Minutes of a Meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council

held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Milford Haven

on Monday, 28th July, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

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PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor E. R. Harries)

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor S. G. Joseph)

Councillors: Mrs. M. Bedford J. W. Cole

A. W. Eden M. H. George QGM

Mrs. J. Hawkins A. H. Miles M. J. Norman C. A. Sharp D. R. Sinnett Mrs. C. Stevens G. Woodham LL.B (Hons)

PRAYERS:

In the absence of the Mayor’s Chaplain, Father Harri Williams, Prayers were led by the Mayor, Councillor E. R. Harries.

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The formal meeting of the Milford Haven Town Council then commenced.

89. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. E. Byrne, W. D. Elliott, M. P. Rickard, Mrs. Y. G. Southwell and the Mayor’s Chaplain, Father Harri Williams.

90. MAYOR’S REMARKS:

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Mrs. M. Bedford to the meeting after her recent operation.

91. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 30TH JUNE, 2014:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of

the Milford Haven Town Council held on the

30th June, 2014, be accepted and that they be

signed by the Mayor as a true record.

92. INFORMATION FROM THE MAYOR:

(a) Mayor’s Engagements:

Members were advised of the following engagements undertaken by the Mayor since 10th July, 2014:

10th July - Festivities Week Quiz Night at the Pill Community Centre

(attended by Deputy Mayor)

11th July - Haverfordwest Town Council Beating of the Bounds

11th July - Festivities Week Bowling Club (attended by Deputy Mayor)

12th July - Milford Haven Fishing Industry Memorial Group Charity Concert at the Pill Community Centre

13th July - Neyland Town Council Civic Service

14th July - Milford Haven Junior School Concert

16th July - Merit Award Ceremony and Presentation of cheques to charities in the community, Milford Haven School

16th July - Presentation to Miss M. Wait on her retirement as Secretary to the Milford Haven Town Council

19th July - Window Dressing Competition (attended by Deputy Mayor)

28th July - Meeting at Manchester Square Health Centre re patients’ car park

(b) Car Park at Manchester Square Health Centre:

The Mayor drew Members’ attention to the meeting held earlier that day when he and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor S. G. Joseph, and Councillors J. W. Cole and A. H. Miles had met at the Manchester Square Health Centre with a representative from Hywel Dda Health Board, a GP from one of the Practices and one of the Practice Managers.

The Mayor said as there are no scheduled meetings in August, he would summarise the discussions held at this meeting in order that Members could decide if they wished to progress this issue before September’s meetings.

The Mayor stated that the subject discussed was the inadequacy of the patients’ car park at the Health Centre, which was frequently full and resulted in patients having to park in adjacent streets to the frustration of local residents.

The Mayor advised that the medical staff and the Town Council representatives were in agreement that more parking spaces were needed, although the local Health Board representative claimed the spaces met with the conditions set by the Welsh Government, even though the configuration of the car park causes transport hazards.

Members were circulated with a copy of the Minutes summarising the discussions held at that meeting.

RESOLVED THAT a copy of the Minutes is to be

circulated to all those who attended the meeting

and to Mr. Mark Drakeford AM (Minister for Health and Social Services), with a covering letter expressing

this Council’s concern that there has been

no progress to alleviate the problem we

are faced with in Milford Haven, and emphasising

the fact that medical staff are frequently

receiving complaints and are in support of

our contention.

(c) Resignation of Mr. Graham Warlow:

The Mayor said that because of his ill health Councillor Graham Warlow had resigned as a Member of the Milford Haven Town Council.

The Mayor said that he would be writing to Mr. Warlow to thank him for his services to the Council and expressing the hope that he will soon return to full health.

(d) Events Taking Place to Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of WWI:

The Mayor read out the dates and times of the events taking place in Milford Haven to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Great War.

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REPORTS ON COMMITTEES

93. ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Establishment Committee held on the 1st July, 2014, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor E. R. Harries.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Establishment Committee held on 1st July, 2014,

be approved and adopted.

94. PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE:

In the absence of both the Chairman, Councillor M. P. Rickard, and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor W. D. Elliott, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Public Works and Planning Committee held on the 7th July, 2014, were moved by the Mayor, Councillor E. R. Harries.

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the

Public Works and Planning Committee held on the 7th July, 2014, be approved and adopted.

95. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 10th July, 2014, were moved by the Chairman, Councillor G. Woodham LL.B. (Hons).

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 10th July, 2014, be approved and adopted.

96. INFORMATION RELEVANT TO PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED HAKIN COMMUNITY SCHOOL SITE:

Members discussed an email from Ms. Kate Evan-Hughes, Head of Education, Pembrokeshire County Council, in response to the Council’s enquiry regarding the timing of the submission of the planning application in respect of the new school for Hakin and Hubberston.

Ms. Evan-Hughes wrote that the most recent programme for this project indicates that a planning application will be submitted early in 2015. She stated that she was unable to be more specific of its timing at this stage, but would be happy to confirm a date once the design process has been completed.

A Member asked whether this Council had been informed of the negotiations between Pembrokeshire County Council and the Rugby Club and Hakin AFC. The Mayor replied in the negative.

RESOLVED THAT the Clerk seeks information from the Pembrokeshire County Council regarding the negotiations and deliberations in relation to the future of Milford Haven Rugby Club and Hakin United Football Club.

97. LETTER FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT, THE TORCH THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED, ASKING FOR THIS COUNCIL’S SUPPORT IN THE TORCH THEATRE’S REQUEST THAT THE PORT OF MILFORD HAVEN COMPLETELY REMOVES THE MULTIPLEX CINEMA FROM ITS OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION:

Councillor G. Woodham LL.B. (Hons) declared a prejudicial interest in this issue, as he is a renumerated employee with the Torch Theatre and withdrew from the Council Chamber during the discussion on this item.

Councillor C. A. Sharp declared a prejudicial interest in this issue, as he is the partner of Councillor G. Woodham LL.B. (Hons) and withdrew from the Council Chamber during the discussion on this item.

Councillor D. R. Sinnett declared a prejudicial interest in this issue, as he has been appointed by the Pembrokeshire County Council as its representative on the Torch Theatre Management Board. He took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Mrs. M. Bedford declared a personal interest in this issue, as she is a volunteer at the Torch Theatre.

Members discussed a letter and enclosures from Dr. C. Mackintosh, Chair, Board of Management, The Torch Theatre Company Limited, in which she referred to the inclusion of a multiplex cinema in the Port of Milford Haven’s outline planning permission for its Milford Dock Masterplan.

Dr. Mackintosh expressed concern that the inclusion, and especially the siting and the scale of the proposed multiplex cinema, would have serious implications for the Torch and the important role that it plays in the community.

Dr. Mackintosh enclosed a copy of a letter submitted, on the Torch’s behalf, by Hayston Developments and Planning Limited to the Head of Planning, Pembrokeshire County Council, objecting to the cinema element of the Masterplan.

Dr. Mackintosh also enclosed a copy of a letter written to the Chief Executive of the Port of Milford Haven, asking whether the Port would now consider completely removing the multiplex cinema from its outline planning application as, given the significant and detrimental effect that granting such permission for a multiplex cinema would cause the Torch Theatre, they would need to object to this part of the proposal as vehemently as possible. The Torch’s preferred option would be to resolve this issue before the application reaches the Committee stage later in 2014.

Dr. Mackintosh asked whether this Council would support the Torch’s request that the Port of Milford Haven completely removes the multiplex cinema from its outline planning application.

A Member considered that the proposed multiplex cinema could have a prejudicial effect on the Torch Theatre and could possibly undermine the financial viability of the whole of the Torch Theatre.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) a letter be written to Mr. A. Don, Chief Executive, Port of Milford Haven in support of the Torch’s request that the Port completely removes the multiplex cinema from its outline planning application;

(ii) a copy of the letter is to be forwarded to Dr. C. Mackintosh, Chair, Board of Management, the

Torch Theatre Company Limited.

98. TO CONSIDER A LETTER FROM THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER, DYFED- POWYS POLICE, IN WHICH HE OUTLINES A NEW LONG-TERM ESTATES STRATEGY:

Members gave consideration to a letter and supporting documentation from Mr. C. Salmon, Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, in which he wrote that he and the Chief Constable are determined to deliver the best possible service to meet modern public needs.

Mr. Salmon stated that part of the change needed comes in the form of a new long-term estates strategy, which follows a review of all properties used by Dyfed- Powys Police. The strategy will be to prioritise officers over bricks. They are focusing all their efforts on delivering frontline officers. They are also prioritising shared police locations with partners such as councils, libraries and leisure centres.

The document enclosed with Mr. Salmon’s letter stated that there is a poor layout at Milford Haven Police Station; a £300,000 10-year maintenance requirement and that it has been decided that the Police Station will be relocated.

A Member expressed concern at Mr. Salmon’s proposals as Milford Haven is the largest town west of Llanelli and will lose its police station, whereas towns far smaller than Milford Haven, such as Crymych, Tenby, Narberth, Lampeter and Llandovery, will retain theirs.

Another Member observed that Milford Haven is not losing its police station – it is being relocated.

It was agreed that it was essential that Mr. Salmon be invited to a meeting to explain to Councillors his proposals for Milford Haven.

RESOLVED THAT Mr. Salmon, Dyfed-Powys Police

And Crime Commissioner be invited to address a

meeting of the Full Council on his proposals for

Milford Haven.

99. LETTER FROM THE TRAFFIC ENGINEER, PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, RE A NEW TRAFFIC ORDER, PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS, MILFORD HAVEN:

Members discussed a letter from Mr. B. Blake, Traffic Engineer, Pembrokeshire County Council, in which he advised of new waiting restriction proposals at Greville Road.

RESOLVED THAT the letter be received.

100. JAMES JOHNS AND DAVID STUART JOHNS CHARITY:

The Mayor, Councillor E. R. Harries, declared a personal interest in this issue, as he is the Chair of the James Johns and David Stuart Johns Charity. He was appointed by this Council as one of its representatives on this Charity.

Members gave consideration to a report by Mr. D. B. Griffiths, the Clerk to the Trustees of the James Johns and David Stuart Johns Charity.

The Mayor confirmed that Mr. Griffiths had been Clerk to the Trustees for almost 10 years and, because of health problems, has decided to resign. The Clerk to the Council has agreed to take on his duties, with Council’s approval.

RESOLVED THAT:

(i) the report be received;

(ii) the Clerk to the Council is to take on the duties of the Clerk to the Trustees of the James Johns and David Stuart Johns Charity.

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