

At a Meeting of **Pembroke Dock Town Council** held at the Pater Hall, Pembroke Dock on Thursday 29th November 2012

**PRESENT:** Councillors A McNaughton, P Kraus, M Murton, K Becton, M Colgan, P George, P Gwyther, D Earl, S Perkins, P Folland, A Lee, C Fortune, J Phillips

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Sarah Scourfield – Assistant Town Clerk  
Natasha Smith – Administration Support

**91. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**93. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr G Manning of 6 Meyrick Street, Pembroke Dock spoke at great length of his objection to the proposed Planning application for 10 Meyrick Street to be turned into 15 bedsits. He stated his concerns with regard to The anti-social behaviour that had seen the police being called 86 times in one month alone. 45 of these calls Had been for anti-social behaviour issues. (He obtained this information from the Police website). He also Expressed concerns about parking in the street. He urged the council to do something to try to something.

**94. MINUTES 01 NOVEMBER 2012**

It was

**PROPOSED by Councillor P Folland**

**SECONDED by Councillor M Colgan**

**RESOLVED - That the Minutes of 01 November 2012 are adopted as a true record.**

**95. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 01 November 2012**

**Argyle Medical Group**

The Assistant Town Clerk informed members that the next meeting was on 03 December 2012 at 5pm. Cllr C Fortune and Cllr S Perkins will be attending. Cllr K Higgs asked councillors attending that meeting to reinforce to the surgery their poor service level and commented that people who work and have to leave their home by 8am are dis-empowered from being able to make an appointment. He stated that people should be allowed to book appointments a week in advance and that there should also be a provision in place that when someone is ill, they can go to the surgery and have an appointment there and then. Calling the surgery and having to wait thirty minutes to get through, only to find the appointments have gone is unacceptable.

**96. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

**96. Pembroke Dock Lions Donation**

The Town Clerk informed members that in previous years, a donation has been made to the Lions to help cover costs for the vehicle that they provide for Father Christmas for the festival. Unfortunately, last year, this was overlooked. In previous years a donation of £50 had been granted to the group. The Town Clerk proposed that a donation of £100 was made to cover the costs for last year and this coming year.

**PROPOSED by Councillor A McNaughton**

**SECONDED by Councillor C Fortune**

**RESOLVED that a donation of £100 would be given**

### **97. Silver Band Instrument Trust**

The Town Clerk had been contacted by Ian Jones regarding membership for the instrument trust. He stated that there are currently only 2 appointees for this council, yet there should be 3. Current trustees are Cllr P George and Cllr M Colgan. The Town Clerk asked the council for a volunteer to become the third trustee. Cllr P Folland volunteered to become the third trustee.

### **98. Open Spaces Society**

The Town Clerk has received the renewal notice from this organisation. The cost of renewal is £40.00. The Town Clerk asked for member's agreement to renew.

**PROPOSED by Councillor A McNaughton**

**SECONDED by Councillor C Fortune**

**RESOLVED £40 to be paid for renewal to the society**

### **99. Financial requests**

#### ***All Wales Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Help Line***

This organisation has requested financial assistance. The council has declined this request, as it is outside of policies for Pembroke Dock Town Council.

#### ***Pembroke Dock Air Corps***

A Member of this organisation has requested financial assistance; a copy of his letter was provided within the paper work for the meeting, with all the information regarding his venture. The council agreed that the young gentleman asking for assistance should be encouraged and it was agreed that a donation of £100 should be made.

**PROPOSED by Councillor D Earl**

**SECONDED by Councillor S Perkins**

**RESOLVED that a donation of £100 would be given**

### **100. Gambling Act 2005 – Review of Gambling Policy**

The Town Clerk had enclosed in the meeting papers a copy of the letter received regarding the review of this policy. There is a link stated in the letter for members to review the policy and pass comments back to the Town Clerk. A copy of this policy is in the office. The Town Clerk invited members comments by the 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### **101. Pembrokeshire Housing Association**

The Town Clerk has a copy of the Annual Report for Pembrokeshire Housing Association, if any members wish to view please contact the office.

### **102. Dog Fouling in Pembroke Dock**

Councillor Alison Lee had requested for this item to be added to the Clerks report for this meeting.

As previously agreed by this council an extra employee has been looked at to take on the role of street cleaning etc, we have been working closely with the maintenance team of the County Council to make sure that we are not covering the same services. This is currently a working progress and we hope to employ another member of staff for this in the New Year.

It was suggested by Cllr K Becton that Pembrokeshire County Council cleaners do not clean dog fouling, due to health and safety issues. The Town Clerk will contact Pembrokeshire County Council to confirm that this is the case. It was suggested by several councillors that, rather than paying someone to pick up the fouling, that perhaps we should be paying somebody to issue fines to dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs. Councillor M Murton explained that we do not have any powers to issue a fine. Even PCSOs do not have the power to issue fines, they can only speak to dog owners, but they cannot really do anything. The police officers cannot issue fines unless they actually see the owner with their dog. It was suggested by the Town Clerk that bag dispensers should be readily available. The council felt that this was a good idea, but costs should be checked. Councillor K Higgs suggested that educating people is of great importance and questioned about whether there was enough signage locally to encourage people to clean up after their dogs.

### **103. Disability Access to the Pater Hall**

Councillor K Becton has asked for this item to be discussed at this meeting. She commented that this is an on-going issue and that as a statutory organisation; we have an obligation to offer disabled access. She also stated that there was a meeting with disability access officers about a year ago, where it was suggested that a lift should be available to access the upstairs meeting rooms at the hall and that a grant for a lift was given alongside the heritage lottery funding. Obviously, this has not happened and she wanted to move forward with this. Councillor K Becton asked the council for their ideas. Councillor P Gwyther explained that there is work to be done in the main foyer for disabled toilets and this will begin in January. There are no further plans with regard to disability access as the Trust does not have any money to fund this. Councillor M Colgan commented that if somebody wanted to attend the council meeting and has a need for disability access, then the meeting would be moved downstairs, but Councillor K Becton commented that the downstairs room is not disability access friendly. It was suggested by Councillor S Perkins to put this on the meeting agenda when the Town Clerk, Moira, returns, as she may be able to remember more facts about what happened in the meeting with the disability access officers.

### **104. Pater Hall Community Trust – Fine**

As requested by this council a letter was sent to the Pater Hall Trust requesting assurances that the grants received from this Town Council were not spent on their recent fine. A copy of the letter sent to the Trust is included in your papers also included is a copy of the letter received from Cllr Gwyther.

I have also received the minutes from the Pater Hall Trust for meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup> September and 9<sup>th</sup> October which are included in member's papers. There seems to be a difference of opinion with regards to the maintenance issues, as it has been requested for the maintenance to be completed outside the normal working hours which the trust have never sanctioned.

It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged between the Town Council and Pater Hall Community Trust to try and rectify some of the on-going issues. This will be arranged in the New Year.

### **105. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

#### **Office Christmas Opening Hours**

For information, the Town Council Offices will close for Christmas at 1pm on Friday 21 December 2012 and will re-open on Wednesday 02 January 2013.

### **106. Remembrance Day Services**

We have received a complaint from a resident about the Remembrance services at Freshwater West. The gentleman stated that he, along with 20 other residents from the County, attended Freshwater West on Sunday 11 November 2012, expecting for a service to take place, he commented that nobody was informed that the service was held a day earlier and expressed his disgust that the service was held on the Saturday, rather than the Sunday. All remembrance services are arranged by the British Legion, so we are unsure of how they advertise the services. Councillor S Perkins suggested that we write to the British Legion airing the concerns of the gentleman involved and asking for their services to be better advertised.

### **107. Planning Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on 23 November 2012 were passed around the meeting, as the members of the Planning Committee wanted to bring these to the attention of the council. Again the matter of the proposed development in Meyrick Street was discussed. Councillor A Lee commented that this was an unnecessary development. It was mentioned again about the anti-social behaviour which occurs there most nights, there is rubbish all over the streets and there are already parking issues. It was commented that this is not fair to residents and to businesses. It was commented that a strongly worded letter will be sent on behalf of the Town Council to Pembrokeshire County Council, strongly rejecting the plans. Councillor M Murton commented that even when the Town Council sends valid objections to developments, they will pass them anyway. When the Town Council then asks the County Council why they have been passed, we are simply told that they do not have to justify the reasons to us. She commented that we

have to make a stand and take this further, to the Welsh Assembly if necessary to stop this happening. Councillor S Perkins suggested that a strong worded letter is sent to Councillor A Lee to help with her fight in this and she called upon people to write individual letters too, to support the fight. The Town Clerk commented that she would contact the local policing team to query is the existing property in Meyrick Street a 'problem property' as this is maybe information we could use against the development.

#### **108.ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE MAYOR DECIDES AS URGENT**

There were no items to discuss.

#### **REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

##### **Police Forum**

Councillor Murton stated that the next Police Forum meeting was to be held on 05 December and urged everyone to try to attend as it is always a lively meeting.

##### **Pater Hall Community Trust**

Councillor P Gwyther explained next Tuesday is the final meeting with the preferred contractor for the grant work. It is anticipated the work will be carried out late January time. He commented that the Dockyard memorial board needs to be moved. The Trust do not mind where it goes. Councillor S Perkins suggested that this is put on the agenda for the next meeting.

##### **Festival Planning Committee**

Councillor Perkins advised the council that the weekend of 01 December, there is a workshop taking place, alongside Springboard, that anybody can come along and make a lantern for the parade on 07 December 2012. Councillor S Perkins again commented that it is a shame that Pembroke are having their festival on the same date as Pembroke Dock. She called on council members to try to attend and act as stewards as the more people we have, the better.

##### **Santa's Grotto 08 December 2012**

Councillor P George explained that Santa's Grotto would be taking place at the Pater Hall on 08 December 2012 between 11-4 and that children would get to meet Santa and have a free present and that there would also be a craft table available.

Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

#### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**



council asked Councillor Phillips to come back to the next meeting with suggestions and also comments from the Head Teacher.

#### **110. COMMUNITY ISSUES**

It was commented that the chicanes on Essex Road were not being properly weeded and cleaned and it was asked if a request could be sent to Pembrokeshire County Council asking for better cleaning. It was also commented that some of the roads are in an awful state and in desperate need of re-surfacing. The Town Clerk commented that the roads are done on a priority basis and that she would try to source a list.

#### **111. Mayors Report**

10 November 2012 – Remembrance Service – Military Ceremony

10 November 2012 – Remembrance Service – Freshwater West

11 November 2012 – Remembrance Service – Pembroke Dock

12 November 2012 – Toy Appeal – Pennar School

18 November 2012 – Guild of Freeman Annual Service of Luncheon – St Michael's Church and Cleddau Bridge Hotel

24 November 2012 – St Non's Christmas Fayre – St Non's Haverfordwest

25 November 2012 – Girlguiding Annual Review and Awards - Bluestone

**Next Meeting: Thursday 13 December 2012 at 18.35pm**