Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 12th July, 2016 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

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

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor C. A. Sharp)

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

E. R. Harries S. G. Joseph

A. H. Miles M. J. Norman

M. P. Rickard G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons)

PRAYERS:

In the absence of his Chaplain, Father Harri Williams, Prayers were led by the Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS.

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

53. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. D. Evans, R. Gray, Mrs. J. Hawkins, D. R. Sinnett, Mrs. Y. G. Southwell and Mrs. C. T. Williams. Apologies for absence were not received from Councillor Mrs. C. Stevens.

54. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27TH JUNE, 2016:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of

the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

27th June, 2016, be accepted and that they

be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

55. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

(a) Mayor’s Engagements:

Members were informed of the Mayor’s Engagements since 28th June, 2016:

28th June - Milford Haven Junior Town Band Rehearsal   
 *(The Mayor conducted the band)*

29th June - Port of Milford Haven WAVE event meeting

29th June - Citizen requested meeting with the Mayor at Town Hall

2nd July - Carnival including hosting of judges at Town Hall  
  
 3rd July AM - Haverfordwest Civic Service  
  
 3rd July PM - Lunch with the Twinning Association and delegates of   
 Uman, Ukraine *(also attended by the Deputy Mayor)* 3rd July PM - Battle of the Somme Service at St Katharine & St   
 Peter’s Church *(also attended by the Deputy Mayor)*

3rd July PM - Official Opening of the Slicks Martial Arts Centre in   
 Charles Street

4th July - Festivities Bingo at the Pill Social Centre   
  
 5th July AM - Visit to the Meads Infant & Nursery School with the   
 delegates of Uman, Ukraine *(also attended by the   
 Deputy Mayor)* 5th July PM - Reception at Town Hall with the delegates of Uman,   
 Ukraine *(also attended by the Deputy Mayor)* 5th July PM - Visit of the Milford Haven Museum with the delegates of Uman, Ukraine *(also attended by the Deputy Mayor)* 5th July PM - Festivities Milford Haven Town Band & Junior Town Band Concert *(The Mayor conducted the band for one song and the Concert was also attended by the Deputy Mayor)* 6th July - One Voice Wales Larger Councils Conference in Builth   
 Wells  
  
 6th July PM - Meet & Greet of the Milford Haven Tigers Swimming   
 Squad  
  
 6th July PM - Regeneration of the Town Centre Meeting at the Junction Room, Torch Theatre  
  
 6th July PM - Farewell Dinner of the Uman, Ukraine delegates with the Twinning Association at the Starboard Hotel *(also   
 attended by the Deputy Mayor)* 7th July PM - 14th Signal Regiment’s Annual Big Band Concert and   
 Reception at Cawdor Barracks  
  
 7th July PM - Festivities Quiz Night *(attended by the Deputy Mayor)*

8th July PM - HMS Pembroke Reception & Ship Capability   
 Demonstration

9th July - HMS Pembroke visit to the Mayor’s Parlour  
  
 9th July PM - Haverfordwest RBL Battle of the Somme   
 Commemoration at the Torch Theatre  
  
 10th July AM - Sea Sunday Service at St Katharine & St Peter’s   
 Church  
  
 10th July PM - Fisherman’s Mission Sea Sunday Service in Pembroke   
 Dock

(b) Mayor’s Remarks:

The Mayor advised that on 9th July he had hosted, at short notice, a very successful reception in the Town Hall for the Captain and some of the Crew members from HMS Pembroke. The Captain had presented him with a crest and had been pleased to note that he was the first to present this Council with

a HMS Pembroke crest.

The Mayor then referred to the recent Festivities Week. He expressed regret that there was again a lack of Councillor support, with only 3 Councillors present at the Bingo event and 6 at the Town Band Concert. The Darts event was cancelled because of a clash with the Wales European Championship football match, which resulted in a lack of entries, and there were 3 Councillors present at the Quiz Night. A number of new teams participated in the Quiz Night, with the Pembrokeshire College team, organised by Councillor M. J. Norman, winning the trophy.

The Mayor said that one of the comments he had heard recently was that people do not know who the Councillors are. He thought it would be a good idea if Councillors were easily identified at events. Upon attending the St. Davids Civic Service, the Mayor noted that Councillors in St. Davids were wearing very professional looking name badges. The Mayor had asked the Clerk to contact the Clerk of St. Davids City Council for further information so that this issue could be discussed at the next Full Council meeting.

The Mayor reminded Members that next Wednesday (20th July) is his Curry Night Fundraiser at the Taj Mahal Restaurant in Charles Street. He advised any Members wishing to attend that tickets were available with the Secretary in the Office and also available from the Mayor’s Consort, Mr. L. Jones.

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REPORTS ON COMMITTEES

56. ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 27th June, 2016, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Establishment

Committee held on 27th June, 2016, be approved

and adopted.

57. TOWN REGENERATION ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM (TREAT):

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Regeneration Environmental Action Team (TREAT) held on 29th June, 2016, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Town Regeneration

Environmental Action Team (TREAT) held on 29th June,

2016, be approved and adopted.

58. INDUCTION LOOP HEARING SYSTEMS FOR COUNCIL CHAMBER:

The Mayor said that this matter had been deferred from the last Full Council meeting as the Councillor who had asked for this to be raised had not been in attendance on that occasion. The Mayor asked the Member if he wanted to talk about this issue.

The Member said that he would like to request that this Council investigates the possibility of having a system installed in the Council Chamber for the hard of hearing.

Another Member said that he supported this request. He noted that the Council Chamber has an echo which makes it difficult to hear guest speakers whose voices rise and fall and he sometimes cannot hear what the speakers say when their voices fall.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the Town Council supports, in principle, the installation

of a hearing system in the Council Chamber;

(ii) the Clerk is to investigate the financial implications

of any system;

(iii) the Clerk is to approach the owners of the building,

the Pembrokeshire County Council, to clarify its

position on whether there is any funding available

for the system which will be a fixture in the building.

59. SEAGULL PROOF BAGS:

Members discussed an email from Waste Management, Pembrokeshire County Council, in which the writer asked whether the Town Council would be interested in selling seagull proof bags, on behalf of that Authority, to the residents of Milford Haven. The writer said that Customer Service Centres have limited storage space and are unable to accommodate seagull proof bags.

The Mayor said that the Clerk has spoken to the Officers in the Customer Service Centre in the Town Hall and they are able to store seagull proof bags. It seemed senseless for people to walk past the Customer Service Centre to go upstairs to the Town Council offices to buy the bags, furthermore the Town Council would have to find a place to store them.

Another Member pointed out that the Customer Service Centre in the Town Hall is an open forum with people coming to the desk. The Town Council has an enclosed security system and the Secretary would be disturbed every time someone wants to buy a bag.

Another Member questioned how the Pembrokeshire County Council intends to manage the waste in a practical sense. He questioned how waste bags would be identified as people put their bin bags in one place and a vehicle stops and throws the bags into the vehicle.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the Waste Management, Pembrokeshire

County Council, is to be advised that the Clerk has

been informed that there is space at the Customer

Service Centre in the Town Hall to store the bags,

and it is not in the Town Council’s remit to sell these

bags;

(ii) Waste Management is also to be asked how the

Pembrokeshire County Council intends to manage

the waste in a practical sense.

60. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

(i) Acknowledgement of Donations:

The Mayor advised that letters of thanks had been received from All Pembrokeshire Cruse, Hakin United AFC, Macmillan Cancer Support, Milford Haven Junior Town Band, Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets, Milford Haven Twinning Committee and the Torch Theatre.

(ii) Applications for Financial Assistance:

(a) Herbrandston Cricket Club:

A Member advised that there is a lack of opportunity in Milford Haven for children wishing to play cricket at a junior level. Children who want to play cricket have to travel to clubs in Haverfordwest or Neyland and other outlying areas such as Hook and Llangwm.

Another Member considered that this Council should have sight of an Association’s bank balances or a bank statement before giving any grant aid.

Another Member thought that this was unnecessary for minor organisations. If Members have a particular issue it can be followed up by asking an organisation for further details before making a decision or Members can make a decision on the basis of the provision of further information.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) a donation of £75 be made to the Herbrandston

Cricket Club with the request that they inform

this Council when they set up a youth facility;

(ii) Grant Application forms are to be discussed at

the next meeting of the Full Council.

*This donation is to be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.*

(b) Pill Social Centre:

The Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, declared a personal interest as an occasional volunteer.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor C. A. Sharp, declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Pill Social Centre. He abstained from voting on this issue.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest as he is an occasional volunteer.

A Member questioned the name “Pill Social Centre” and was advised that it is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission as Pill Social Community Centre.

RESOLVED THAT a donation of £500 be made

to the Pill Social Centre.

*This donation is to be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.*

(c) Rotary Club of Milford Haven:

The Mayor said that he and the Deputy Mayor both attended this event which was a fantastic day for disadvantaged children.

RESOLVED THAT a donation of £250 be made

to the Rotary Club of Milford Haven for

Kids’ Day Out.

*This donation is to be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.*

(d) Shelter Cymru:

A Member confirmed that Shelter Cymru is working within Milford Haven.

RESOLVED THAT a donation of £75 be made

to Shelter Cymru.

*This donation is to be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.*

61. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS:

RESOLVED THAT the Schedule of Accounts,

as presented by the Clerk for the month of

June, 2016, in the sum of £13,412.28 be

accepted and approved for payment.

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