

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 4 June 2007 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: MGD James as Mayor in the Chair, DJO Chant Deputy-Mayor, JW Braby, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, SJ Halse, JG Lloyd, BT Price and DC Menday (Clerk).

116 Apologies for Absence: JF Godkin (indisposed), BT Price (family commitment), RJ Thornton (training course), S Williams (work commitment) and PL Evans.

117 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. J George declared a personal interest as a member of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.

118 Confirmation of Minutes for:

- 118.1 Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 14 May 2007 – were RESOLVED to be approved.
- 118.2 Council Meeting on St Justinians on Monday 21 May 2007 – were RESOLVED to be approved.

Matters arising from the Minutes:**119 WHITESANDS:**

- 119.1 Waste Recycling Facility – Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority email of 17 May 2007 advising that an application for planning permission would not be recommended for approval was noted as being not acceptable as there is a need for this service. It was RESOLVED to continue to ask the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority for assistance as to where to locate the facility.
- 119.2 Eco City Group: Rain water harvesting and solar panel scheme for the Public Conveniences. It was noted that an email of 23 May 2007 from Bullock Consulting Ltd that funding for this work was now available until October 2007. It was RESOLVED to allow the excavation and making good of the car park for this scheme from September subject to:-
 - 119.2.1 Access for traffic to be ensured at all times.
 - 119.2.2 This agreement is subject to confirmation of the final programme in writing.
 - 119.2.3 Undertakings regarding all maintenance responsibilities are agreed in writing.

120 ST JUSTINIANS Matters arising from meeting on 21 May 2007 were discussed with the following points noted:-

- 120.1 Parking - Response from Mr N Wheeler of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority regarding a date for the meeting with the City Council was awaited.
- 120.2 Parking - Response was awaited from the National Trust regarding parking.
- 120.3 Access – Advice from solicitors to the Council, Bissmire Fudge & Co had indicated that the City Council was very limited in its powers in respect of access.
- 120.4 Toilets - Pembrokeshire County Council Cabinet Member for Environment had been approached in relation to the provision of toilets.
- 120.5 Future of boat house – response from RNLi was awaited.
- 120.6 Support – it was RESOLVED to approach DEIN to seek any assistance that may be available regarding employment, given the initiatives previously available through the WDA.

121 PROJECTS and WORKS:

- 121.1 Play Area Phase 2: New access ramp and bus shelter – it was RESOLVED to meet on site to discuss the matter.
- 121.2 Cross Square:-
 - 121.2.1 Improvements – new services and surface. Given the difficulties of providing below ground electrical connections it was RESOLVED to:-
 - 121.2.1.1 Urgently provide pennant stone slabs for the area of bare earth at the High Street end. This was to be undertaken as soon as possible given the site condition with the Clerk authorised to arrange the work.
 - 121.2.1.2 A scheme of work to provide a replacement, above ground electrical and water point instead of the existing wooden box complete with a stone clad housing was to be prepared together with a duct leading to the Christmas Tree manhole to allow for below ground electrical cabling.
 - 121.2.2 Floral display – awaiting Pembrokeshire County Council approval of hanging basket arrangements.

122 CITY HALL:

- 122.1 Phase 2 Development - awaits Pembrokeshire County Council CRU response.
- 122.2 Building Maintenance – Two single rear fire doors; it was RESOLVED to proceed with the replacement of the 2 doors in plastic using the information of the earlier assessments and to be the same specification as for the double doors currently on order with St Davids Glass and Framing.

OTHER MATTERS ARISING:

- 123** Fair Trade City – summary information on the initial steering group meeting and details of the next St Davids Group meeting 7 June in Curtis House at 7.30pm were RESOLVED to be received with the Fairtrade Picnic on 29 June being noted.
- 124** Plastics Recycling- feedback was awaited from the Eco City Group Meeting on 5th June at TyF Hotel at 7.30pm.
- 125** Casual vacancy for new member of Council it was RESOLVED to:-
 - 125.1 Co-opt a new member following notification from Pembrokeshire County Council that no election had been called.
 - 125.2 Given that 2 residents had confirmed their interest in being a councillor a ballot was held with votes cast recorded as:-
 - Mr Alan York - 4 votes.
 - Mr Christopher Taylor - 5 votes.

It was RESOLVED that Mr C T Taylor be co-opted as a City Councillor.

- 126** Staff Performance Review – the item was RESOLVED to be discussed ‘In committee’ at the end of the meeting.
- 127** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority’s letter of 17 May 2007 - Public conveniences at the Grove – it was noted that a commitment was made to replace the toilets at the Grove and this was RESOLVED to be accepted.
- 128** Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 14 May 2007 request for contribution for Celtic Coaster bus service. The Clerk outlined general contract cost information received from Pembrokeshire County Council and it was RESOLVED to contribute £1000.00 towards an additional Celtic Coaster bus for the current season under Local Government and Community Rating Act 1997 s26-29, with operating details to be provided in due course.
- 129** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority - Meeting with Mr Nic Wheeler Chief Executive regarding community concerns and the provision of agenda items was deferred until the meeting date was provided. Clerk noted similar concerns being expressed by Solva Community Council and it was RESOLVED to be received to include representatives in the meeting.
- 130 County Councillor’s Report:**
 - 130.1 Incident of pedestrian falling possibly on a manhole cover in Y Gudel had been investigated.
 - 130.2 Damage to the wall by the RNLI weather station needs to be rectified by the appropriate authority.

Correspondence

- 131** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's letter of 22 May 2007 – Guidance for Sustainable Design in the National Parks of Wales – Workshop on Monday 18 June at Pembrokeshire Activity Centre, Cleddau Reach, Pembroke Dock – was RESOLVED to be received.
- 132** Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 25 May 2007 Community Council Periodic Electoral Review – Draft Proposals Consultation. It was RESOLVED to respond stating that the City Council, that is an active and strong Council, wishes to retain its full representation of 13 councillors.
- 133** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's letter of 24 May 2007- Proposed diversion of public footpath 86/128 near Berea – was RESOLVED to be received without comment.
- 134** Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority letter of 22 May 2007 – Draft Risk Reduction Action Plan 2007/8 consultation that closes 14 August 2007 was RESOLVED to be received.
- 135** Campaign for the Sustainable Communities Bill – information on progress with the bill were noted and it was RESOLVED to continue providing the further letters of support as requested..
- 136** Mr T Sutton, Round Ramsey Race 2007 – this year the race is on Saturday 28 July starting at 14.10h – it was RESOLVED that the race be supported as in the past with parking of competitors tow cars allowed in the car park for no charge, while the trailers remain on the beach.
- 137** The following items of correspondence are on display:-
 - 137.1 Press Complaints Commission letter of 25 May 2007 and information on services.
 - 137.2 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority - Historic Environment Review April 2006-7
 - 137.3 Celebrating Objective One in Pembrokeshire - brochure.
 - 137.4 Age Concern Pembrokeshire Newsletter May 2007.

137.5 Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum newsletter available on
http://www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk/documents/Newsletter15_002.p

138 DONATIONS: Letter of thanks from 87.7FM Withybush received for donation of £50 was RESOLVED to be received.

Clerk's Business:

139 Civic Service – arrangements and numbers of councillors attending were finalised.

140 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 25 May 2007 regarding Play Area Quarterly Inspection - was RESOLVED to be received noting that it comprised an asset list only.

141 City Hall Bookings Review - Given that the 'Youth Drop In' had been making major efforts and numbers were increasing it was RESOLVED that priority would be given to the young people instead of the Craft Fair on 15 November and that the Christmas Tree Association event on 29 November retain its booking.

142 MP agenda – The visit to St Davids by S Crabb MP for a walkabout was planned for 13th July with details to be confirmed and an agenda prepared.

143 Deputy Mayoress's chain – it was RESOLVED to investigate costs and consider the replacement of the Deputy-Mayor's chain with the intention that the existing chain be passed to the Deputy-Mayoress or Consort.

144 Christmas Street Lighting – Given the condition of the lamp harnesses it was RESOLVED to assess and cost the replacement of lighting for all streets except Cross Square together with some new catenary wire and associated fittings.

Planning:

145 Current application:

145.1 NP/07/235 Copies of correspondence relating to this plan that was previously supported by the City Council were received from:-

145.1.1 pH Software letters of 29.5.07 and 1 June 2007.

145.1.2 St Davids Dental Care Ltd letter of 29.5.07.

145.2 J Braby declared a personal interest as a member of the neighbouring RAFA Club.

145.3 It was RESOLVED to confirm support for the application but ask that access on the narrow road be clarified.

146 New applications:

146.1 NP/07/156 Garage at 8 Ffynnon Wen, it was RESOLVED offer COUNCIL SUPPORT with pavement to be maintained.

146.2 01/0175/PA Conversion and extension of outbuilding into residential unit – Unit A Cwmwdig Farm, Abereiddy, it was RESOLVED offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

147 Accounts:

147.1 Internal Audit for April 2007 had been completed successfully.

147.2 Accounts for May 2007.

Balances as at 24/05/2007	Premier Account £46,922.66	Current Account £24,270.76
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ACCOUNTS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT (ALREADY PAID)

Jewson Ltd	188.00
Wicksteed Leisure	1010.49
HWD Shopfitters Ltd (Alcoplan)	202.81
Post Office Ltd	36.00
Deposit refund	10.00
Grandiflora	217.37
BT	426.68
Peter Lavin	316.80
Viking Direct	152.65
Allianz Cornhill	5623.61
D C Menday	1185.26
P L Evans	200.75
Mathias Hardware	47.72

ACCOUNTS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT (UNPAID)

Crucial Technology	41.99
Robert Mills – Computer service	30.00
J Phillips	92.00
P Lavin	894.75
D Menday expenses 3 months	48.48
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	278.78
Viking Direct	7.37
PCC trade waste	149.17

INCOME (01/04/07to 22/05/07)
£34,479.36
(Car Park £24,092 Hall £1,293.)

EXPENDITURE (01/04/07to 22/05/07)
£46,653.13
(Admin £3,707 Car Park £5,581 Hall £5,666)

DONATIONS FROM 01/04/06)
Dyfed Powys Police Authority
Withybush 87.7FM

250.00
50.00

147.3 Financial provisions: Whitesands Shop tenancy Bond £500: Croeswdig tenancy bond £500: Provision for grass cutting £2000 – Total £3000.

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

Mayor’s Business:

148 Community Bus - Given the removal of the bus service in St Davids it was RESOLVED to encourage efforts to run a community bus with a meeting suggested to be held with Siop y Bobol, and also to look at the logistics of running the whole operation.

149 Ysgol Dewi Sant – letter of congratulation to go to Ysgol Dewi Sant following the recent excellent Estyn inspection report

150 Staff Review 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.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed
Chairperson

Date.....

Minutes of the 'In Committee' Business of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 4 June 2007 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: MGD James as Mayor in the Chair, DJO Chant Deputy-Mayor, JW Braby, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, SJ Halse, JG Lloyd, BT Price and DC Menday (Clerk).

151 Apologies for Absence: JF Godkin (indisposed), BT Price (family commitment), RJ Thornton (training course), S Williams (work commitment) and PL Evans.

152 Staff Performance Review.

The pay review was then deferred pending the arrival of current pay scale details.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed
Chairperson

Date.....

Minutes of Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 18 June 2007 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

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

Solva Community Council – Chair Cllr J Lewis and Cllr V Norfolk
Llanrhian Community Council Chair Cllr TNS Davies and Clerk Mrs M John

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming both Councillor C T Taylor as a new member of the Council and Mr Nic Wheeler, Chief Executive of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (the Authority). Community representatives of Solva and Llanrhian Community Councils were also welcomed to the meeting.

153 Apologies for Absence: JW Braby, JF Godkin, MC Gray and S.Williams.

154 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. It was noted that several members had interests relating to matters to be discussed including B T Price, C Taylor, D Chant as Porthstinian Boatowners Association Chair, J George as a member of Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.

Mr Wheeler responded to the Mayor's welcome by emphasising that he was pleased as always to visit and to assist in addressing the concerns arising from the Authority's role particularly as the planning authority, and to see positive benefits for people in the general debate over environment versus economy. He also declared a family interest in relation to St Justinians

Discussion followed with Mr Wheeler's responses to questions summarised as:-

155 SOLAR PANELS AND PLANNING - Solva Community Council felt there were inconsistencies in the approval of plans for solar panel installations especially in the Conservation Area at a time when environmental sustainability was of concern.

N Wheeler

The Authority's main role was to take each case on its merits and it could appear that what was to some a lack of consistency was often an attempt to be flexible. He acknowledged that the Authority was endeavouring to equate traditional planning regulations with new requirements and emphasised his support of sustainability needs.

155.1 In some cases constraints will vary with each site and the current consultation on 'Guidance for Sustainable Design' was in hand. This is likely to lead to a more involved weighting system in assessing applications but the Authority does wish to present and explain these points.

155.2 It was emphasised that planning matters were part of devolved government based in Cardiff and that changes in society with the impact of global warming, and changes in building priorities, will effect how the Authority delivers.

156 PROPOSED WHITESANDS RECYCLING FACILITY at the rear of the bus turning area, a refusal of planning permission having been indicated in pre-application discussions by the Authority' officers.

N Wheeler - The two concerns were visual impact and creation of a facility that people may drive to, as this attracts other less desirable use. It was preferred that visitors and businesses are persuaded to use smaller facilities for each user rather than a public facility. They are suggesting a smaller scheme, discretely sited, primarily for the car park and café. This would mean the nearest facility is at Quickwell Hill car park.

157 ABEREIDDY CAR PARK - Llanrhian Community Council presented concerns over the condition of the car park and the safety of coast path users and were disappointed in the role of the National Park Authority in progressing an improvement to the situation that was also affected by the view of the land owners. It had been noted that the future defence may just be an incline and details are not clear

N Wheeler - The need for sea defences was the responsibility of Pembrokeshire County Council and these were only required if in the public interest. Looking ahead, will Newgale be as it is in 50 years time given the potential influence of climate change? The decisions to be made relate to these prospects and the need to ask, is it worth maintaining? A policy of managed retreat was felt to be the situation and pending the land owner's view and cost implications, a diverted route would be required for the coast path.

158 ST JUSTINIANS – PARKING, ACCESS AND EMPLOYMENT with around 50 people employed, this included young people involved with year round activity such as boat maintenance, visitor levels to this important attraction are important and remain in the order of 50, 000 on boat trips and 20,000 to Ramsey Island.

N Wheeler

- Employment – this is important for the Authority and the concern is over the effect of the visitors and all they bring with them and is seeking to change the way the area and others are used, the more remote parking and the use of buses, that have been part funded by the Authority, is seen as the way forward.
- Planning permission for seasonal parking ends in October with St.Davids parking situation being currently effected by the Gallery contract.
- Bus Option - The Authority offered substantial funding for commercial buses as opposed to public service buses and it is a pity this has not been reciprocated by the operators.

D Chant

158.1 It was noted that buses are not financially viable on this route and could not be seen as a business opportunity.

158.2 Growth of parking at The Grove - The suggestion made that generation of revenue from parking at the Grove is the approach wanted by the Authority was very strongly refuted by Mr Wheeler.

158.3 Parking in similar locations - why have other coastal car parks not been challenged in the same way eg Newgale and Caerfai? There are difficulties of scheduling of buses to meet tidal situation, the weather and the pattern of visitors and it was not realistic to attempt to resolve these matters with buses with all operators.

N Wheeler

- The point of the matter goes back to sustainability concerns and the Authority would reiterate that employment and enjoyment of the area should be continued but the servicing of the area should be remote.
- 158.4 Limiting Access - As the removal of parking will handicap access for some groups of people with limited mobility it is restricting freedom of access as well as posing difficulties for staff in the area for various operational reasons.

N Wheeler

- Authority' Members wish to see a new opportunity created and were disappointed that the boat operators had not all participated in bus trials with only one responding. The need to look at other options was restated and it is not that the Authority is looking to receive funds from parking.

158.5 Community Support - Why is the Authority not willing to compromise with the needs of community?

158.6 Chair emphasised that a lot of progress has been made over the years and there was a need to continue the dialogue with the Authority.

N Wheeler

- The Authority had no wish to upset anyone and the St Justinians Management Initiative Group needed to be rekindled, this was accepted as both sides were right but a resolution to find the middle ground was necessary with public funding support during the transition phase. The new group should engage with all who have an interest with St. Davids City Council leading the initiative with a determination to go forward.
- Future changes – new influences such as the impact of the decriminalisation of parking charges need to be fully assessed. It was appreciated that this will be difficult and examples of situations such as at the Eden Project need to be considered as examples.
- Toilets at St Justinians – The need is accepted but landscape and operational and maintenance matters have to be resolved

159 GALLERY CONTRACT

N Wheeler - The scheme is on time and on budget and will enable both more visitors to come to St Davids and stay longer as well as being a year round attraction giving a new opportunity for internationally renowned works of art to be displayed.

- 159.1 Timetable for replacement of public conveniences at the Grove – Authority will provide facilities if Pembrokeshire County Council agree to operate and maintain them and the availability of funding will not be clarified until the end of the contract. Pembrokeshire County Council commitment to maintain the conveniences awaits confirmation.

160 OTHER NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY BUSINESS

N Wheeler noted that:-

- 160.1 Glasfryn Lane – Pembrokeshire County Council study was in progress with funding assistance to be required from private sources.
160.2 Recreational management – this continued with ongoing path and stile improvements.

161 The Mayor thanked Mr Wheeler for a very useful discussion and both he and the visiting council representatives left the meeting.

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#### Matters arising since the June Monthly Meeting needing attention prior to 2 July Meeting.

##### 162 Minor works:-

- 162.1 City Hall - Rear fire door replacement to Drop In – specification was to be checked with the contractor.  
162.2 Whitesands automatic window system repairs – Clerk advised of likely costs as a result of essential repairs to enable the building to be adequately ventilated.

##### 163 Clerk's Business:

- 163.1 Neighbourhood Policing Forum meeting is on Wednesday 27 June 7pm in the City Hall.  
163.2 Awareness Day Displays especially for older residents on 26 September in the City Hall.

##### Correspondence:

- 164 Eco City Group – ‘See the Light by Switching Off’ on 21 June 2007 from 10 – 11 pm – information to raise awareness of energy consumption and the environment on the longest day was noted.  
165 PAVS ‘Building Strong Partnerships’ event at Pembrokeshire College on Tuesday 3 July 2007 was noted.

##### Planning:

##### 166 NP/07/235 Dwelling Land at Gilfach, 30 New Street

- 166.1 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's letters of 5 and 6 June 2007 reasons for support (Development Management Meeting 20.6.07).  
166.2 Mrs D Panton letter of 14 June 2007.

167 It was RESOLVED to request that the proposed building be set back from the road by around 2m to enable access to other properties at all times.

##### Any Other Business:

- 168 Christmas Tree Association – ‘Australian Christmas’ Fund raising event was to be held on 4 August – It was RESOLVED that the City Council's Christmas Tree could be used for this occasion noting that its electrical design was for indoor use.  
169 Waun Fawr – Dogs on playing field – it was RESOLVED to provide a new sign to deter improper use by dog owners.  
170 Cross Square – The laudable fund raising event for Breast Cancer in the Memorial Gardens displaying women's underwear was not felt reasonable by some with supportive views also expressed. The point of appropriate use of a war memorial was noted.  
171 Ysgol Bro Dewi Recorder Group – it was RESOLVED to send a letter of congratulation to the children and staff at the school following the success of the Recorder Group in winning at the recent Urdd National Eisteddfod.  
172 Mathry School Pilgrimage to St Davids – Deputy Mayor congratulated the schools attending this event particularly on their excellent behaviour and a letter of congratulation was agreed to be sent to the organisers.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.25pm

Signed .....

Date.....Chair