Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Thursday, 13th February, 2020 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

 Councillors: E. A. Davies M. P. Rickard

 C. A. Sharp D. R. Sinnett

 Mrs Y. G. Southwell R. Williams

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

 The Town Clerk and Secretary were also present.

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TO RECEIVE MR. I. THOMAS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AND MS. L. LLOYD, COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND RESILIENCE OFFICER (YOUTH), PLANED:

As a limited number of Councillors were present it was agreed to receive Mr. Thomas and Ms. Lloyd in the Committee Room.

The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, welcomed Mr. Thomas and Ms. Lloyd to the Meeting.

Mr. Thomas and Ms. Lloyd introduced themselves to Members. Mr. Thomas advised that PLANED was an organisation with over 30 years’ experience of working with communities. He spoke of PLANED’s versatility as an organisation with myriad projects available, one of which is the Community Well-Being and Resilience Project.

PLANED is committed to supporting communities to improve their quality of life by focusing on their opportunities, harnessing their potential and helping them to achieve their aspirations.

Mr. Thomas spoke of how PLANED projects have been of benefit – from the environment to health, from digital projects to community resilience - across Pembrokeshire. One particular project – a bespoke service in a school in Hook in 2019 – won plaudits from Ms. S. Holland, The Children’s Commissioner for Wales.

Mr. Thomas then asked Members what theywould like to see in Milford Haven.

A Member questioned whether it would be more advantageous for PLANED to directly address the various community groups in the town. The Member then stated that he would be happy for the Town Council to be used to signpost such groups. Another Member concurred with this statement, believing that the Council can “pull people together” for discussions.

A further Member, who is a Chair of a community group, spoke of the needs of his area, which has a fast-growing and enthusiastic population but a dearth of facilities. Ms. Lloyd indicated that PLANED may be of assistance.

Mr. Thomas spoke of his preference for an “umbrella” approach, incorporating all of the community groups to establish a coherent whole.

Ms. Lloyd suggested an “Open Day” involving the whole town in a brainstorming session. A definitive list could be formed following such an event.

A Member alluded to the Pembrokeshire County Council’s Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant, which has funds available for projects in Milford Haven. The Member then made reference to Ms. Henehan, who is Community Safety, Poverty and Regeneration Manager at Pembrokeshire County Council, indicating that she may also be of assistance.

Another Member spoke fervently of the moral obligation he believed housing developments to have. Mr. Thomas stated that PLANED had helped secure a play park for a housing estate.

Ms. Lloyd enthused about PLANED’s fantastic methods of engagement, including a Council-friendly “toolkit”.

PLANED is passionate about youth development and empowerment, having recently visited Cardiff to meet with Ms. K. Williams CBE, Minister for Education at the Senedd / National Assembly for Wales.

Mr. Thomas summed up his presentation by advising of an upcoming event – Milford Haven Community Conversation - on Monday (17th February).

A Member expressed concern regarding PLANED’s funding following Britain’s recent exit from the European Union. It was noted that there will be funding until the end of 2020.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Thomas and Ms. Lloyd for an insightful and informative presentation. Mr. Thomas and Ms. Lloyd then left the Meeting.

Members then relocated to the Council Chamber for the Full Council Meeting. Councillors M. P. Rickard, C. A. Sharp, Mrs Y. G. Southwell, R. Williams and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) joined the Meeting.

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 PRAYERS:

 The Mayor’s Chaplain, Father A. P. Johnson, led Members in prayer.

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

183. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, who was attending an event on behalf of the Milford Haven Town Council, and Councillors A. E. Byrne, P. Coe, W. D. Elliott BA QTS, R. D. Gray, E. R. Harries, Mrs N. C. Joseph, A. H. Miles, Mrs C. Stevens, Mrs L. E. Turner, and the Youth Representatives, Miss A. Coaker and Miss B. Roberts.

184. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor D. R. Sinnett declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7 – *Statutory Consultation – Future proposals for Sixth Form Provision at Milford Haven School* – as he is an LEA appointed Governor at the School.

Councillor E. A. Davies declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 9 – *Update on Chat Benches* – as he is Chair of the Steynton Community Group which has expressed an interest in acquiring one of the benches.

Councillor M. P. Rickard declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7 - *Statutory Consultation – Future proposals for Sixth Form Provision at Milford Haven School* – as his daughter is currently in Year 11 at the School, and he is also a former Governor of the School.

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) – referred to Agenda Item 7 -  *Statutory Consultation – Future proposals for Sixth Form Provision at Milford Haven School.* He said that it was not an interest, but as the Pembrokeshire County Council Cabinet Member with responsibility for Education and Lifelong Learning he would be presenting the outcome of the consultation to the Full Council of the Pembrokeshire County Council later in the year. He said that he would leave the room in the event of any discussion relating to this Agenda Item as he did not wish to impede debate.

185. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27TH JANUARY, 2020:

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

 of the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

 27th January, 2020, be accepted and that they

 be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

186. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

 (a) Port of Milford Haven

The Mayor advised of correspondence that had been received from Ms. A. Malloy, Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager at the Port of Milford Haven. In the correspondence Ms. Malloy suggested that the three Central Ward Councillors – Councillors Miles, Mrs Turner and Williams – be invited to regular meetings so that they are fully aware of the Port of Milford Haven’s plans.

 RESOLVED THAT, as any development will impact

upon all Wards, that Ms. Malloy is requested to attend

regular Meetings of the Town Council to update all Councillors.

 (b) Town Hall

 The Mayor informed Members that he had heard from the Pembrokeshire County Council and been advised that the sale of the Town Hall was close to completion.

 Any parties with queries are requested to contact the Property Team at the Pembrokeshire County Council.

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REPORTS ON COMMITTEES

187. PUBLIC EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE:

 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Public Events Sub-Committee held on 27th January, 2020, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies.

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

 of the Public Events Sub-Committee held on the

 27th January, 2020, be accepted and that they

 be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

188. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – FUTURE PROPOSALS FOR SIXTH FORM PROVISION AT MILFORD HAVEN SCHOOL:

 Members considered the documentation received from the Pembrokeshire County Council relating to Future Proposals for Sixth Form Provision at Milford Haven School.

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) the documentation be received;

 (ii) Members can attend a Public Drop-In Session

 at the Torch Theatre on Tuesday, 10th March, 2020,

 from 10:30 am to 6:30 pm, if they wish to do so.

189. FUTURE GENERATIONS COMMISSIONER FOR WALES’ PRESENTATION:

 Members examined the presentation relating to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

 RESOLVED THAT the presentation be received.

190. UPDATE ON CHAT BENCHES:

 The Clerk advised that this initiative – most generously pioneered by Milford Haven School and discussed at the last Meeting of the Town Council - had met with great enthusiasm on social media but no further applications of interest had been received.

 RESOLVED THAT Hubberston and Hakin Community

 Centre and Steynton Community Group be

 nominated by this Council to each receive a ‘Chat Bench’

 for their communities.

191. MINIMUM PRICING FOR ALCOHOL STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION – 2nd MARCH, 2020:

 Members noted information from the Welsh Government advising that a minimum unit price for alcohol of 50p is to be introduced from 2nd March, 2020.

 RESOLVED THAT this information be received.

192. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODY – REPRESENTATIVE ON THE DRAGON LNG COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE:

 RESOLVED THAT this item be deferred to the next

 Full Council Meeting on 5th March, 2020.

193. STATEMENT OF INCOME:

 RESOLVED THAT the statement of income for the

 third quarter of the financial year 2019-2020 be

 received.

194. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE:

 RESOLVED THAT the summary of expenditure

 for the third quarter of the financial year

 2019-2020 be received.

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