Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 30th July, 2018 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor R. D. Gray)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

Councillors: P. Coe W. D. Elliott BA QTS

Miss K. Gray E. R. Harries

A. H. Miles M. P. Rickard

C. A. Sharp D. R. Sinnett

Mrs. Y. G. Southwell Mrs. L. E. Turner

R. Williams G. Woodham MBA (Open)

LL.B (Hons)

Youth

Representatives: Miss A. Coaker Miss B. Roberts

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PRAYERS:

Reverend A. Bookless said that he wished to apologise as he would not be present at the next Full Council meeting on Thursday, 6th September. Prayers would be led at that meeting by the Reverend J. Cecil.

Reverend Bookless then led Members in prayer.

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

68. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. E. Byrne, Mrs. T. Olin and Mrs. C. T. Williams.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 12 – Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team as he is the Torch Theatre representative on the Town Team and also the Interim Chair.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 12 – Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team as he is the Milford Haven Museum’s representative on the Town Team.

Councillor Mrs. Y. G. Southwell declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 13(b)(ii) – Applications for Financial Assistance, St. Katharine and St. Peter’s Church as she is a member of the Church.

Councillor M. P. Rickard declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 12 – Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team as he is the Pembrokeshire Herald’s representative on the Town Team.

Councillor Mrs. L. E. Turner declared a personal interest in Agenda Item No. 12 – Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team as she is a member of the Town Team.

Councillor E. R. Harries reiterated the personal interest declared at the last meeting in relation to the donation given by the Waterloo Club to this Council for the paddling pool as he is the President of the Waterloo Club.

Councillor R. Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 13 (b)(i) – Applications for Financial Assistance – Milford Haven Branch of the Royal British Legion and Milford Haven School as the Company he is employed by has assisted in the preparation of the book for which the applicant is seeking financial assistance.

70. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 10TH JULY, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting

of the Milford Haven Town Council held on the 10th July,

2018, be accepted and that they be signed by

the Mayor as a true record.

71. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 12TH JULY, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Milford Haven Town Council held on the 12th July,

2018, be accepted and that they be signed by

the Mayor as a true record.

72. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

Members were informed of the Mayor’s engagements since Friday, 13th July, 2018:

* 13th July - Beating of the Bounds, Haverfordwest
* 15th July - Neyland Civic Service
* 18th July - Pupil Awards at Milford Haven School
* 19th July - Visit of Seabourn Quest to Milford Haven
* 19th July - Havenhurst Care Home 50th Anniversary Garden Party *(attended by the Deputy Mayor)*

The Mayor said that the Clerk had received a letter that day regarding a public consultation concerning thoracic surgery in South Wales. The consultation finishes on 27th August. Any Members who wish to complete the consultation are urged to contact the Clerk.

73. TOWN REGENERATION ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM (TREAT):

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Regeneration Environmental Action Team (TREAT) held on the 10th July, 2018, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor R. D. Gray.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Town Regeneration Environmental Action Team

(TREAT), held on 10th July, 2018, be approved

and adopted.

74. CEMETERY:

RESOLVED THAT the Cemetery Report, as

presented by the Clerk for the month of

June, 2018, be accepted. (See Appendix A).

75. PLANS:

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations of

the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning

Committee in respect of the planning applications detailed on Pages 1 and 2 of the attached report

(see Appendix B) be approved.

76. REPORT FROM MISS B. ROBERTS, MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:

Miss B. Roberts explained that Milford Haven Youth Council is a group of young people aged 11 – 18 who come together to create and put on projects and activities to benefit the community.

This year the Youth Council has decided to host a Community Afternoon Tea to which they would like to invite a wide range of residents in order to make the event as diverse as possible. The Community Afternoon Tea is taking place on 24th August at Milford Haven Youth Centre.

The Milford Haven Town Council was asked to identify 5 individuals who it is felt should attend this event. Miss Roberts advised that the Mayor had already received an invitation.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) Miss Roberts’ report be received;

(ii) the 4 adult Citizens’ Award holders from 2018

be invited to the event along with the Town Clerk

or Secretary.

77. APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION ON TO THE WEST WARD OF THE MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL:

The Mayor advised that two applications had been received to fill, by co-option, the vacancy on the West Ward of the Milford Haven Town Council.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the public, including the Youth Representatives,

be excluded from the meeting for

this Agenda item, under the terms of this

Council’s Standing Order No. 1d in order to

consider, in confidence, the two written

applications for co-option on to the West

Ward of the Milford Haven Town Council;

(ii) a secret ballot be conducted to decide on

the selection of the successful candidate;

(iii) the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Councillor D. R. Sinnett, and the

Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee,

Councillor M. P. Rickard, act as scrutineers;

The secret ballot then took place, and following the announcement of the results if was FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

(iv) Mr. Lee Bridges, 25 Marble Hall Road, Milford Haven

be elected to fill the vacancy on the West Ward

of the Milford Haven Town Council.

78. MILFORD HAVEN TOWN REGENERATION TEAM:

Members considered a copy of a letter addressed to Councillor D. R. Sinnett from Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) in his role as Interim Chair of the Milford Haven Town Regeneration Team (Town Team).

Councillor D. R. Sinnett said that before considering the content of Councillor Woodham’s letter he would like Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) to say a few words about the meeting of the Town Team that took place recently and the events that led up to that meeting, hence this request to Council this evening. He would follow on and ask for advice from the Council as to how this can be taken forward.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) said that he has been involved in the Town Team in its various guises since the very beginning. Councillors Harries, Miles and Sinnett will recall in 2008 the Barton Willmore report which was abundant with promise for the regeneration of Milford Haven. The Town Team was instituted in the wake of that report and Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) was the Chair at the time. The Town Team has moved forward over the years but has always faced the challenge of not having enough engagement from non-Councillors.

There was a well-attended meeting at the Town Hall a few years’ ago which attempted to reinvigorate the Town Team. As the months went by a decreasing number of people were engaging in the process of the Town Team, coming back to just a few core people.

When the Town Team met in June the then Chair, Councillor Mrs. C. T. Williams, made the decision to step down, with Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) becoming the Interim Chair. It was agreed at that Town Team meeting that there should be one last opportunity to try and see if there was anybody in the community, especially the business community, who would be prepared to become involved with the Town Team.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) contacted all of the individuals and organisations that were on the mailing list, explaining that there was a need for greater engagement across the community, especially the business community, as to whether anyone would come forward and be prepared to commit to supporting the Town Team or, if not, what could be done in relation to the Town Team. Approximately half of those on the distribution list responded – the majority just wished to be kept informed as to what was happening and did not want to play an active part. Most of those who did express taking an active part were Town Councillors. It was very much that a call has gone out but had not been answered.

At the Town Team’s meeting, at which Councillor D. R. Sinnett also attended, and to which everyone who was present contributed, it was reluctantly agreed to cease operating as a Town Team.

It was also agreed that Councillor Woodham should write and ask if Milford Haven Town Council’s Town Regeneration and Environmental Action Team (TREAT) would agree to taking over the activities of the Town Team. The Town Team consisted of a large number of Town Councillors and much of the discussions that occurred were duplicated either by TREAT or the Town Council Public Events Sub-Committee. The Town Team hoped that the opportunity would still be offered for local organisations, such as the Port of Milford Haven and Milford Youth Matters, to participate in future TREAT meetings and that this option can be considered by TREAT.

Ms. S. Henehan, Community Safety, Poverty and Regeneration Manager, Pembrokeshire County Council, was at that Town Team meeting, and she explained that co-option makes proceedings very formal. Ms. Henehan further explained that there is another Town Council who has ownership of the Town Regeneration Team and they permit members of organisations to come along without being formally co-opted when there is a matter of interest. Ms. Henehan has offered to provide that Town Council’s Terms of Reference.

It was also agreed that the remaining funds held by the Town Team should be transferred to the Town Council to support the work of TREAT being taken forward.

Councillor Sinnett thanked Councillor Woodham for the information. He said that if it is this Council’s view that TREAT looks at this in September he would be pleased to bring back any comments and recommendations from that meeting to Full Council.

A Member proposed that the Milford Haven Town Council should accept, in principle, the idea that has been put forward and that TREAT be asked to deliberate on this particular issue and report back to Full Council.

The Member said that he was in favour of calling in outside bodies to help to promote our town but referred to the difficulty which may arise with regard to their voting rights, which would be deliberated by TREAT.

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Council

accepts, in principle, the idea that has been put

forward and asks TREAT to deliberate on this

particular issue and report back to Full Council.

79. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

(a) Acknowledgement of Donations:

The Mayor advised that letters of thanks had been received from Cruse Bereavement Care, Eisteddfod yr Urdd/Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Milford Haven Museum, Milford Haven Music Festival, Pill Social Centre Community Association, Rotary Club of Milford Haven, and Torch Theatre.

(b) Applications for Financial Assistance:

RESOLVED THAT the following decisions be

made in relation to the applications for financial

assistance:-

(i) Milford Haven Branch - £500

of the Royal British Legion towards the cost of and Milford Haven School producing a book to commemorate local people who took part in WWI.

*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.*

(ii) St. Katharine - £250

and St. Peter’s Church towards the re- hanging of the crosses and the booklet to provide information on those who are commemorated.

*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.*

(iii) The Wales Air Ambulance - £380

Charitable Trust for a box of breathing circuits.

*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.*

80. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS:

RESOLVED THAT the Schedule of Accounts,

as presented by the Clerk for the month of

June, 2018, in the sum of £17,835.30

be accepted and approved for payment.

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