Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held electronically using the Zoom software

on Monday, 7th September, 2020 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor T. J. Davies)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Miss K. F. Gray)

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

 Mrs N. C. Joseph M. P. Rickard

 D. R. Sinnett Mrs Y. G. Southwell

 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

223. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. D. Gray, E. R. Harries, C. A. Sharp and R. Williams. Apologies for absence were not received from Councillors A. E. Byrne, P. Coe, A. H. Miles and Mrs C. Stevens.

224. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

225. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

 The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, alerted Members to recent email correspondence received from an organisation relating to a donation granted during the Meeting of the Full Council to consider the Precept on 9th January 2020. This donation pertained to an event that did not go ahead as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the organisation requested whether their donation would be automatically granted for the next financial year (2021/2022).

 RESOLVED THAT the donation not be automatically

granted for the next financial year (2021/2022) and

for the organisation to be advised to reapply

 for funding to be considered at the Meeting

 of the Full Council to consider the Precept in

 January 2021.

226. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2020:

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

 of the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

 5th March 2020 be accepted and that they

 be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

227. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH AUGUST 2020:

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting

 of the Establishment Committee held on the

 17th August 2020 be accepted and that they

 be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

228. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 17TH AUGUST 2020:

 Minute 218: Visit of Father Christmas

A Member, who was not present at the Meeting held on 17th August because of unavoidable circumstances, apologised for his absence once more.

He spoke of his concerns as to the existing Covid-19 risk and noted that a number of festive events in neighbouring towns had been cancelled.

Another Member voiced his agreement, speaking of the scale of the Town Council’s Christmas event and the difficulties that may be experienced with such matters as Test and Trace.

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) with much regret, the Visit of Father Christmas

 event scheduled for Saturday 5th December 2020

 be cancelled;

 (ii) the Town Council is to proceed with illuminating

the town (incorporating the Town Hall) and positioning Christmas Trees in the town as usual.

 Further to the above, it was RESOLVED THAT the

Minutes of the Meeting of the Milford Haven Town

Council held on the 17th August 2020 be accepted

and that they be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

229. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

A Member asked for an update on application 19/1051/PA – *Site clearance to facilitate future hotel development for the Milford Waterfront Redevelopment at Milford Waterfront.* It was noted that a letter had recently been circulated by the Port of Milford Haven regarding their redevelopment plans.

Further to the above, it was RESOLVED THAT the recommendations of the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee in respect of the planning applications

 be approved.

230. LICENSING APPLICATIONS:

RESOLVED THAT the recommendations of the Chairman of the Public Works and Planning Committee in respect of the licensing applications be approved.

231. BENCHES AT CEMETERY:

As the Chairman of the Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group, Councillor C. A. Sharp, was absent from the evening’s Meeting, the Mayor suggested that this matter be deferred to the next Meeting of the Full Council when Councillor Sharp would be present.

 RESOLVED THAT this matter be deferred to

 the next Meeting of the Full Council on Thursday

 24th September 2020 when Councillor Sharp

 will be present.

232. MAYOR’S AND DEPUTY MAYOR’S ALLOWANCES – 2020/2021:

The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, alerted Members to this issue, which had been on hold as a result of the Council’s Annual Meeting being delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Mayor proposed that he and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, receive their allowances of £1500 and £500 respectively as normal.

A Member stated that he had been considering this issue. He understood that the allowances were statutory payments from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

 RESOLVED THAT the Mayor’s Allowance of £1500

 and Deputy Mayor’s Allowance of £500 be awarded

 for Mayoral Year 2020/2021.

233. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

Members considered an application for financial assistance from the Milford Haven branch of the Royal British Legion. The application was requesting £500 to assist in the production of a book to commemorate those who served and those who fell from the area in the Second World War.

Members noted that there was no supporting financial information from the Royal British Legion.

Members were advised that the book would be going to print on Friday (11th September) which is why the application was being considered at this evening’s Meeting.

A Member spoke of his immense respect for the Royal British Legion and for the project, but felt he could not support giving a donation without the supporting financial information, which would go against the Council’s rules.

A discussion followed and it was RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) regrettably, without further information,

 the Council cannot support this application;

 (ii) the Royal British Legion is to be contacted

 to be offered support with potential other

 projects.

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