Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Regeneration

Environmental Action Team (TREAT)

held at the Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Wednesday, 9th May, 2018 at 2:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor C. A. Sharp)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor R. D. Gray)

Councillors: D. R. Sinnett (Chairman) Miss K. Gray

Mrs. T. Olin R. Williams

Councillor: Mrs. C. T. Williams *(Chair of the Milford Haven Town Team)*

Mr. N. McCarthy, Operations Manager, Environment Manager, Pembrokeshire County Council

Mr. J. Monk, Environment Manager, Port of Milford Haven

Ms. M. Jenkins, Property and Legal Manager, Port of Milford Haven

351. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. E. Byrne, T. J. Davies, W. D. Elliott BA QTS, R. D. Evans, E. R. Harries, A. H. Miles, M. P. Rickard, Mrs. Y. G. Southwell, Mrs. L. E. Turner, G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) and the Youth Representatives, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts.

Apologies for absence were also given from Mr. R. Brown, Head of Environment and Civic Contingencies and Mr. M. Harries, Head of Waste, Pembrokeshire County Council, and Ms. M. Williams, Keep Wales Tidy.

352. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

353. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN REGENERATION AND ACTION TEAM HELD ON 6TH MARCH, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of

the Town Regeneration and Action Team held

on 6th March, 2018, be accepted as a true record

and passed for signature by the Chairman.

354. CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS:

The Chairman, Councillor D. R. Sinnett, welcomed the representatives from the Port of Milford Haven to the meeting and summarised the aims and purpose of the Group.

The Chairman then asked Mr. J. Monk, Environment Manager, Milford Haven Port Authority to provide information about his role.

Mr. Monk said that he had been in post for almost 3 years. The principle role of the Environmental Manager for the Port Authority is to ensure that the Port undertakes all its activities in an environmentally responsible way and complies with the law.

The Port of Milford Haven is one of the 5 relevant authorities for the SAC (Special Area of Conservation). These include National Resources Wales, Pembrokeshire County Council and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. Mr. Monk advised that there is a local SAC Officer.

Good management of the Port of Milford Haven includes the terrestrial estates as well as aquatic.

Mr. Monk said that he sits on various Welsh Government Committees including the Wales Task and Finish Group.

Mr. Monk added that this summer the Port of Milford Haven is seeking to capitalise on the rising public concerns regarding marine litter and plastic waste.

355. DOG FOULING/DOG WATCH SCHEME:

Ms. M. Jenkins, Property and Legal Manager, Port of Milford Haven, said that the majority of the issues with which she deals relate to dog fouling. The Port of Milford Haven also has issues with fly tipping.

Ms. Jenkins said that there are bins every 25 metres which are emptied frequently.

Ms. Jenkins advised that dog fouling was a particular problem on the footpath, maintained by the Pembrokeshire County Council, from Tesco to Lower Priory.

The shortage of dog waste bins on the footpath was mentioned. Mr. N. McCarthy, Operations Manager, Pembrokeshire County Council, said he would make enquiries about this.

Mr. McCarthy was asked why the new fence section on the footpath had been changed from the previous wooden post and rail design. Mr. McCarthy advised that he would check with the Officer concerned.

The Chairman said that part of the discussion at the last TREAT meeting was with Mr. M. Elliott, Head of Public Protection, Pembrokeshire County Council, who was going to support TREAT with the establishment of a Dog Watch scheme in the town and signage. Mr. Elliott has since taken early retirement.

The Chairman advised that he has spoken to Mr. S. Morbey, Lead Public Health Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council, who had explained that it would be difficult for the Public Protection Department to put a lot of capacity into helping TREAT with this initiative, but that he would attend an initial meeting to help set up a Dog Watch Scheme in the town.

The Chairman said that it would also be necessary to identify some funding for hi-viz jackets.

Reference was made to the hotspot areas in the town: Prioryville, the cycle track behind the Harbourmaster, the Rath and Charles Street.

Members were advised that if private land has public access Pembrokeshire County Council can enforce the dog issue.

The Chairman said that many people do not realise that they can dispose of dog waste in normal waste bins. TREAT has organised a schoolchildren’s competition to design a sticker to put on waste bins to illustrate that normal bins can be used for dog waste.

It was suggested that a social media campaign be carried out to raise awareness that people can use normal bins for dog waste.

Mr. N. McCarthy said that he would forward a map of the waste bins in the town.

RESOLVED THAT:

(a) a sub-group, consisting of the Chairman and Councillors

Miss K. Gray, M. P. Rickard and R. Williams be formed to

look at the issue of dog fouling in the town;

(b) Councillors are to be asked to identify areas in their

Wards where there are problems with dog fouling.

356. REDUCTION IN THE USE OF PLASTICS – PLASTIC FREE JULY:

Speaking in her role as Chair of the Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team, Councillor Mrs. C. T. Williams said that the Town Team was looking at plastic pledges that businesses can make to reduce the use of plastics. The Town Team would like to work with Pembrokeshire County Council and TREAT to progress this initiative with social media being a factor.

RESOLVED THAT Ms. K. Daly, Strategic Project Officer,

Pembrokeshire County Council, is to be contacted to ask

whether the Pembrokeshire County Council has any

involvement with plastic free July and if so, what are

they planning.

Mr. Monk advised that many businesses on the Marina have started to become plastic free.

The Deputy Mayor/Mayor Elect, Councillor R. D. Gray emphasised that her aim during her Mayoral year was to make Milford Haven plastic free. The Milford Haven branch of the Soroptimists have been very supportive of Councillor Gray’s vision.

RESOLVED THAT a Sub-Group be formed to progress

the plastic-free initiative composed of the Deputy Mayor/

Mayor Elect, Port of Milford Haven, and the Chair

of the Town Team.

357. BEACH CLEANING:

RESOLVED THAT a beach clean-up at Gelliswick

be organised for the last week of the School term in July,

with the Chairman arranging the necessary permissions.

The Chairman is to arrange all necessary permissions.

358. TOWN MAINTENANCE ISSUES:

(a) Grass Cutting

There have been some comments as to the quality of the grass cutting in the town, which would improve as the new contractor becomes more familiar with the area.

(b) Recycling Points

The Chairman referred to the amount of rubbish left around recycling points and asked whether the areas were checked on a regular basis.

The Chairman asked whether the Pembrokeshire County Council was investigating covert CCTV. Mr. McCarthy said that Mr. R. Brown, Head of Environment and Civil Contingencies, was very keen on tackling envirocrime.

RESOLVED THAT Mr. R. Brown, Head of

Environment and Civil Contingencies,

be invited to attend the next TREAT

meeting to discuss envirocrime.

(c) Housing

Mr. McCarthy said that he was not aware of any big issues but a Member said that there was an issue with tenancy management and the storage of black bags on one of the housing estates.

RESOLVED THAT Ms. K. Woods, Housing

Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council,

be asked to attend the next meeting of

TREAT.

359. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Mr. J. Monk said that his work commitments meant that he would not be available to attend every meeting of TREAT. The Chairman replied that if there was something that Mr. Monk wished to put on the Agenda to contact the Clerk.

RESOLVED THAT the date of the next meeting be

Tuesday, 10th July at 6.00 pm.

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