

NOTES OF A MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JULY 2019 AT 7PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PICTON HOUSE, HAVERFORDWEST

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs S Murray (Mayor)
Cllr A Buckfield
Cllr C Evans
Cllr S Hooper
Cllr P Lewis JP
Cllr J Morgans
Cllr C Thomas

APOLOGIES: Cllr R Blacklaw-Jones
Cllr J Collier
Cllr J Dunckley
Cllr AV Griffiths
Cllr D Jones
Cllr M Mathias
Cllr R Thomas JP
County Cllr David Bryan
County Cllr Tim Evans
County Cllr Alison Tudor
County Cllr Thomas Tudor

The Town Clerk and Administration Officer were in attendance.

Mayor's Chaplain, Fr Neil Hook, was in attendance.

David Astins, PCC Community Champion Co-ordinator and Peter Howe, PCC Regeneration were in attendance.

Mr David Lynch, Western Telegraph, arrived at 7.06pm.

The Mayor welcomed Fr Neil Hook to his first meeting as her Chaplain and the council.

As the meeting was not quorate, it was agreed to suspend all other items apart from the presentations from the invited guests.

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (PCC) COMMUNITY DELIVERY PROJECT IN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Mr David Astins, PCC's Community Champion Co-ordinator started his presentation with an overview of the planned saving strategy over a 2-year period discussing the reality of sustaining non statutory services, namely public toilets, children's play parks, and parks, gardens and open spaces requiring grass cutting.

Public Toilets: there is no clear solution for relocation of the public toilets at the multi-storey car park. The original plan to replace the existing bike racks with new toilets at a cost of over £100,000 was not seen as viable. However, Mr Astins will take back that Council feel this is a small spend in the wider redevelopment of the town. The maintenance and cleaning of Castle Lake toilets is outsourced costing an average of £11,000 annually. Both public toilets suffer from ongoing vandalism.

The Welsh Government rates charged on public conveniences is to be removed from April 2020.

A discussion was held around a new system of chargeable toilets, but the viability of this investment is questionable. A public consultation on conveniences is likely to be held in the Autumn offering alternate proposals.

Play parks: the inspection, maintenance, upkeep and public liability of the six play parks in the town centre is approximately £600 per year per park, which PCC cannot continue to fund. It was suggested that consideration should be given to community engagement groups within wards to look after their parks.

Grass cutting of parks, gardens and open spaces costs PCC in the region of £33,000 per year for 12 cuts over 65 sites across Haverfordwest. Council felt the creation of wild meadows, roundabout sponsorship and management under bio-diversity should be considered. Mr Astins agreed that the sites would need to be looked at individually to review the options available.

The Mayor thanked Mr Astins for attending the meeting, and he left at 7.50pm.

PROVISION OF FUNDING TO THE CLEDDAU REACHES PROJECT

Mr Howe gave apologies for Ms Sara Morris who was also due to attend the meeting. Mr Howe acknowledged that Haverfordwest Town Council had already invested £12,000 into the project, which had been match funded.

He then gave an overview of the additional funding being requested, namely £10,000 to create a 'green wall' alongside the river running through the town centre, £5,000 to complete a path to the north of the Old Mill Grounds, and £5,000 to complete an extension of the boardwalk at Priory Saltings.

Mr Howe left the meeting at 8.16pm.

The meeting closed at 8.21pm.