Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 24th April, 2017 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

A. W. Eden R. D. Evans

R. Gray E. R. Harries

Mrs. J. Hawkins S. G. Joseph

A. H. Miles D. R. Sinnett

Mrs. Y. G. Southwell Mrs. C. Stevens

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

Before the meeting commenced Members informally met with the two applicants for the role of Youth Representatives – Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts.

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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.

288. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M. P. Rickard. Apologies for absence were not received from Councillor M. J. Norman.

289. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 10TH APRIL, 2017:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of

the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

10th April, 2017, be accepted and that they

be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

290. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

(a) Mayor’s Engagements:

Members were informed of the Mayor’s Engagements since 11th April, 2017:

16th April (am) - Easter Service at St. Katharine and St. Peter’s Church *(attended by the Deputy Mayor)*

16th April (pm) - Easter Praise Service at St. David’s Church, Hubberston

18th April - Paul Sartori Anniversary Service

23rd April - ANZAC Parade

24th April - Landing Crafts 15 and 16 and HMS Rosemary Service

(b) Electronic Devices:

The Mayor said that he was pleased to see a few Councillors using electronic devices this evening. Thanks to an Officer of the Pembrokeshire County Council working with the Clerk and Secretary the Council is now able to start the digital trial.

(c) Anzac Service and Landing Crafts 15 and 16 and HMS Rosemary Service:

The Mayor thanked those Councillors who attended the Anzac Service on Sunday, 23rd April and the Service at the Cemetery for those who lost their lives on Landing Crafts 15 and 16 and HMS Rosemary. The Mayor said that both Services had been very well attended.

(d) Environmental Concerns:

The Mayor said that he had been approached by several Councillors and members of the public who were concerned at how the Council could help address various environmental issues around the town – such as dog fouling, fly tipping, general littering, and poor grass cutting.

The Mayor said that this Council has a TREAT Committee which has been in abeyance since the inception of the Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team.

Councillor D. R. Sinnett advised that about 10 years ago he had been Chair of the Milford Environmental Action Team (MEAT). Officers from the Pembrokeshire County Council, representatives from the Schools and various agencies sat on this Group. MEAT put together an action plan to address environmental concerns.

A Member said that Mr. Mark Elliott, Head of Public Protection, Pembrokeshire County Council, has made a presentation to other Town Councils on the issue of dog fouling and associated problems.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) TREAT be reconstituted after the Council elections

on 5th May, 2017;

(ii) Mr. M. Elliott, Head of Public Protection,

Pembrokeshire County Council, be invited to

address a meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council.

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REPORTS ON COMMITTEES

291. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS/FESTIVITIES SUB-COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Christmas Lights/Festivities Sub-Committee held on the 10th April, 2017, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor A. W. Eden.

(a) Minute 277 (e) – Donations – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets:

The Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, declared a personal interest in this issue as he is the Commanding Officer of the Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor C. A. Sharp, declared a personal interest in this issue as he is a member of the Unit Management Committee of the Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets.

Councillor E. R. Harries declared a personal interest in this issue as he is the Chairman of the Unit Management Committee of the Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor C. A. Sharp, said that as this was Councillor Eden’s last meeting with this Council, he wished to publicly thank Councillor A. W. Eden for the exceptional way in which he had carried out his duties as Chairman of the Christmas Lights/Festivities Sub-Committee. He also thanked Mrs. D. Eden and former Councillor, Mr. M. H. George QGM and Mrs. V. George.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Christmas

Lights/Festivities Sub-Committee held on the

10th April, 2017, be approved and adopted.

292. CEMETERY REPORT:

RESOLVED THAT the Cemetery Report, as

presented by the Clerk for the month of

March, 2017, be accepted. (See Appendix A).

293. PLANS:

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations of

the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning

Committee in respect of the planning applications detailed on Page of the attached report

(see Appendix B) be approved, with the exception

of Planning Application No. 17/0001/PA.

(a) Planning Application No. 17/0001/PA – Subdivision of existing dwelling into 2 units at the Old Dairy, Castle Pill Farm, Castle Pill Road, Steynton, Milford Haven:

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Council

recommends that this planning application be

approved.

294. APPOINTMENT OF YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES:

The Mayor said that Councillors have had the opportunity to meet with the 2 young people to discuss their applications as Youth Representatives on the Milford Haven Town Council.

It was proposed and seconded that the Council goes into private session to discuss the applications. 9 voted for this, with 2 against and 1 abstention.

The members of the public, including Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts, then left the Council Chamber.

A Member said that he had read both applications and had been very impressed with their content. He recommended that both applicants be accepted as Youth Representatives on the Milford Haven Town Council.

Another Member expressed disappointment that there was not more interest in becoming a Youth Representative and whether the Council needs to do more and not sit back and be content with these two Youth Representatives but increase its engagement with the young people of the town.

A vote was taken and the two young people were accepted unanimously as Youth Representatives on the Milford Haven Town Council.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts be appointed

as Youth Representatives on the Milford Haven Town

Council for a period of two years from the Annual

General Meeting on 15th May, 2017;

(ii) proper safeguarding procedures must be followed in

relation to the appointment of the Youth Representatives.

The members of the public returned to the Council Chamber.

The Mayor said that he was delighted to announce that as from 15th May, 2017, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts will become Youth Representatives on the Milford Haven Town Council for a period of two years. The Mayor congratulated them both.

295. DATE OF PRESENTATION OF CITIZENS’ AWARDS EVENING:

The Mayor said that he had been under the impression that it had been agreed that the Citizens’ Award Evening would take place the week prior to Founders’ Day. He understood that there was no record of this.

A Member said that the Citizens’ Awards Presentation Evenings were usually held on the Saturday nearest to the town’s birthday of 9th June. He proposed that this year’s Citizens Award Presentation Evening should take place on Saturday, 10th June.

The Deputy Mayor said that the Clerk has a prior event on 10th June. He suggested that this year’s celebrations should be held the evening before on the town’s actual birthday of 9th June.

A vote was taken and 15 were in favour of holding the presentation of the Citizens Awards on the town’s birthday on Friday, 9th June.

RESOLVED THAT this year’s Presentation of

Citizens Awards is to be held on Friday,

9th June, 2017.

296. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY TEMPLATE:

Members discussed the Social Media Policy Template, which had been written by One Voice Wales.

RESOLVED THAT, subject to minor amendments,

the Social Media Policy be approved.

297. DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2017-2018:

Members amended the draft Calendar of Meetings 2017-2018.

RESOLVED THAT, subject to minor amendments,

the amended Calendar of Meetings for the

municipal year 2017-2018 be approved.

298. ELECTION OF MAYOR 2017-2018:

Councillor Mrs. C. Stevens proposed and Councillor R. D. Evans seconded that Councillor C. A. Sharp be elected as Mayor of Milford Haven for the year 2017–2018.

299. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2017-2018:

Councillors R. D. Evans, R. Gray and Mrs. C. T. Williams submitted their names for consideration as Deputy Mayor/Mayor Elect for the year 2017-2018.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) as in previous years, the voting for the election

of the Deputy Mayor/Mayor Elect for the year

2017-2018 will be by secret ballot and with a

clear majority;

(ii) the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes

Committee, Councillor Mrs. Y. G. Southwell, and

the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee,

Councillor E. R. Harries, be appointed as scrutineers.

The secret ballot took place which resulted in Councillor R. Gray receiving a clear majority.

RESOLVED THAT:

(iii) Councillor R. Gray be elected as Deputy Mayor/Mayor

Elect for the year 2017-2018.

Councillor R. D. Evans agreed to propose and Councillor D. R. Sinnett agreed to second Councillor R. Gray as Deputy Mayor/Mayor Elect at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 15th May, 2017.

300. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS:

RESOLVED THAT the Schedule of Accounts,

as presented by the Clerk for the month of

March, 2017, in the sum of £35,458.79 be

accepted and approved for payment.

301. MAYOR’S THANKS:

The Mayor said on behalf of the Milford Haven Town Council he would like to thank the retiring Councillors Cole, Eden, Mrs. Hawkins, Joseph, Norman and Mrs. Stevens for their years of dedication and effort.

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