

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall
on Monday 23rd January 2023 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Miss K. F. Gray)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs C. Stevens)

Councillors: D. Abbott	K. Abbott
M. T. Allen	Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey
E. A. Davies DipSM FJOIFF	T. J. Davies
W. D. Elliott BA QTS	M. Jones
B. Phillips	Mrs Y. G. Southwell
M. Woodward	

Mrs B. J. Fitzgerald, Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
Miss F. K. Galliford, Town Council Secretary

Two members of the public were also present at the Meeting.

6:15pm – Presentation from the Pembrokeshire Lido Team

The Mayor, Councillor Miss K. F. Gray, welcomed Mr. Michael Allen and Mr. John Phillips from Pembrokeshire Lido Team.

Mr. Phillips was introduced to Members by Mr. Allen. They requested that a letter of support from the Town Council for the Pembrokeshire Lido Project be considered at the next Full Council Meeting on Monday 13th February 2023. Mr. Phillips explained that the project would be in the best position on the Rath, overlooking the harbour. The project is not just about a swimming pool; there would be cold water swimming, a winter swim festival, a diving centre and a multi-use dedicated facility. The multi-use facility (MUGA) would deliver basketball, tennis, football and be a general facility. Various organisations have pledged to support the project.

Anyone can buy shares with one vote per person regardless of how much money is submitted by each person. (From £100 to £50,000.)

By using various organisations, i.e. Tennis Wales and the Football Association of Wales, there would be shared costs helping to bring in the various facilities. Only one contractor would be required to bring all sports together on one site.

It was emphasised that the Pembrokeshire Lido Team are all unpaid volunteers.

Councillors W. D. Elliott BA QTS and E. A. Davies DipSM FJOIFF joined the Meeting during the presentation.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Questions were invited from Councillors.

A Councillor asked if Pembroke Dock and Neyland Town Councils had given letters of support or verbal agreement. It was confirmed that the team had received letters of support.

There are currently 27 confirmed supporters.

The area under consideration covers all of the Rath, the existing paddling pool and the tennis courts. The new planned 50 metre pool would encompass the paddling pool.

A Councillor asked if Gelliswick Bay had been considered. Mr. Allen confirmed it had been, and also mentioned the Wards Yard site, which is unlikely but still under consideration.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Allen and Mr. Phillips for their presentation. Mr. Allen thanked the Mayor for the opportunity for the team to give their presentation to the Council. Mr. Phillips then left the Meeting.

6:45pm – Introduction from Superintendent Craig Templeton from Dyfed Powys Police

Councillor D. Abbott joined the Meeting at this point.

Supt. Templeton addressed the Council and gave his thanks that his request to meet had been accepted. He explained that his colleague Mr. Anthony Evans had moved on to another post.

Supt. Templeton asked that any concerns the Councillors have may be raised with him. He pledged to defend his colleagues where it is due and challenge them if not working to the best of their ability.

Questions were invited from Councillors.

Councillor Terry Davies explained that he is also a County Councillor and that constituents have been told to phone 101 to report any problems. Supt. Templeton confirmed that if an Officer is busy it may be best to report to 101 but if the Officer has time available then the matter should be discussed straight away. There are several ways to get in touch with the Police – 101 or 999 in an emergency. There is also the option to contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

The Mayor thanked Supt. Templeton for attending the Meeting. Supt. Templeton then left the Meeting.

Councillors M. Woodward and Mrs Y. G. Southwell joined the Meeting.

Two members of the public were also present at the Meeting as observers from this point.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

204. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss V. Brown (engagement at the Houses of Parliament), C. A. Sharp (on holiday abroad), and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) (on holiday abroad). No apologies were received from Councillors D. R. Sinnett or R. Williams.

205. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor T. J. Davies declared a personal and prejudicial interest in financial matters regarding Milford Haven Cemetery as he is employed by a local Funeral Director. Councillor Davies has received dispensation from the Monitoring Officer to speak but not vote on this issue at Meetings.

Councillor M. T. Allen declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 11, Paddling Pool on the Rath, as he is Chair of the Pembrokeshire Lido Group.

206. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions had been submitted by members of the public.

207. NEWS FROM THE MAYOR

British Legion Milford Haven

The Mayor requested a letter be sent to the British Legion to submit apologies on her behalf as she missed the Milford Haven branch's Annual General Meeting on Saturday 21st January.

RESOLVED THAT: a letter be sent to the Royal British Legion, Milford Haven Branch, expressing the Mayor's apologies.

Councillor Email Usage

The Mayor advised of a letter that was being circulated to Councillors that evening, requiring their attention and their signature/date to note that the information had been received.

The letter stated:

"Could you please note that you must not use your Council email address for anything other than Council business. By using the Councillor email it could be perceived as attempting to use your role as a Councillor for some personal or other benefit.

Under no circumstances may the Council's facilities be used in connection with the operation or management of any other business or for commercial activity."

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) Councillors consider and sign/date these letters;
- (ii) these letters then be returned to the Town Clerk, Mrs B. J. Fitzgerald.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

208. QUESTIONS WITHOUT DEBATE PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 6.

No Questions had been received.

209. MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL (TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL'S PRECEPT) HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2023

RESOLVED THAT: the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Full Council held on 9th January 2023 be received and that they be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

210. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 28TH NOVEMBER 2022:

RESOLVED THAT: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on 28th November 2022 be received and that they be signed by the Mayor as a true record.

211. PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS:

(a) Outstanding and Approved Planning Applications

The Chair of the Planning, Policy and Community Committee, Councillor B. Phillips, addressed Members.

22/0820/PA – Proposed alterations with side & rear extensions at Points View, Wellington Road (Milford Hakin)

RESOLVED THAT: this planning application be recommended for approval.

22/0823/PA – Retrospective development and use of two warehouses and siting of storage containers at Unit 6, Priory Park, Thornton (Milford North)

A Member expressed his discontent at the volume of retrospective planning applications and asked whether Pembrokeshire County Council could be contacted regarding this matter.

RESOLVED THAT: planning application 22/0823/PA be recommended for approval.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Planning Department at the Pembrokeshire County Council be contacted in relation to this Council's concerns regarding the number of retrospective planning applications received.

(i) Pre-Application Consultation – Land South of the Dragon LNG Terminal, Waterston, Milford Haven.

This matter was not discussed at this Meeting.

RESOLVED THAT: the closing date for this pre-application consultation will be clarified and advice from the Chair of the Planning, Policy and Community Committee be sought.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

(b) Planning Notifications – for information only.

RESOLVED THAT: the planning notifications, updating Members on the decisions taken by Pembrokeshire County Council, be received.

212. CEMETERY REPORTS – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED THAT: the Cemetery Reports for November and December 2022 be received.

213. SALT BINS IN MILFORD HAVEN

Members considered a Report relating to the provision of salt/grit bins in Milford Haven. The Town Council had been contacted several times by members of the public during the severely cold weather in December 2022 due to the absence of bins in their areas of the town which most negatively impacted upon their daily lives.

RESOLVED THAT: any queries from constituents on matters of supply of salt bins are to be advised to contact their relevant County Councillor.

214. PADDLING POOL ON THE RATH

Councillor M. T. Allen reiterated his personal and prejudicial interest and left the Meeting during discussion of this Agenda item.

Milford Haven Town Council currently has a contract with Pembrokeshire County Council for the running of the paddling pool for each summer. This contract will end on 31st March 2023.

There had been no cost to the Council for two years following Covid-19 restrictions. The costs for 2022 are approximately £4673.49. Old staff costs have been used and the Leisure Centre Manager at Pembrokeshire County Council is awaiting updated staff costs. Pembrokeshire County Council is aware of the good guardianship the Town Council has for this project to be kept secure for the people of Milford Haven.

Members were asked to consider whether a further contract should be sought, and over what period; and whether they would consider implementing a nominal fee to be paid by pool users to help with running costs.

Pembrokeshire County Council currently looks after the pool only; it does not maintain the outer railings or area, which to date has been maintained by volunteers.

The Council has been advised by Pembrokeshire County Council of an offer from one of the oil industries to assist in maintaining the pool prior to opening, along with the availability of funds for necessary equipment.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

The current volunteer group has performed excellent work; however, it has been indicated that the Council should not assume that the group will continue to assist with this project going forward.

Members spoke of the importance of the paddling pool to the town, stressing its value to local families.

It was suggested that a yearly contract for the paddling pool may be the best option, but for this matter to be deferred until the next Meeting of the Full Council on 13th February, when more information will be available.

RESOLVED THAT: this matter be deferred until the Meeting of the Full Council on 13th February, when more information will be available following the Meeting of the Project Working Group on Monday 6th February.

Councillor Allen returned to the Meeting upon the conclusion of the discussion of this item.

215. MINUTES OF MILFORD HAVEN MULTI-AGENCY WORKING GROUP (MAWG) MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2022 AND AREAS OF CONCERN

Councillor M. T. Allen, as Councillor for Hubberston Ward, advised that he had attended a meeting with County Councillor Mrs V. Stoddart and several representatives from Dyfed-Powys Police on Wednesday 18th January 2022. (Councillors D. Abbott and Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey, who also represent the Hubberston Ward, were unable to attend this meeting and gave their apologies in advance of the meeting.) This meeting had been most productive, addressing the concerns in the Cedar Court Path to Havens Head/Liddeston/Hubberston area detailed in the correspondence.

RESOLVED THAT: the minutes of a meeting of the Milford Haven Multi-Agency Working Group (MAWG) held on 24th November 2022 and attached Areas of Concern be received.

216. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODY – ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs C. Stevens, and Councillor Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey both expressed an interest in the Additional Community Governor Vacancy.

Members then voted on this vacancy and Councillor Mrs Beavis-Morrissey received the most votes.

RESOLVED THAT: Councillor Mrs Nicole Beavis-Morrissey be nominated for the position of Additional Community Governor for St. Francis Catholic Primary School.

217. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Acknowledgement of Donations

Acknowledgement of donations were received from the following:

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

- 1st Hakin Guides & Rangers
- 1st Milford Haven Rainbow Unit
- 7th Milford Haven Brownies
- Cerebral Palsy Cymru
- Christmas Together
- Committee of Friends of Havenhurst
- Friends of the Mount (Pembs)
- The Harrier Association
- Milford Athletic Football Club (Ladies & Girls Section)
- Milford Haven Community Primary School
- Milford Haven Youth Club
- Milford Youth Matters
- Parents & Supporters Association (Milford Haven Sea Cadets & Royal Marines Cadets)
- Pembrokeshire Puffins Disability Swimming Squad
- Pembrokeshire Vikings
- The Salvation Army
- Steynton Community Group
- Torch Theatre

b) Applications for Financial Assistance:

- i. Clarby Warriors Pan Disability Football Squad being part of Clarbeston Road AFC/Fishguard Thunderbolts Disability Multi-Sports Squad (Joint Application).
 - *The club is to be contacted to seek reassurance that the funding would be used to fund the disabilities teams transport costs only. Matter to be deferred until this information is received.*
- ii. Paul Sartori Foundation Limited (known as Paul Sartori Hospice at Home).
 - *A donation of £100 is to be granted to the Paul Sartori Foundation Limited.*
- iii. Ronald McDonald House Cardiff.
 - *Regret, no donation.*

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. Clarby Warriors Pan Disability Football Squad being part of Clarbeston Road AFC/Fishguard Thunderbolts Disability Multi-Sports Squad be contacted to seek reassurance that the funding would be used solely for transport costs. This matter will be discussed at the next Full Council Meeting once the information has been received.
- ii. Paul Sartori Foundation Limited is to be granted £100 donation.
- iii. Ronald McDonald House Cardiff – no donation granted as no financial information received to comply with the application.

MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

218. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED THAT: the Schedule of Accounts, as presented by the Clerk for the months of November 2022 in the sum of £36604.03, and December 2022 in the sum of £27588.48, be accepted and approved for payment.

219. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS – NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED THAT: the Statement of Accounts for the months of November and December 2022 be received.

220. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE – APRIL TO DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED THAT: the Summary of Expenditure from April to December 2022 be accepted.

221. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS - PRIVATE SESSION

The Councillors voted to go into private session.

RESOLVED THAT: the press and public be excluded from the Meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to legal privilege and disclosure of personal details.

The two members of the public present at the Meeting left the Chamber.

THE MEETING WENT IN TO PRIVATE SESSION