

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 in the Council Chamber 7.00pm.**

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

The Mayor welcomed Katherine Jones of PLANED who outlined the new EU initiative on the Community as the Rural Hub. The scheme involved new EU funding that was to be provided through PLANED and this time there would be involvement of both community groups and local councils. Following general questions it was noted that the next meeting for the St Davids Area would be held on 31 March 2009 in Solva Memorial Hall.

The Mayor then thanked Katherine Jones for her assistance and she left the meeting.

**615 Apologies for Absence:** S.Williams (work commitment).

**616 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.

Clerk declared an interest as a Governor of Ysgol Dewi Sant in relation to item 619.

**617 Confirmation of Minutes for:-**

617.1 The Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

617.2 The Second Council Meeting of the Month on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

617.3 'In Committee' minutes of the Second Council Meeting of the Month on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

**Matters arising from the Minutes:**

**618 RESOLVED:** That the following item be deferred to the end of the under section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information.

City Hall Phase 2 - W Spees email of 27 February 2009.

**619** Pool and Sports Hall at Ysgol Dewi Sant site.

St Davids Community Pool Group minutes of a meeting on 18 February 2009 were RESOLVED to be received.

**620** Review of St Davids Day Celebrations.

The period of celebrations had been very successful with the new events including the mini rugby challenge and the Parade of Dragons by primary schools within the peninsula adding to the established activities. It was RESOLVED to send letters of thanks to all the key event organisers as well as to the Grove Hotel for the excellent St Davids Day Dinner. The success of the Siop y Bobol 'Croeso Cymreig' and the Cymanfa Ganu in jointly raising £675 for the local Citizen's Advice Bureau was noted with much appreciation.

**621** St Justinians Future Plans - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority letter of 18 February 2009.

621.1 The further delays in establishing a meeting with the Authority were of concern and it was seen as essential that the Council continues to request a meeting with the authority together with the RNLI.

621.2 It was encouraging to receive the offer of £1000 contribution towards the provision of temporary seasonal toilet facilities and a letter of thanks together with the invoice were RESOLVED to be sent.

621.3 Hire of portable toilets for Easter - it was RESOLVED to have 2 toilets for hire over the Easter period and then remove them until Whitsun.

**622** Tidy Towns Scheme.

The recent launch of this Welsh Assembly Government funded initiative had been supported by volunteers. In addition a picnic bench with a space for a wheel chair user had been fitted in the Memorial Playing Fields by

Pembrokeshire County Council for no charge. It was noted that Ysgol Dewi Sant had been asked to assist with the litter pick but it was not possible due to St.Davids Day preparations, a future date is anticipated.

**623** Credit Union in St Davids – responses were awaited from the newsletter item.

**624** Orientation Panels.

Following receipt of costs for the provision of replacement stickers to update the map in the future it was RESOLVED to proceed with the design work only with Messrs Harlequin Ltd and also to submit a pre application plan to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority for comment.

**625** Play Area Maintenance and Repairs.

Finding someone to undertake minor maintenance and repairs was noted as ongoing.

**626** Staff Performance Review Committee meeting was RESOLVED to be held after the meeting on 16 March 2009.

**Accounts:**

**627** Internal Audit for January 2009 had been successfully completed and was RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

**628** Accounts for February 2009.

Balances: (22/02/09)	Current Account £4,994.	Premier Account £23,984.
Accounts for payment:		
Dwr Cymru	52.30	
Butherway Electrical Ltd	395.83	
Total Heating Solutions Ltd	329.27	
J Phillips	141.66	
Lower Moor Nursery	179.00	
D C Menday	59.03	
British Gas	1022.52	
PRS Ltd	164.06	
Glyn Edwards Ltd	33.48	
Pembs & Canine Press	726.80	
BT	500.74	
Mathias Mica	64.17	
Mr Flag.com	162.02	
Phoenix Press Ltd	530.00	
George Edwards & Son	57.50	
Clerk's expenses Feb	56.94	
Bookers Ltd	38.37	
John J Taylor	1215.00	
Rugby Cup	44.60	
P Lavin	278.70	
J Phillips	148.73	
Robert O Evans	8.98	
Grove Hotel	1128.60	

PERIOD 1.4.08 – 22.02.09	INCOME £	EXPENDITURE £	BALANCE for PERIOD £
TOTAL	197813	253856	-56043
Car Park	118711	56230	+62481
City Hall	17314	16281	+1033
Admin		30320	-30320

Discussion on the tabulated accounts was discussed and it was agreed that Councillor J Braby, the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer should meet to review the presentation of accounts.

Sec 137 Donations from 01/04/2008

Tall Ships 300.00

All Pembs Cruse	50.00	Pembs Special Needs Gym Club	50.00
Crossroads	50.00	British Red Cross	50.00
Army Benevolent Fund	250.00	H O P E	50.00
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	25.00	Royal British Legion	50.00
Shelter Cymru	50.00	St Non's Bro Cerwyn Centre	50.00
948 Squadron ATC	25.00	Macmillan Cancer Relief	103.00
Celtic Coaster	1000.00	PVT	5.00

Sec 214 Donations from 01/04/2008

Caerfarchell Chapel	100.00
Tretio Chapel	100.00
Berea Chapel	100.00
St Davids Cathedral re Cemetery	4500.00

- 628.1 Gas supplier assessment would be presented next month.  
628.2 Permission to pay the accounts was RESOLVED to be granted.

**629** Donation Requests Under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:-

- 629.1 RNIB Cymru letter of 4 February 2009 was RESOLVED to be received.  
629.2 It was RESOLVED that donations be considered at the meeting of Councillor J Braby, the Responsible Financial Officer and the Clerk and that the following items be deferred:-  
629.2.1 87.7Fm Radio Withybush letter of 10 February 2009 it was RESOLVED to donate £50 in 2008.  
629.2.2 Cruse Bereavement Care letter of 14 February 2009 (£50 in 2008).

**Correspondence****630** Welsh Assembly Government correspondence:-

- 630.1 Borrowing by Community and Town Councils in 2009-2010 - letter of 30 January 2009, was RESOLVED to be received.  
630.2 Appropriate Sum under Section 137(3) of Local Government Act 1972 letter of 30 January 2009 – Note that the maximum sum allowed under discretionary expenditure had increased by 5% to £6.15 per elector (was £5.86) was RESOLVED to be received.  
630.3 The Local Government Partnership Scheme Annual Report 2007- 8 was RESOLVED to be received.

**631** Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 2 February 2009 - North Area Liaison Meeting is on 24 March in Mathry Hall at 7pm – it was RESOLVED that Councillor A Foster and M Gray would attend.

**632** Pembrokeshire County Council copy of letter of 3 February 2009 to Cllr WR Griffiths following a consultative meeting on the future of Primary Schools was RESOLVED to be received.

**633** BDO Stoy Hayward LLP letter of 6 February 2009 - Local Council Briefing Spring 2009, was RESOLVED to be received.

**634** Pembrokeshire County Council European Affairs Team poster for a workshop on EU Citizen Programme 2007-2013 for Welsh Communities 18 March 2009 in Llandrindod Wells was RESOLVED to be received.

**635** Shelter Cymru letter of 27 January 2009 and notification of availability of information pack, was RESOLVED to be received with the Clerk being able to assist anyone needing to contact Shelter Cymru for the information.

**636** Podiatry and Related Services

The service is now in Fishguard having been removed from St.Davids in 2007 with concerted effort having been made by the various elderly services groups to retain a local service. The matter has re-emerged with Councillor G James outlining the current situation that was agreed to be investigated further with the relevant authorities.

**637** Dolen Cymru letter received 23 February 2009 and information on display, was RESOLVED to be received.

- 638** Mrs D Panton letter of 19 February 2009 regarding Gallery Stakeholders and the original working group. It was RESOLVED to confirm that the group continues to represent the City Council with Cllr S Williams as its representative.
- 639** Her Majesty's Court Service poster for Court Open Day on Wednesday 25 March 2009; 10am 4pm at Haverfordwest Magistrates Court was RESOLVED to be received.
- 640** Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority email of 16 February 2009 - Risk Reduction /Corporate Plan 2010-2015, with website links for comments was RESOLVED to be received. It was noted that access to the Cathedral remained a serious challenge as large fire appliances, particularly those attending from outside of St Davids, cannot reach the Cathedral. This was an ongoing concern that had been previously expressed by Councillor M Gray and it would be reiterated in any future public meeting.
- 641** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority - the following documents were noted and deferred for consideration at the next meeting:-
- 641.1 Letter of 23 February 2009 - Local Deposit Plan Consultation that closes 22.4.09, documents received included the Deposit Plan of January 2009, Appendices, Diagrams and Proposals Maps and Initial Consultation Report.
  - 641.2 Letter of 25 February 2009 - Supplementary Planning Guidance – Landscape Character Assessment, was RESOLVED to be received.
- 642** Lyndon Lomax email 23 February 2009 – Scallop Dredging in West Wales.  
This was of real concern with Councillor M Gray noting the considerable number of dredgers using Fishguard harbour in recent weeks. The effect of this method of fishing was that the sea bed is decimated, effecting local fishermen and the coastal economy for many years. It was RESOLVED to write to the Minister for Rural Affairs, the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing at the Welsh Assembly Government as well as Paul Davies AM expressing serious concern about the impact of scallop dredging on the Welsh coastal waters.
- 643** Tidal Energy Ltd, Public Exhibition on proposed tidal generation scheme in Ramsey Sound was noted as being on 13 - 14 March 2009 in the City Hall.
- 644** National Assembly for Wales - Consultation poster on views regarding law making in relation to the Welsh Language was RESOLVED to be received.
- 645** Pembrokeshire Community Health Council letter of 27 February 2009 – NHS Consultation on the Future of Community Health Councils was RESOLVED to be received with further information awaited as Councillor G James was investigating the situation.
- 646** Brochures, Courses and Newsletters etc – the following items were RESOLVED to be received:-
- 646.1 North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum – Briefing January 2009 and invitation to the Pembrokeshire Federation.
  - 646.2 The Voice – Newsletter of the British Cleaning Council.
  - 646.3 Park Post, February 2009.
  - 646.4 North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum – March Briefing paper and notice of AGM was noted with Councillor C Taylor due to attend.
- 647 Reports from Members representing the Council on Local Groups and Events:-**
- 647.1 Bws y Bobol – driver training was continuing with no new information was available.
  - 647.2 PALC - no new information was available.
  - 647.3 St.Davids Christmas Tree Association – next meeting on 25 March 2009 in the Old Cross Hotel.
  - 647.4 St.Davids Day Celebration Group – More people as volunteers and development of the group was necessary.
  - 647.5 St Davids Eco City Group – Councillor R Thornton would report on progress at the next meeting.
    - 647.5.1 Councillor J Lloyd noted that the group's bags were expensive at £3, compared with similar products
  - 647.6 St.Davids Peninsula Association for the Care of the Elderly and Disabled – no new information was available.
  - 647.7 St.Davids Peninsula Tourist Association – not further information available.

- 647.8 St.Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link Group – Councillor C Taylor reported that efforts to improve communication were continuing.
- 647.9 Youth Drop In – no further information available.

**648 Councillor’s Report**

Councillor J George had already commented on various matters and there was no further report.

**Clerk’s Business:**

- 649 St Davids Cathedral Festival preliminary notice of sponsored tickets was presented for the Concert on 26 May 2009.
- 650 The Really Wild Dining Club, 26 March 2009 Morgans’ Restaurant at 7.30pm was noted with cost to be requested.
- 651 Whitesands access – land ownership matters were being investigated.

**Planning:**

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority letters were presented regarding the following:-

- 652 Appeal A/ENF/08/11 - notification of appeal regarding application for Porthclais Farm was RESOLVED to be received. The old stone buildings had been replaced with blockwork modern designs and it was RESOLVED to very strongly support Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority in its response.
- 653 Appeal A07/484 - letter of 16 February 2009 and the Planning Inspector’s decision to dismiss the appeal regarding Higney at Rhodiad – this was RESOLVED to be received.

**New Applications**

- 654 NP/09/078 Conversion of existing barn to ancillary accommodation for existing holiday cottages at Tŷ Uchaf, Treleddydd Fawr - it was RESOLVED to offer Council Support.
- 655 NP/09/080 Variation of condition 2 to allow amendments to the approved design NP/07/364 at Porthclais - it was RESOLVED to support the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority’s original condition 2 to implement the plan.
- 656 NP/09/088 Dwelling at land adjoining Marychurch, it was RESOLVED to offer Council Support.
- 657 NP/09/092 Conversion of outbuilding to holiday accommodation at Treiago Farm, St Davids, it was RESOLVED to offer Council Support.
- 658 NP/09/082 Alterations to garage at 37 New Street, it was RESOLVED to offer Council Support.

**Mayor’s Business**

- 659 Mayor’s Charity Ball  
The Mayor reported on good progress with both bookings and the arrangements for the event.
- 660 Thanks were offered to the Deputy-Mayor and Clerk for the cover they provided during the Mayor’s recent holiday.
- 661 Long Service Certificates for 25 years.  
Councillor M Gray offered thanks for his recent award together with Councillor J George. There followed a heated exchange regarding the provision of awards with Councillor B Price leaving the meeting, followed a little later by Councillor M Gray. The matter remained unresolved at the close of the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed .....  
Chair

Date.....

**'In Committee' Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 in the Council Chamber 7.00pm.**

**Present:** DJO Chant Mayor, SJ Halse Deputy-Mayor, JW Braby, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, MGD James, JG Lloyd, BT Price, CT Taylor, RJ Thornton with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

**662 Apologies for Absence:** S.Williams (work commitment).

**663 Business:**

RESOLVED: That under section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information.

City Hall Phase 2. W Spees email of 27 February 2009.

It was RESOLVED to ask Mr W Spees if he could attend the 6 April 2009 full council meeting to discuss further refinements to the building design.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed .....  
Chair

Date.....

**Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 16 March 2009 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** DJO Chant Mayor, SJ Halse Deputy-Mayor, JW Braby, DJH George, MGD James with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

The Mayor welcomed National Assembly Member Paul Davies AM, the Shadow Minister for Education to the meeting and a wide ranging discussion followed.

- Regarding the current consultation on the future of Community Health Councils he was strongly in favour of retaining the existing Pembrokeshire boundary and not risk the dilution of its role by incorporation with other areas.
- Affordable housing provision and how the views of the community can be emphasised in relation to the Local Development Plan was noted with the definition of what is affordable, especially in St.Davids, being difficult. As with other places young people have to move away to obtain housing. Mr Davies said there was no easy answer to this and he understood that more investment on a home buy scheme was being reconsidered by the Welsh Assembly Government but the present economic position was not assisting the situation. Some political work was required regarding housing in respect of powers available in Cardiff and Westminster and there was also a need for greater flexibility with planning.
- The loss of podiatry and related services and the difficulties of older residents travelling to obtain such services – P Davies had met with those concerned and was seeking to have the services reinstated.
- Ysgol Dewi Sant and the impact of the 14-19 Learning Pathways entitlement at the school. P Davies noted his recent appointment as shadow Education Secretary. With the substantial debate on 6<sup>th</sup> forms, he is keen to protect 6<sup>th</sup> forms in schools but the Welsh Assembly Government was not committing on this and a 7.43% reduction in 6<sup>th</sup> form funding was currently being presented although the overall education budget has increased by 5.5%. He was looking into the situation as Ysgol Dewi Sant that seems to be being penalised for its good results. He was completely behind continuing the school in its present format.
- Regarding the Community Pool comment was made that Pembrokeshire County Council's response to initial discussions was totally dismissive of local needs.

This raised the more general point of the lack of consideration of local points of view during consultation processes, something that was accepted by Mr Davies as it was felt that decisions are made without use of community responses. It was emphasised that this point also reflects the potential loss of quality of life by the centralising of resources in bigger towns.

Paul Davies noted that he had met with the Chief Executive and Directors of Pembrokeshire County Council recently and the point regarding lack of either consultation or the use of consultation responses was made, he had also received similar concerns during a meeting with Fishguard and Goodwick Town Council recently.

- The quality of tourism promotion in Wales was noted as having reduced since it was taken over by the Welsh Assembly Government in 2006 and it seems far behind the equivalent English and Scottish operations. P Davies had received a number of similar comments also noting that budgets are being affected in this crucial area.

Mr Davies was then thanked by the Mayor for providing the opportunity to discuss these matters and he then left the meeting.

**664 Apologies for Absence:**

MC Gray (work commitment), JG Lloyd (indisposed), BT Price (indisposed), C Taylor (holiday), R Thornton (family commitment), S Williams (work commitment).

**665 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.

Clerk declared his interest as a governor of Ysgol Dewi Sant in relation to item 666.

**Matters arising from the 2 March 2009 meeting:**

**666** Pool and Sport Facilities at Ysgol Dewi Sant.

Clerk reported that the outcome of discussions between the Community Pool Group and Pembrokeshire County Council on the business plan was awaited.

**667** City Hall Phase 2

It was RESOLVED to present the outline design situation to the caretaker prior to further design meetings.

**668** Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority:-

Letter of 23 February 2009 - Local Deposit Plan consultation that closes 22.4.09 - documents received included the Deposit Plan of January 2009 with Appendices, Diagrams and Proposals Maps and Initial Consultation Report. As extensive responses had been made to the Pre-Deposit Plan and while many were not accepted the information was RESOLVED to be received.

**669** Youth Drop In – Recent reports of nuisance had been discussed with the police representative and it was anticipated that new rules to ensure that young people attending the Drop In would sign in on arrival and should they wish to leave would not be allowed to re-enter.

**670** PLANED EU & Welsh Assembly Government Rural Development Plan – Communities as the Hub of Rural Life.

Meeting on Tuesday 31 March 2009 in Solva Memorial Hall at 7pm. Councillors J Braby and G James were planning to attend.

**Correspondence**

**671** Councillor Aloma Foster - Letter of 9 March 2009 presenting her resignation as a City Councillor. It was RESOLVED to:-

671.1 Send a letter of thanks to Mrs Foster for her work as a councillor over the last few years.

671.2 Clerk was instructed to initiate the notification process for a casual vacancy to Pembrokeshire County Council.

**672** Pembrokeshire Tourism 'Promoting Pembrokeshire' Event Wednesday 25 March 2009 at Bluestone was RESOLVED to be received.

**673** Invitation from Pembrokeshire Advance received on 13 March 2009 to the launch of Axis 3 Rural Development Plan at Nant y Ffin Hotel, Llandissilio on Wednesday 25 March 2009 was RESOLVED to be received.

**674** Gill Lewis, St Davids Allotment Group email of 13 March 2009 (and A Dixon email 16.3.09) – request regarding possible renting of 7.5 acres of land next to Penrhiw for use as allotments. The Clerk contacted Cooke and Arkwright the estate agents on 13 March 2009 and they subsequently advised that the landowner was not interested in the land being used as allotments.

**Clerk's Business**

**675** Tidy Towns Scheme – Clerk reported that financial assistance with the refurbishment of benches and the provision of new steps in the Memorial Playing Fields was anticipated from the Tidy Towns initiative.

**676** Anti Social Behaviour – Several recent incidents were noted and the police had been advised:-

676.1 Incidents of damage to toilets and broken glass at Whitesands (evening of 6 March 2009)

676.2 Ongoing broken glass in the play area.

676.3 Cars in Nun Street having wipers damaged.

676.4 St Michael's Church - children starting fires recently.

**677** Whitesands Shower – it was noted that a shower had been fitted outside the public conveniences which was not in the preferred location as a beach side facility. Councillor John George was to investigate.

**678** Naas Easter Rugby Tour in St.Davids – Clerk reported on information received from Mr Gerald Miles who anticipated that 48 children and 32 adults will be visiting St Davids as part of the traditional Easter weekend activities. It was

RESOLVED to continue to support the efforts of the Rugby Club with a contribution of £100 towards the costs of catering at the Welcome reception.

**Any Other Business:**

**679** Staff Performance Review Meeting

The Review meeting was due to follow this second meeting of the month and while it was quorate it was RESOLVED that in the absence of Councillors B Price and S Williams that Councillor G James would attend.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed .....  
Chair

Date.....