

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 10th June 2024 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor Cllr BS Sehmi, Deputy Mayor Cllr DJ Griffiths, Cllr W Chant (left the meeting 8.30pm), Cllr ES Evans, Cllr JT Jeremy, Cllr FD John, Cllr B Lloyd, Cllr BT Price, Cllr RJ Thornton, with S Mann (Clerk).

14 Apologies for Absence. Members were requested to directly inform the Clerk of any absences, in order to formally register their apologies and keep an accurate record of attendance.

- a. Apologies received for approval: Cllr R Price, & Cllr S Williams.
- b. Absent without apology: None.

15 Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to declare both pecuniary interests (financial interests) and non-pecuniary interests (personal or prejudicial interests) that could influence their decision-making in relation to items on the agenda. This declaration ensures that other councillors and the public are aware of potential conflicts.

Cllr B Lloyd declared a personal interest in item 18 d.

16 Confirmation of Minutes for:

- a. Annual Meeting of the Council on Monday 13th May 2024 were RESOLVED to be approved subject to the amendment of item 15, to include full details of *the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.*
- b. Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 13th May 2024 were RESOLVED to be approved.

17 Public Representations from members of the public in attendance about any business to be discussed: None.

18 Matters Arising

- a. **St Davids Surgery.** The Surgery's future is under review after the GP's contract resignation. Public input is sought by Hywel Dda UHB. Care continues until October,

with patients advised to stay registered. Patients have been invited to contribute their views via various methods including a Public Engagement Drop-in event on Friday, 14th June, 2pm – 7pm St David’s City Hall or via email 13th - 19th June 2024. The meeting acknowledged the impressive attendance at the recent Community Meeting in the City Hall on Monday 3rd June, which resulted in the establishment of the Save St Davids Surgery Campaign. The City Council deliberated a motion to back the Save The St Davids Surgery Campaign, thereby affirming St Davids City Council’s commitment to active participation and emphasising the need for prompt research and decisive action.

- i. **Motion for approval.** To support the Save The St Davids Surgery Campaign to formally establish St Davids City Council’s commitment to facilitating active participation, and to emphasise the urgency of research and decisive action. This motion, initially scheduled for the Monday 3rd June meeting, was formally recognised and unanimously RESOLVED to be approved by the meeting.
- b. **Porthmawr Surf Life Saving Club.** Update with regard to the Club’s planning application to site the storage container that houses the Rescue Water Craft used for preventative launches in the overspill carpark at Whitesands. The PCNPA had advised that the application will be denied. Following the advice that the application will be rejected, the meeting noted that a subsequent meeting had occurred between the RNLI and PCNPA, attended by Mayor Councillor BS Sehmi, County Councillor BT Price, and the Clerk. The outcome of this meeting confirmed that the application would be approved on a two-year temporary basis.
- c. **Pembrokeshire Community Bathing Water Project – Porthclais.** The Pollution Control Inspector from Pembrokeshire County Council had provided an evaluation of the current situation regarding the process to designate Porthclais Harbour as a bathing

water site. The meeting RESOLVED to support a motion to apply for Porthclais to be registered as a designated bathing water site for annual testing by Natural Resources Wales. The Clerk agreed to reach out to the users of the site and facilitate the process.

- d. **Bryn Teg Playing Area.** Quotation received for the replacement goalpost. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the quote received from Infinity Play at a cost of £1,693.22. The meeting further RESOLVED to instruct the Clerk to enquire with PCC about the £2000 Section 106 funds already allocated for the Memorial Playing Field and request whether this can be transferred to the Bryn Teg Play Area to cover the cost of the goalpost.

19 Correspondence

- a. **Pembrokeshire People First.** Organisation dedicated to assisting young adults with learning difficulties. The charity supports 458 members and their families across Pembrokeshire, including 17 from the St David's City Council area. In light of the substantial increase in service expenses over the last two years, the charity is seeking financial support to maintain its aid to members amidst the persistent cost-of-living crisis. The meeting RESOLVED to approve a donation of £200 in support of the organisation.
- b. **St Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link.** Proposal to display the Lesotho flag throughout the period of June 29th to July 5th while the students from Lesotho are visiting St Davids. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the proposal.
- c. **Round Ramsey Rowing Race 2024.** Request from Solva Rowing Club to permit competitors to park free of charge at Whitesands beach as in previous years, on Saturday 6th July 2024. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the request.
- d. **Tourist Directional Signs.** Notification received from PCC with regard to an application for the provision of tourist directional signs for Crug Glas Country House, nr St Davids. The meeting RESOLVED to support the proposal.

20 Mayor's Civic Service & Reception

- a. **Civic Service.** Date and venue for Civic Service to be confirmed. The meeting noted the date of the Civic Service scheduled for Sunday, September 22nd.
- b. **Civic Reception.**
 - i. Venue for Civic Reception to be confirmed. The meeting noted that the venue for the Civic Reception was yet to be confirmed.
 - ii. Approval of catering budget (the catering budget for 2023 was RESOLVED to be increased in line with the inflation rate and raised up to £2700 - Minutes July 17th 2023 reference 53.2). The meeting RESOLVED to maintain the same catering budget as for 2023.

Councillor JT Jeremy requested that his decision to vote against the entire item, *Mayor's Civic Service & Reception*, be recorded.

21 Appointment of Members to Existing Committees

- a. **Staffing Committee:** - deferred from May 13th Meeting & Staffing Committee recommendation to be formally approved. The meeting RESOLVED to formally approve the Staffing Committee membership recommendation.

22 Staff Matters. Clerk Training - Staffing Committee recommendation to propose that the Clerk's request to work from home on Fridays be formally approved. The meeting RESOLVED to formally approve the Staffing Committee membership recommendation and for the Learning Agreement document provided by One Voice Wales to be reviewed by the Clerk & Staffing Committee in order for this to be signed by the Clerk.

23 Accounts

- a. **Internal Audit for March 2024** – deferred from May 13th Meeting. Internal Audit for March 2024 was RESOLVED to have been completed successfully.
- b. **Internal Audit for April 2024.** Internal Audit for April 2024 was RESOLVED to have been completed successfully.

- c. **Financial Statements for May 2024.** The accounts for May 2024 were presented to the meeting and it was RESOLVED that these statements are approved.

Financial Report			May-24	
Balance @ Bank on	27-May-24			£138,847.05
LGA 1972 SEC 137 24/25 £16939		£16,939.00	LGA 1972 Sec 214 Cemetery Maintenance	
Last 24 Month's donations		£2,520.00	Total donated 23/24	£0.00
2024 / 2025	Total	£2,520.00		
Balance available		£14,419.00		
Income				
City Hall				£280
Whitesands (<i>Includes Café Rent (£2100)</i>)				£17,737
Market				£687
St Justinians				£857
Finance				£0
Street furniture (<i>Insurance Claim</i>)				£3,895
TOTAL				£23,456
Expenditure				
			£100+ Items	
City Hall (ex Hall Manager Salary)		£1,691		£1,266
Whitesands		£3,109		£3,049
Office & Administration		£627		£228
Admin Staff Costs (Inc Hall Manager)		£7,256		£7,256
Street Furniture		£0		
Play Area		£1,649		£1,649
Events		£0		
Finance (<i>£137 donation</i>)		£2,520		£2,520
Market		£485		£485
St Justinians		£600		£600
TOTAL		£17,937		£17,053
Addendum of Items of £100 plus Value is Attached				

24 County Councillors Report

County Councillor Bethan Price informed the meeting of recent and ongoing matters including residents' concerns with regard to reports of antisocial behaviour at Bryn Teg, St Davids. Cllr Price gave a summary of a community meeting that was attended by Dyfed Powys Police. The meeting was about the increasing reports of a community member's intimidating actions. Despite continuous complaints from local residents about this individual's antisocial behaviour, no enforcement action has been taken yet.

Cllr Price confirmed that the imminent threat of closure of St Davids Recycling Centre that had been suspended in recent months and the further consultation on the future of the facility had been put on hold until after the General Election in July, and will recommence in September.

Cllr Price also expressed concerns as reported from members of the community with regard to the recent weed-spraying by PCC at locations in and around St Davids. The meeting agreed with Cllr Price that this was unfortunate, especially, owing to the timing of these scenes occurring during the Great Big Green Week.

25 Reports from Committees

- a. Caretaker House Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.
- b. City Hall Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.
- c. Community Engagement Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed. The next school session will take place on 20th June from 2pm at Dewi Campus. Councillor BT Price was RESOLVED to be approved as a committee member.
- d. Finance Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.
- e. General Purposes Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.
- f. Grants Development Committee: The initial meeting is yet to be confirmed. The agenda will include a Program of Engagement to identify community needs.

- g. Market Committee: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed. The agenda will include the Stall Holder Allocation Policy.
- h. Scout Hut Committee: The next meeting is yet to be confirmed but is expected to be in early July.
- i. Staffing Committee: Staff Annual Appraisals will be conducted at the end of June.

26 Reports from Members representing the Council

- a. Coffee and Chat: Things are progressing well and it's a busy period.
- b. EcoDewi / Bee Friendly: The Big Green Week is currently underway.
- c. One Voice Wales: A recent meeting was held on 25th May, focusing on the Cost of Living Crisis and identifying community needs.
- d. Oriol Y Parc: Nothing to report.
- e. Pembrokeshire Peninsular Stakeholder Group: The next meeting is scheduled for 16th June.
- f. Police Surgery: The recent session had a very high turnout. The next session will be on Thursday 27th June due to the July General Election.
- g. Porthclais Harbour Authority: The sauna is currently situated at Porthclais.
- h. Porthstinian Boat Owners Association: Arrangements for 2024 are in place.
- i. Porthmawr Surf Life Saving Club: The recent Nippers event was a great success.
- j. St Davids Befrienders: Grant funding is being utilised for a volunteering event in August.
- k. St Davids Christmas Tree Association: Nothing to report.
- l. St Davids Day Celebrations Group: The date of the next meeting is yet to be confirmed.
- m. St Davids Day Centre for the Elderly: The recent outing was a successful and enjoyable event.
- n. St Davids Festivals: The recent Seaweed Festival attracted people from all over the world to St Davids.

- o. St Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link: Students will be visiting in July.
- p. St Davids Peninsula Tourist and Traders Association: A meeting was held recently on April 8th. The Sand Church Competition will take place on 19th August.
- q. St Davids RFC: Marshalled the recent Triathlon Challenge Wales, raising £400 in funds for the RFC. The RFC expressed gratitude for the Floodlight Appeal contribution.
- r. Youth Drop In: Very busy period with high attendance.
- s. Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi Governor: Progress is being made. The next meeting is on 18th June.

Any Other Business

Items for information only:

Clerk: Casual Vacancy. The meeting acknowledged that Councillor Neil Walsh resigned as Councillor effective from 6th June 2024. The Clerk confirmed that the PCC Electoral Services will be notified and the casual vacancy will be advertised as soon as practicable after the vacancy occurs.

Cllrs DJ Griffith / BT Price: The funeral of the late Former City Councillor, Jeffrey Thompson, is scheduled to take place in St Davids on Tuesday 18th June.

Cllr ES Evans: Expressed gratitude to Mayor Councillor BS Sehmi for conducting the Light the Lamp D-Day service at the Cross Square on Thursday 6th June.

Cllr FD John: The Memorial Playing Field is being locked each night to prevent recent antisocial behaviour.

Cllr BS Sehmi: An updated Caretaker House Brief needs to be forwarded to architects – The Clerk confirmed that the architects involved with the project have expressed their interest in resuming the project.

Items for the next agenda: None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed

Date

Chair