

# MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the  
Public Events Sub-Committee  
held at the Town Hall, Milford Haven  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 5:30pm

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## PRESENT

The Mayor and Chair (Councillor K. F. Gray)

Councillors: D. Abbott Miss V. Brown  
E. A. Davies DipSM FJOIFF W. D. Elliott BA QTS

M. P. Rickard, Sales Manager and Co-ordinator, Pure West Radio  
B. Jones, Electrician

Mrs B. J. Fitzgerald, Town Clerk  
Miss F. K. Galliford, Secretary

- *Mr. Rickard attended the Meeting via the Zoom software.*

## 49. APOLOGIES:

All Councillors had been invited to this Meeting, and apologies for absence were received from Councillors C. A. Sharp, Mrs Y. G. Southwell (as Members of the Sub-Committee) and Councillors Mrs C. Stevens (Deputy Mayor of Milford Haven), K. Abbott, M. Allen, Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey, T. J. Davies, M. Jones, B. Philips, D. R. Sinnett, R. Williams, G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) and M. Woodward.

## 50. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PUBLIC EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE:

Councillors D. Abbott and Miss V. Brown indicated that they wished to join this Sub-Committee.

**RESOLVED THAT:** Councillors D. Abbott and Miss V. Brown become Members of the Public Events Sub-Committee.

## 51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS declared a personal interest due to his involvement with Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets, who were and continue to be engaged at many events in the town.

## 52. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Mayor, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, be appointed as Chair for this Municipal Year.

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### 53. DISCUSSION ON RECENT EVENTS

#### a) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022

The Mayor and Chair, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, welcomed Mr. Rickard from Pure West Radio to the Meeting. Pure West Radio had been heavily involved in arrangements and festivities, which were concentrated on The Rath.

Mr. Rickard felt that the Queen's Jubilee event on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 was a true representation of the town, complimenting the organisation of the event, and stating that good feedback had been received.

Mr. Rickard, who had for many years been a Milford Haven Town Councillor until standing down earlier this year, spoke positively of the Town Councillors who attended the event.

Mr. Rickard highlighted the following points:

- the Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, Miss S. Edwards, should have been welcomed by a representative of the Town Council;
- offensive graffiti had been scrawled on the wall behind the beacon: this graffiti was visible in photographs.

A Member stated that the Pembrokeshire County Council should have cleaned up the area and painted the wall.

Another Member suggested that a map directing people to where the events were taking place would have been useful.

A complaint had been received from a male resident of The Rath. The Pure West Radio stage had been erected outside the house next door to his and the noise until 10:00 pm was unexpected and caused distress to his family and himself.

It was also a concern that The Rath area is residential with a high population of elderly residents. More checks should have been taken to ascertain the impact of the road closure and noise on the inhabitants of the area.

It was agreed that the event was a big success overall, with lessons to be learned going forward for any future events of such magnitude. The Mayor and Chair, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, conveyed her thanks to Mr. Rickard for the outstanding work of Pure West Radio.

#### **RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) a letter be sent to the Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, Miss S. Edwards, thanking her for her presence on the day and for her lighting of the beacon in the evening;
- (b) while the event was agreed to be a big success, the points raised at this evening's Meeting are noted and will be taken

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forward for any such future events.

Mr. Rickard stated that Pure West Radio is happy to work with the Town Council for its Christmas event and that he would personally welcome the opportunity to coordinate the Town Council's Christmas Lantern Parade, a position he has enjoyed through his years as a Town Councillor.

b) Citizens' Awards Ceremony – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022

The event was well attended with 9 awards presented: 6 adult awards, 2 youth awards and 1 posthumous award.

It was noted that the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, where the Ceremony was held, was full to capacity and going forward consideration should be made of a different venue or structure of the award evening. With more recipients of awards this will add to the numbers attending and the event is getting larger year on year. The Citizens' Awards Ceremony will be placed on an Agenda for discussion in early 2023.

A Member suggested that, for due diligence purposes, a Select Committee – comprising such members as representatives from Neyland Town Council/Pembrokeshire County Council – could be appointed to consider the applications and decide upon the winners, thus removing the Milford Haven Town Council of that involvement.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) this structure of the Citizens' Awards, and the future of the awards going forward, be placed on an Agenda for discussion in early 2023;
- (b) this discussion is to cover the following points:
  - (i) where the Ceremony should be held in future years,
  - (ii) whether the nomination should be read by a Councillor or a neutral individual at the Ceremony,
  - (iii) whether a Select Committee composed of people outside the Town Council could be appointed to consider the applications and to decide upon the recipients, ensuring due diligence and enhancing transparency.

c) Mayor's Civic Service – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

The Mayor's Civic Service was held at St. Katharine and St. Peter's Church with the Milford Haven Bowling Club used for the reception after the Service. The day was very successful, and the Bowling Club was commended for their excellent buffet.

Concern was expressed over the behaviour of an individual involved with the Service who had complained very publicly on Facebook about elements of the event.

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### **RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) a rehearsal is to take place before the next Civic Service, fully establishing timings and seating arrangements in advance;
- (b) a donation of £50 be granted to the Gelliswick Community Choir for their performance at the Service;
- (c) thanks be extended to everyone who came together to make the day a special day.

#### 54. CHRISTMAS 2022

##### a) Visit of Santa to Milford Haven - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) an email is to be circulated to local primary schools in November 2022 inviting entries for the annual Christmas competition;
- (b) as in previous years, the younger children are to be asked to enter a drawing/painting, with older children requested to submit a poem;
- (c) all entries must have a festive theme;
- (d) the winner of the Christmas competition will help to switch on the town's Christmas Lights on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022;
- (e) the landlord of the Town Hall is to be asked about having Santa's Grotto situated at the building, and for his permission regarding the display and switching on of the Christmas Lights;
- (f) a tender is to be put out for the children's rides for the visit of Santa to Milford Haven on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December;
- (g) a road closure for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December is to be arranged in September 2022 through the Trunk Road Agent.

##### b) Christmas Lights

The Town Council's electrician of several years, Mr. B. Jones, was welcomed to the Meeting.

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Mr. Jones's knowledge was welcomed by the Sub-Committee.

Two quotes for the Christmas Lights contract were considered.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

- (a) a total of 3 Christmas trees are to be ordered for Milford Haven this year;
- (b) Mr. Jones is to be present during the erection of these Christmas trees;
- (c) the quote from the Festive Lighting Company Limited is to be purchased on the proviso that the lights are received and that the product is new.

Mr. Jones then advised that the catenary in Charles Street is to be renewed. The cost of these anchors will be around £9000 with an extra cost for labour.

**RESOLVED THAT:** letters are to be written to businesses in Charles Street to inform them of the renewal.

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