

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council
held electronically using the Zoom software
on Monday, 17th August, 2020 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Miss K. F. Gray)

Councillors: E. A. Davies C. A. Sharp
 D. R. Sinnett Mrs C. Stevens
 Mrs L. E. Turner G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons)

Mrs M. L. Galliford, Town Clerk / Financial Officer
Ms F. K. Galliford, Town Council Secretary

212. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Coe, W. D. Elliott BA QTS, R. D. Gray, E. R. Harries, Mrs N. C. Joseph, A. H. Miles, M. P. Rickard and Mrs Y. G. Southwell. Apologies for absence were not received from Councillors A. E. Byrne and R. Williams.

213. OPENING REMARKS FROM THE MAYOR:

The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, welcomed Members to the first ever virtual Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council.

The Mayor advised that he had heard good reports regarding the actions of many Councillors throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Mayor asked Councillors to raise their hands when they wished to speak.

214. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

215. FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

The Mayor drew Members' attention to an email from Ms K. Davies, Planning Appeals Administrative Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council, relating to a consultation document regarding a payphone removal in Howarth Close (Milford West). Members were asked whether they objected to the removal (citing reasons) or whether they wished to adopt the payphone by 1st September 2020.

A Member asked if any of the West Ward Councillors had opinions as to the removal.

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A West Ward Councillor noted that it was a shame to lose the payphone, but many people are now reliant on their mobile phones. The Councillor further noted that payphones had been removed from the Mount Estate.

Another West Ward Councillor advised that he had spoken to residents of Howarth Close who despaired of the vandalism inflicted upon the payphone.

It was RESOLVED THAT, as the payphone is rarely used and subject to acts of vandalism, that the Milford Haven Town Council does not object to the removal of the payphone and does not wish to adopt the payphone.

216. TO CONSIDER THE FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2019/2020:

(a) Schedule of Accounts – February and March 2020.

RESOLVED THAT the Schedule of Accounts, as Presented by the Clerk for the month of February, in the sum of £11,383.16, and for the month of March, in the sum of £15,315.68, be accepted and approved for payment.

(b) Statement of Income – 2019/2020.

RESOLVED THAT the Statement of Income for the financial year 2019/2020 be received.

(c) Summary of Expenditure – 2019/2020.

RESOLVED THAT the Summary of Expenditure for the financial year 2019/2020 be received.

(d) Final Accounts – 2019/2020.

RESOLVED THAT the Final Accounts for the financial year 2019/2020 be received.

(e) Annual Return for Year Ended 31st March 2020.

RESOLVED THAT the Annual Return for Year Ended 31st March 2020 be approved.

(f) Internal Auditor's Report.

RESOLVED THAT the Internal Auditor's Report be received.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clerk prepares a precept report to be considered at a future Meeting of the Council.

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217. DONATIONS MADE PRIOR TO EVENTS CANCELLED BY COVID-19:

The Clerk informed Members of two donations made to organisations for events that had not taken place because of the pandemic.

It was RESOLVED THAT these organisations be contacted and that they be politely requested to return their donations.

218. VISIT OF FATHER CHRISTMAS:

As this was the first Council Meeting since March, enquiries were made as to this Council's Christmas plans.

A brief discussion followed and it was RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) this Council applies for a road closure for Saturday, 5th December, 2020;
- (ii) the town (incorporating the Town Hall) is to be illuminated as usual as this will lift the town's spirits following a difficult year.

Members were mindful of the current and rapidly-changing Covid-19 situation which may preclude the visit of Father Christmas from going ahead.