



## FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK TOWN COUNCIL

### The MINUTES of the full Town Council Meeting

held in the Town Hall, Fishguard on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7pm

Cllr. Janet Wyer (Mayor) in the Chair.

### MINUTES OF:

### FULL TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr. Janet Wyer – Mayor – *J. Wyer*

Cath Bannister, Town Clerk – *C. Bannister*

*The Pembrokeshire County Council will be abbreviated and referred to as PCC within these minutes.*

*The Fishguard and Goodwick Town Council will be abbreviated and referred to as TC within these minutes*

#### **PRESENTATION.**

The Mayor, Cllr. Janet Wyer introduced:

#### **MR. JON HASWELL, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE and CLLR. KILMINSTER, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AT PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Jon Haswell, Director of Finance, accompanied by Cllr. Bob Kilminster, Cabinet Member for Finance, spoke to the Town Council with regards to the proposed increases in the Council tax for the period 2018/19.

Mr. Haswell outlined the background to the proposals by informing us that Pembrokeshire has enjoyed the lowest Council tax charges in Wales since 1996.

The PCC had been operating for the last few years, at £15m less, than Welsh Govt. believed was acceptable to operate on.

The PCC has been subject to cuts totalling £52.2m in the last four years.

The Welsh average for Council tax property band D is appx £279 a year more than in Pembrokeshire There is no extra funding available, to cope with the influx of tourists in the summer months, when the population more than doubles to around 245,000 residents.

The PCC have identified possible savings of £10m for the next year and have resorted to taking £0.7m from the Reserves.

The Welsh Government will not intervene if the PCC increases the council tax beyond the mythical 5%. There is no cap.

When questioned, Cllr. Kilminster stated that the PCC were now looking at all the property they own and evaluating the cost of either operating or selling them. He said that they must realise their assets and act accordingly.

When asked how the TC could generate income from the second home tax, Cllr. Killminster stated that a significant amount of money had been raised from the holiday home tax, with 50% earmarked for community grants and the remainder being shared out to town and community councils. This would be decided at Cabinet later in the year.

This was a very informative and interesting discussion.



More information can be obtained by using the link below:  
<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/finance-and-business>

### **PUBLIC SESSION: CLLR. WYER**

Before the Town Council goes into session and prior to standing orders starting, the public session offers members of the public, the opportunity to comment on items on this agenda or those previously requested and agreed.

The public will be limited to two minutes per comment or question.

The Mayor will update with regards to previous actions and ideas proposed by the public during this session.

This session will also allow County Councillors to update the Town Council and those members of the public present, on matters of interest and for the Pembrokeshire County Council Liaison Officer to update the Town Council.

### **PUBLIC PRESENT:**

There were no questions from the public.

### **COUNTY COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

On the evening

Cllr. P. Davies – The new play equipment for Lota Parc was being delivered 7.2.18 and should be installed and ready for use by half term in February. Great news for the area.

Enquiries are ongoing with regards to the flooding in Lota Parc.

It is hoped to divert the natural springs that are responsible for the flooding.

Cllr. M. Pepper -

Cllr. Pepper updated the Town Council with regards to his concerns for the sewage leaks in Lower Town on the beach by Marine Walk and by the pumping station.

He had made several enquiries and was asking for Town Council support in writing to the Welsh Water/PCC to get the matter investigated and rectified.

Cllr. Wyer suggested that Cllr. Pepper contact the Clerk and ask for a draft letter of support be written on behalf of the Town Council, in support of investigations being carried out.

### **PCC LIAISON OFFICERS PRESENT:**

On the evening:

Apologies were received from Marc Owen and from David Popplewell.

David had sent an update email which Cllr. Wyer read out to the Town Councillors.

He had progressed the s106 funding for a proposed footpath in Scleddau between the A40 and the football pitch. A study will be carried out in the spring, paid for via s106 money.

He is liaising with the Historic Buildings and Conservation officer at PCC to investigate the use of the outside of the Town Hall as a location for a defibrillator. He hopes to be able to report back to the TC in March with an update.

## **MINUTES**

### **19/18 APOLOGIES: CLLR. WYER**

To formally record apologies for absence and to record the attendance of Town Councillors:

Apologies were received from Cllr. Morris due to illness.

Those Councillors present were:

Cllrs. Wyer, Ryan, Perkins, Mason, Thickitt, Price, O'Connor, Stokes, Pepper and Davidson.

### **20/18 MEMBER INTERESTS: CLLR. WYER**

To formally record any personal or pecuniary interests that a Town Councillor may have in any of the agenda items listed:



No interests were declared.

### **21/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: CLLR. WYER**

To record the previous meeting minutes, as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 2.1.18 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **22/18 MAYORS UPDATE: CLLR. WYER**

Cllr. Wyer will update the Town Council with regards to the Civic Duties she has performed since November and will update the Town Councillors with regards events going forwards.

Thoroughly enjoyed helping with the town council phone box cleaning team, luckily for us the weather was kind to us, although just showed up the dirt more! All looking good and ready for town council to decide what they will be used for.

Myself and the Deputy Mayor attended the One Voice Wales quarterly meeting, much interesting discussion and debate but the one that interested me the most was how Town Councils could access the monies from council tax 2nd homes levy . The plan is that we will have to access it via project funding application, but actually how that will be , and how much is yet to be confirmed. But It could be a substantial amount of money for this town council.

Disappointing news regarding town hall flag poles and this is one of the agenda items .

I was kindly invited to the Hen Galan celebration concert in St Mary's Church on 19 January and had the privilege of thanking those talented people who participated in event and helped raise £640 to be shared equally between Team Harding Ward 10 Appeal and Fishguard Young Farmers

Light Nights Awards 23<sup>rd</sup> January . Thank you to all those who participated and helped make it such a nice event.

Marina Development plans. The Mayor was interviewed on radio Wales the morning after the news broke. What happens next? Agenda item by Cllr. Stokes at this meeting.

Town Team AGM - attended this last week.

Formal flying of the coveted Keep Wales Tidy Green Flag which was awarded to the Greening Group last year, just before they went on to win Wales in Bloom. Thank you to those who attended on such a freezing cold and wild and windy day. Thank you in particular to Cath, our clerk, for teaching us how to use our new flag poles! Its not easy and I think it will take a the whole town council to help put them all up in the spring!

And on the same note I have been pursuing the road signage , which is at last moving forward.

Last but not least I have an update on the public toilets to be included with the Chimneys Link Development. The site visit with Atkins has confirmed that the infrastructure and relevant facilities are all there to support the new toilet block. There needs to be a material change update to the planning application. The other two toilet sites will be closed, and they will have to look into the possibility of using the framework for something else . This will all be going to cabinet in March. Prior to that DANFO and PCC will be holding an open morning in the town chambers on the morning of Thursday 1 March , in Town Council Chambers for the public to come and view the plans and comment.

Future dates - Sea Cadets Burgee presentation and awards ceremony Heartathon week - big thank to Dani, Jackie and Jana.

Last Invasion celebration 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

Campaign to combat loneliness 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb , ( Christmas Together meal? same as Milford); Congratulations to Fishguard Bay Welcome and FFF for being shortlisted for Pembs Tourist Award 2018! And winners of National Tourist Awards Wales , from regional nominations.

Town Team AGM

Dementia Friendly , Point have lottery funding over 3 years to make our towns dementia friendly.

Coming to next meeting to talk to us.

The new chair and treasurer is Stuart Egarr for the next 12 months ,TC - Two vice chairs community forum and chamber of trade. Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### **23/18 DEPUTY MAYORS UPDATE: CLLR. WYER**

Cllr. Ryan will update the Town Council with regards to the Civic Duties that he performed since the last Town Council meeting.



One Voice Wales quarterly meeting, it's always great to hear what our representative body is doing for us when they go into bat for us at county hall and in Cardiff Bay.

Town Team AGM 30th January, good meeting with lots of positives, there's a bright future for the team hopefully.

Green Flag Raising Goodwick Flag Poles 31st January, it was good to get the flag flying.

I also attended various committee meetings and had several meetings with the clerk and mayor.

**24/18 CLERKS REPORT:**

Follow up actions taken by the Clerk from the last meeting.

The Clerk will update you on the following matters:

Goodwick Town Councillor Vacancy	Notification for nominations for election between 15 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb. PCC will update the Clerk on 14.2.18 and again on 24.2.18 with the results
Scleddau Footpath survey	Have received notification (circulated 5.2.18), from PCC that a feasibility study will be carried out on spring 2018, using s.106 money.
Training with One Voice Wales	Have circulated a list this evening. Please circle the training courses that you would like to attend and write your name at the top. I will book them this week.
Town Hall Notice Board	Window graphics for the noticeboard in this room are being attached tomorrow. Are there any volunteers to manage the notice boards in your own wards? They need to be cleared of out of date posters and refreshed with new ones where applicable.
Flags	Volunteers needed to hold a set of keys to the flagpoles and to take on the task of making sure the correct flags are flying – as and when requested.
Letters sent to:	PCC re. the proposed footpath in Scleddau. Letter to support two funding bids, as requested by J. Martineau
PCNP email	Email sent to all Cllrs. 30.1.18, reference PCNP Local Development Plan Please submit any comments you may have, before 1.6.18.
Ysgol Glannau Gwaun	No volunteers for this position. School Governor vacancy at Ysgol Glannau Gwaun – this matter has been referred back to the school.

**25/18 REPORTS: CLLR. WYER**

Previously circulated by email, the minutes from the following meetings.

These minutes are for information and comments in order for them to be referred back to the relevant committees for sign off approval .

A short verbal update was made by the Chair of each committee.

Governance Meeting – 23.1.18

Finance Committee – 4.1.18

Events Committee – 23.1.18

Planning Committee – 4.1.18

It was resolved to accept these reports and to refer them back to the relevant committees for approval.

**26/18 POLICIES TO BE ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL: CLLR THICKITT**

The following policies have been written and then reviewed by the Governance Committee.



The documents now need to receive full Town Council approval for adoption:

Data Protection Policy  
Notice Board Policy  
Health and Safety Policy  
Social Media Policy  
Press and Media Policy

It was resolved to accept the above policies.

**27/18 TELEPHONE BOXES: CLLR WYER**

The two telephone boxes owned by FGTC, have now been cleaned.

Fishguard: It was resolved as at minute reference 66/17 in 2017, prior to his appointment as a Cllr., that Cllr. Pepper would take the lead with POINT working alongside of him.

Goodwick: Ysgol Wdig, led by Lucy Wilkes, ex. Cllr. Their preference was for a mini greenhouse, a food drop off point and a Defib location.

How does the Town Council progress the refurbishment of the telephone boxes?

Please discuss.

After a long discussion with some very positive ideas thrown into the arena, it was resolved that the Clerk would contact Ysgol's Glannau Gwaun, Wdig and Holy Name and ask if the school children would like to design some ideas for the future use of the phone boxes and therefore, take ownership of their own phone boxes.

The Clerk will write to each school and will report progress at the March meeting.

**28/18 COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND: CLLR WYER**

Email circulated to all Town Councillors on 23.1.18.

There is further funding available. Would the Town Council like to consider placing a community bid for anything. Examples could be a community mini bus or any such big idea. Please discuss.

Cllr. Wyer outlined the details of this funding. There is between £50k and £300k available for projects that would create, sustain or innovate new jobs and enhance the immediate area.

The submission date for completed applications is 12<sup>th</sup> March.

It was resolved that because of the importance of this opportunity for the towns, an extraordinary meeting would be scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> February for the purpose of discussing this agenda item alone.

Cllrs. were asked to attend the meeting and to try and come up with some ideas for inclusion, to see if an application could be submitted.

**29/18 FLAGPOLE OUTSIDE THE TOWN HALL: CLLR WYER**

There has been some negativity with regards to the state of the old flagpoles outside the Town Hall. An email was circulated on 16.1.18 by the Clerk on behalf of the Mayor, with regards to correspondence she had entered into with PCC.

Does the TC wish to continue with this issue? Please discuss.

Cllr. Wyer opened the discussions by advising the Cllrs. that her communications with PCC, asking them to replace the flagpoles outside of the Town Hall, had resulted in PCC stating they would not replace them but that the TC could replace them at a cost of £7k.

There was a discussion with regards to the TC funding flags to this amount and placing them on a building that they don't own.

Cllr. Wyers recent investigations into Town Halls and town halls that display flags immediately



outside the building, identified her that not many did display flags.

The TC had recently installed a further 9 flagpoles in Goodwick, making the total owned by the TC, 13. They would be a wonderful display in the spring and summer months.

It was resolved that the TC will not replace the existing flagpoles on the Town Hall and that Cllr. Wyer will contact PCC expressing the disappointment of the Town Councillors at the PCC decision not to replace them.

**30/18 SUPPORT FOR OCEAN LAB, GOODWICK: CLLR STOKES**

Cllr. Stokes has recently attended a public meeting in support of ensuring the continued use of the Ocean Lab facility, in the light of the Marina Development falling through.

Cllr. Stokes will update the town council.

How can the TC help?

Cllr. Stokes informed the TC that the Ocean Lab had formed a support group called GOODFISH.

The PCC had honoured their lease until March 2019. They are seeking funding.

They were also looking at submitting a substantial bid via the Coastal Communities.

It was resolved to support the Ocean Lab by way of a letter to PCC.

Cllr. Stokes to draft a letter to send to the Clerk.

**31/18 CORRESPONDENCE: CLLR WYER**

Thank you letter received from Lota Parc for £10k funding.

Thank you letter received from St. Mary's Church, for supporting their funding bid.

**32/18 URGENT MATTERS: CLLR WYER**

Any matters that have come to the attention of the Town Council after the Agenda has been circulated, can be discussed here.

The Chair and the Clerk will need to be advised before the start of the meeting.

*Please be aware that no resolution can be reached on non-agenda items but they can be discussed and deferred to the relevant committee for further discussion or to the next full town meeting as an agenda item.*

**There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8:40pm.**