supplies
		252.00	Course re workplace pensions
	Whitesands	466.95	Attendant's commission (5)
		6330.39	G & R Nash
	Playground	175.75	St Davids Assemblies Ltd
	Hall & House		Caretaker's salary
			Br Gas
			Swalec
		18.71	D/D Boiler service
		108.37	Cleaning products
	HMRC	16898.28	VAT
	Mayor's Expenses		
	St Justinians	540.00	Toilet hire / cleaning
	Miscellaneous	504.00	W A Spees re building works
		188.00	Val Davies - cleaning signs
		706.81	PCC re Quickwell toilets
		952.00	PCC (Council tax-3props)
		171.82	Dwr Cymru -(2props)
		1900.00	LITE re Xmas lighting
	Total	29725.78	
Minutes 2014 / 2015		64	

It was RESOLVED to approve of the accounts for the month and grant permission to pay.

403 Prizes for winners of the Christmas lights competition. It was RESOLVED to approve the cost of £50 and grant permission to pay.

404 Christmas Street Lights. It was RESOLVED to pay for the installation of the street lighting display once the new lights had been installed in Goat Street and remedial work had been completed on the display near CKs Supermarket.

Correspondence

405 PCNPA letter of 14th November 2014 Supplementary planning guidance is now available from the Planning Authority was received.

406 Tidal Energy e-mail of 17th November 2014 Providing an update of the Ramsey Sound project was received.

407 PAVS e-mail of 25th November 2014 Invitation to AGM and Re-Imagining Public Services discussion was received.

408 Dyfed Powys Police e-mail of 25th November 2014 invitation to meet with Police and Crime Commissioner. It was RESOLVED to accept the invitation to meet with the Commissioner at 10.30am on Tuesday 2nd April 2015.

409 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 25th November 2014 Advising that the definition of the "Seasonal Period" was to be amended to 9am-7pm from 1st March to 31st October in the County Council's car parks from 2015 onwards (applicable to Merrivale and Quickwell Hill in St Davids) was received.

Reports from Members representing the Council

409.1 St Davids Carnival Association. Nothing to report.

409.2 St Davids Christmas Tree Association. Cllr Price provided members with the following report:

As Chairperson of the Christmas Tree Association I would like to thank David for switching on the lights on Saturday night. The feed back that I have had about Saturday night has been very positive, it was lovely to see so many people turn out. I would also like to thank Heidi for her help in sorting out the road closure with Pembrokeshire County Council. Myself and the association would like to thank all councillors and Paul who helped on Saturday night, and also for their help with the Festival of Trees which again proved to be very successful event with many holiday makers coming along to vote this year. A big thank you goes to Cllr David and Mrs Sandra Chant and their team for all of their hard work in putting together a fantastic grotto again this year. It was such a shame that not all of the lights worked on Saturday night and I can now see that it is all been sorted, but let's not let that happen next year as we do pay a lot of money for these lights. Just because we are a small city on the edge of Wales we are just as important as the big cities!

409.3 St Davids Day Celebration Group. Nothing to report.

409.4 St Davids Day Centre for the Elderly. Cllr Williams reported that the group recently enjoyed an afternoon tea in Mathry and would soon be enjoying a Christmas lunch in Fishguard Bay Hotel. The group has seen an increase in male members joining the group and was continuing to thrive.

409.5 St Davids Eco City Group. Nothing to report.

409.6 St Davids Peninsula Tourist Association. Cllr Evans provided members with the following report following the Association's AGM on 26th November 2014:

Treasurers Report – Irene Valentine presented the end of year accounts, these were discussed and a copy is available from Emma Evans on request.

Chairman's Report – Doug Malein presented this report, thanking everyone for coming, and highlighting the increase in membership to 80 for 2015, the highest membership in 15 years. He commented on the success of the new logo, strapline 'Places to stay... Things to do', and the refreshed website, and indicated that 100,000 broadsheets had been ordered for 2015. The broadsheets should be available from the National Trust and Oriel Y Parc from 28th November 2014, with distribution from PPL to outlets in South Wales and the M4 corridor, Brochures Direct to Pembrokeshire and the western M4, and Pier Communications to supermarkets such as Waitrose and Tesco and major train stations and services. There will also be adverts in Coast to Coast and Visit Pembrokeshire guides. Doug also introduced the new broadsheet dispensers to members which the association recently purchased – and invited anyone who would like one to contact him. He closed his report by speaking encouragingly about the coming season, and the opportunities it will bring, including the return of the Really Wild Food Festival in May 2015 to Pwllcaerog Farm (Celtic Camping).

Election of Officers – All current committee members were re-elected as follows:

Chair – Doug Malein
 Secretary – Rona Liggitt
 Treasurer – Irene Valentine
 PCNPA/Visitor Centre –
 Hotels/Guesthouses –
 B&Bs – William Chant, Peter Rowell, Anne Hirst
 St Davids City Council – David Chant, Emma Evans
 Self Catering – John Warren, Adam Benson-Davies
 Caravans & Camping –
 National Trust – Cath Orchard
 Restaurants –
 Activities – Julie Horton-Powdrill (RWF)
 Cathedral – Rev. Dorian Davies
 Retail – Chris Taylor
 Mathry Community Council – Jill Morgan
 Sandchurch Competition –

The AGM was followed by a presentation by Keep Wales Tidy (Hannah Brooke). Hannah gave a very interesting presentation on a new 'Wales Coast App' that is available free of charge to iphones and similar devices, and aims to drive tourism to the coast. The app covers the entire Wales Coast and includes information of beach quality, tide times, popular routes, severity of routes etc. The app also offers an opportunity to local business to advertise, for example it will show accommodation close to the coast, or activities, days out etc. The tourist association were encouraged by this and asked that further information be sent to the group to discuss in the next meeting.

409.7 Porthclais Harbour Authority. Cllr John reported that the Authority's AGM would be held on 9th December 2014.

409.8 St Davids - Matsieng Lesotho Link. Cllr Taylor provided members with the following report: Since our last report there is now quite a lot to report. Most importantly we have now held our Annual General Meeting, which was relatively well supported, and at which we welcomed the Mayor, and in particular Dolen Cymru's new education officer Sharon Flint. The meeting gave myself as chairman an opportunity to report on the visit to Matsieng last February, to discuss some of the outcomes of this visit and to explore prospects for the way forward. In this context it was very useful to have Sharon Flint with us. She had just returned from Lesotho, knows the country well, and understands the nature of the challenges facing us. Essentially the most important information that she brought to the meeting was clarification that there should not in fact be any difficulties with Ysgol Dewi Sant building up links with Moshoeshoe II High School, quite contrary to the impression that we had held up to that moment. She also told us that she had been informed that there would be no objections at all to this from Ysgol Plas Mawr. This has completely changed the dynamics of the situation. She has already offered to take a lead role in setting up links between Ysgol Dewi Sant and Moshoeshoe II High School. She will also do her best to encourage the links which are developing, albeit slowly, between Ysgol Bro Dewi and St Matthew's Primary School in Matsieng. This is fantastic progress, and means that there is now a realistic prospect of separate but parallel links being formed involving the four schools. I think this is very exciting news. It also removes much of the onus from myself, and leaves the future dynamics and direction of the links to Dolen Cymru and the schools themselves. Meanwhile the committee had also just heard from Prince Seeiso that two of the orphaned students we have been helping are in fact still on the school role at Moshoeshoe II High School, and we have therefore decided to continue this programme for a little longer, although at a greatly reduced level, giving us an opportunity to consider other projects that we could support in Matsieng in the future, probably at St Matthew's School. The other exciting news is that our group as a whole has been granted another Gold Star Award from the organisation that financially supported us in the spring, Wales Africa Community Links. The award involves a presentation of a 'learning link' award by the First Minister at the Senedd on Thursday of next week, and four of us will be travelling to Cardiff for the event - David Haynes, Head of Ysgol Dewi Sant, students Raven Alam and Lorna McEvoy, and myself as chairman of the support group. This is very exciting, and I hope that the shield which is to be presented will be able to find a home at Ysgol Dewi Sant. Clearly it is also a great honour for us to have been singled out at this stage, and we will, all of us, have to work to work even harder in the future to live up to this very preliminary success! We hope to hold a post a Christmas Bring and Buy Sale on 10th January 2015 in the City Hall

409.9 Youth Drop In. Nothing to report.

409.10 Ysgol Bro Dewi Governor. Cllr Halse provided the Council with the following report: This is a very busy time for Ysgol Bro Dewi with many special events arranged. A successful Christmas Fayre was held

on Saturday and the school sang at the Tree Lighting ceremony later that afternoon. There are many more special events before the end of term.

The Estyn Inspection Report was published a couple of weeks ago and there is a special governors meeting to be held on Wednesday, 3rd December to discuss the Action Plan in response to the inspection. There were many positive areas identified in the report which can be read online at the Estyn website. Alternatively, there is a hard copy for any councillor who wishes to read the report at the Council Chamber.

It is acknowledged that the new headteacher has a clear vision and high expectations that have been conveyed successfully to the staff and governors. Also, that many pupils make good progress and achieve well during their time at the school. Additionally, that staff provide good quality care support and guidance to pupils.

However, in response to certain key questions, the judgements are as follows:

- 1) The school's current performance : Adequate.
- 2) The school's prospects for improvement : Adequate.

The staff and governors will be working closely together to build on the improvements already made and to ensure that future judgements from Estyn (next year ?) confirm this improvement. I will feedback further on some of the specifics of the improvement plan in January 2015.

Your representative continues to become further involved in the subcommittees and the activities surrounding the school and is happy to feedback on any issues. Naturally, the future of education in North Pembrokeshire continues to be uncertain and this is situation is significant for staff and governors. We look forward to some clarification on this early in 2015.

409.11 Planel Community Forum. Cllr Halse provided the Council with the following report: I attended the most recent meeting of the Forum with Cllr Glenys James on December 4th 2014. A full presentation from the St Davids Dementia Group was given by Tracey Martin-Smith and Tom Alexander. The Forum was keen to support the local developments in whatever way they could. A coffee morning was agreed for February 14th to support the local RNLI Appeal. The current position in relation to the Good Neighbour Scheme was discussed as matters are on hold due to a change in personnel at Pembs CC (Rachel Gibby has changed her job). Discussion also took place on the following subjects:- Community Orchard, New leaflet developments ("A sense of place") and the Hub website. The next meeting will be on January 13th which I will be attending.

409.12 Porthstinan Boat Owners Association. Nothing to report further to Item 9.

409.13 Porthmawr Surf Life Saving Club. Cllr Gray reported that the next meeting was due to be held within a fortnight.

Planning

410 NP/14/0650 Proposed conversion and extension to form B&B facilities at 75 New Street, SA62 6SW. The City Council considered that the proposal was deemed unlikely to have a detrimental visual or environmental impact on the surrounding area. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

411 C29/14 Selective thinning of sycamore and willow woodland to the rear of The Old School (Tyr Pererin), Quickwell Hill. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

412 NP/14/0668 construction of wildlife pond that forms part of sustainable Glastir scheme for WAG at U3033 to Upper Porthmawr, Whitesands, SA62 6PS. The City Council considered that the proposal was deemed unlikely to have a detrimental visual or environmental impact on the surrounding area. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

413 NP/14/0664 Amendment to NP/13/0442 to include 2 single storey lean-to extensions and new outbuilding at Carneithan, SA62 6PT. The City Council considered that the scale of the amendments differed vastly from the original plans submitted and that the proposed design was deemed likely to have a detrimental visual impact on the surrounding area. It was RESOLVED to refuse to support the application.

Any other business

414 Cllr Williams suggested that more lighting be installed adjacent to Y Gudel, High Street. It was RESOLVED to obtain quotes for low wattage lighting to be attached to the City Hall for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

415 Cllr Lloyd informed the Council that a business in Nun Street had received a letter from the Highway Authority regarding proposed changes to the limited waiting bays to include parking for residents with permits. It was

RESOLVED that the Clerk would request a copy letter form the County Council and the item would be included for discussion on the next agenda.

416 Cllr Halse expressed his thanks to all those that helped to ensure that the lighting ceremony and Christmas grotto were such a success.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed
Chair

Date