

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 8th April 2024 in the Memorial Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Mayor Cllr ES Evans, Deputy Mayor Cllr BS Sehmi, Cllr W Chant, Cllr DJ Griffiths, Cllr JT Jeremy, Cllr FD John, Cllr B Lloyd, Cllr RJ Thornton, with S Mann (Clerk), JE Foster (Deputy Clerk) and W Mann (Responsible Finance Officer).

230 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs BT Price, S Williams, & N Walsh.

231 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 W Chant declared a personal interest in item 241.

232 Confirmation of Minutes for:

232.1 Second Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 18th March 2024 were RESOLVED to be approved.

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

234 Matters Arising

234.1 Bryn Road Toilets. Update with regard to the Asset Transfer – further to item 213.5. The meeting acknowledged the progress report and noted the list of necessary remedial tasks agreed by PCC following a site visit on 5th March, to be addressed before the handover, scheduled 8th April 2024.

234.2 Bryn Teg Playing Field. Goalpost remedial work. The meeting RESOLVED to instruct the Clerk to obtain quotations for the required work to secure the structure, preventing it from being displaced and averting any additional harm to the goalpost.

234.3 New Year's Eve Street Party. Update with regard to the St Davids Penknife Club proposal of hosting a Musical Festival on New Year's Eve 2024 at Cross Square – further to item 228.1. The meeting acknowledged the progress report presented by the Clerk and the support given to the Penknife Club at this initial phase of their event planning.

234.4 St Davids City Bee Friendly Group. Update with regard to the relaunch of the Pollinator Trail, Bee Friendly Signs, and the development of the Wildflower Meadow Area – further to item 223.4. The meeting noted the update and RESOLVED to follow the recommendations put forward by the Bee Friendly Group. It was also acknowledged that the plans for Cross Square would incorporate a solitary planter filled with Wildflowers, thereby enhancing the Bee Friendly City Status, with support from Cllr FD John and St Davids Menevia WI.

234.5 Open Gardens & Great Big Green Week Market. Update with regard to the request for free access to the Council's Market Stalls and the use of City Hall as an alternative indoor location in case of wet weather – further to item 223.2. The meeting RESOLVED to support the event by offering the City Hall as a contingency plan for inclement weather, free of cost. Nonetheless, it was also decided in the meeting that the event organisers should liaise with the Market Manager and bear the expenses of hiring, setting up, and dismantling the stalls. This is due to the changes in the 2024 season, where the market stalls are no longer stored near the Cross Square market location. Consequently, the new storage arrangement and its related costs will need to be factored in and borne by the event organiser.

234.6 Festival of Seaweed. Update with regard to the request for complimentary access to the City Hall as a venue for holding the St Davids event 16th – 19th May 2024 – further to item 213.3. The meeting acknowledged the update from the event organiser and concurred that the one-time free use of the City Hall venue for community groups had already been employed. Consequently, the meeting RESOLVED to extend its support for the event by promoting it on the City Council's social media platforms.

235 Council Property

235.1 City Hall Disabled Access Ramp/Back Gate. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the quotation received for the required work from West Wales Care & Repair at a cost of £255 inclusive of VAT.

235.2 City Hall Kitchen Disabled Access Handle. The meeting RESOLVED to direct the Clerk pursue the possibility of having the installation done by West Wales Care & Repair, the same company that previously installed a similar handle at the Memorial Hall at a cost of £60.

235.3 City Hall Railings. Extension to the City Hall railings to allow for the display of future event banners without obstructing the longstanding Siop-Y-Bobol banner. The meeting RESOLVED to instruct the Clerk to obtain quotations for the appropriate installation.

235.4 City Hall Stage. Consideration for purchase and Installation of specialised hooks to provide support for the stage curtains. Cllr RJ Thornton presented the suggested hooks at the meeting. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the recommendation, subject to confirmation of the necessary measurements and quantities. This information is to be provided to the Clerk's office by Cllrs RJ Thornton and BS Sehmi.

235.5 St Davids Tourist Orientation Map. The Deputy Clerk informed the meeting that the necessary information had been updated & a final quote incorporating all updates will soon be provided for review.

235.6 Whitesands Café. Exterior bench remedial work. The meeting RESOLVED to approve the quotation received for the required work from AJD Landscaping at a cost of £315.24.

236 Accounts

236.1 Internal Audit for February 2024 was reported to have been completed successfully.

236.2 The accounts for March 2024 were presented to the meeting and it was RESOLVED that these statements are approved.

Financial Report			March-24	
Balance @ Bank on	31-Mar-24			£116,263.42
LGA 1972 SEC 137 23/24 £12738			LGA 1972 Sec 214 Cemetery Maintenance	
Last month's donations		£100.00	Total donated 23/24	£1,000.00
2023 / 2024	Total	£1,100.00		
Balance available		£11,638.00		
Income				
City Hall				£250
Whitesands (<i>Includes Café Rent (£2100)</i>)				£15,360
Market				£63
St Justinians				£2,854
Finance				£720
Events				£33
TOTAL				£19,280
Expenditure				
				£100+ Items
City Hall (ex Hall Manager Salary)		£2,364		£1,894
Whitesands		£7,416		£7,298
Office & Administration		£548		£321
Admin Staff Costs (Inc Hall Manager)		£5,560		£5,560
Street Furniture		£0		£0
Play Area		£0		£0
Events		£1,065		£1,010
Finance		£110		£0
Market		£460		£375
St Justinians		£0		£0
TOTAL		£17,523		£16,458
Addendum of Items of £100 plus Value is Attached				

237 County Councillors Report *submitted prior to the meeting:*

Good afternoon all,

Please first of all accept my apologies as I am unable to attend tomorrows monthly meeting of the Council.

Since our last meeting you now are all aware that the Waste and Recycling Centre has had a reprieve for a year thanks to public demand, an online petition set up by Cllr Richie Davies of Solva, then myself, Cllr Mark Carter and Cllr Neil Prior making fully aware to PCC the effects of losing the WRC would have on this peninsular. There is a lot of work still to be done to save it and it will be on the agenda of a Scrutiny Committee very soon of which I sit on that committee.

I would like to congratulate the organisers of the Tir a Mor festival for a very successful festival, a lovely weekend of promoting local produce through land and sea and I look forward to next year's festival.

Its great news that the PCC library in the City Hall is now open on a Saturday thanks to volunteers. Following on from Youth Events organised by Tom Moses of Planed which is a CWBR Youth event I had an invitation from Pembrokeshire College Learner Executive which was again organised by Tom Moses, it was a very successful event and I now look forward to the next stage of these events and their result.

I have had many emails of concerns regarding the removal of the affordable housing at the new development on Nun Street, I am still awaiting a response from the housing department.

As the LEA Governor of YPD I attended a presentation evening by the pupils that recently returned from their trip to Lesotho and I also attended their Prize evening which was held at the Cathedral. This Easter break I attended a presentation by the children of both Non and Dewi Campus, 30 in total who attended a two day Rock School, it was organised by Ross Gurney and 15 volunteers helping and support from the Pembrokeshire Music Service.

Scout Hut

Since the last meeting of Council a lot has happened regarding the Hut. I feel I have been wearing "**two hats**" a City Cllr and a County Cllr, as a County Cllr I need to do all I can to help the group **SAVE OUR SCOUT HUT**. The meeting held the other week with different representatives turned out to be very positive and full of ideas, following on from that meeting I met up with Cllr Becky Lloyd and with the support of the Penknife Club we set up a crowd funding page. It went live on Friday and I emailed you all the link so please share.

Please feel free to get in touch and again I apologise for not being able to attend.

Kind Regards,

Cllr Bethan Price 07767398924

238 Reports from Committees

- 238.1 Caretaker House Committee: Next meeting TBC. Members requested the Clerk to redistribute the minutes from the previous meeting.
- 238.2 City Hall Committee: Next meeting TBC by the Chair, Cllr BT Price. Members requested the Clerk to redistribute the minutes from the previous meeting.
- 238.3 Finance Committee: Cllr DJ Griffiths, the Chair, informed the meeting that the recent committee meetings had offered a valuable perspective on the City Council's financial situation. He highlighted the significant challenges the council is currently facing, which include the future of the unoccupied Caretaker's House, the asset transfer of Bryn Road Toilets, and the costs associated with maintaining other council properties.
- 238.4 General Purposes Committee: The Committee has not commenced meetings yet. Members requested the Clerk to distribute items for the agenda for this first meeting prior to the Council's Annual Meeting.
- 238.5 Grants Development Committee: Cllr RJ Thornton, the Chair, informed the meeting that the last committee meeting included items such as a quotation for a proposal for a footpath to be installed around the boundary of the Waunfawr Playing Field. Members agreed to send the footpath plan details to the Clerk's office, enabling them to gather additional quotations for the proposed installation.
- 238.6 Market Committee: Next meeting TBC by the Chair, Cllr BT Price.
- 238.7 Scout Hut Committee: Cllr B Lloyd, the Chair, confirmed that the recently established Management Group had scheduled a meeting for the next day. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare feedback on the assignments given to them by the Scout Hut Committee. These tasks include conducting a community survey and preparing a report on the costs estimates for the necessary repairs.
- 238.8 Staffing Committee: Cllr ES Evans, confirmed the next meeting scheduled for Friday 12th April at 9am.

239 Reports from Members representing the Council

- 239.1 Bws y Bobol: Given that the bus seems to have been permanently acquired by the FlexiBus Service, it was agreed in the meeting that this topic would be omitted from future reports after the Annual Meeting on 13th May. The members proposed that information about this change should be circulated within the community.
- 239.2 Coffee and Chat: Cllr FD John confirmed the high attendance rate, and the recently installed Disabled Access Ramp has been a beneficial enhancement for the Drop-In Centre venue.
- 239.3 EcoDewi / Bee Friendly: Nothing to report.

- 239.4 One Voice Wales: Nothing to report.
- 239.5 Oriol Y Parc: Nothing to report.
- 239.6 Pembrokeshire Peninsular Stakeholder Group: Cllr JT Jeremy agreed to forward details of the Community Support event on 17th April for the Clerk's office to disseminate.
- 239.7 Police Surgery: Cllr FD John informed the meeting the election for the Police & Crime Commissioner is scheduled for the upcoming month.
- 239.8 Porthclais Harbour Authority: Cllr FD John announced that the car park now has enhanced security cameras installed.
- 239.9 Porthstinian Boat Owners Association: Cllr W Chant confirmed that at its recent AGM, the previous office was reinstated.
- 239.10 Porthmawr Surf Life Saving Club: The music fundraiser event organised by the Club at City Hall on 30th March 2024 was a great success.
- 239.11 St Davids Befrienders: Next meeting TBC.
- 239.12 St Davids Celebrations Group: Next meeting TBC.
- 239.13 St Davids Christmas Tree Association: Next meeting TBC.
- 239.14 St Davids Day Centre for the Elderly: Recent events and outings have seen a good turnout.
- 239.15 St Davids Festivals: Cllr B Lloyd confirmed the Tir â Mor festival that recently took place was highly successful.
- 239.16 St Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link: The most recent meeting occurred on March 5th, and the students from YPD have come back from their trip to Lesotho.
- 239.17 St Davids Peninsula Tourist and Traders Association: Next meeting TBC.
- 239.18 St Davids RFC: The Club is busy with activity and the new tenants are integrating effectively.
- 239.19 Youth Drop In: Nothing to report.
- 239.20 Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi Governor: The Duck Race Fundraising event that happened recently was a great success and managed to collect £2000.

Planning

240 NP/24/0121/FUL Change of use from care facility C2 back to two permanent dwellings C3(a) with the former classroom D2 forming an ancillary annexe. Removal of existing conservatory and replacement single storey extension. Conservation rooflights to front and rear of farmhouse. Replacement painted timber sash windows. Anghorfa Dawel, St Davids, SA62 6PH. The City Council considered that the proposal was deemed unlikely to have a detrimental visual or environmental impact on the surrounding area. It was RESOLVED to support the application.

241 NP/24/0141/FUL Use of land for Lifeguard Rescue Equipment store associated with RNLI beach patrols. Whitesands Beach Shop & Cafe, St Davids, SA62 6PT. The City Council considered that the

proposal was deemed unlikely to have a detrimental visual or environmental impact on the surrounding area. The council RESOLVED to wholeheartedly support the application to guarantee that the crucial lifesaving initiative would persist in its vital role of safeguarding beachgoers, a role it has fulfilled and will continue to fulfil.

242 NP/24/0119/MOD Modification of Schedule 2 (Affordable Housing) pertaining to Section 106 Agreement - NP/18/0488/OUT for the land off Nun Street & East of Ysgol Dewi Primary School, St Davids, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6NX. The meeting expressed serious concerns about the ongoing decline of affordable housing in St Davids. It was RESOLVED not to support the application. The meeting also instructed the Clerk to draft a statement denouncing the erosion of affordable housing in St Davids. The City Council hopes that such housing can be maintained and not be so steeply priced that it becomes out of reach for the community.

Any Other Business

Items for information only:

- Cllr BS Sehmi: Notified that a bollard at the entrance of the footpath at Town Hall Lane requires replacement and this matter should be brought to the attention of PCC.
- Cllr BS Sehmi: Enquired if there was any progress regarding the necessary exterior plaster repair work at the Whitesands Café, to which the Clerk confirmed that the quotes for the work were still pending.
- Cllr B Lloyd: Announced that an informal discussion has been scheduled to review the joint Solva & St Davids Newsletter on Friday 12th April at 10.30am, and members are invited to join.
- Cllr DJ Griffiths: Conveyed the concerns of the Croeswdig Tenant about the ownership of a gatepost that needs repair. The Clerk assured that he would reach out to the tenant to understand the situation and determine the appropriate solution.
- Cllr W Chant: On behalf of an RNLI Fundraiser, enquired about the process to secure a regular stall at the weekly Thursday Farmers Market on Cross Square. The Clerk's office agreed to provide this information.
- Cllr RJ Thornton: Enquired about the replacement of a Christmas Lights' Pole street side cover, and the Clerk confirmed that the contractor had already addressed this.
- Cllr JT Jeremy: Observed an issue with the Whitesands Carpark Tickets for 2024, noting that a duplication had occurred on the reverse side of the tickets.

Items for the next agenda:

- Cllr ES Evans: The DBS Policy needs to be finalised for adoption by SDCC.

- Cllr ES Evans: Review of Mayoral expenses related to the term in office, including travel costs for Mayoral events.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed

Date

Chair