Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Thursday, 11th October, 2018 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor R. D. Gray)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

Councillors: A. E. Byrne W. D. Elliott BA QTS

Miss K. Gray A. H. Miles

M. P. Rickard Mrs Y. G. Southwell

Mrs L. E. Turner R. Williams

TO RECEIVE MS. S. HENEHAN, COMMUNITY SAFETY, POVERTY AND REGENERATION MANAGER, PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT S. COCKWELL AND INSPECTOR A. MILLICHIP, DYFED-POWYS POLICE:

The Mayor, Councillor R. D. Gray, welcomed Ms. S Henehan, Community Safety, Poverty and Regeneration Manager, Pembrokeshire County Council and Chief Superintendent S. Cockwell and Inspector A. Millichip, Dyfed-Powys Police to the meeting.

Chief Superintendent Cockwell said that they had come to talk about the CCTV Project Team within Dyfed-Powys Police, as the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, Dafydd Llywelyn, had pledged to look at the CCTV system throughout the force area.

The Project Team want to make sure that the CCTV infrastructure is fit for purpose. They had found that a lot of cameras were not working and were not of the best quality.

The Project Team wishes to ensure that the CCTV cameras are working and of the best quality. The Project Team must comply with the Surveillance Camera Commissioner’s statutory guidance for public place CCTV to justify whether there is a need, such as anti-social behaviour, for a camera in a specific area. The Project Team must establish the best location to site cameras.

The Project Team is to take on four cameras in Milford Haven. This will not incur any costs to the Town Council but will be funded from the police budget.

The cameras will be digital, HD and work in a very low light.

The four cameras are located at Charles Street (one at the junction with Priory Street and one at the junction with Dartmouth Street); junction Hamilton Terrace/Dartmouth Street; and junction of Great North Road/Vaynor Road. There is an option to move the latter camera further into the town centre.

The cameras will be monitored at Police Headquarters in Carmarthen. This is the best opportunity to concentrate resources and capture evidence to bring people to justice.

A discussion followed on the siting of CCTV cameras and the problems associated with nightclubs.

Chief Superintendent Cockwell said that camera locations will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

A Member asked whether the Police were going to take over the CCTV camera at the Torch Theatre. The Member was subsequently informed that in terms of identification and assisting with prosecution it is a bit more limited. If the Town Council wants to retain the other CCTV cameras that it presently funds is a matter for Members to consider. Those three cameras may not meet the Commissioner’s standards. As well as the camera at the Torch Theatre, the Town Council funds a camera at Gelliswick Road and a camera at the junction at Priory Road/Cromwell Road.

Another Member questioned whether the Council could receive guidance if Councillors wished to retain those cameras it presently funds. The Member was advised that the cameras must be in compliance with the Surveillance Camera Commissioner’s guidance.

Chief Superintendent Cockwell spoke of his hope that the new cameras would be in place before Christmas but was realistically looking at January 2019.

Members agreed that the decision of where the cameras are located should rest in the hands of the police.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Henehan, Chief Superintendent Cockwell and Inspector Millichip for attending the meeting and they left the meeting at this point.

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PRAYERS:

Prayers were led by the Mayor’s Chaplain, Rev. A. Bookless.

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

117. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L. J. Bridges, P. Coe, E. R. Harries, C. A. Sharp, D. R. Sinnett, G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) and the Youth Representatives, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts. Apologies for absence were not received from Councillor Mrs C. T. Williams.

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Mrs L. E. Turner declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item No. 12 (b)(i) – Applications for Financial Assistance – Mount Estate Parent Play Team (MEPPT) c/o Pembrokeshire County Council, as she is a Trustee of the Charity that runs the Community Centre that houses the Play Team which receives a minimal contribution as rent.

119. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Milford Haven Town Council held on the 24th September,

2018, be accepted and that they be signed by

the Mayor as a true record.

120. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 4TH OCTOBER, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT THE Minutes of the Special Meeting

of the Milford Haven Town Council held on 4th

October, 2018, be accepted and that they be

signed by the Mayor as a true record.

121. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

(a) Membership of Town Hall and Forward Planning Groups

The Mayor advised that Councillor Mrs L. E. Turner wished to change Groups and join the Town Hall Group.

Councillor Mrs Y. G. Southwell said that she would like to be a member of the Town Hall Group.

Councillor A. E. Byrne said that he was very flexible and would change his Group if necessary.

The Mayor said that if anyone wished to move Groups they were to notify the Clerk.

(b) Appointment of Chartered Building Surveyor

The Mayor said that a Chartered Building Surveyor has been appointed to carry out a survey of the building. He would not be able to program this work until November. Pembrokeshire County Council has been informed of this and asked to forward information about the building.

122. UPDATE ON CASUAL VACANCY:

Following the resignation of Mrs T. Olin, Councillor Miss K. Gray had contacted the Clerk to ask whether it would be possible to represent the East Ward instead of the North Ward.

The Clerk had contacted One Voice Wales and the Monitoring Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council, and had been informed that this would be possible providing an election had not been called following the Notice for the Casual Vacancy on the East Ward.

The Clerk was informed that in a publication known as the Practical Guide to Community Matters “there is nothing in election law to prevent a serving councillor being elected or co-opted to a second seat on the council. However, it is established in case law that, if a person holding one office be elected to another, and accepts that election, he thereby vacates the office he held. The procedure to follow is: council co-opts existing councillor (or he is elected to the vacant seat); councillor forthwith hands letter of resignation from old ward to chairman, after doing this councillor then directly signs declaration of office to office of the new ward, the clerk then puts up a notice of casual vacancy for the ward with the new vacancy”.

The Mayor said that the two Town Council Ward members for the East Ward – Councillors C. A. Sharp and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons), although not present this evening, had advised that they would be pleased to welcome Councillor Miss K. Gray to the East Ward.

RESOLVED THAT Miss K. Gray be co-opted on to

the East Ward of the Milford Haven Town Council.

Councillor Miss K. Gray then handed in her resignation as a Member for the North Ward of the Milford Haven Town Council and signed the Declaration of Office.

123. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION FOR WALES – ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20:

Members discussed the Independent Remuneration for Wales Annual Report 2019/20.

RESOLVED THAT the Independent Remuneration for

Wales Annual Report 2019/20 be received.

The Clerk informed Members that, although there was nothing written in the report, she had been told that if a Member wished to claim an allowance she had to make payment through the Council’s PAYE system. This was causing a great deal of problems in other Councils, where, like this Council, the PAYE software system was only for a limited number. She was in touch with other Clerks and would keep Members informed of developments.

124. TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE IN MID AND WEST WALES:

Members discussed a notice from Hywel Dda University Health Board which stated that at a public meeting held on Wednesday, 26 September, Hywel Dda University Health Board will embark on an ambitious 20-year journey to transform the way health care and support in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and borders is received.

The notice summarised the headline decisions and Hywel Dda’s future plans.

RESOLVED THAT the document be received.

125. PARC GWYN CREMATORIUM – PROPOSAL TO INCREASE CHARGES AND IDEAS TO DEVELOP SERVICES:

Members discussed a Consultation from the Pembrokeshire County Council regarding proposals to increase charges at Parc Gwyn Crematorium and to explore ideas for developing the services provided.

A member referred to the current high charges for cremation services and the problems associated with funeral poverty.

RESOLVED THAT Members are to complete the

Parc Gwyn Crematorium - Response Form on

an individual basis if they wish to do so.

126. TOILET STRATEGY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS:

Members discussed a Toilet Strategy Needs Assessment from the Pembrokeshire County Council.

A Member pointed out this Council could not answer this survey fully as there are not any toilets in Milford Haven that are currently charged at 20 pence and the Town Hall, a community building, is not in the ownership of this Council.

RESOLVED THAT the document be received.

127. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

(a) Acknowledgement of Donations

The Mayor advised that letters of thanks had been received from the Milford Haven Branch of the Royal British Legion and Milford Haven School, St. Katharine and St. Peter’s Church, and the Wales Air Ambulance.

(b) Applications for Financial Assistance:

(i) Mount Estate Parent Play Team (MEPPT) c/o Pembrokeshire County Council

Councillor Mrs L. E. Turner reiterated her personal and prejudicial interest in this matter and spoke in an advisory role only.

RESOLVED THAT no donation be made to Mount

Estate Parent Play Team at this time as it is not

a constituted group with its own bank account

and its funds are administered by the Pembrokeshire

County Council.

(ii) Milford Haven Tennis Club – Junior Club

It was noted that this was a newly set up Club which is why no supporting financial information was forthcoming.

RESOLVED THAT:

(A) a donation of £129.20 be made to the Junior Club

of the Milford Haven Tennis Club with the proviso

that the funds are not released until a bank account

has been set up;

(B) if the Clerk is not advised by January, 2019, then the

grant will be automatically withdrawn.

*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) Bobath Children’s Therapy Centre Wales

RESOLVED THAT a donation of £100 be made to

Bobath Children’s Therapy Centre Wales.

*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.*

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