

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 6th July 2020 in the City Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor BS Sehmi, Deputy Mayor AC York, MJ Chant, ES Evans, DJ Griffiths, DB Halse, FD John, JG Lloyd, BT Price, RT Thornton, S Williams, with W Mann (Acting Deputy Clerk) and PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer).

Also present was County Councillor DB Lloyd.

10 Apologies for Absence: DJH George

11 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.

12 Confirmation of Minutes

12.1 The Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 24th June 2020 were RESOLVED to be approved.

Matters Arising

13 ST DAVIDS LIBRARY Library Contribution to Pembrokeshire County Council. RFO reported that he is to have a discussion with PCC with regard to the 2019/20 charges and also with regard to the scheduled reopening of the library post coronavirus lockdown. The meeting agreed to defer further discussion until the RFO report on this meeting.

14 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD Meeting agreed that Wicksteeds should be pressed to complete the outstanding works before the account is settled.

15 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Meeting agreed that the arrangements with Total Tech should be finalised in readiness for 11th July when charging recommences at Whitesands Car Park.

16 CITY HALL Meeting acknowledged that despite any easing of the coronavirus lockdown it was prudent to anticipate that hall bookings will remain low in the foreseeable future.

17 MARKET Meeting expressed some relief that the Thursday market was now able to recommence as from 9th July.

18 ST JUSTINIANS Two toilets will be in place by Abba Loos for the 13th July.

Accounts

19 The Responsible Finance Officer reported that the Internal Audits for May 2020 had been completed satisfactorily.

20 The accounts for June 2020 were RESOLVED to be approved and permission to pay granted.

Correspondence:

21 County Councillor asked whether an email from Becky Lloyd with regard to a volunteer beach-cleaning exercise. It was explained that at the time of preparing the Agenda this email had not been received. The meeting was assured that the email would be acknowledged.

22 Reports from Members representing the Council:-

- 22.1 St Davids Christmas Tree Association. None.
- 22.2 St Davids Celebration Group. None.
- 22.3 St Davids Day Centre for the Elderly. Cllrs Price and Williams reported that take-away fish and chips had been bought and distributed to 20 members.
- 22.4 St Davids Peninsula Tourist Association. Cllr Thornton reported – active discussions continuing – noting to report.
- 22.5 Porthclais Harbour Authority. None.
- 22.6 St Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link. None.
- 22.7 Youth Drop in. None.
- 22.8 Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi Governor. Cllr Halse reported that Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi staff and Head have been outstanding in their approach and contact with pupils and staff throughout the lockdown. The school continues to be successful with parental interest stretching throughout and beyond its catchment area. This year the school has been mentioned favourably on two occasions in The Times Education Supplement.
- 22.9 St Davids Community Forum. None.
- 22.10 Porthstinian Boat Owners Association. None.
- 22.11 Porthmawr Surf Life Saving Association. Cllr York reported that the club cannot operate actively during the coronavirus crisis but continues to operate albeit in an “observer” capacity.
- 22.12 Bws y Bobol. None.
- 22.13 Music and Arts Festival. None.
- 22.14 Rediscovering Ancient Connections. Cllr Chant expressed some concern over the focus of activities in view of the council’s contribution. County Cllr Lloyd suggested that an update of all activities to date be circulated to councillors.
- 22.15 Coffee and Chat. None.
- 22.16 One Voice Wales. None.

23 County Councillors Report

Nothing specific to report – other than that he wished the meeting to note the tremendous work done by county council officers and staff in administering the various support lockdown schemes and grants to a highly efficient standard. He also wished to acknowledge the outstanding re-instatement of the St Davids re-cycling centre which has not always been achieved elsewhere in the county or beyond.

Planning:

24 NP/20/0240 NMA Premier Inn Site, Glasfryn Road, SA62 6QF. Non-material amendments to front fenestration. The meeting acknowledged that this had been approved by the development control committee.

Any Other Business

- 25** Cllr Sehmi asked the meeting to acknowledge the work by Paul Evans the Responsible Finance Officer during the furloughed absence of the Clerk and Acting Deputy Clerk. The meeting wholeheartedly endorsed this.
- 26** Cllr Evans drew the meetings attention to the requirement of furloughed staff to take some of their leave allocation during the furlough period which was duly noted.
- 27** Cllr York asked the meeting to acknowledge the superb contribution made by local citizens in coping with the crisis during the lockdown which was duly noted and acknowledged.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed

Date

Chair

Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of the City Council on Thursday 16th July 2020 in the City Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor Bira Sehmi, Deputy Mayor AC York, DJ Griffiths, JG Lloyd, BT Price, S Williams, CC DB Lloyd, and PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer).

Also present was Mr Steve Bengier from Pembrokeshire County Council Highways Department.

28 Apologies for Absence: DJH George, DB Halse and W Mann (Acting Deputy Clerk).

29 Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to identify any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to agenda items.

Matters Arising

30 TRAFFIC MATTERS – One way system

The Mayor thanked those present for attending at short notice and introduced Mr Steve Bengier from Highways Department, Pembrokeshire County Council.

Mr Bengier outlined the proposal which was meant to improve pedestrian space in the City Centre, and to enable social distancing to take place as tourists and holidaymakers return, by introducing a one way road system, and had been devised by Highways Dept.

The intention was/is to make High Street one way from Oriol y Parc to Cross Square to create a wider footway down the length of the street. (Please see draft plan attached).

It is intended to introduce the scheme soon, certainly during this current holiday season. The scheme would be seasonal and if successful would be used each summer season. A similar scheme had recently been introduced in Cardigan and was being looked at for other places in Pembrokeshire as well.

Following the outline of the scheme a wide ranging discussion took place with Councillors local knowledge being used to qualify and amend differing aspects of the suggested scheme including the need for a 20mph speed limit in the City.

Mr Bengier took all these comments on board and promised to urgently review the scheme and bring back amendments for the Council to consider, as soon as possible.

The Mayor thanked Mr Bengier and the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chair

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 20th July 2020 in the City Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor BS Sehmi, Deputy Mayor AC York, MJ Chant, DB Halse, FD John, JG Lloyd, RT Thornton, S Williams, with W Mann (Acting Deputy Clerk) and PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer).

31 Apologies for Absence: DJH George, ES Evans, DJ Griffiths, BT Price.

32 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.

Matters Arising

33 ST DAVIDS LIBRARY Library Contribution to Pembrokeshire County Council. Meeting on 17th July Report by RFO. PCC is discontinuing the staffing of the library post “lockdown” because of lack of social-distancing capability and the only options for users in the foreseeable future will be to source books on-line “click & collect” or to travel to Fishguard or Haverfordwest libraries. The PCC mobile library service is also being reduced and will not cover St Davids in the future. The meeting RESOLVED to notify PCC of the intention to not renew the contract for 2020/2021 and to seek out alternative uses for the library room until an opportunity to resume normal library service can be considered. Full report from RFO below.

34 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD Wicksteeds have now completed the outstanding works and the playground has been opened up for use following Welsh Government restrictions lifting. The account will now be settled.

35 WHITESANDS CAR PARK The card reader will be in operation from Thursday 23rd July - RFO reported that already the car park is generating an almost normal level of weekly income.

36 MARKET Meeting expressed some relief that the Thursday market was now returning to normal levels of trading.

37 ST JUSTINIANS The toilets are now fully operational.

38 PROPOSED TEMPORARY ONE-WAY SYSTEM

38.1 An Emergency Meeting was called on July 17th to discuss the plan and in principle the plan has been accepted. This meeting RESOLVED to formally advise PCC that the introduction of the plan has been accepted up to a review date of 31st August 2020

39 PENINSULAR BEACH STEWARD PROJECT

39.1 The meeting acknowledged the good work that would be done by the project and RESOLVED to issue two free passes to the organisation to use Whitesands car park.

40 RISK ASSESSMENT The acting Deputy Clerk confirmed that the following working practices had been updated in accordance with the recent Government guidelines relating to Covid 19.

40.1 Staff Working During Pandemic – Risk Assessment.

40.2 Work-place Safety Risk Assessment

41 Update on Financial Position:

41.1 The RFO reported that in view of the unusual and uncertain circumstances of lockdown and the August break that councillors would wish to be reassured that as long as revenue continues to be generated – albeit possibly at a lower level than normal – all financial commitments for the year will be met. RFO advised that a full report would be prepared for the first meeting after the August break

Any Other Business

42 RFO requested clarification of the council position with to requests for part-refunds of the Whitesands Car Park Season Tickets during “lockdown”. The meeting agreed that it was not council policy to offer refunds in these circumstances where the season ticket was already a concession.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed

Date

Chair