



# Fishguard & Goodwick Town Council Cyngor Tref Abergwaun ac Wdig

Town Hall, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, SA65 9HE

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The **MINUTES** Town Council Meeting

held virtually, under COVID-19 Regulations (Wales)

at 7pm on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

The Mayor, Cllr. Jackie Stokes, was in the Chair

Cllr. Jackie Stokes – *J. Stokes*

Cath Bannister, Town Clerk – *C. Bannister*

## **MINUTES**

### **PUBLIC SESSION: CLLR. STOKES**

The public session offers members of the public, the opportunity to comment on items on this agenda or those previously requested and agreed.

The public will be limited to two minutes per comment or question.

The Mayor will update those present, with regards to previous actions and ideas proposed by the public during this session, should there be any.

This session will also allow County Councillors to update the Town Council and those members of the public present, on matters of interest and for the Pembrokeshire County Council Liaison Officer to update the Town Council.

### **PUBLIC PRESENT:**

One member of the public present – Mr. Jeremy Martineau

Points/Questions raised:

1. The Chamber of Trade is commencing a marketing programme in order to reach 5 million people, promoting Fishguard and Goodwick as a tourist destination.
2. Can the Town Council now start sharing the statistical take up of the Towns WiFi?
3. Bringing awareness to the community via the Town Councils contribution towards the Pembrokeshire Public Services Board via a Town Council champion.
4. Advising Cllrs. of the Institute for Welsh Affairs Project to help understand the characteristics of both Fishguard and Goodwick.

The Mayor, Cllr. Stokes, thanked Mr. Martineau for his comments, which will be responded to following the meeting.

Mr. Martineau then made a brief presentation to the Town Councillors as follows:

House sales have been happening very quickly, as is true in many rural areas of the UK as those with the means are moving to what they consider safer places, or, with good broadband and an ability to work from home without daily commuting. This means our community has had a rapid influx of new residents. New residents can be a great asset if they are welcomed and enabled to integrate into our great and vibrant community. In many small towns such as ours the town council produce a booklet of essential and important information which neighbours can give as part of the welcome to newcomers. The information could go beyond the essentials such as health to sports facilities, religious organisations, key events and amenities such as Sea Trust and Theatr Gwaun. It would be helpful to other voluntary organisations, some of which may welcome new volunteers. So I am suggesting something less transitory than an appeal for volunteers, but a printed booklet with information that will not date so readily. Perhaps booklet is rather a grand word for what may be only four sides of paper – at a guess.

The Mayor, Cllr. Stokes, thanked Mr. Martineau for his further comments

#### **COUNTY COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

County Councillor Pat Davies presented to the Town Council.

1. Congratulations to the Town Council for the lovely Christmas lights displays. They have brightened the areas up and the Christmas tree is beautiful
2. In these difficult times, there has been less co-ordinated work than we would have all liked, due to COVID-19 restrictions on a lot of us. The square is still yet to be completed and thanks to the involvement of the Town Council, local businesses, the greening group and others, it is hoped that by the spring of 2021, the square is looking vibrant and bright. It's time to talk Fishguard and Goodwick up.

The Mayor, Cllr. Stokes, thanked Cllr. Davies for her comments

## STANDING ORDERS WERE ADOPTED

### 119/20 APLOGIES: CLLR. STOKES

To formally record apologies for absence and to record the attendance of those Town Councillors present

Those Councillors sending their apologies were: Cllr. Shaw – work commitment and Cllr. Gwynn – work commitments.

Those councillors present were:

Cllrs. Davies, Mason, McCarney, Murphy, Perkins, Porter, Price, Ryan, Stokes and Thickitt.

### 120/20 MEMBER INTERESTS: CLLR. STOKES

To formally record any personal or pecuniary interests that a Town Councillor may have in any of the agenda items listed below:

There were no declarations of interest made.

### 121/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: CLLR. STOKES

To record the previous meeting minutes, held on 3.11.20, as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 3.11.20 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 122/20 CLERKS REPORT: TOWN CLERK

Report by the Clerk of matters since the last meeting.

Vacancies F/G NW and Goodwick	Casual Vacancies advertised on the website, Facebook and will be placed in the three noticeboards shortly. The Clerk should be able to advertise the vacancies in the New Year with a co-option date in early February.
Training from OVW	Please feel free to choose a training session and book your slot through the Clerk.
Committee Terms of Reference	The Clerk will circulate the current Terms of Reference to the relevant Chairs of each of the committees. Please check to make sure they are relevant and make suggested changes, ready for discussion at the next committee meeting.

### 123/20 REPORTS: CLLR. STOKES.

The Chairmen of the following committees gave feedback to the Town Council with regards to their committees and the matters they have undertaken. All minutes, previously circulated to all.

Planning Committee – Cllr. Perkins  
Finance Committee – Cllr. Mason  
Events Committee – Cllr. Stokes  
Governance Committee – Cllr. Thickitt

### 124/20 TOWN COUNCILLOR UPDATE SESSION: ALL

An opportunity for Town Councillors to update the Town Council with regards to what has happened, what is happening and if anything needs attention, within the community that they represent.

Cllr. Perkins:

Has been approached by BBC Radio to take part in an interview in Welsh, with regards to the recent additions to ferry crossings from Dublin to L'Havre in France and what impact this may have upon Wales. The Town Council agreed to support his interview.

Cllr. Stokes:

The adopted telephone box in Dyffryn, has been refurbished and is now functioning as a book swap and an information box.

Cllr. Davies:

Had spoken with Stena with regards to the Customs improvements in Goodwick. These will not affect every day life of local people.

Cllr. Davies will be submitting an expression of interest in the next few days, for an asset transfer of land at the bottom of the Slade, Fishguard.

**125/20 BANNER DESIGN: CLLR. STOKES**

The Town Council needs to agree the designs for the new banners that will be displayed in the square in Fishguard.

Cllrs. had previously been offered the opportunity to suggest ideas for the banner designs for the square and had submitted their suggestions to Cllr. Stokes.

After a healthy discussion, it was resolved to take the following ideas forwards, for design and costs.

1. Music and Theatre
2. Jemima and the Tapestry
3. Cetacean's and Strumble Head Lighthouse
4. Fishguard Fort and Lower Town Harbour

Cllr. Stokes will progress and report back to full Council when proposed costs have been received.

**126/20 PRECEPT REQUEST 2021/22**

The Finance committee have reviewed and accepted a budget proposal report, prepared by the Clerk/RFO, for the period 2021/22. The Town Council needs to review and make their formal decision.

The proposed precept request has not been increased from 2019/20, other than a rise in line with inflation. It was resolved to accept the budget proposals for 2021/22 as agreed by the Finance Committee.

The Clerk/RFO will submit the proposal to Pembrokeshire County Council.

**127/20 BUDGET AUTHORISATION FOR EVENTS COMMITTEE: CLLR. STOKES**

The Events committee have been working hard, to find alternative, COVID-19 safe solutions to last years greatly attended Christmas Events. They have come up with some fun ideas and need a budget of about £500 allocating to help them bring these events into fruition.

The current cost of the two virtual Christmas events was identified as £150.

Cllr. Stokes also outlined her concerns for the local businesses and the fact that prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, six local businesses had agreed to sponsor the community awards event, to the sum of £100 each. She suggested, that due to the

pandemic and the hardship suffered by the businesses this year, that the Town Council stands the cost of the event for this year only, but to affirm with each and every sponsor, that their names are still very much affiliated to the individual awards and that no charges will be made to them.

Everyone was in agreement to both proposals. It was resolved that £750 be allocated to the community awards and the Christmas events, both under the banner of Events Budgets.

#### **128/20 REGENERATION WITHIN FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK: CLLR PERKINS**

Cllr. Perkins has requested that the Council formally respond to some recent articles that have been printed in the Western Telegraph.

The articles, which had previously been circulated, were discussed. It was resolved that a response would not be made directly to the Western Telegraph, but a release will be made via social media and the Town Councils website.

#### **129/20 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: CLLR STOKES**

All correspondence is emailed out upon receipt, wherever possible.

The Clerk read out a letter of thanks, written by Mrs. Cilla Morgan, for the Town Councils assistance with a grant of £250 towards purchasing wardrobe storage for the FADDS shows.

#### **130/20 DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS: CLLR. STOKES**

The dates of future meetings have been agreed with a time scheduled for 7pm:

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

6<sup>th</sup> April 2021

#### **131/20 URGENT MATTERS: CLLR STOKES**

Any matters that have come to the attention of the Town Council after the Agenda has been circulated, can be discussed here.

The Chair and the Town Clerk will need to be advised before the start of the meeting.

*Please be aware that no resolution can be reached on non-agenda items, but, they can be discussed and deferred to the relevant committee for further discussion or taken to the next full town council meeting as an agenda item.*

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8:10pm