Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Thursday, 10th January, 2019 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

Councillors: L. J. Bridges P. Coe

W. D. Elliott BA QTS Miss K. Gray

E. R. Harries Mrs N. C. Joseph 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)

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

UPDATE ON THE TOWN HALL:

RESOLVED THAT the press and public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 1(d) – *Meetings shall be open to the* *public unless their presence is prejudicial to* *the public interest by reason of the confidential* *nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons.*

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

Councillor Mrs Y. G. Southwell joined the meeting.

186. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor, Councillor R. D. Gray, who had been diagnosed with laryngitis that morning, Councillors A. E. Byrne, A. H. Miles and the Youth Representatives, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts.

187. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor L. J. Bridges declared a personal and prejudicial interest in 188(d) – Milford Haven Round Table – as he is considering returning to the group and could as a business owner potentially receive funds from one of their events under discussion this evening.

Councillor L. J. Bridges declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Public Events budget as the Managing Director of Fun Times Entertainment Limited which would wish to bid once more on Founders’ Day activities.

Councillor T. J. Davies declared a personal interest in 188(c) – Milford Haven Museum Trust – as he has been appointed by this Council as one of its representatives on the Milford Haven Museum Trust.

Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest in 188(e) – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets – as he is the volunteer Commanding Officer of the Unit.

Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest in 188(f) – Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band – as he is the volunteer Vice President of the Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band.

Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest in 188(h) – Pill Social Centre – as he is a volunteer at the Pill Social Centre.

Councillor E. R. Harries declared a personal interest in 188(d) – Milford Haven Round Table – as the applicant is a close relative.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a personal interest in 188(c) – Milford Haven Museum Trust – as he is the Chair of the Milford Haven Museum and has been appointed by this Council as one of its representatives on the Milford Haven Museum Trust.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a personal interest in 188(e) – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets – as he is the volunteer Vice Chair of the Unit.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a personal interest in 188(g) – Milford Haven Twinning Association – as he is this Council’s representative on the Milford Haven Twinning Association.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a personal interest in 188(h) – Pill Social Centre – as he is the volunteer Chair at the Pill Social Centre.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a prejudicial interest in 188(i) – Torch Theatre Company Limited – as his husband, Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) is Senior Manager – Business at the Torch Theatre.

Councillor D. R. Sinnett declared a prejudicial interest in 188(i) – Torch Theatre Company Limited – as he is a Pembrokeshire County Council appointed Board Member of the Torch Theatre.

Councillor Mrs Y. G. Southwell declared a personal interest in 188(i) – Torch Theatre Company Limited – as she is this Council’s representative on the Torch Theatre Management Board.

Councillor Mrs L. E. Turner declared a personal interest in 188(k) – Friends of the Mount (Pembs) – as she is a Trustee and Treasurer of the Friends of the Mount charity.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in 188(f) – Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band – as he is the volunteer President of the Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in 188(h) – Pill Social Centre – as he is the volunteer Treasurer at the Pill Social Centre.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal and prejudicial interest in 188(i) – Torch Theatre Company Limited – as he is employed as Senior Manager – Business at the Torch Theatre.

188. TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2019/2020:

Members discussed the Council’s precept requirements for 2019/2020.

(a) Cemetery Expenditure

A Member said that he thought it was positive that the proposed income and expenditure listed in the Cemetery almost balanced. He recommended that the figure of £2,500 in the estimated expenditure for Building Maintenance be reduced from £2,500 to this year’s figure of £1,000 in order to further balance the income and expenditure.

RESOLVED THAT the figure of £2,500 in the Building

Maintenance Budget be reduced from £2,500 to

£1,000.

(b) Christmas Donations (LGA 1972, s.145)

RESOLVED THAT this budget be increased from

£1,400 to £2000.

A Member stated that two organisations had requested donations of more than £10,000 under the Exceptional Grant Applications heading.

He advised that donations under this budget heading can only be made for a maximum of £10,000.

(c) Milford Haven Museum Trust (LGA 1972, s. 137)

Councillor C. A. Sharp abstained from voting on this issue.

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Museum

Trust’s donation is to remain at £10,000 for

the financial year 2019/2020.

(d) Milford Haven Round Table (LGA 1972, s.145)

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Round Table’s

donation is to remain at £4,150 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(e) Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets (LGA 1972, s.137)

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Sea Cadets

and Royal Marine Cadets are to receive a donation

of £2,500 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(f) Milford Haven Town Band and Milford Haven Junior Town Band (LGA 1972, s.145)

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Band and

Milford Haven Junior Town Band’s donation is to

remain at £2,500 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(g) Milford Haven Twinning Association (LGA 1972, s.145)

Councillor C. A. Sharp, the Milford Haven Town Council’s representative on the Twinning Association, explained that the Milford Haven Twinning Association was not seeking funding for the next financial year, but would request funding if the circumstances changes and funding was required.

RESOLVED THAT the information be received.

(h) Pill Social Centre (LGA 1972, s.137)

RESOLVED THAT the Pill Social Centre is to receive

a donation of £4,500 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(i) Torch Theatre Company Limited (LGA 1972, s.145)

Councillors G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons), D. R. Sinnett and C. A. Sharp reiterated their prejudicial interests and left the Council Chamber during the discussion of this item.

RESOLVED THAT the Torch Theatre Company

Limited’s grant is to be decreased from £12,000 to

£10,000 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(j) Dyfed and Glamorgan Army Cadet Force (Milford Haven Troop) (LGA 1972, s.137)

RESOLVED THAT the Dyfed and Glamorgan Army

Cadet Force (Milford Haven Troop) are to receive a

donation of £1,200 for the financial year 2019/2020.

(k) Friends of the Mount (Pembs) (LGA 1972, s.137)

Councillor Mrs L. E. Turner reiterated her personal interest and left the Council Chamber during the discussion of this item.

RESOLVED THAT the Friends of the Mount (Pembs)

are to receive a donation of £2,000 with the proviso

that the donation is not to be used retrospectively on the

kitchen.

(l) Milford Haven Gymnastic Club (LGA 1972, s.137)

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Council

regrets that no donation be made as there is a lack

of supporting financial information with the

application.

(m) Pembrokeshire Special Needs Gymnastic Club (LGA 1972, s.137)

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Council

regrets that no donation be made as this organisation

is requesting funding for assistance in purchasing an

item which will be located in Pembrokeshire County

Council premises.

(n) Allowance for Mayor’s Civic Duties/Mayor’s Civic Service/Civic Dinner

RESOLVED THAT the budget for 2019/2020 be

increased from £3,100 to £3,500.

(o) Councillor Allowance

The Clerk reminded Members that the Councillor Allowance has to be taxed at source.

RESOLVED THAT any Member wishing to accept

the Councillor Allowance has to contact the

Clerk with relevant information.

(p) Elections

The Clerk read out an email from Ms. S. Waters, Elections Unit, Pembrokeshire County Council. An election has been called for the

North Ward. The approximate cost for an electoral ward the size of

North Ward is in the region of £7,400 which includes poll cards.

(Poll cards cost approximately £1,383.60.) The actual cost will depend

on a number of unknown factors such as the number of nominations received.

The Clerk said that this figure would have to be met from Reserves

as there was only a limited amount of funds in the elections budget.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the elections budget be increased to £5,000 for

the financial year 2019-2020;

(ii) the Clerk is to request that poll cards be ordered;

(iii) the distribution of poll cards be evaluated after the

North Ward election so that Members can establish

whether there is a benefit to funding these cards in

any future elections.

(q) Training for Councillors and Council Staff

RESOLVED THAT the provision of £500 be

removed from the budget for 2019/2020.

(r) Rath Paddling Pool

The Clerk said she had received an email from Mr. J. Walters, Manager, Milford Haven Leisure Centre, stating that the Rath Paddling Pool will cost £3,883.48 for the financial year 2018/2019.

In 2018, the Milford Haven Town Council entered into a one-year contract with the Pembrokeshire County Council and the Nantucket Charitable Incorporated Organisation to fund the opening of the Rath Paddling Pool for the School Summer Holidays. It had been agreed that the Nantucket Charitable Incorporated Organisation should contribute £2,000 or 40%, whichever is the lower figure.

It was proposed and seconded that the provision of £3,000 be made

towards the funding of the Rath Paddling Pool. A vote was taken with 5 votes for this proposal with 5 against. The Deputy Mayor had the casting vote and voted to continue funding the Rath Paddling Pool.

RESOLVED THAT a provision of £3,000 be

made in the budget for 2019/2020 for the

Rath Paddling Pool.

(s) Milford Haven Town Wifi

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) no provision be made for Milford Haven

Town Wifi in the financial year 2019-2020;

(ii) this subject be referred to the Social Media

Group for further discussion.

(t) Budget Lines

RESOLVED THAT the Clerk is to prepare a

report highlighting the cost of the budget lines

over the last few years as a result of the

Pembrokeshire County Council passing over

certain responsibilities.

(u) Precept

RESOLVED THAT a Precept Requirement in the sum of

£191,945 be served on the Pembrokeshire County

Council in respect of the financial year 2019/2020.

This figure is equivalent to a charge of £37.45 per

annum per Band “D” household, an increase

of £2.45 per annum.

189. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CEMETERY FEES SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2018:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 6th December, were moved by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 6th December,

2018, be approved and adopted.

190. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th DECEMBER 2018:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 11th December, 2018, were moved by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Establishment Committee held on 11th December,

2018, be approved and adopted.

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