

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NEYLAND TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON MONDAY 7TH
DECEMBER 2020 AT 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr Dr S Hancock (Mayor)
Cllr S Churchill
Cllr V Edwards
Cllr P Davies
Cllr M Harry
Cllr P Hay
Cllr W McGarvie
Cllr A Pollard-Powell

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Sutton
Cllr J Bevan

The Town Clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark)

The Mayor, Cllr S Hancock referred to the sad and untimely passing of Cllr Brian Phelan who had served this council for 39 years and who was very much liked and respected by everyone. A letter of condolence had been sent to his wife by the Town Clerk and Members observed a two-minute silence to remember Brian and all he had done for the town.

2670 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

2671 REPRESENTATIONS BY PUBLIC

No members of public present.

2672 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2020 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

2673 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

The following matters were raised:

- a) Minute 2654 c) A meeting of the Burial Board had been held and there was nothing of importance to report. It was noted that no request for the Precept had been received.
- b) Minute 2654d) Cllr Pollard-Powell had received nothing from Tony Organ in connection with Neyland's Famous People project so the Town Clerk agreed to email him for an update.
- c) Minute 2654 e) Members were advised that no information on election costs had been forthcoming from PCC.

- d) Minute 2654 f) The Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant application had been completed and would be submitted by the deadline of 8th December. Three quotes for the work would be submitted over the next week.
- e) Minutes 2654 g) The picnic table for the play area had been delivered and was awaiting installation.
- f) Minute 2658: Members were advised that PCC had planted three suitable trees on Honeyborough Green that were surplus to their requirements. Members were very pleased to receive this news and thanked the County Council.
- g) Minute 2668 c) The Town Clerk advised that over £600.00 to date had been received in entry fees for the Santa Fun Run.

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MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised Members that he had arranged a Christmas Window Competition for houses and businesses in Neyland which would be judged on 19th/20th December. A trophy had been donated by the family of former Mayor Percy Murphy for the winner and certificates would be awarded to the two runners up. The extended Santa tour of Neyland would take place on 18th December from 5.00pm.

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UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2020

The following financial information had been circulated:

- a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £50,996.22 in the Current Acct, £8,680.79 in the Saver Acct, £0.00 in the Mayor's account and £1,262.10 in the Twinning Acct.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £169,152.42 (gross) and expenditure of £164,341.35 (gross).
- c) The Financial Budget Comparison showing the Budget set, the actual income and expenditure figures and the balance remaining under each heading.

RESOLVED: **That the financial information provided be accepted and agreed.**

2676

TO RECEIVE OPINION OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR FOR ACCOUNTS 2019-20

The report of the external auditor, Grant Thornton had been received and no matters have come to their attention that give cause for concern. They are happy that all relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have been met. The Town Clerk was thanked for looking after the accounts in the proper manner.

RESOLVED: **That the report of the external auditor for accounts 2019-20 be accepted.**

2677 **DATE FOR DRAFT BUDGET MEETING**

A date was set for the special meeting to discuss the draft budget of Monday 14th December 2020 at 6.30pm.

RESOLVED: **That the special meeting be held on Monday 14th December 2020 at 6.30pm.**

2678 **INFORMATION FROM PCC RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS ON A477**

Correspondence had been received from Stephen Bengner relating to council's request to review the speed limits on the A477 between the WP Lewis garage and the Westfield Pill bridge. Mr Bengner proposed that the existing 50mph limit between Sinclair's garage (west) and its current termination, is converted to 40mph and continues east, through the roundabout to a point approximately 120m south of the cycle crossing (an extension from the existing NSL/50mph limit of approx. 300m). Beyond this point, a 50mph limit is introduced extending to the recently introduced 40mph which starts 195m west of the junction with the C3007 Burton to Haverfordwest road. Where the current 50mph ends to the west of Sinclair garage, a point 40m north west of the C3116/A477 junction, it is proposed that for a distance of 430m past WP Lewis introduce a 50mph limit (subject to an additional survey at WP Lewis).

Members were very pleased that this request had been granted and requested that Mr Bengner be thanked for his work on this matter.

RESOLVED: **That Mr Bengner be thanked for agreeing to council's request to reduce speed limits on the A477 and that he be thanked for this.**

2679 **PURCHASE OF TREES FOR HONEYBOROUGH GREEN**

The Town Clerk advised Members that Pembrokeshire County Council had recently offered to donate and plant three trees on Honeyborough Green and that this work had been carried out that day. Members were very pleased and thanked PCC for their kind gesture.

RESOLVED: **That PCC be thanked for their donation of three trees.**

2680 **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY GARDENS**

The Town Clerk advised that nothing further had been received from PCC relating to the transfer of land despite sending further emails. However, the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant application had been completed which would be submitted the next day. The application referred to the delays in the transfer of land which was essential if this project were to proceed.

RESOLVED: That the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant application be submitted by the deadline despite the land transfer not being complete.

2681 **LOCATION OF BENCHES DONATED BY MILFORD HAVEN SCHOOL**

Suggestions had been requested for the location of two benches as follows:
a) At Churchlakes on the Promenade and b) on the path down from Cambrian Road to the Marina. It was also suggested that older benches located on the Promenade be refurbished and re-located to more appropriate locations.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to locate the two new benches at Churchlakes and on the path from Cambrian Road.

2682 **WALK NEYLAND TRAIL**

The Town Clerk advised that it had not been possible to get the adverts in as yet due to pressure of other work in the office, but they would hopefully be sorted by Christmas.

RESOLVED: That adverts be sorted by Christmas if possible.

2683 **POLICE MATTERS**

Nothing to report.

2684 **YOUTH MATTERS**

Nothing to report

2685 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Accounts totalling £8,504.31 plus £100 for the subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks.

2686 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk submitted the following report:

1. I have received a letter of thanks from Paul Sartori for Cllr W McGarvie's donation of £515.00 from his fundraising as Mayor.
2. I have received confirmation that the Appropriate sum under section 137 of the Local Govt Act 1972 expenditure is 8.41 per elector and the sum donated must not exceed that.
3. The picnic table for the playpark has been delivered and is at my home at present awaiting collection and installation.
4. The new safety surfacing for two areas of the playpark has been ordered and work will commence in about 10 days. Cllr Hay will be going to the playpark

5. next Sunday to remove the old rubber matting which is a very heavy job, and he would very much appreciate some help from councillors who are able to assist. Please let me know if you are able to help out.
6. Pembrokeshire County Council have planted three Hornbeam trees on Honeyborough Green today that were surplus to their requirements. They are a hardwood flowering tree with a year-round leaf cover making it a winter haven for wildlife and they can live for over 100 years.
7. I have received over 10 entries for the Christmas window competition organised by the Mayor and it is hoped that several more will come in over the next week or so. Please encourage friends and relatives in Neyland to enter this competition. There will be a trophy for the winner and certificates for the two runners up.
8. I have informed the Elections Unit of the casual vacancy on the East ward and if no election is called by 18th December we may fill the vacancy by co-option. No information on the cost of holding elections is forthcoming from PCC despite numerous requests.
9. I have been advised by Neil McCarthy of PCC that they will be unable to incorporate our revised grass cutting suggestions into their schedule for next year as insufficient consultation was carried out. I will arrange a meeting with Mr McCarthy, the Mayor and Cllr A Pollard-Powell to discuss this matter further in the New Year.

The following points were made:

Item 8: Cllr A Pollard-Powell stated that Council had not been told about the full implications of the consultation required to be carried out before changing the grass cutting and maintenance schedule. The Clerk agreed to arrange a virtual meeting with Neil McCarthy to discuss this matter further.

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ANY OTHER INFORMATION

The following matters were raised:

- a) Cllr M Harry stated that he was very concerned about the increasing number of Covid-19 cases in Pembrokeshire.
- b) The issue of the purchase of bollards for Riverside Avenue and adjoining streets was raised and it was agreed to discuss this at the January meeting and obtain information on costs from Gareth Lawlor.
- c) Cllr P Hay requested that some publicity be given to the location of the new defibrillator outside the Co-op. It was suggested that a photograph be taken, and information put in the local newspaper.
- d) Cllr A Pollard-Powell raised the issue of the huge amount of litter on the site of the old school in Charles Street. Cllr S Hancock offered to find out from Ateb when construction work would begin on the new development.
- e) Cllr Simon Churchill raised the issue of the amount of leaves in gutters etc on various roads in Neyland and asked if they could be swept by PCC.

61/20

- f) It was suggested that the pavement along the Promenade be extended with additional lighting on the waterside and at Brunel Quay. It was agreed that this be discussed at the January meeting.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th January 2021 at 7.00pm.

Signed.....Mayor Date

Signed..... Clerk