Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 28th January, 2019 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor R. D. Gray)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

Councillors: W. D. Elliott BA QTS Mrs N. C. Joseph

M. P. Rickard D. R. Sinnett

Mrs L. E. Turner R. Williams

G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons)

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TO RECEIVE MR. M. OWEN, STREETCARE MANAGER, PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, TO DISCUSS TRAFFIC CONCERNS IN MILFORD HAVEN:

Members of the Milford Haven Town Council and County Councillor S. T. Hudson MBE were waiting from 6:00 pm for Mr. Owen to arrive at the Meeting.

The Clerk said that Mr. Owen had been aware of the date and time of the Meeting since the middle of December. The Secretary had forwarded him a copy of the Agenda on 24th January which he had acknowledged and asked for further information which the Clerk had supplied by email on 25th January.

County Councillor S. T. Hudson MBE left the meeting at approximately 6:35 pm. Shortly afterwards Mr. Owen arrived.

Mr. Owen apologised for being late. He said he thought the Meeting started at 7:00 pm. He said that if Members wished he would come back on another occasion. The Mayor asked Members for their opinion and they agreed that Mr. Owen should speak. The Mayor said that any information he provided would assist in the discussion in the later Agenda item – Traffic Concerns in Milford Haven.

A Member said that he is aware that Mr. Owen has received correspondence (including photos and videos) from residents concerned at the parking around the vicinity of the takeaway on the Marble Hall junction. The Member said that he is also aware that local Councillors have been lobbied, as this area cuts across a number of Wards in the town. The Town Council recently discussed this issue to determine if there was a sustainable, long term solution to the problem. The Member asked Mr. Owen for his opinion.

Mr. Owen advised that there is already a restriction in place outside the premises. A vehicle can, however, wait on a double yellow line (non- commercial) for 5 minutes and Goods vehicles can wait for 10 minutes to load and unload. People with disability badges may park for up to 3 hours on a double yellow line if it is safe to do so.

Mr. Owen stated that this Council could consider requesting a consultation for an amendment to the Traffic Order for this location to introduce a no waiting at any time restriction. There would be no 5 or 10 minute countdown. This could, however, have a negative impact on residents, such as when they wanted to park outside their homes to unload their shopping.

A Member asked about the Civil Enforcement Officers who he has seen in the town.

Mr. Owen said that the Civil Enforcement Officers predominantly work between the hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. One officer, however, works from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm four days a week.

Another Member referred to correspondence he had received regarding parking issues on Steynton Road around the Milford Haven School. Mr. Owen said that this was a Trunk Road matter.

A Member referred to bollards that had been erected outside the Nisa store in Johnston. He speculated as to whether this could be an option for the takeaway.

Members then discussed the formation of a Traffic Working Group which Mr. Owen supported.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Owen for his attendance and he left the Meeting.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, Councillor Mrs N. C. Joseph, and Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) joined the Meeting.

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.

191. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L. J. Bridges, A. E. Byrne, P. Coe, Miss K. Gray, E. R. Harries, A. H. Miles, C. A. Sharp, Mrs Y. G. Southwell, and the Youth Representatives, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts.

192. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 8 Cemetery – as he works on an occasional basis for a local Funeral Director. Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 15 – Application for Financial Assistance – Milford Haven Amateur Operatic Society – as the Milford Haven Amateur Operatic Society hires the Torch Theatre where he is a remunerated employee.

193. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 6TH DECEMBER, 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Milford Haven Town Council held on the 6th December,

2018, be accepted and that they be signed by

the Mayor as a true record.

194. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 10TH JANUARY, 2019:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Milford Haven Town Council held on the 10th January,

2019, be accepted and that they be signed by

the Mayor as a true record.

195. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

The Mayor, Councillor R. D. Gray, apologised for not being able to attend the Precept Meeting as she was suffering from laryngitis. She thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, for Chairing the Meeting.

196. TOWN REGENERATION ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM (TREAT):

The Minutes of the Town Regeneration Environmental Action Team (TREAT) held on 4th December, 2018, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor D. R. Sinnett.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

of the Town Regeneration Environmental

Action Team (TREAT) held on the 4th

December, 2018, be approved and adopted.

197. CEMETERY REPORTS – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018:

RESOLVED THAT the Cemetery Reports, as

presented by the Clerk for the months of

November and December, 2018, be accepted.

(See Appendix A.)

198. PLANS:

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations of

the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning

Committee in respect of the planning applications detailed on Page 1 of the attached report

(see Appendix B) be approved.

199. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP 2) PRE-DEPOSIT (INCLUDING PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION):

Members gave consideration to the Local Development Plan (LDP 2) Pre-Deposit (including Preferred Strategy) Consultation.

RESOLVED THAT the Local Development Plan (LDP 2)

Pre-Deposit (including Preferred Strategy Consultation)

be received.

200. TRAFFIC CONCERNS IN MILFORD HAVEN:

A Member summarised the earlier discussions held with Mr. M. Owen, Streetcare Manager, Pembrokeshire County Council.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the Pembrokeshire County Council be asked to instigate a consultation for an amendment

to the Traffic Order for the Marble Hall Junction

so that there is no waiting at any time;

(ii) the Milford Haven Town Council forms a Traffic

Working Group which will look in more detail

at the issues raised by Councillors and members

of the community;

(iii) the Traffic Working Group will meet as soon as

possible and will include the Mayor, the Deputy

Mayor, the Chairs of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Public Works and

Planning Committee, and representatives from the

Dyfed-Powys Police, Pembrokeshire County Council,

Trunk Road Agent and residents who have been affected;

(iv) if any Councillor has a specific concern relating to traffic

issues within their Ward they are requested to contact

the Clerk who will add their concern to the programme

for the Traffic Working Group;

(v) the first item under discussion is to be Marble Hall

Junction.

201. COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE – DECEMBER 2018:

Members gave consideration to the Welsh Government’s Community and Town Council update December 2018.

RESOLVED THAT the document be received.

202. WEBCASTING OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE HEARINGS:

Correspondence was received from Ms. C. Jones, Monitoring Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council, in which she said that she was seeking the view of Town and Community Councils following a matter which has been raised in relation to Standards Committee Hearings in Pembrokeshire and which was discussed by the Standards Committee on the 4th December 2018. The Committee tasked her to contact all Town and Community Councils as part of a consultation exercise.

Ms. Jones advised that there is a general presumption that Pembrokeshire County Council webcasts its official meetings and the question has been raised as to whether Standards Committee Hearings should be webcast. For information, Standards Committee general business, such as dealing with applications for dispensation to speak/speak and vote are invariably webcast. It is recognised, however, that there may be different considerations to be borne in mind with regard to hearings.

Standards Committee Hearings have been held infrequently in Pembrokeshire in the past. They are convened to hear cases of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by County, Town and Community Councillors following referral of such cases by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. There have been two such cases in the past three years.

RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Council

recommends that in the interests of transparency

Standards Committee Hearings should be broadcast.

203. DRAFT TOILET STRATEGY CONSULTATION:

Members discussed the Pembrokeshire County Council’s draft toilet strategy consultation.

RESOLVED THAT the Draft Toilet Strategy

Consultation be received.

204. FINANCIAL ASISTANCE:

RESOLVED THAT the following decision be

made in relation to the application for financial

assistance:

(a) Milford Haven Amateur Operatic Society - £400

*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.*

205. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS:

RESOLVED THAT the Schedule of Accounts,

as presented by the Clerk for the months of

November and December, 2018, in the sum

of £20,144.90 be accepted and approved for

payment.

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