Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Thursday, 12th January, 2017 at 6:30 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS)

 Councillors: A. E. Byrne J. W. Cole

 A. W. Eden R. Gray

 E. R. Harries A. H. Miles

 M. J. Norman D. R. Sinnett

 Mrs. C. Stevens Mrs. C. T. Williams

PRAYERS:

Prayers were led by the Mayor’s Chaplain, Father Harri Williams.

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The formal meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council then commenced.

195. APOLOGIES:

 Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor C. A. Sharp, and Councillors R. D. Evans, S. G. Joseph, Mrs. J. Hawkins, M. P. Rickard, Mrs. Y. G. Southwell and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons).

196. TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2017/2018:

 The Mayor advised that the precept for this financial year is in the sum of £165,957, which is equivalent to £33.43 per annum per Band “D” household. The draft precept for discussion this evening is in the sum of £178,436, which is equivalent to £34.86 per annum per Band “D”. If all the requested applications for donations were granted there would be an increase in the draft precept of £31,760 or a £5.20 per annum increase on a Band “D” property.

 The following decisions were made in connection with the submitted estimates:

 (a) Cemetery Income:

 RESOLVED THAT the 5% increase in Cemetery

 fees as recommended by the Cemetery Fees

 Sub-Committee be approved, with the exception

 of the fees for Cremated Remains, which are to

 remain unchanged, unless interment is in the

 standard size grave in the new sections.

 (b) Milford Haven Week of Festivities (LGA 1972, s.145):

 RESOLVED THAT this budget is to remain

 at £350 for the financial year 2017/2018.

 (c) Christmas Donations (LGA 1972, s.145):

 RESOLVED THAT this budget is to remain

 at £1,400 for the financial year 2017/2018.

 (d) P1 Welsh Grand Prix of the Sea:

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) no provision be made in this Council’s Precept

 requirements for the P1 Welsh Grand Prix of the

 Sea;

 (ii) discussion on this issue be deferred until a

 meeting is arranged with the Port of Milford

 Haven to discuss the event and look at specific

 activities which the Council could sponsor, as the

 Council does to support the Milford Fish Festival;

 (iii) any monies agreed to support this event are to

 be taken out of funds set aside in Reserves for

 Town Regeneration.

 (e) Milford Haven Round Table (LGA 1972, s. 145):

 The Milford Haven Round Table has asked for a £4,500 donation to assist with funding the following events: Carnival - £2,500; Fireworks - £1,500; Beer Festival - £350; Santa Run - £150.

 Members did not feel it appropriate for the Council to support a Beer Festival.

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Round Table

 is to be advised that the Town Council will award

 a grant of £4,150 for the financial year 2017/2018

 to support the Carnival, Fireworks and Santa Run,

 but did not consider it appropriate to support any

 funding towards a Beer Festival.

 (f) Milford Haven Twinning Association (LGA 1972, s.145):

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Twinning

 Association’s donation is to remain at £1,000

 for the financial year 2017/2018.

 (g) Milford Haven Museum Trust (LGA 1972, s.145):

 Councillor Mrs. C. T. Williams declared a personal interest in this issue, as she has been appointed by this Council as its representative on the Milford Haven Museum Trust. She took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting.

 Councillor E. R. Harries declared a personal interest in this issue, as he was the Chairman of the Milford Haven Museum Trust for 30 years.

 A Member noted that the Milford Haven Museum Trust had not submitted an audited set of accounts as in previous years.

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Museum

 Trust’s grant is to remain at £7,000 for the

 financial year 2017/2018.

 (h) Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band (LGA 1972, s.145):

 Members noted that the Milford Haven Junior Town Band does not have its own set of accounts. The Junior Town Band’s accounts are held with the Milford Haven Town Band’s accounts.

 RESOLVED THAT instead of giving two separate

 donations, the Milford Haven Town Band

 and the Milford Haven Junior Town Band are to

 be given a joint donation of £2,500 for the financial

 year 2017/2018.

 (i) Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets (LGA 1972, s.137):

 The Mayor declared a personal interest as he is an Adult Volunteer with the Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets. He did, however, reserve the right to vote should he wish to do so.

 Councillor E. R. Harries declared a personal interest as he is Chairman of the Unit Management Committee.

 The Mayor said that, as Mayor, he did not wish to Chair this item as, in the event of a tied vote, he did not wish to have the casting vote.

 The Mayor said that he would normally ask the Deputy Mayor to take the Chair. The Deputy Mayor was not present this evening and is a member of the Unit Management Committee. The Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Councillor Mrs. Y. G. Southwell, was not available this evening, and the Chair of the Public Works and Planning Committee, Councillor E. R. Harries, could not take the Chair as he is Chairman of the Unit Management Committee.

 It was RESOLVED THAT the Chair for this item only be taken by the Vice- Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Councillor R. Gray.

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Sea Cadets

 and Royal Marine Cadets are to receive a donation

 of £2,500 for the financial year 2017/2018.

 (j) Torch Theatre Company Limited:

 Councillor D. R. Sinnett declared a personal interest in this issue, as he has been appointed by the Pembrokeshire County Council as its representative on the Torch Theatre Management Board. He left the Council Chamber during discussion on this item.

 RESOLVED THAT the Torch Theatre Company

 Limited’s grant is to remain at £9,000 for the

 financial year 2017/2018.

 (k) Milford Haven Business Circle:

 Members noted that the application form did not show how much the Milford Haven Business Circle was contributing to the events and whether any other organisations had been approached for funding.

 A Member said that the Milford Haven Business Circle should get together with other organisations, such as the Milford Haven Round Table to work for the benefit of the people of the town.

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) this application be taken out of the precept and referred

 to the Town Regeneration Team for further discussion;

 (ii) a more comprehensive application will be re-submitted

 to the Milford Haven Town Council;

 (iii) any donation will be taken be taken out of funds set

 aside in Reserves for Town Regeneration.

 (l) Councillor Allowance:

 RESOLVED THAT this budget be retained at

 £1,100 for the financial year 2017/2018.

 (m) 2 in 1 Computers:

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) the sum of £3,600 for 2 in 1 Computers be taken

 out of this Council’s precept requirements;

 (ii) discussion on this issue be deferred until after the

 Council elections in May 2017.

 (n) Precept:

 RESOLVED THAT a Precept Requirement in the

 sum of £169,586 be served on the Pembrokeshire

 County Council in respect of the financial year

 2017/2018. This figure is equivalent to a charge of

 £33.13 per annum per Band “D” household, a decrease

 of 30 pence on this year’s Band “D” charge of £33.43.

 197. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CEMETERY FEES SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 20TH OCTOBER, 2016:

 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 20th October, 2016, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS.

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

 Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 20th October,

 2016, be approved and adopted.

198. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CEMETERY MAINTENANCE AND LAND ACQUISITION GROUP HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2016:

 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group held on 14th December, 2016, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor E. R. Harries.

 (i) Minute 181 – To Receive a List of Outstanding Works at the Cemetery (to include Machinery):

 A Member said that he had raised the subject of leasing the Cemetery House to suitable tenants some time ago. The Chairman replied that this would be discussed at a future meeting of the Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group.

 (ii) Another Member referred to the Chapel Roof. The Chairman replied that the Group would continue to monitor the condition of the Chapel Roof.

 RESOLVED THAT, subject to the above, the Minutes

 of the Meeting of the Cemetery Maintenance and

 Land Acquisition Group held on 14th December,

 2016, be approved and adopted.

199. PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS – MILFORD HAVEN:

 Members considered a letter from Mr. B. Blake, Senior Traffic Engineer, Pembrokeshire County Council, in which he advised of proposals to introduce the following:

 (i) 20 mph speed limits at Bunkers Hill and Cutty Sark Drive;

 (ii) part time 20 mph speed limit at Thornton Road, Steynton

 RESOLVED THAT the information be received.

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