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**“Our Yesterday’s inspire our tomorrow’s”.**

Milford Haven Town Council Annual Report

Civic Year 2021 – 2022

**Introduction**

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| **Outline of Council** | **Milford Haven Town Council** serves the area of Milford Haven and its population of around 13,500 residents. It has 18 councillors, covering six wards: Central, East, Hakin, Hubberston, North and West. As democratically elected local representatives, the councillors have a unique and privileged position and the potential to make a real difference to people’s lives.  Milford Haven Town Council is the level of government closest to the community, with Pembrokeshire County Council above it in hierarchy.  The Town Council employs 4 fulltime members of staff: Two admin and two Cemetery staff.  The Training Plan for Councillor and staff will be available on the website early November 2022.  The Town Council keeps in touch with the community through several avenues:   * The Town Council Website – this gives information about the council, its members, its meetings both past and present, financial information, news and events, information on Milford Haven Cemetery and the history of Milford Haven. * Social Media – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram * Full Council meetings – members of the public are encouraged to attend and ask questions. * Local Radio – information on councillors and forthcoming events are advertised this way. * Collaborative working with local organisations – Police / Milford Haven Port Authority / Schools – Governing Bodies / several external bodies * Collaborative working with the Local Authority and other town councils. * The council office is open to the public from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. The telephone number and email address widely publicised.   **Milford Haven Town Council** is responsible for:   * Milford Haven Cemetery * Rath Toilet facilities * Rath Paddling Pool * Floral Displays in the Town * Citizens Awards   **Milford Haven Town Council** supports   * Events and activities within Milford Haven including the annual Christmas Lights ‘switch on’’ the extensive Christmas Lights displays and trees in Milford Haven. * Financial grants and other support for local organisations and good causes. |
| **Milford Haven Town Council Objectives** | * To improve the quality of life for people living in Milford Haven. The Town Council will do its utmost to enhance the town as a place in which to live, play, work, visit and invest. * To provide a strong voice for Milford Haven * To preserve and enhance the traditions and identity of the town * To promote Milford Haven as a clean, safe town with a welcome for residents and visitors alike. * To engage with residents and businesses to understand their needs and resolve how those needs can be delivered within the capabilities available to the Town Council. * To work collaboratively with other organisations to achieve the best for Milford Haven. |

**Financial Summary 2021-2022**

The Council precept is the main source of income and represents the amount of council tax paid by households in Milford Haven that is allocated to the Town Council. The annual precept (£35.96 per Band D household) raised a total of £189,871 for the Town Council during 2021 / 2022. The Town Council also received other income of £109,163.

During 2021 / 2022 Expenditure was:

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| Staff Costs – including salaries, PAYE and NI, pension contributions and related expenses. | £109,139 | All other payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs. Includes expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing. | £204,103 |

The Council retains reserves in excess of £100,000 to deal with unforeseen emergencies.

**3 Year Plan**

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| Milford Haven Town Council – 3 year plan | | |  |
| **Well-being Objective**  Quality of life and environment | **How are MHTC contributing to the Well Being Objective** | **How the Well-being goals are met.** | **Which Well-being Goals does this work support?** |
| Rath Paddling Pool | 2022 ongoing | Working with Pembrokeshire County Council on asset transfer of outdoor pool (instead of a Service Level Agreement). The goal is to support improvement and well-being of the area. | A Healthier Wales  A Wales of cohesive communities  More Equal Wales |
| Parks & Play Areas | 2022 ongoing | Working in collaboration with Pembrokeshire County Council for a Service Level Agreement on a play park in the area. Milford Haven Town Council would contribute and run the play park.  These are important community facilities to promote health and fitness, improve physical and mental health. | A Healthier Wales  Prosperous Wales  A Wales of cohesive communities  A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language. |
| Land for Milford Haven Cemetery | 2022 ongoing | Land purchase for Milford Haven Cemetery is a priority. The Council are currently in negotiations for land and awaiting pre-planning consent along with consent from Natural Resources Wales. | A Wales of cohesive communities.  A globally responsible Wales. |
| The Coronation of King Charles | 2023 | The Coronation of King Charles will be celebrated with the people of Milford Haven. Both young and elderly will be encouraged to take part in any planned events. | A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.  A Wales of cohesive communities.  A more equal Wales. |
| The Chapel, Milford Haven Cemetery | 2023 | The Chapel at the cemetery is over 100 years old and in need of some urgent remedial work. Currently the Chapel is unusable due to the wooden floor rotting. Work will need to be carried out within the next year or services will be unable to continue in the chapel for safety reason. The Chapel welcomes people from all faiths. | A Wales of cohesive communities. |

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| **Steps taken by the Town Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective**  Strong Connections | | |
| Grants Schemes | The town council grants scheme enables local organisations and associations to apply for and benefit from funding. In 2021 the grant scheme enabled some organisations to obtain vital financial resources whilst still being unable to open and trade fully. Small donations are also given to local groups as a thank you for the work they do for the community (such as choirs, Yarn Bombers, Guides and Scout groups. | Prosperous Wales  More equal Wales  Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language |
| Town Councillors | Milford Haven Town Councillors are in regular contact with their local communities and represent the Town Council on many local organisations. As such community information is available and problems addressed quickly. | Cohesive Communities |
| Youth Representation | Rebuilding youth opportunities within Milford Haven Town Council to develop a more cohesive and engagement platform for the young people of the town. | Prosperous Wales  Cohesive Communities  Vibrant Culture & Thriving Welsh language. |
| Mayor & Civic Role | 2021 was a difficult year with very few engagements being held. However, the beginning of 2022 did improve a little with the Mayor being involved in any events being run. | Cohesive Communities  Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language |
| Citizens Awards | The 2021 Citizens Awards were again unable to take place. These awards recognise the work of local people and provide the opportunity for the Town Council to acknowledge their good work. Everyone works for the benefit of the local community. | Cohesive Communities  Resilient Wales |

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| **Steps taken by the Town Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective**  Prosperous People and Places | | |
| Annual Events | Milford Haven Town Council has an annual programme of key events to bring together local people and communities.  These include:   * Service to remember crews of Boston Heron * Service of Remembrance for those who lost their lives on Landing Crafts 15 & 16 and HMS Rosemary * Service for Trawlermen at the Fisherman’s Tribute on the Rath * Baby Loss Awareness Memorial Service * Citizens Awards Presentation * Remembrance Service on Remembrance Sunday * Visit of Father Christmas and switch on of the Christmas Lights | Prosperous Wales  Resilient Wales  Healthier Wales  More Equal Wales  Cohesive Communities  Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language |
| The Role of Councillors | Elected Members represent the Council on various bodies including school governors, Milford Haven Port Welfare Committee, One Voice Wales, Milford Haven Heritage and Maritime Museum, Pembroke Power Station Liaison Committee, Milford Haven Twinning Association, Torch Theatre Board of Management, Visit Milford and Trustees of James Johns and David Stuart Johns Charity Trust.  Three Town Councillors also represent the County Council aiding the flow of information between the two authorities. | Cohesive Communities  More Equal Wales  Resilient Wales |
| Supporting the Local Economy | The Town Council has a policy of using local businesses and contractors wherever possible, keeping financial benefits within Milford Haven. | Prosperous Wales  Cohesive Communities |
| Decorative Displays | Milford Haven Town Council has provided the floral displays within the town. Other decorations are being considered to last longer than the summer months. The display brightens the appearance of the town and attracts visitors and shoppers. | Prosperous Wales  Cohesive Communities |
| Key Stakeholders | Invitations are given to Milford Haven Port Authority, The Police and Pembrokeshire County Council for updates on important issues impacting on Milford Haven. | Resilient Wales  Cohesive Communities |