

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on Monday 16 March 2026 in the Memorial Hall at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Mayor Cllr DJ Griffiths, Deputy Mayor Cllr S Foster, Cllr W Chant, Cllr ES Evans, Cllr MC Gray, Cllr FD John, Cllr B Lloyd, Cllr S Minas (attending remotely), Cllr BT Price (attending remotely), Cllr R Price, Cllr S Sehmi, and Cllr RJ Thornton; and officers S Mann (Clerk), and W Mann (RFO).

**239 Apologies for Absence:** Elected members summoned to this meeting who cannot attend must notify the Clerk in advance. Apologies are formally recorded in the minutes with reasons given and approved by the Council, as required by Standing Order 4 and the Local Government Act 1972. The attendance or absence of council officers is recorded in the minutes but does not require formal approval, as officers are not summoned under statutory requirements: None.

**240 Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 7(s) and the Council's Code of Conduct. Members are reminded that they should withdraw from discussions where their interest could reasonably be viewed by a member of the public, with knowledge of the facts, as significant enough to prejudice judgment. This procedure maintains public confidence in the Council's decision-making process.

- a. Cllr ES Evans declared a personal interest in item 242 as a local food and drink producer.
- b. Cllr BT Price declared prejudicial pecuniary interests in item 249 and left the meeting at 8.30pm, not returning thereafter.
- c. Cllr R Price declared prejudicial pecuniary interests in item 249 and left the meeting at 8.30pm, not returning thereafter.

**241 Public Representations:** Members of the public may address the Council regarding matters already listed on this agenda only, in accordance with Section 48 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and Standing Orders section 7. This is distinct from formal presentations by invited speakers on specific agenda items. Public representation is limited to 20 minutes total; 3 minutes per speaker; directed to Chair only. Public participation in debate is not permitted as Council meetings are formal decision-making forums where elected Councillors deliberate and vote on behalf of the community. Questions requiring detailed responses should be submitted to the Clerk outside of meetings.

- a. A community member attended on behalf of Park Against DARC and addressed the Council in respect of item 244 Their representations are noted under that item.

**242 Proposal for 'Big Food Festival' - Virtual Presentation by Event Organiser**

Further to Monthly Meeting 2 March 2026 (Minute 237), the Council resolved to invite the Big Food Festival organiser to present their proposal for a free-entry street food and entertainment event in St Davids over the Early May Bank Holiday weekend. The organisers attended the meeting virtually and delivered their presentation. Members asked questions on

site location, dates, on-site capacity, infrastructure considerations, and costs including those paid to Swansea City Council for previous events. The organisers left the meeting at 7.30pm. Following the presentation, Cllr ES Evans declared a personal interest as a local vendor and noted that a food and drink event at the Bishops' Palace was being separately organised by a local vendor.

RESOLVED: The Council supports the proposal in principle. Cllr R Price to approach St Davids RFC regarding the possible use of their ground, neighbouring the Waunfawr playing field, as a potential site, and to report back to the April monthly meeting.

**243 Caretaker House, 18 High Street, St Davids - Architectural Service Fee Proposal: Quotations Received**

Further to Monthly Meeting 2 March 2026 (Minute 217), the Council deferred appointment of an architect and instructed the Clerk to seek two further quotations by 11 March 2026.

RESOLVED: That the fee proposal from Pembroke Design Limited (ref. 221/MCW/CAL/Q3360, dated 24 February 2026) for architectural services in connection with the remedial works and change of use at Caretaker House, 18 High Street, St Davids, be approved at a total architectural fee of £8,650.00, and that Pembroke Design Limited be appointed accordingly.

**244 Deep Space Advanced Radar Capability (DARC) - Cawdor Barracks: Statutory Pre-Application Consultation Response**

Further to Monthly Meeting 2 March 2026 (Minute 222), the Council resolved to address its formal consultation response at this meeting. Eight Councillors attended the MOD briefing at Brawdy Barracks on 4 March 2026. The submission deadline is 23 March 2026.

Community Member (Park Against DARC) addressed the Council during public representations in respect of this item, citing concerns including the volume and technical complexity of the 72 Environmental Impact Assessment documents, the MOD's own concession of significant adverse visual impacts, potential effects on property values, the inadequacy of the alternative sites assessment, and the strategic military implications of the facility. Eight councillors reported on their attendance at the MOD briefing at Brawdy Barracks on 4 March 2026. Members raised further concerns including the impact on tourism, the loss of the only 4G sports pitch in the county area currently available to the community at Brawdy, the impact on the Pembrokeshire Dark Skies designation, health considerations relating to non-ionising radiation, and the adequacy of community benefit provisions.

RESOLVED:

- a. That the Council is opposed by a majority to the DARC proposal at Cawdor Barracks.

- b. That the Clerk be instructed to compile a formal report of the concerns raised at this meeting, documenting the Council's opposition, and to submit this as the Council's consultation response by the deadline of 23 March 2026.
- c. That the response include reference to the impact on the Pembrokeshire Dark Skies designation, and in particular on St Davids.
- d. That the response set out the Council's position on Section 106 and community benefit contributions, including noise mitigation, tourism mitigation, and an economic impact assessment of the forecast effect on the local visitor economy. The strongest possible case for such contributions is to be made prior to any planning determination, and the Council further resolves that any such contributions must be secured for the benefit of the Dewisland Peninsula and St Davids Ward, and not absorbed solely into Pembrokeshire County Council's general funds.
- e. That the Clerk arrange for a printed copy of the non-technical summary of the EIA to be held in the Council offices for community access.

#### **245 Funding Request - Your Turn To CIC**

Further to Monthly Meeting 2 March 2026 (Minute 232), the Council deferred a funding request from Your Turn To CIC, which delivers walking netball and walking football sessions for St Davids residents, pending receipt of further details.

RESOLVED: That the Council approves a Section 137 contribution of £419.98 towards the purchase of two portable football goals for Your Turn To CIC.

#### **246 Bryn Road Public Convenience - Danfo Redevelopment Proposal and Costings**

Further to Monthly Meeting 2 March 2026 (Minute 229), the Council noted that redevelopment designs and costings from Danfo's surveyor team remained awaited. Danfo has now provided an indicative quotation for the supply and installation of 4 Modulet semi-automatic toilets and an Adult Changing Places facility, subject to a full site survey. Danfo has also quoted for a footfall counter to measure seasonal usage patterns in support of the potential paid-use facility option.

RESOLVED: That the Council approves in principle the Danfo indicative quotation of £186,897.49 for the redevelopment of Bryn Road Public Convenience, subject to the receipt of sufficient grant funding from the Pride in Place Impact Fund to make the project financially viable, and authorises the Clerk to submit a project suggestion to Pembrokeshire County Council and to take all necessary steps to progress the application accordingly.

#### **247 Warm Spaces Programme - Hall Manager Hours: Extension to End of April 2026**

Further to Monthly Meeting 1 December 2025 (Minute 134), the Council approved the Hall Manager's allocation of up to 10 hours per week of their contracted hours to the Warm Spaces project to 31 March 2026, with normal duties taking priority. The Clerk has written to PAVS requesting a formal extension of the programme to the end of April 2026, together with a proposed reallocation plan for the remaining grant balance of approximately £1,800. Confirmation from PAVS is currently awaited. Subject to that confirmation being received, it is proposed that the Hall Manager's allocation continues on the same terms for the period 1 April to 30 April 2026.

RESOLVED: That the continuation of the Hall Manager's allocation of up to 10 hours per week to the Warm Spaces project for the period 1 April to 30 April 2026 be approved, on the same terms as previously agreed, subject to formal confirmation of the programme extension being received from PAVS, with the Hall Manager's normal duties continuing to take priority.

#### **248 Maes Glasfryn - Proposal for St Davids City Council to take on a Long-Term Lease**

EcoDewi and the owner of Maes Glasfryn have approached the Council with a proposal to take on a long-term lease of Maes Glasfryn, an approximately 4-acre Town or Village Green in the heart of St Davids, to be managed for nature recovery and biodiversity with community access.

RESOLVED: That the Council notes the Maes Glasfryn proposal with interest and supports its aims in principle. The Council grants provisional approval to explore the proposal further, subject to:

- a. Legal advice being obtained on the implications of leasing a registered Town or Village Green;
- b. The management committee being properly constituted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, with EcoDewi and Gray family members as co-opted non-voting members;
- c. The management committee structure not being embedded in the lease in a way that binds the Council's governance arrangements;
- d. The insurance position regarding the wildlife pond being confirmed; and
- e. A full report being brought back to Council before any lease is signed.

The Council further resolves that any public presentation of this project at the St Davids Celebrates event on 21 March 2026 must clearly reflect that this approval is provisional and subject to the above conditions being met.

#### **249 St Justinians Toilet Provision - Request from Porthstinians Boat Owners Association**

The Porthstinians Boat Owners Association (PBOA) has written to Council (11 March 2026) requesting that the Council fund the full cost of toilet provision at St Justinians for the 2026 season, citing significant financial pressures on commercial operators in 2025. The PBOA has also requested that stage payments and extended terms be applied to outstanding invoices currently due from boat trip operators.

Cllr BT Price and Cllr R price declared prejudicial pecuniary interests and left the meeting at 8.30pm prior to consideration of this item.

RESOLVED: That the Council instructs the RFO to obtain a comparative quotation for the provision of one portable toilet unit at St Justinians from the start of the season, increasing to two units for the duration of the school summer holidays, before reverting to one unit thereafter. Subject to the RFO confirming a significant reduction in the overall cost committed compared to previous seasons, authority is delegated to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to approve the Council's financial contribution on receipt of that information, ahead of the 31 March 2026 delivery date. The matter of outstanding invoices and the PBOA's request for stage payments and extended terms is deferred to the April monthly meeting.

**Any Other Business**

Advisory (5 minutes): Members are reminded: lengthy detailed reports must be submitted to the Clerk for formal agenda inclusion – further to 3 March 2025 resolution 209; information-only items require written documentation as Council meetings are formal decision-making forums where elected Councillors deliberate and vote on behalf of the community. Information submitted prior to this meeting - these items are for information only and do not require Council decisions - can be found in Supporting Documents:

- Cllr MC Gray: Welsh Ambulance Provision: The Clerk confirmed that an update had been received and forwarded to the responders. The matter to be brought back to the April monthly meeting.
- Cllr ES Evans: Council Tax Rebate - Caretaker House, 18 High Street: The Clerk confirmed an update had been received. The matter to be included on the April monthly meeting agenda.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed .....

Date .....

Chair