Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 26th October, 2015 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor S. G. Joseph)

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

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

R. D. Evans R. Gray

A. H. Miles M. J. Norman

C. A. Sharp Mrs. Y. G. Southwell

Mrs. C. T. Williams G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons)

TO RECEIVE MRS. S. RENDELL, PROJECT COORDINATOR, MILFORD YOUTH MATTERS, AND PCSO BETHAN DEVONALD, DYFED-POWYS POLICE, TO DISCUSS MILFORD YOUTH MATTERS’ GRANT APPLICATION

The Mayor welcomed Mrs. S. Rendell, Project Coordinator, Milford Youth Matters, and PCSO Bethan Devonald, Dyfed-Powys Police, to the Meeting to discuss the recent funding application for the Friday Night Project.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee had asked for Mrs. Rendell and PCSO Devonald to attend this Meeting in order to have a better understanding of the work of the Project and the Police’s view on it.

Mrs. Rendell explained that Milford Youth Matters staff work on Friday evenings from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The session is broken into two parts, the first being Outreach street based work where Youth Workers target specific areas where young people congregate. From there they use a wide range of methods to engage young people. Building relationships over time, understanding the needs of young people and the wider community is key to their approach. Youth Workers have engaged young people in a number of ways to promote community involvement including litter picks, consultation events and arts based projects. Staff open the youth centre for 14 – 18 year olds from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm, providing an environment which is both safe and warm.

Over the past year staff have recorded engaging with 226 individual young people aged 14 – 18 as well as younger and older members of the public and the wider community on the Friday Night Project.

There have been a number of organisations that have reported a reduction in anti-social behaviour in the areas where staff have targeted. These include Tesco, Milford Haven Port Authority and the local football club. PCSO Bethan Devonald reported that incidents of recorded anti-social behaviour calls from the Marina had reduced to nil at Cedar Court since Milford Youth Matters.

Milford Youth Matters staff are now extending into the Hubberston Play Area to try and tackle some of the issues raised at a Meeting with the community volunteers that open and close the Play Area. The aim is to give young people in the community the opportunity to be active citizens, taking ownership of their community in a positive way. Staff are looking at completing regular litter picks and producing signs that young people feel are necessary to establish park rules.

Young people are encouraged to have a voice in their community and Youth workers are always looking at ways to make this a two way process.

The Friday Night Project aims not to duplicate but to complement the work delivered by other organisations and utilise the relationships built on the project to signpost young people. They have worked with Pembrokeshire County Council Youth Service to identify young people that would benefit from further engagement and have offered places on the WAVE event (raising awareness of the dangers of tombstoning); Under the Bridge, an arts place programme delivered at Milford Marina; as well as encouraging members to participate in a Christmas lunch for local pensioners. They hope to continue to encourage members to take part in a range of activities that not only engage but stimulate potential learning opportunities.

If the funding application is successful, the money will contribute towards staffing costs for delivery of the Friday Night Project. There are currently four people that work every Friday evening. Any funding will support this cost, thus extending the longevity of the Project.

Mrs. Rendell concluded her presentation and the Mayor asked if Members had any questions.

A Member said that the Council sets its precept in January and this funding application could be a part of that, but the funds would not be available until April. He asked whether this would impact on the Project.

Mrs. Rendell explained that she is seeking funds for this financial year. She has costed the Project and put a budget of £10,000 in place, £5,000 of which has been provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Mayor congratulated Mrs. Rendell on the Friday Night Project and Mrs. Rendell and PCSO B. Devonald left the Meeting at this point.

RESOLVED THAT this application for funding from

Milford Youth Matters is to be discussed under

the relevant item on the Agenda.

PRAYERS:

Prayers were led by the Mayor’s Chaplain, Mrs. N. Joseph.

165. MAYOR’S REMARKS:

The Mayor, Councillor S. G. Joseph, asked Councillor A. H. Miles to pass on Members’ wishes to Mrs. Miles for a very speedy recovery after her recent illness.

166. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. W. Eden, Mrs. J. Hawkins,

M. P. Rickard, D. R. Sinnett and Mrs. C. Stevens.

167. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2015:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of

the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

28th September, 2015, be accepted and that

they be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

168. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

(a) Mayor’s Engagements:

Members were informed of the Mayor’s engagements since the 9th October, 2015:

11th October - Presentation of the Festivities Week Quiz Cup at Tesco Milford Haven (attended by the Deputy Mayor)

16th October - Christmas Toy Appeal at PATCH Charity

22nd October - Welcomed Milford Haven Sea Cadets to the Town Hall

(b) Presentation by Egnedol Limited:

The Mayor said that he had attended a presentation at County Hall by the Company that intends to develop Blackbridge. He recommended that representatives from this Company be invited to address the Council regarding their proposals.

RESOLVED THAT the representatives from

Egnedol Limited are to be invited to address

this Council.

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REPORTS ON COMMITTEES

169. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee held on the 5th October, 2015, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor E. R. Harries.

(a) Minute 148 – Correspondence from a local resident explaining his concerns regarding radiation from masts at Manchester Square Car Park:

The Chairman said the Council needs to give authority for the resident to address the Public Works and Planning Committee on his concerns regarding radiation from masts at Manchester Square Car Park.

RESOLVED THAT the resident is to be given the

authority to address the Public Works and Planning

Committee.

(b) Minute 150 – Proposed Road Safety Scheme – Traffic Calming/Raised Crossing Tables, Hubberston:

Members discussed correspondence from Mr. D. Thomas, Head of Highway and Construction, Pembrokeshire County Council, which had been received after the Public Works and Planning Committee Meeting.

Mr. Thomas explained that at the Public Works and Planning Committee Meeting, Members had discussed a plan which simply highlighted the location of the raised tables and not the Shared Use Path.

In order to assist Members, Mr. Thomas forwarded a revised plan which highlighted the route of the new Shared Use Path. Mr. Thomas advised that the raised tables follow the principles of the Active Travel design guidance and will look to provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians/cyclists using the SUP and also calm traffic entering the side roads.

A Member expressed concern at the prospect of the new Hakin Community School being built adjacent to Gelliswick Road and Gelliswick Hill. He contended that the traffic situation on Gelliswick Road and Gelliswick Hill and also the junctions on to that Road will become very much busier.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) Mr. D. Thomas, Head of Highway and

Construction, Pembrokeshire County Council,

be advised that the Milford Haven Town Council

welcomes this Shared Use Path project;

(ii) Mr. Thomas is to be asked to report to the

appropriate Committee of this Council’s

concerns associated with extra traffic and

traffic congestion on Gelliswick Road and

Gelliswick Hill so that these concerns can be

properly addressed to ensure an appropriate

level of road safety.

RESOLVED THAT, subject to the above, the

Minutes of the Public Works and Planning

Committee held on the 5th October, 2015, be

approved and adopted.

170. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 8th October, 2015, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Y. G. Southwell.

(a) Minute 159 – Welsh Government Consultation Document – Statutory Guidance for the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:

The Chair advised that the Clerk had received information earlier that day which confirmed that the event “What can Community Voice projects do for you” will not provide training on the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

RESOLVED THAT point (iii) is struck from this

recommendation.

(b) Minute 163 - Applications for Financial Assistance:

(b) Milford Youth Matters:

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) a one-off donation of £1,000 is to be made to the

Friday Night Project;

(ii) any future funding applications from this organisation

will be considered on merit;

(iii) this sum is to be taken from this Council’s reserves.

Councillor J. W. Cole wished it recorded that he had voted against this donation.

*This donation is to be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under the Local Government Act 2000 s.2*

RESOLVED THAT, subject to the above, the Minutes

of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes

Committee held on the 8th October, 2015, be

approved and adopted.

171. TOWN REGENERATION AND ACTION TEAM (TREAT):

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Regeneration and Action Team held on the 19th October, 2015, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor S. G. Joseph.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest as treasurer of the Milford Haven Business Circle and the Market.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

of the Town Regeneration and Action

Team (TREAT) held on 19th October, 2015,

be approved and adopted.

172. HUBBERSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE:

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest as President of the Milford Haven Town Band which currently utilises the Centre, although the Band has now given the intention to leave the premises before the end of the financial year.

The Mayor said that County Councillor Mrs V. Stoddart had asked for Members to be informed of a Meeting on Monday, 26th October at 7 pm. Those who are exploring a community use for the Centre have invited Ms. Anne Isaac of Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services to come along and talk through possible options.

The Mayor then read out a letter from Councillor E. R. Harries, in which he stated that “this Council is aware that Hubberston Community Centre is in danger of closing. It has provided a valuable facility for so many organisations over the last 90 years. It is now under the control of Pembrokeshire County Council which has indicated its intention to sever its connection with the building and has called upon the community to take the responsibility of running the Centre. Such an undertaking would demand great commitment particularly from a financial point of view”.

Councillor Harries asked the Milford Haven Town Council to urge the Pembrokeshire County Council to reconsider its stance as far as this valuable community facility is concerned.

Councillor Harries explained that he had written that letter because the Town Council has received no information regarding the Centre. He believed that this Council has a considerable interest in protecting what is one of the finest facilities in the heart of a large concentration of population.

Members discussed Councillor Harries’ letter.

RESOLVED THAT a letter be written to the

Pembrokeshire County Council asking them to

declare officially what their intention is as far

as the Hubberston Community Centre is concerned,

and urging them to give every serious consideration

to maintain their responsibility for retaining the

building.

173. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

(a) Milford Haven Museum:

Councillor C. A. Sharp, speaking as Chair of the Milford Haven Museum, explained that due to his commitments, Councillor M. J. Norman was not able to fulfil his role as Trustee of the Milford Haven Museum Trust.

Councillor Sharp thanked Councillor Norman for all his hard work. He then asked if any Member was interested in becoming a Trustee of the Milford Haven Museum.

A Member asked Councillor Sharp how much commitment would be required to be a Trustee.

Councillor Sharp advised that there is at least one meeting a month that a Trustee would be required to attend. Councillor Sharp said any interested Member could approach him for more information.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) Any interested Member is to contact Councillor Sharp

for more information;

(ii) discussion on the appointment of Trustee to the

Milford Haven Museum be deferred until the November

Meeting of the Full Council.

(b) Milford Haven Twinning Association:

The Mayor advised that the Chair of the Milford Haven Twinning Association had asked for a representative who, if possible, could host visiting families.

RESOLVED THAT Councillor C. A. Sharp be

appointed at this Council’s Representative

for the Milford Haven Twinning Association.

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