

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL

Held on 19th October 2023 at 6pm in the Old Wool Market and via video conference.

Present:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Cllr J Owens | Chairman / Mayor |
| Cllr M Lewis | Vice Chairman / Deputy Mayor |
| Cllr A Brooker | Sheriff |
| Cllr C Black | |
| Cllr J Brady | |
| Cllr J Hackett | |
| Cllr K Jones | |
| Cllr H Lewis | |
| Cllr M Lewis | |
| Cllr P Lewis | |
| Cllr T Moses | |
| Cllr S Pearce | |
| Cllr B Simister | |
| Cllr R Thomas. | |

Observers: County Councillor Tim Evans, Gitti Coates, member of the public.

2431 Apologies: There were none.

2432 Declaration:

The Chairman indicated that these would be offered at the appropriate stage of the meeting

2433 Questions from Members of the Public:

No correspondence had been received.

2434 Minutes of the Previous Meetings:

a) Full Council Meeting held on 21st September 2023.

Minutes were accepted as a true record.

b) Updates on the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st Sept 2023

There were none.

c) Extraordinary Meeting held on 9th October 2023.

Minutes were accepted as a true record.

d) Updates on the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 9th October 2023.

Cllr M Lewis reported that as a result of the meeting, Mr Atherton was going back to the Architect with the suggested changes. It was hoped that he would soon give an estimate of the cost involved in the project. An Open Day would be held on 18th November and it was important that there was a substantial show of support for the use of the ground floor if grant funding was to be acquired.

2435 Mayor's Correspondence and Updates.

The Mayor reported on a very busy month that had been dominated by the need to cover many of the duties that had been caused by the resignation of the Town Clerk and the

difficulty in acquiring temporary cover. She expressed her gratitude to Cllrs B Simister and P Lewis for the help and support she had received.

However, time had allowed her to have the honour of opening Portfield Fair and representing Haverfordwest at Pembroke Fair. She was treated to a tasty lunch at Castle School and an equally enjoyable dinner at Beggars Reach as guest of the Freeman of the Town. The Mayor had welcomed the Freeman of England and Wales at the AGM of the Freemen and had attended the Church Service and Reception on the Sunday. She had attended several meetings including one with Vicky Moller and one with Gitti Coates of Haverhub. Both of which would be covered later in the meeting.

2436 Planning Application:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 23/0623/PA | Support |
| 23/0600/TF | Support |
| 23/0609/PA | Support |
| 23/0302/LB | Support |
| 23/0522/PA | Support (it was recognised that legislation meant that this could not be opposed but concern was expressed about it conflicting with the nature of the Castle Square), |

2437 Report of the Management Estates and Strategy Committee held on 3rd October 2023.

This meeting was not quorate

2438 Report of the Personnel, Policy and Finance Committee held on 5th October 2023.

All voted to accept the minutes and the recommendations. It was decided that Cllrs Hackett, P Lewis and R Thomas form the working group required to produce recommendations regarding the NALC Standing Orders.

2439 Update and consider the future of the Community Garden.

The Mayor began the debate by reporting on a series of meetings she had attended. Along with Cllr Simister, she had met with Vicky Moller at the Garden when it was decided to explore the possibility of transferring responsibility of management from Haverfordwest Town Council to Vicky, who would then develop the use of the facility for public use, look for further grant aid and eventually form a management team.

The Mayor then reported on her meeting with Gitti Coates of Haverhub. That had resulted in the understanding that, although eager to participate in the future of the project, they did not have the facilities to undertake management.

Her contact with the VC Gallery had resulted in the understanding that it had all that was needed to help the Garden's development, but it had no desire to accept management.

Cllr Moses reported on his recent development with the landlord of the site who had indicated a willingness to transfer the lease to a reputable management team under certain conditions.

Gitti joined the debate at this stage in order to emphasise the eagerness of those who had initiated the project, to play a part in the future of the Garden.

Resolved: **That Vicki Moller be asked to take on the Management of the Garden Project.**

That Vicki be asked to have regard for those who had carried out the project's early development.

2440 New Road Speed Scheme:

Cllr R Thomas felt that the wisdom of introducing the 20 mph speed limit on our roads had bewildered a large number of people but nowhere more so than on the Haven Road. He felt that subjecting the whole of the road to a 20mph limit was rather silly. This opinion was shared by all present.

Resolved **That Councillor Thomas draft a letter to Pembrokeshire County Council asking that it consider imposing a 30mph speed limit on the stretch of the Haven Road that had previously been set at 40mph**

2441 Consider Council's reaction to the loss of beds at Withybush Hospital.

Cllr Thomas stated that everyone understood the difficulties faced by the Health Board but felt that there was a lack of clarity as to the remedial actions that was in place..

Resolved **That Cllr Thomas draft a letter to the Health Board requesting that It informs the public of the measures It intends to adopt when accommodating those who would normally use the lost beds.**

2442 Representation on Outside Bodies:

It was decided that Cllr R Thomas be appointed to the Portfield Recreation Committee.

2443 Accounts for Payment:

As the Accounts had only been available as late as that day, it was felt that as they could not be questioned, they could not be accepted.

Cllr M Lewis felt that the accounts of the previous administration should be placed in the hands of a firm of accountants to be verified so that the next administration could start with a clean slate.

Resolved **That a firm of Accountants be employed to complete the accounts presented by the previous administration. That efforts be made to modernise the manner in which the Council's accounts are recorded and presented.**

2444 Present Position of the Meeting with The Funding Officer for the Old Wool Market project.

Cllr M Lewis had outlined the present position when the report of the Extraordinary Meeting of 9th October 2023 were considered.

2445 Staffing Matters:

The Council went into Private Session to consider this item.

The Mayor reported that the appointed Deputy Town Clerk was to take up her position on 1st November 2023. Until then a temporary Town Clerk would be appointed for twenty hours a week.

2446 Items for the Next Agenda:

A Working Group to deal with a backlog of items.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.27pm.

Signed _____

Date _____