

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 4th February 2008 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: MGD James as Mayor in the Chair, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, SJ Halse, JG Lloyd, C T Taylor, RJ Thornton with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

Residents attending Deirdre Connell and Andy Dixon.

548 Apologies for Absence: J Braby (Holiday), D Chant (Holiday), FJ Godkin (Indisposed), BT Price (Family commitment).

549 Declarations of Interest:

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest that they might have in relation to items on this agenda.

G James, J George, R Thornton and the Clerk declared interests as a governor of Ysgol Dewi Sant in relation to minute 551.

C Taylor declared a committee interest regarding St Davids Cathedral Festival in minute 564.

550 Confirmation of Minutes for:

550.1 Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 7th January 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

550.2 'In Committee' Minutes of the Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 7th January 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

550.3 Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 21st January 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

550.4 'In Committee' Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 21st January 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

Matters arising from the Minutes:**551 SPORTS and LEISURE FACILITIES**

551.1 A visit by County Councillor RM Lewis, Pembrokeshire County Council Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure, Tourism and Cultural Services to the meeting on 18 February 2008 was confirmed.

551.1.1 St David's Pool User's Group had provided a statement regarding the position to date that had been circulated to members and D Connell summarised this current view and confirmed that the key questions for the meeting with Councillor Lewis would include the following:-

551.1.1.1 What is the time scale for the feasibility?

551.1.1.2 Can we obtain a guarantee that the feasibility study will cover the refurbishment of the swimming pool?

551.1.1.3 There are rumours circulating that the pool is safe for the next 2 years, is this the case?

551.1.1.4 Can the County Council guarantee that no plans will be made following the study without consultation and explanation to the City Council and the community?

551.1.2 A Dixon noted that assistance from Cardiff MSc architecture students who visited the Eco City group recently may be able to assist in the design of sustainable buildings. This matter was also considered below under Mayor's business.

General discussion followed on the way forward with the County Councillor indicating that Pembrokeshire County Council may assist with funding but are considering the option of the pool being run by the community.

551.1.3 Minutes of the St Davids Pool User's Group previous meetings of 7 December 2007 and 16 January 2008 were noted.

551.1.4 The question of permission to visit the pool site by the group for an independent assessment remained outstanding and it was agreed to follow up the written request to Pembrokeshire County Council to clarify the position.

551.1.5 It was RESOLVED to meet at 6.30pm on 18 February to finalise information prior to the meeting with Councillor Lewis.

551.2 A Thomas – letter received 24 January 2008 was RESOLVED to be received.

552 PROJECTS and WORKS:

- 552.1 Play Area:-
 552.1.1 Phase 2 - New access ramp and bus shelter – Clerk reported that this was currently out to tender.
 552.1.2 Maintenance and repairs including mole control – a discussion on methods of mole control followed and while a quotation from Rentokil was noted for chemical treatment it was agreed to investigate humane control methods further.
- 552.2 Whitesands Car Park – Tarmac re-surfacing – Clerk advised that quotations were awaited.
- 552.3 City Hall Stage - Electrical supply improvements – While design and cost information had now been received, the priority assessment for projects in the previous meeting meant that this matter be deferred until a future re-assessment of funding.
- 552.4 City Hall Development – A Discussion Paper from the Clerk had been circulated and it was agreed to consider this at a future meeting.

OTHER MATTERS ARISING:

553 Whitesands Beach Café – Clerk advised that the Assignment of Tenancy was virtually complete.

554 Fair Trade City Status – next meeting was noted to be on 6 February 2008 in the Memorial Hall.

555 Signage to the Cathedral in St.Davids – a proposal from Pembrokeshire County Council of 29 January 2008 to remove the existing fingerpost in the Memorial Garden to a more prominent location was RESOLVED to be undertaken together with the provision of a new sign to go on the west side of the Goat Street end of Tower Hill Lane.

556 St Davids Day - Review of Draft Programme of Events.

Friday 29 February:

- 556.1 Best Cawl in St Davids Competition would be held together with the Historical Society exhibition of the Tithe Maps in the City Hall.
- 556.2 Slate prizes for the Floral Display competition were presented at the meeting together with St Davids Day presentations for the High Commissioner for Lesotho and the Mayor of Naas. These were received with much appreciation and it was RESOLVED to accept the costs with MC Gray declaring a personal interest.
- 556.3 Goodwill Message to Cardiff – The Clerk noted that replies from schools were awaited.
- 556.4 City Council St Davids Day Eve Dinner - Mayor noted that as a change there will be no guest speaker this year as a musical item would be provided by a small group of Cathedral choristers.

Saturday 1 March

- 556.5 Market and Blessing on the Cross Square were planned as previously and it was RESOLVED that given the handling requirements of the new market stalls and the provision of new markets a sack truck/trolley was RESOLVED to be purchased.
- 556.6 Blessing on Cross Square was organised with the sound system to be included.

Sunday 2 March

- 556.7 Cymanfa Ganu in Zion Chapel – tea in the City Hall was agreed to be undertaken by councillors with setting up to be at 1pm.

557 Tall Ships Adventures – sponsorship of young person(s) was RESOLVED to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

558 Periodic Electoral Review – Appeal against change to City Council Electoral Arrangements - Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 18 January 2008 was RESOLVED to be received with comments made that the basis for the decision was not clear and perhaps the Council should have taken legal advice as to the validity of the County Council's view?

559 Precept – this discussion was deferred to a future meeting.

560 St Davids Lifeboat Station: Scoping Opinion Consultation - Above ground power supply poles – awaits Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority reply on whether there is a need for permission.

561 Caretaker – it was RESOLVED to consider the matter at the end of the meeting.

562 St Davids Carbon Footprint and Sustainability – a further meeting with A Middleton was agreed to be on 17 March 2008.

563 County Councillor's Report. There were no matters arising.

Correspondence

564 St Davids Cathedral Festival 2008 letter of 12 January 2008 – it was RESOLVED to contribute £750 as sponsorship towards the Festival in 2008.

565 Royal British Legion, St Davids Branch letter of thanks of 10 January 2008 for Christmas Events – was RESOLVED to be received.

566 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority letter of 14 January 2008 – Application for works to a Monterey Cypress tree at rear garden of 33 High Street – Approval of crown lift and removal of overhanging branches – was RESOLVED to be received.

567 British Humanist Association:-

567.1 Email of 15 January 2008 - Local Authority Guidance and request to meet the Council, was RESOLVED to be received.

567.2 Email of 18 January 2008 - National Offender Management Service – Briefing document was noted and the information was RESOLVED to be received.

568 Local Works – Sustainable Communities Bill was RESOLVED to be received with the requirement for a citizen's panel to be considered in the future when more information was available.

569 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 18 January 2008 – Casual Vacancies information on procedure was RESOLVED to be received.

570 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority copy of letter of 21 January 2008 to St Non's Retreat Centre – Improvement of By way to St Nons - was RESOLVED to be received.

571 Eco City Biodiesel System - Julian Orchard email of 28 January 2008 regarding the repair or replacement of the biodiesel system – was RESOLVED to be received.

572 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 25 January 08 - Periodic Electoral Review: County of Pembrokeshire (Community Electoral Arrangements) Order 2008 was RESOLVED to be received.

573 Parking and safety of pedestrians outside CK's in New Street was RESOLVED to be considered at the end of the meeting.

574 HM Border and Immigration Agency - Information on new penalties from 29 February 2008 on employing illegal migrants – was RESOLVED to be received.

575 Welsh Assembly Government letter of 31 January 2008 – Appropriate sum under section 137(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 has been increased for 2008 – 2009 to £5.86 per elector currently 5.64

576 Welsh Assembly Government letter of 31 January 2008 - Borrowing by Community and Town Councils in 2008 / 2009 – Information and application for borrowing approval was RESOLVED to be received.

577 Mrs Beaumont – request for Senior Citizen's Play Area – this was considered with interest and possible funds were to be investigated.

578 Pembrokeshire Carnival Project email of 3 February 2008 was RESOLVED to be passed to the St.Davids Carnival Committee.

579 DONATIONS under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

579.1 Haverfordwest Citizen's Advice Bureau letter of thanks of 15 January 2008 for £100 – was RESOLVED to be received.

579.2 Pembrokeshire Counselling Service letter of 20 January 2008, it was RESOLVED to donate £50.

Clerk's Business:

580 Whitesands Resident’s Passes – it was RESOLVED to advertise the passes in the St Davids City News this year.

581 Orientation Map – It was RESOLVED to see a draft of the map of the centre of St Davids that was to be provided by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority prior to committing to having an orientation map, and to ask St.Davids Peninsula Tourist Association to see if they would wish to be involved. Costs in the order of £500 for the print alone were noted.

Planning:

582 NP/08/001/gdo24 Relocation of existing cabinet due to safety in Feidr Chwech Erw – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

583 NP/08/006 Variation of condition 2 of NP/02/146 to provide for demolition and rebuilding work to approved scheme at Carn-Nwchn Farm – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

584 NP/08/026 Bedroom with adjoining conservatory at 25 Bryn Teg– it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

585 NP/08/030 Surf Hire Concession for 5 years (1March -31 October) Land adjacent to Whitesands Car Park – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

586 NP/08/043 Amendment to planning permission NP/06/635 house for Plot 7 Maes Elfed– it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

587 Accounts:

587.1 Internal Audit for December 2007 had been successfully completed and was RESOLVED to accepted and approved.

587.2 Accounts for January.

Balances at 26/01/08. Current Account £34,137.00 Premier Account £47,936.00

J Phillips	119.37
HM Customs & Revenue	1841.24
Des Owen	30.00
Richard Thomas	531.10
PRS	128.47
Lower Moor Nursery	212.00
British Gas	321.95
Richard Cox	141.74
BT (Internet)	95.13
Mathias Hardware	9.61
Viking Direct	90.32
Ceri Davies	1278.00
Phoenix Press	765.37
Image Screen Arts	380.70
Swalec	551.58
D C Menday	1271.73
P L Evans	214.75
Bob Jenkins taxi for Senior Citizens Lunch	15.00
DC Menday expenses for January	23.78
Glyn Edwards	34.26
J Phillips	220.63

PERIOD 1.4.07 - 26.01.08	INCOME	EXPENDITURE £	BALANCE for PERIOD £
TOTAL	194034	186410	7624
Car Park	132203	34766	97437
City Hall	13515	16489	-2974
Admin		30955	-30955

Donations from 01/04/2007

Dyfed Powys Police Auth	250.00
Withybush 87.7FM	50.00
Celtic Coaster	1000.00
Shelter Cymru	50.00
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	25.00
Saints Junior Rugby	300.00
Artswave	100.00
British Red Cross	100.00
Royal British Legion	50.00
Macmillan Cancer Support	103.00
St Davids Cathedral Cemetery	400.00
Tretio Chapel	100.00
Caerfarchell Chapel	100.00
Berea Chapel	100.00
St Non's Bro Cerwyn Centre	50.00
Bobby Van Scheme	25.00
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	25.00
Samaritans	100.00
CAB	100.00

587.3 Permission to pay the accounts was RESOLVED to be granted.

Mayor's Business

588 Eco City Meeting with Cardiff Architecture students.

The Mayor reported on her meeting with the students from Cardiff.

An email from the group of 4 February 2008 regarding a Community Centre and Sports Facilities was then noted, and as the Council had no knowledge of designs or a need for a Community Centre it was agreed to ask what was being planned?

589 It was RESOLVED that the public be excluded under the terms of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as the disclosure of information would be prejudicial to the public interest.

Matters regarding the Caretaker, Tall ships sponsorship and Parking at CK's supermarket were discussed, and as there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed
Chair

Date.....

‘In Committee’ Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 4th February 2008 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: MGD James as Mayor in the Chair, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, SJ Halse, JG Lloyd, C T Taylor, RJ Thornton with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

590 Apologies for Absence: J Braby (Holiday), D Chant (Holiday), FJ Godkin (Indisposed), BT Price (Family commitment).

BUSINESS

591 Caretaker

592 City Hall Development – it was RESOLVED to consider the Discussion Paper on the City Hall for a further meeting.

593 Tall Ships Voyage Sponsorship.

594 CK’s Parking and Safety of pedestrians outside CK’s in New Street.

595 St Nons.

It was RESOLVED to come out of ‘Committee’.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed
Chair

Date.....

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 18 February 2008 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: MGD James as Mayor in the Chair, DJO Chant Deputy-Mayor, AM Foster, DJH George, BT Price, CT Taylor, RJ Thornton, S Williams with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

St David's Pool User's Group and residents attending: Henry Beaumont, Deirdre Connell, Lis Cousens, Andy Dixon, Maggie Hemming and Gill Lewis.

County Councillor R Lewis – Pembrokeshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure, Tourism and Cultural Services.

596 ST DAVIDS POOL AND SPORTS FACILITIES: A Discussion with County Councillor R Lewis together with members of the St Davids Pool User's Group.

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Lewis to the meeting and in his opening remarks he outlined that the feasibility study regarding the future provision of pool and other sports facilities was being set up. It would be undertaken 'In house' by Pembrokeshire County Council staff and it would be conducted according to best practice with the aim of reporting back in 6 months time.

He noted the following points in relation to the survey:-

1. Everything that is on site that requires refurbishment and / or rebuilding will be assessed.
2. Tennis courts are already included in this year's work programme as a separate matter.
3. What can be provided in the space available on the site?
4. What are the cost implications of any works?
5. It will look at dry side provision as well as a pool.
6. Copies of the study will be made available for everyone.
7. After discussion any scheme will then go to the Cabinet at Pembrokeshire County Council for a decision.

The Mayor invited comments on this outline.

D Connell – outlined the history of the pool, its community roots in the peninsula and levels of use as a school, community and tourism facility. Aspects of current need for health and well being were noted and the family who offered the land for the present pool had expressed an interest in providing more land for any further development next to the existing site. There was strong public interest in the continuing provision of a pool in St.Davids and concern over rumours regarding potential impact on the school. It was a concern that funds should be provided for any forthcoming repairs to key items such as the boiler.

R Lewis – Regarding repairs, it was hoped that the equipment such as the boiler and some items of pipe-work will keep operating in the mean time. Assurance was then given that further meetings to consider these matters will follow the feasibility study.

A Dixon – Noted that he had obtained costs for survey and assessment work and there was a need for sustainable features in a new design such as a biomass boiler. R Lewis acknowledged these points and noted that Pembrokeshire County Council is already using such design features elsewhere.

H Beaumont – emphasised the good work of the staff and how much school sessions are enjoyed.

C Taylor – Will Pembrokeshire County Council permit an independent survey?

R Lewis – There is no reason for not having a separate survey with the additional cost to be born by the local group. It was suggested that it was probably best to delay any independent survey until after the Pembrokeshire County Council assessment had been completed.

D Chant – A study was needed in less than 6 months in case the pool machinery fails.

R Lewis - offered this period as he did not wish to give a shorter period and then not deliver a response.

M Hemming – There is a need to both swim and play herein St Davids and not to travel.

R Lewis - Did not know whether there will or will not be a new pool in St.Davids and provision of a new and substantial scheme would be considered noting that for competitive use the pool needs to be 25m long and not as at present.

C Taylor – Will the approach include looking at different ways of administering the pool?

R Lewis – Pembrokeshire County Council will look at all options.

G Lewis – Is the feasibility brief available to the City Council?

R Lewis – This could be considered and any inclusions should be provided.

A Dixon – The only way forward following the original presentation seemed to be replace the pool with a sports facility, why was this?

R Lewis – The situation presented was that of an ageing pool with a serious capital expenditure need. In looking at the prospects for sports facilities in St Davids, such as at the Rugby Club it was felt using the pool site had been a possibility.

M Hemming - Would rather keep the pool at 20m length than risk losing as providing a 25m pool was not practical.

The Mayor then thanked Cllr Lewis for attending and providing the opportunity to clarify the position. Cllr Lewis and residents then left the meeting.

597 Apologies for Absence: JW Braby (indisposed), JF Godkin (indisposed), MC Gray (family commitment), SJ Halse (holiday) and JG Lloyd (indisposed).

598 Declarations of Interest:

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest that they might have in relation to items on this agenda.

G James, J George, R Thornton and the Clerk declared an interest as a Governor of Ysgol Dewi Sant in relation to item 598.

Matters arising from the February Monthly Meeting

599 St Davids Pool and Sports Facilities - Stephen Crabb MP copy of letter of 13 February 2008 to Mr Mark Lewis of Pembrokeshire County Council was RESOLVED to be received.

600 St Davids Day Event Planning:-

600.1 All events were assessed and for the City Council St Davids Day Dinner it was agreed that as a musical item would be provided by the Cathedral Choristers under the Organist it was RESOLVED to offer a donation of £100 to the Choir's fund.

600.2 Decoration of the Hall to be arranged on Thursday 28 February at 5pm.

600.3 Market – While the market was planned subject to the arrival of the new stalls on 20 February it was RESOLVED that further markets be held on Thursdays including 1 May and all Thursdays in July and August for the hire fee of £15.

Correspondence to be considered prior to the Monthly Meeting on 3 March 2008

601 Regional Funding Fair 6 March 2008 at Carmarthen Showground – invitation from Pembrokeshire County Council Community Regeneration – it was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer should attend.

602 Plan NP/07/668 Change of use to motor mechanics garage (commercial) at Trehenlli Farm – Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority letter of 7 February 2008 advising that as the application is sufficiently controversial it has gone to committee on 20 February 2008. It was agreed to reiterate the strong support that the City Council feels for this application. J George declared a personal interest and did not take part in discussion or vote thereon.

603 Big Green Challenge – grant application led by West Wales Eco Centre in collaboration with Eco City, it was RESOLVED to support the preliminary application due by the end of this month.

604 Miss LI Harris letter of 15 February – No 8 High Street – there was agreement with the concern Miss Harris had expressed and while previous efforts had been made the material was on the inside of the windows and it was RESOLVED to ask for this to be considered again by the police.

605 Clerk's Business:

605.1 Nun Street catenary wire system damage – Clerk reported on recent damage by a vehicle that had removed 4 lengths of catenary wire. It was RESOLVED:-

605.1.1 To follow this up with the police by letter as the driver did not stop after the damage was done.

605.1.2 To confirm the need to check on the clearance height on the wires that was already in process.

605.2 14th Signals Regiment (Electronic Warfare) Memorial Service for Sergeant Barry Keen on Thursday 28 February at 11am was noted with the Mayor and some members to attend. It was agreed to ask for the flag to be flown at half mast.

605.3 Memorial Hall – display arrangements of remembrance displays - it was agreed to review the items placed on display it was RESOLVED to remove the mayoral board given the presence of the other second mayoral board in the Council Chamber.

605.4 Welsh Surfing Association event at Whitesands 3-5 May – it was RESOLVED to support the event at this time.

605.5 Waun Fawr – the use of the area for rugby while the football club is dormant was RESOLVED to be agreed and the provision of financial assistance for rugby posts further to a request from Mr G Miles was to be assessed further.

Any Other Business:

606 Pavements – The replacement of paving slabs with concrete and particularly the use of smooth concrete was to be investigated by County Councillor J George.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed
Chair

Date.....

