

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council on Monday 5th January 2009 in the Council Chamber 7.00pm.

Present: DJO Chant Mayor, SJ Halse Deputy-Mayor, JW Braby, AM Foster, DJH George, MC Gray, JG Lloyd, BT Price, CT Taylor, RJ Thornton, S Williams with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

510 Apologies for Absence: All present.

511 Declarations of Interest: Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest that they might have in relation to items on this agenda.
C Taylor and PL Evans declared personal interests regarding Minute 524 St.Davids Cathedral Festival sponsorship.

512 Confirmation of Minutes for:-

512.1 The Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 1st December 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

512.2 The 'In Committee' Council Monthly Meeting on Monday 1st December 2008 were RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

513 Review of Christmas Events:-

513.1 Senior Citizen's Lunch – The lunch had received many appreciative comments and thanks were offered to Paul Evans and all involved with the provision of the dinner.

513.2 Civic Reception – This was a success despite very poor weather and thanks were again received with the reduced level of catering having been acceptable if not universally popular.

513.2.1 Letter of thanks of 13 December 2008 from Royal British Legion was noted.

513.2.2 Email of thanks from Mr and Mrs JAB Evans was noted.

513.3 Street Lighting 'Switch On'.

513.3.1 The event had been very successful with thanks offered to all involved especially Councillor Malcolm Gray for both the setting up and removal of the tree.

513.3.2 Certificate for unmetered supply received from Western Power and Distribution 17.12.08 was confirmed as having been received.

513.4 Christmas Market – This first market to be held on the 'Switch On' day had worked well even though the space for the stalls was limited. The restraints on providing electricity to stall holders were noted.

513.5 Display Lighting Competition. Once again there had been good displays there being comment made that there were incidents of winning displays being turned off immediately after the evening of the judging.

513.6 Community Award – A card of thanks from the winner Mrs Glenys James was RESOLVED to be received.

514 Casual Vacancy of Councillor – Letter had been received from Mrs Glenys James 21.11.08 and as there were no other applicants it was RESOLVED first that there was no need for a ballot and then it was agreed that Mrs James be co-opted as a member of the City Council.

515 Primary Schools Review – Pembrokeshire County Council Minutes of meeting on 17.11.08 were RESOLVED to be received.

516 Matters arising regarding Pembrokeshire County Council.

County Councillor George commented on the following points:-

516.1 Surfer's showers at Whitesands – was awaiting a response.

516.2 Highways - Llandruidion to Solva 40 mph limit was being assessed by Pembrokeshire County Council.

516.3 Flashing speed warning sign near Ysgol Dewi Sant – This awaited a response and it was agreed to write to ask for road surface markings and or rumble strips to be provided in the area approaching the school with AM and MP to be advised of these needs.

517 Matters arising regarding Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority:-

- 517.1 St Justinians – a reply was awaited regarding progress with the new lifeboat station and the prospects for the buildings that will be come redundant.
- 517.1.1 St Justinians Toilets – Given that in 2008 the cost of providing and daily servicing toilets was £1876.69, less the donation from the Porthstinian Boatowners of £250, it was RESOLVED to write to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and Pembrokeshire County Council asking for financial support in providing these facilities both for the past year and for assistance in 2009.
- 517.2 Public toilets at The Grove.
Councillor John George noted that tenders for the work were understood to be due out shortly with a view to completion for the summer.

518 County Councillor's Report:

The position regarding the longstanding requests for footpath improvements, all of which were awaiting funding was noted as follows:-

- 518.1 Path from St Davids RFC to the Glasfryn Road junction – this was not now being considered given the potential long term developments along Glasfryn Road.
- 518.2 Ocean Haze – This had been delayed due to restrictions on land availability and concerns over the safety of children, there was also the consideration of making this area 30 mph. It was felt that even if only part of this route was possible, then it should be provided as it would assist safety in the narrowest section of road. Comments had also been received by Pembrokeshire County Council that this could be seen to be supporting a local business.
- 518.3 Nun Street footpath remained the top priority as a safe route to school.

Correspondence

519 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 27 November 2008 – The position on various highway matters were noted with the following comments:-

- 519.1 Waiting Restrictions for parking of coaches on the North side of the Cross Square.
- 519.1.1 A drop off and pick up point at the North West end of the Cross Square outside Menai was RESOLVED to be approved rather than the proposed site that removes car parking.
- 519.1.2 Cost of Coach Parking – it was RESOLVED to write to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority to ask for parking management that encourages coaches to stay in the car park and not elsewhere in St Davids.
- 519.2 Whitesands car park approach – It was RESOLVED to ask for a similar scheme to the most recent design received but based on the south side of the road.

520 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 8 December 2008 – Council tax base Financial Year 2009/10 – it was RESOLVED not to request a precept for 2009/10.

521 Community Pool Group:-

- 521.1 email of 14 December 2008 and Minutes of Pool Users Group meeting on 10.12.08 was RESOLVED to be received.
- 521.2 email of 1 January 2009 – Request to use the Clerk for Group support purposes was noted and it was RESOLVED that the Group should undertake the work outlined and not the Clerk.

522 PLANED St Davids Business Group – Invitation to meeting on 7.1.09 Oriol y Parc at 12.30pm with Councillor Malcolm Gray agreeing to attend.

523 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 15 December 2008 Code of Conduct – Notes arising from the recent briefings of Town and Community Councils were RESOLVED to be received.

524 St Davids Cathedral Festival letter of 16 December 2008 Festival 22-31 May 2009 and request for sponsorship. It was RESOLVED to contribute £750 under Local Government Act 1972 sec 145.

525 Paul Davies AM letter of 18 December 2008 - it was RESOLVED to invite Mr Davies to attend a Council meeting and seek comments over the multiple representation of communities.

526 Mr Bernard Mathias letter of 28 December 2008 – notification of work on trees at 62/64 New Street that had been approved by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority was RESOLVED to be accepted.

527 Pembrokeshire Youth Bank email invitation to fundraising dinner in Tenby was noted.

528 Donations - Letter of thanks from H.O.P.E. (10 December 2008) for donation of £50 was received.

529 Donation Requests Under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:-

529.1 Macmillan Cancer Support letter of 28 November 2008 - it was RESOLVED to donate £103.

529.2 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod letter received 5.12.08 - was RESOLVED to be received.

529.3 Pembrokeshire Young Farmers Club letter 12 December 2008 - it was RESOLVED to offer free use of the hall subject availability of the hall.

530 Brochures, Courses and Newsletters etc – the following items were RESOLVED to be received:-

530.1 PAVS Volunteering Pembrokeshire Bulletin Autumn /Winter 2008.

530.2 PLANED New skills training courses for 2009.

530.3 Park Post a briefing sheet for Councillors - December 2008.

530.4 Play for Wales Winter 2008.

531 Reports from Members representing the Council on Local Groups and Events:-

531.1 Bws y Bobol – it was RESOLVED to join PVT as a group member for a subscription £5.

531.2 PALC – C Taylor noted that the latest minutes were available.

531.3 St.Davids Christmas Tree Association - no additional items to report.

531.4 St.Davids Day Celebration Group next meeting Thursday 15 January 2009 with an art competition being considered with Oriel y Parc.

531.5 St Davids Eco City – next meeting was due this week.

531.6 St.Davids Peninsula Association for the Care of the Elderly and Disabled – no additional items to report.

531.7 St.Davids Peninsula Tourist Association - no additional items to report.

531.8 St.Davids Matsieng Lesotho Link Group – Efforts to improve communications were in hand and one of the Lent lunches may be used for fund raising.

531.9 Youth Drop In - no additional items to report.

Clerk's Business:

532 City Hall Bookings Annual Review:-

532.1 Hire Rates. The rates for hire were reviewed for 2009 and RESOLVED to be as follows:-

532.1.1 Community /Charitable Function Rate All prices include vat @15%

532.1.1.1 City Hall £5.92 per hour - with kitchen £7.13 per hour.

532.1.1.2 Memorial Hall £3.56 per hour - with kitchen £4.77 per hour.

532.1.2 Business Rate

532.1.2.1 City Hall £9.48 per hour - with kitchen £10.69 per hour

532.1.2.2 Memorial Hall £5.92 per hour - with kitchen £7.13 per hour.

532.2 Free Bookings - These were agreed to be continued for the coming year for the Royal British Legion, Welsh Blood Transfusion Service, Lesotho Group, Bws y Bobol Group and the Community Pool Group.

532.3 Children's Party Bookings – The use of large inflatable play items in the Hall - it was RESOLVED that slides could be used but not bouncy castles and that all risks and insurance were the responsibility of the hirer and a copy of the insurance certificate for the inflatable was to be provided for each booking.

533 Works and Practical matters - Schedule of maintenance and repairs was reviewed for the year and given the limited funds available non essential works were to be deferred.

534 Allotments – Review of Progress.

The Council had responded during 2008 to a request from the community to provide allotment gardens by working with the group to identify land that might be suitable. The following opportunities have been considered but were not accepted by the Group often because of distance from St Davids:-

- 534.1 Council Property:-
 534.1.1 Croeswdig Field.
 534.1.2 Waun Fawr.
- 534.2 Land at Rhosson courtesy of Mr J Price.
- 534.3 Land belonging to the Friends of St Davids Cathedral near Merrivale.
- 534.4 Field for sale opposite Waun Fawr - the City Council offered funding of £12,000 towards purchase of land at auction, however this was not successful.
- 534.5 Land by Yr Hafan, Bryn Teg and Pen y Garn reply awaited from Pembrokeshire County Council.

The Council has repeatedly promoted the need for allotments or community gardens in the locality and has asked for any interested landowners to contact the Clerk via various press items and within its own newsletters throughout 2008. It was RESOLVED to reiterate support for the initiative and to write to the allotment group summarising the position.

535 Cross Square Markets

- 535.1 Hire of stalls – it was RESOLVED to hold the rates at £15 per stall.
- 535.2 Electricity – It was RESOLVED to re-assess the electrical supply panel and not to allow the use of electricity for market stalls.
- 535.3 City Hall Bookings – when a market is booked for the Cross Square it was RESOLVED not to have the City Hall as a poor weather option.
- 535.4 St Davids Day Dinner – preliminary arrangements were discussed.

Planning:

- 536 NP/08/535** Demolish bathroom and rebuild, rear bedroom extension, installation of geo thermal heating system and solar panels Ysgybor, Trehysbys, Rhodiad y Brenin.
 B Price declared a prejudicial interest as a neighbouring landowner.
 It was RESOLVED to express concern over the scale and character of the development in relation to surrounding properties.
- 537 NP/08/544** Extension at 17 Bryn Road – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.
- 538 NP/08/548** Extension to staff facility rest room at Caerfai Bay Caravan and Tent Park – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.
- 539 NP/08/558** Change of use to 2 dwellings (to be used as holiday let also). Demolition of 1960's extensions, reinstatement of main house and stable and other alterations at Penrhiw – it was RESOLVED to offer COUNCIL SUPPORT.

Accounts:

- 540** Internal Audit for November 2008 had been completed and it was RESOLVED to be accepted and approved.

541 Accounts for December 2008.

Balances: (26/12/08) Current Account £11,586. Premier Account £23980.

Chubb Fire Ltd	126.51
Leander Architectural	557.00
Cllr C T Taylor	66.07
St Davids Glass & Framing Ltd	18.00
J Phillips	93.64
LITE	25389.41
Pembs Online Ltd	160.00
CKs	47.96
Stephanie Thomas	375.00
Robert O Evans	17.67
Viking Direct	111.11

D C Menday	1301.83
P L Evans	220.12
M C Davies	950.00
W A Spees	2079.75
Price & Sons	14552.00
Cllr John Lloyd	13.00
Cllr David Chant	37.34
Butherway Electrical Ltd	373.75
Gwyn Davies & Sons Ltd	175.50
J Phillips	235.42
HMRC (NI & IR)	1624.57

PERIOD 1.4.08 – 26.12.08	INCOME	EXPENDITURE £	BALANCE for PERIOD £
TOTAL	184184	235725	-51541
Car Park	118711	54078	+64634
City Hall	16031	12556	+3475
Admin		26611	-26611

Sec 137 Donations from 01/04/2008

Tall Ships	300.00
All Pembs Cruse	50.00
Crossroads	50.00
Army Benevolent Fund	250.00
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	25.00
Shelter Cymru	50.00
948 Squadron ATC	25.00
Celtic Coaster	1000.00
Pembs Special Needs Gym Club	50.00
British Red Cross	50.00
H O P E	50.00
Royal British Legion	50.00
St Non's Bro Cerwyn Centre	50.00

Sec 214 Donations from 01/04/2008

Caerfarchell Chapel	100.00
Tretio Chapel	100.00
Berea Chapel	100.00
St Davids Cathedral re Cemetery	4500.00

Permission to pay – it was RESOLVED to approve payment of the accounts.

Mayor's Business

542 Mrs Morgans, St.Davids oldest resident had just died. Councillor Gray reflected on her life and interests in St Davids and it was RESOLVED to send a card to her family and to fly the flag at half mast on the day of the funeral.

543 Mr D Roy Thomas MBE - it was RESOLVED to send a card of congratulation to Mr Thomas on his award of an MBE in the New Year's honour's list.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed
Chair

Date.....

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Month on Monday 19 January 2009 in the Council Chamber at 7.00pm.

Present: SJ Halse Deputy-Mayor, DJH George, MC Gray, MGD James, JG Lloyd, CT Taylor, RJ Thornton, S Williams with PL Evans (Responsible Finance Officer) and DC Menday (Clerk).

St Davids Community Pool Group (CPG): D Connell, A Dixon, S Preece and D Rowlands

The Deputy- Mayor Councillor Stephanie Halse welcomed Councillor Glenys James as the newly co-opted member to the meeting and also welcomed and introduced the St Davids Community Pool Group representatives to the meeting.

544 Apologies for Absence: JW Braby (Holiday), D Chant (Holiday), AM Foster (work commitment), BT Price (indisposed).

545 Declarations of Interest:

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest that they might have in relation to items on this agenda.

Matters arising from the 5 January 2009 meeting:

546 Pool and Sport Facilities at Ysgol Dewi Sant.

Deputy-Mayor invited the group to present their information and A Dixon outlined the plan that had also been shown to Mr Mark Lewis, Director of Finance and Leisure of Pembrokeshire County Council, earlier in the day. The efforts of the CPG were directed towards several matters including:-

- 546.1 Research on wind turbines as a community resource for the provision of energy that will create net profits to run the pool facilities.
- 546.2 Canvassing of public opinion, holding of several public meetings and the provision of a news sheet.
- 546.3 Preparation of a case for a Judicial Review over the lack of time for public consultation allowed by Pembrokeshire County Council prior to the announcement of the proposed closure of the pool. The review was yet to be submitted following a request for a deferment of the deadline originally due at the end of January 2009.

A Dixon outlined the 3 options presented to Pembrokeshire County Council:-

Option 1 - CPG will organise and construct a wind turbine in order to supply electricity to the grid and ask Pembrokeshire County Council to continue to operate the pool funded by the group. Pembrokeshire County Council would then build a new sports hall on the school site.

Option 2 - Pembrokeshire County Council will terminate their responsibility for the pool and CPG would run it until they can build up a reserve to replace it.

Option 3 - What might happen if the St Davids Assemblies factory becomes vacant? Should this be the case, it would make an ideal sports hall.

CPG members noted that Pembrokeshire County Council:-

- Prefers option 1 but notes Pembrokeshire County Council's concern over what happens if a major failure occurs to the pool?
- Wishes to have the matter of land availability clarified. It was crucial to all these plans that additional land was available and the landowner had confirmed they would consider the offer of more land for the CPG favourably. M.Gray declared a prejudicial interest, noting that the position is being clarified.
- There was a budget in place for the pool for next year until contractors move in probably with 5 months from 1 February.

Come what may, the CPG wants to proceed with the wind turbine project and group members noted that Pembrokeshire County Council seemed more in tune with a sustainable development rather than a leisure based approach. The feeling is that Pembrokeshire County Council has a deeply entrenched view based on their strategy.

Pembrokeshire County Council had noted that a decision regarding the pool was made in 2003 and there was concern expressed by CPG that this had not been communicated to the community. Other similar situations eg Neyland and Narberth were noted.

D Rowland joined the meeting and outlined the basis of the community energy based approach, while confirming that Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority is considering the planning pre-application.

- The use of a turbine to generate funds for the community is based on experience in Bro Dyfi and is expected that a scheme in St Davids would generate net profits of £80,000 using a magnet not geared based design so that it is quieter machine. A community group at Cwm Arian, Llanfyrnach in North Pems is building 2 turbines in excess of 1 MW.
- A new turbine costs £1.2 million with funding of 50% grant money available, while the rest of the funding is to be obtained by using other grants, bank loans and community shares of probably £1000. The aim would be to pay back funds over 25 years.
- The pool costs given by Pembrokeshire County Council show substantial operating losses as staffing is the bulk of the cost. It was felt that opening hours could be reduced to lower costs.
- The design of turbine being considered is already installed at a site near Milford Haven.
- Staffing of new operation - Shared employment by CPG &/or Pembrokeshire County Council was unclear; ideally Pembrokeshire County Council would run it given their experience albeit that some of the costs presented seem high.

Discussion followed on funding, levels of support and basic technical information with key points noted as:-

Consultation with the community may not be as supportive as suggested, has CPRW been consulted?

Members stated that feedback over the plans from visits were predominantly supportive.

Opinion from Ysgol Dewi Sant – a meeting with the Governors was awaited but there had been no communication from the Headteacher. CPG reiterates its support for the Sports Hall and it acknowledged that other pressures existed.

The Deputy-Mayor thanked the Group members for presenting this situation and they left the meeting.

Discussion continued on the Scheme with additional points being:-

J Lloyd noted that people were not at all happy about having the turbine and the Council needs more feedback from the community.

Proximity to children on the school playing field was to be considered.

If turbine means the future of the pool will be resolved, then it should be supported.

R Thornton declared an interest as a governor of Ysgol Dewi Sant and suggested that if an independent planning application for a turbine was received it was likely to be rejected by the Council. This was not totally accepted.

Planning position is far from clear.

Consider alternative vertical turbine designs such as recently shown in the new school in Anglesey.

It was RESOLVED to await the provision of further information of the business plan and for members to seek further views from within the community.

546.4 Joyce Watson AM copy of undated letter to Chief Executive of Pembrokeshire County Council was RESOLVED to be received.

547 St Davids Day

- 547.1 Council Dinner
- 547.1.1 Menus from Oriel y Parc and The Grove Hotel were considered for the dinner, with the Old Cross Hotel not being available at the time required - it was RESOLVED to hold the dinner at the Grove Hotel.
- 547.1.2 Guests and Gifts. The Clerk was liaising with 'Twin Towns' and it was RESOLVED to ask that given the longstanding nature of the relationships there would not be an exchange of gifts this year.
- 547.2 Programme – it was RESOLVED to see if any market stall-holders would like to run a market on Sunday.
- The following points were then noted:-
- 547.2.1 An Eisteddfod was planned for 2010.
- 547.2.2 Bws y Bobol has been offered to support transport to St.Davids Day events.
- 547.2.3 Flags:-
- 547.2.3.1 Additional national flag – it was agreed to investigate the cost of a new 12ft flag.
- 547.2.3.2 It was agreed to purchase 200 no handwaver Flags and some national flag bunting.
- 547.3 Decoration of Hall for Launch on Friday 27 February was noted.
- 547.4 Post Cymanfa Ganu Tea - Bara brith and welsh cakes were to be provided as previously with civic guests to be invited as in 2008.
- 547.5 Pembrokeshire Banner – Provision of funding deferred from a previous meeting - it was RESOLVED to request further design details for the matter to be reconsidered.

548 City Hall Phase 2 – Report on meeting with Architect Wes Spees 7 January 2009. Information was being exchanged and further briefing on more detailed design requirements for the planned facilities had been requested. It was RESOLVED to meet with the architect to provide a more detailed brief.

549 Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 9 January 2009 - Consultative Meeting on Primary School Closure – it was RESOLVED that Cllr C Taylor would attend the meeting on 2 February 2009.

Correspondence

550 The following item is a matter of contract and under section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, consideration as to whether the public and press be excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information is advised.

Pembrokeshire County Council letter of 6 December 2009, City Hall Flat.

551 Dyfed Powys Police letter of 15 January 2009 - Force Communications Centre – it was RESOLVED that Councillor J George would attend the meeting on Wednesday 28 January 2009.

552 Planning – Plan NP/08/535 - Demolish bathroom and rebuild, rear bedroom extension, installation of geothermal heating system and solar panels at Ysgybor, Trehysbys, Rhodiad – matter was reconsidered without additional comment.

Clerk's Business

553 Review and Planning for the Future including Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act, CNEA.

A paper from the Clerk was discussed extensively with matters noted:-

- 553.1 CNEA - following information from Pembrokeshire County Council regarding the possible transfer of dog control responsibilities to City Council officers, it was RESOLVED not to proceed with the new powers available given the considerable administrative and legal involvement for what was seen as very limited benefit.

553.2 Staffing – The need for back up in the event of anything adverse happening to the officers, as well as some succession planning, meant that an assistant member of staff be considered and the Responsible Finance Officer was asked to look at the likely costs of part time options.

553.3 Staff Performance Review Committee - it was agreed hold a meeting when the Mayor returns from holiday.

554 City Hall Kitchen - Food Safety Inspection 2009 – Clerk reported that the inspection had been successfully completed with considerable time spent outlining the plans for disabled toilet facilities.

555 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, Farmer’s Markets – Request for the use of Council market stalls, it was RESOLVED to express concern over an additional market in a small community.

556 Paul Davies AM had confirmed he will be attending the 16 March 2008 meeting.

Any Other Business:

557 Honours Board: C Taylor declared an interest as a parent but was concerned that the Board with the names of the previous Head boys and Head girls had been changed with only recent names on display - it was RESOLVED to write to the school to clarify the position.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed
Chair

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559 Declarations of Interest:

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Business

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Chair

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