Minutes of the Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Sea Cadets Milford Haven Unit,

Havens Head Business Park, Milford Haven

on Monday 22nd January 2024 at 7:00 pm

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PRESENT

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS)

 Councillors: Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey L. J. Bridges

 E. A. Davies DipSM FJOIFF Miss K. F. Gray

 N. Harteveld C. A. Sharp

 D. R. Sinnett Miss T. Stevens

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

 F. K. Galliford, Town Council Secretary

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TO RECEIVE MR I. JENKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FLOVENTIS ENERGY, REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF 2 X 100MW FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND SITES WITHIN THE CELTIC SEA:

The Deputy Mayor of Milford Haven, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, welcomed Mr I. Jenkins, Executive Director, Floventis Energy, to the Meeting.

Mr Jenkins introduced himself and his company to Councillors.

Floventis Energy is a JV (joint venture) between the renewable energy project development company Cierco and SBM Offshore who specialise in offshore energy.

Floventis Energy has the goal of “becoming a market leader in offshore floating wind power” and is building a portfolio of projects with the aim of reaching full scale development proposals by 2030.

Floventis Energy was awarded the agreement for lease for the Llŷr developments by The Crown Estate in July 2021, subject to approval from the HRA (Health Research Authority).

The objectives of the project are:

* to demonstrate two different FLOW technology solutions
* to optimise the designs to reduce future costs
* a pathfinder to accelerate FLOW department
* to better understand the benefits and challenges and to identify opportunities to enhance the local environment
* maximise the local UK supply chain and employment opportunities and benefits.

A public consultation – focusing on Llŷr 1 – commenced on 15th January, and will conclude on 11th February 2024. A sister project – Llŷr 2 – is also being developed, and will be consulted once proposals have been further developed.

Mr Jenkins advised that he and Floventis Energy had been working extensively with local organisations such as Pembrokeshire College and The Darwin Centre, mentioning how young girls and women were being encouraged into the industry as a result of this project.

Castlemartin and Stackpole Community Councils have already been engaged, and there are active plans to meet with other Town and Community Councils in Pembrokeshire.

Llŷr 1 will be located in the Celtic Sea. At its closest point, the project will be approximately 36km from the Welsh coastline, 55km from Lundy Island and 72km from the Devon (England) coastline.

The offshore infrastructure would include:

* Up to 10 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs)
* Up to 10 floating platforms
* Mooring infrastructure
* Up to 11 inter-array cables to connect the WTGs
* Up to two electricity export cables (within one export corridor to the landfall location at Freshwater West)

A Member asked whether the WTGs would be visible from shore. Mr Jenkins advised they would be visible on a “super clear day”.

Another Member enquired about the positioning of the cables. Mr Jenkins replied that the cables would be situated under the seabed.

A further Member asked if marine life had been taken into consideration. Mr Jenkins advised that Floventis Energy was consulting with fishing communities and such organisations as the Ministry of Defence and the Port of Milford Haven.

Councillor L. J. Bridges joined the Meeting at 6:31 pm.

Mr Jenkins continued by stating that Floventis Energy is currently undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to understand the potential effects of the Proposed Project on the environment and local communities, and to identify ways in which any impacts could be avoided or mitigated. The findings of this assessment will be presented in an Environmental Statement which will be submitted to the Senedd as part of the company’s applications for consent. Floventis Energy will also require the following consents – *S36 Consent to construct and operate an offshore generating station under Electricity Act 1989* – and *Marine License consented under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009*.

Offshore: Physical Environment, Benthic Ecology, Fish and Shellfish Ecology, Marine Mammals, Ornithology, Marine Archaeology, Shipping and Navigation, Commercial Fisheries, Other Sea Users, Seascape Landscape and Visual, Aviation and Radar

Onshore: Landscape and Visual, Ecology and Biodiversity, Historical Environment and Cultural Heritage, Water Environment, Geology and Hydrogeology, Agriculture and Soils, Traffic and Transport, Air Quality, Noise and Vibration, Socio-economics Recreation and Tourism

Project wide: Climate Change, Major Accidents and Disasters, Cumulative Effects (in each technical chapter), Residual Effects

Mr Jenkins advised that Floventis Energy has been working with Milford Youth Matters, stressing the numerous community benefits involved with the project.

A Member asked if local people would be involved in the project. Mr Jenkins mentioned some of the equipment was not made in the United Kingdom, but there were opportunities around the floating platforms.

Another Member asked about the possibility of viewing a scale model. Mr Jenkins indicated that a scale model may be available to view in the future.

A Member then asked if Pembrokeshire transportation may present difficulties. Mr Jenkins responded that, due to the size of much of the equipment, most transportation would take place by sea.

A further Member enquired about wave renewable energy. Mr Jenkins indicated that this did not come under the Llŷr 1 project.

Mr Jenkins confirmed that an officer was in place to monitor environmental concerns.

Mr Jenkins concluded his presentation with information as to the project’s virtual exhibition – where all consultation materials can be viewed – at [www.llyrwind.com](http://www.llyrwind.com)

There are three in person exhibitions where consultation materials can be viewed, and members of the team will be present to answer any questions. These exhibitions will take place in Pembroke Dock (25th January 2024), Pembroke (26th January 2024), and Hundleton (30th January 2024). Copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form are available at both Pembroke and Pembroke Dock Libraries.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Mr Jenkins for attending the Meeting. Mr Jenkins encouraged Councillors to contact him with any questions they may have. Mr Jenkins advised that he would circulate the slides from the evening’s presentation to the Town Council Secretary.

Mr Jenkins then left the Meeting.

Councillors D. R. Sinnett and G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons) joined the Meeting.

As the presentation from Mr Jenkins had overrun slightly, the Meeting of the Full Council started at 7:05 pm.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, welcomed everyone to the Meeting of the Full Council.

 MR ERIC HARRIES:

A one-minute silence was held for Mr Eric Harries, who was a five-time former Mayor of Milford Haven and a dearly loved and respected figure across the community.

258. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor, Councillor Mrs C. Stevens (illness), and Councillors D. Abbott (ill health), K. Abbott (work commitments), Miss V. Brown (work commitments), C. Jones, M. Jones (work commitments), Mrs Y. G. Southwell (family commitments), and M. Woodward (work commitments). Apologies for absence were also received from the Town Clerk, Mrs B. J. Fitzgerald (unwell).

259. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 12(b)(ii) – Financial Matters – Applications for Financial Assistance – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets – as he is a former volunteer with the Unit.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 12(b)(ii) – Financial Matters – Applications for Financial Assistance – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets – as he is the Chair of the Unit.

Councillor N. Harteveld declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Agenda Item 12(b)(i) – Financial Matters – Applications for Financial Assistance – Megan’s Starr Foundation – as she is a Trustee of the Foundation.

260. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

 No questions had been received from members of the public.

261. NEWS FROM THE DEPUTY MAYOR:

 *Councillor Mrs C. Stevens – Mayor of Milford Haven 2023/2024:*

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS, asked Councillor Miss T. Stevens to convey the Council’s very best wishes to the Mayor, Councillor Mrs C. Stevens, who is presently in hospital.

*Mr E. Harries – 1935-2024:*

1. Funeral Information

The Deputy Mayor apprised Members of Mr Harries’s funeral details. Mr Harries’s family has requested family flowers only, with donations if desired to be sent to Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets.

Members spoke fondly of Mr Harries and his decades of unstinting service to the town.

**RESOLVED THAT:** a donation of £50 (equivalent to a floral arrangement) be made to the Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets in memory of Mr Harries under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. Commemorating Mr Harries

A Member asked how the Council could best commemorate Mr Harries.

The Deputy Mayor advised that there was to be a Meeting of the Public Events Sub-Committee on Tuesday 23rd January and that he had requested that this matter be added to the Agenda for discussion.

1. Past Mayors of Milford Haven/Pembrokeshire County Council representation

A Member said that it was traditional for past Mayors of Milford Haven to attend the funeral of a fellow past Mayor.

It was also asked whether the Chairman of Pembrokeshire County Council could be notified, due to Mr Harries’s long and distinguished county service.

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Town Council Secretary is to contact former Mayors of Milford Haven and the Chairman of Pembrokeshire County Council to notify them of Mr Harries’s funeral.

262. QUESTIONS WITHOUT DEBATE PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 6:

 No questions with debate pursuant to Standing Order No. 6 had been received.

263. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL (TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S PRECEPT) HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2024:

 **RESOLVED THAT:** the Minutes of the Special Meeting of

the Full Council (to consider the Council’s Precept Requirements for 2023-2024) held on 8th January 2024 be received and that they be signed by the Deputy Mayor as a true record.

264. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL (INCLUDING PRESENTATION FROM THE CONQUEROARS HELD BEFORE THE MEETING) HELD ON 27TH NOVEMBER 2023:

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council (including a presentation from The Conqueroars held before the Meeting at 6:15pm) held on 27th November 2023 be received and that they be signed by the Deputy Mayor as a true record.

265. TO RECEIVE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE:

 *Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group held on 10th January 2024*

 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group held on 10th January 2024 were moved by the Chair, Councillor C. A. Sharp.

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Maintenance and Land Acquisition Group held on 10th January 2024 be moved and adopted.

266. MILFORD HAVEN TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE:

 Members considered an email from the Creative Director of a local graphics and web company offering to help make the Milford Haven Town Council website more modern, visually appealing, user friendly and easy to navigate.

 The Deputy Mayor reminded Members that budgetary provisions had been made for the Town Council website.

 **RESOLVED THAT:**

1. the local graphics and web company be contacted and thanked for their interest;

(ii) other companies also be contacted, with a minimum of three quotes to be received.

267. CEMETERY REPORTS: NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023:

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Cemetery Reports for November and December 2023 be received.

268. PLANNING/LICENSING APPLICATIONS:

(a) *Planning Applications – Recommended for Approval by Chair following Councillor consultation. (For information only.)*

Councillor L. J. Bridges declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application 23/0698/PA due to his ownership of the premises.

* **23/0602/PA – Erection of new shed, fencing and covered storage area in retrospective for personal use at 15 Liddeston Valley, Hubberston (Milford Hubberston)**
* **23/0698/PA – Proposed Engineering Works to Provide External Dining Area in Retrospect \*New Plans\* at the Imperial Hall, Hamilton Terrace (Milford Central)**
* **23/0738/AD – New signage at 77 Charles Street (Milford Central)**

**RESOLVED THAT:** the information above be received.

(b) *Planning Applications – Recommended for Approval by Pembrokeshire County Council. (For information only.)*

 **RESOLVED THAT:** this information be received.

1. *Licensing Application – Nos Da Bar, Victoria Road, Milford Haven – Recommended for Approval by Chair following Councillor consultation. (For information only.)*

**RESOLVED THAT:** this information be received.

1. *Licensing Application – McDonald’s, Havens Head Business Park, Milford Haven – Committee Decision from Pembrokeshire County Council. (For information only.)*

**RESOLVED THAT:** this information be received.

269. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

 (a) *Acknowledgement of Donations.*

Acknowledgement has been received from 1st Milford Haven Guides, 1st Milford Haven Rainbow Unit, 7th Milford Haven Brownies, ASD Family Help – for Pembrokeshire Branch, Cerebral Palsy Cymru, Committee of Friends of Havenhurst, Friends of the Mount (Pembs), Gelliswick Community Choir, Hakin United Under 7s, Hubberston and Hakin Community Centre, Meads Flying Start Centre, Milford Athletic, Milford Athletic Under 10 Football Club, Milford Haven Business Circle, Milford Haven Community Primary School, Milford Haven Round Table (Precept Donation), Milford Haven School (General and Precept Donation), Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets (Precept Donation), Milford Haven Town Band (Precept Donation), Milford Haven Youth Club, Milford United AFC, P & SA (Parents and Supporters Association) – Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets, Pembrokeshire Puffins Disability Swimming Squad, Salvation Army, and Steynton Community Group.

A Member asked if it would be possible to determine which organisations have not acknowledged their donations.

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Town Council Secretary will work to ascertain this information.

 (b) *Applications for Financial Assistance.*

(i) *Megan’s Starr Foundation. (Deferred from the Meeting of the Full Council on Monday 8th January 2024.)*

 Councillor N. Harteveld reiterated her Personal and Prejudicial Interest and left the room during discussion of this item.

**RESOLVED THAT:** regret, no donation can be made at this time until specific supporting financial information is received.

Councillor Harteveld returned to the room upon discussion of this item.

(ii) *Milford Haven Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets.*

**RESOLVED THAT:** a donation of £500 be made in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

 Councillor Sharp took no part in discussion or voting on this item.

(iii) *Paul Sartori Foundation Limited (known as Paul Sartori Hospice at Home).*

 **RESOLVED THAT:** a donation of £100 be made a in accordance with the Milford Haven Town Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

270. FORMATION OF GRANT REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Grant Review Sub-Committee be composed of the following Councillors:

* The Mayor, Councillor Mrs C. Stevens
* The Deputy Mayor, Councillor W. D. Elliott BA QTS
* Councillor Mrs N. Beavis-Morrissey
* Councillor L. J. Bridges
* Councillor N. Harteveld
* Councillor C. A. Sharp
* Councillor D. R. Sinnett
* Councillor G. Woodham MBA (Open) LL.B (Hons)

271. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS: NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023:

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Schedule of Accounts for the month of November 2023 as presented by the Clerk in the sum of £32,554.41, and for the month of December 2023 in the sum of £23,871.14, be accepted and approved for payment.

272. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS: NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023:

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Statement of Accounts for the months of November and December 2023 be received.

273. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE: APRIL TO DECEMBER 2023:

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Summary of Expenditure for the months of April to December 2023 be received.

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