Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held electronically via the Zoom software

on Thursday, 14th January, 2021 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 Davies DipSM FJOIFF

W D Elliott BA QTS E. R. Harries

 M. P. Rickard C. A. Sharp

D. R. Sinnett Mrs Y Southwell

Mrs C Stevens Mrs L. E. Turner

R. Williams

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

Mrs M L Galliford Town Clerk

Mrs B J Fitzgerald, Town Clerk

Ms F Galliford, Secretary

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17. APOLOGIES:

 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A E Byrne, R. D. Gray, and

P Coe.

18. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR

Milford Haven Town Hall now has heating and the offices and Chamber have been deep cleaned.

The Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies, welcomed Mrs Fitzgerald to her first meeting as Town Clerk. The Mayor said that he would pay tribute to the outgoing clerk, Mrs M L Galliford, at the next meeting.

The Mayor said that he hoped that Councillors would look favourably on not increasing the precept during these challenging times.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Torch Theatre – as he is a paid employee (Senior Manager - Business) of the Torch Theatre.

 Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Milford Haven Town Band.

 Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Pill Social Centre – as he is an unpaid volunteer at the Pill Social Centre.

Councillor W Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 as an employee of National Sea Cadets.

Councillor W Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 and as Vice President of the Milford Haven Town Band.

Councillor C A Sharp declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 in regard to the Milford Haven Museum Trust as he is Chairman of the Trust.

Councillor C A Sharp declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 for Milford Haven Sea Cadets

Councillor C A Sharp declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 for Pill Social Centre as he is Chairman and Trustee

Councillor C A Sharp declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Torch Theatre – as he is married to Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) who is salaried by the Torch Theatre.

Councillor D R Sinnett declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Torch Theatre as he is an appointed board member.

Councillor Mrs Y Southwell declared a personal interest in in Agenda Item 4 – Council’s Precept Requirements for 2021/2022 – Torch Theatre – as she is a Board member.

20. TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021/2022:

 Members discussed the Council’s precept requirements for 2021/2022

 (a) Cemetery Wall/Fence/Heating System

 RESOLVED THAT the £25000 allocated in the

 budget be removed and taken out of Reserves

 as required.

 (b) Balances in Public Events and Christmas Festivities Budgets

 RESOLVED THAT any balances in these budgets

 at the end of the Financial Year are to be carried

 over to the next Financial Year.

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

 Councillor C. A. Sharp reiterated his personal interest.

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Museum

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

 the financial year 2021/2022.

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

Councillor E R Harries declared a personal interest as his grandson-in-law is a past Chairman at the Round Table.

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) no provision is to be made in the Council’s precept

 requirements for the Round Table’s Beer Festival;

 (ii) funds are to be released from Reserves as and when

 the events take place - £2,500 for the Milford Haven

 Carnival, £1,500 for the Fireworks Display and £500

 for the Santa Run.

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

Councillor W D Elliott BA QTS reiterated his prejudicial interest and left the room during discussion of this item.

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Sea Cadets

 and Royal Marine Cadets are to receive a donation

 of £2,500 for the financial year 2021/2022.

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

 RESOLVED THAT the Milford Haven Town Band

is to receive at £2,500 for the financial year 2021/2022.

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

 Councillor C. A. Sharp reiterated his personal interest.

 RESOLVED THAT the Pill Social Centre is to receive

 a donation of £5,000 for the financial year 2021/2022.

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

Councillors C. A. Sharp and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) reiterated their personal and prejudicial interests, and Councillor D. R. Sinnett reiterated his prejudicial interest and left the meeting during discussion on this item.

Councillors Mrs Y. G. Southwell gave some background information on the Torch Theatre’s funds.

 RESOLVED THAT the Torch Theatre Company

 Limited’s grant is to be £7,000 for the financial year 2021/2022.

 Councillor E. R. Harries left the meeting at this point.

 (i) Milford Youth Matters (LGA 1972, s.137)

 RESOLVED THAT:

(i) no provision is to be made in the Council’s precept

 requirements for this item;

(ii) any funds are to be released from Reserves if/when

 the “Under The Bridge” event takes place.

 (j) Elections

 RESOLVED THAT:

 (i) the £5,000 in this year’s budget be carried over to

 the next financial year;

 (ii) the budget provision for 2021/2022 be reduced to

 £3,000.

As the meeting was about to exceed two hours, it was RESOLVED THAT Standing Orders be suspended in order for the meeting to continue.

 Councillor E. A. Davies left the meeting at this point.

 (k) Vehicle Activated Signage

 RESOLVED THAT:

(i) enquiries be made regarding potential funding

of vehicle activated signage;

 (ii) which will be funded from Reserves as and when

 required.

 (l) Provision of Website

The outgoing Chairman of the Social Media Group, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, advised Members of Welsh Government legislation regarding the need for a fully accessible Council website which will be discussed at the next meeting of the Finance, Governance and Projects Committee.

 RESOLVED THAT that the provision be reduced to £200 and any remaining funds necessary be taken from

 Reserves.

 (m) Provision of Public Conveniences on The Rath

 RESOLVED THAT enquiries be made as to

 costings for keeping this facility open for longer than

 the current April-September period.

 (n) Administration – Salaries/NI Contributions

 The Mayor informed Members of the recommendation made at this evening’s

 Establishment Committee meeting.

 RESOLVED THAT the recommendation be approved.

 (o) Precept

 RESOLVED THAT a Precept Requirement in the sum of

 **£189871** be served on the Pembrokeshire County

 Council in respect of the financial year 2021/2022.

 This figure is equivalent to a charge of £35.96 per

 annum per Band “D” household, a decrease

 of **53p** per annum.

21. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CEMETERY FEES SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 14th DECEMBER, 2020:

 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 14th December, 2020, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor T. J. Davies.

 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

 Cemetery Fees Sub-Committee held on 14th December,

 2020, be approved and adopted.

22. RECORDED VOTING:

A Member said that she had a limited view of participants during Zoom meetings and she would like to know how other Members were voting. She asked whether it would be possible to record votes.

The Clerk is to obtain further advice from the appropriate Officers at the Pembrokeshire County Council regarding this issue.

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