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MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PEMBROKE DOCK
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM HELD AT THE PATER HALL,
PEMBROKE DOCK, ON WEDNESDAY 19th JULY 2006 AT
1700HRS (5.00PM).

Present:

Councillor Ron Watts
County Councillor Peter Stock
County Councillor Kate Becton
Mr Brian Maddocks
Mr Simon Freddy
Miss Maureen Bermingham
Mr Andrew Johnstone

In attendance

Mrlan Jones

Apologies for absence

Mr Andrew Lewis
MrBobPhillips

15. Minutes of the last meeting.

Pembroke Dock Town Council (Chairman)
Pembrokeshire County Council - Cabinet Member
PCC (Central Ward)
PCC - Head of Building Services
Keep Wales Tidy Group
Pembroke Dock Civic Society
Pembroke Dock Community Website Project

Town Clerk, Pembroke Dock

Pembroke Dock Chamber of Trade
Environment Agency Wales

The minutes of the last meeting held on 7 June 2006 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings by all present.

16. Matters arising.

There was still a problem in relation to the sweeping up litter and cigarette stubs within the town although it was accepted that there had been a little improvement prior to the visit of HRH the Prince of Wales' visit to the Garrison Chapel. Rubbish was being put out for Monday morning collections by a number of businesses within the town who closed over the weekend and this will need to be addressed. The question of dog fouling in Front Street appeared to have been resolved; however, signage was still considered as a step forward in other parts such as Barrack Hill.

17. Update on litter at London Road and surrounding area to include Environment Agency Wales items.

Ian Jones reported that Bob Phillips had sent his apologies for the meeting but had sent him a letter which covered his visit to Focus / Do It All. The members of the team noted

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what had been said but still believed that there was a problem with waste and litter in that area. It was agreed that Ian would make contact with Bob again to discuss the matter further. There were no other items which Bob wished to bring to the Committee's attention.

18. Update from Pembrokeshire County Council on state of street cleaning etc.

Brian Maddocks from Pembrokeshire County Council reported that he still considered that the standard of street cleaning within the town had not reached an acceptable level. He had replied to Ian Jones' letter about the amount of time / manpower used on street cleaning and had provided him with work schedules. The group still believed that there had still not been any major improvement and the precinct sweeper seemed not to be used on the pavements as it should be consequently the cigarette butts were left in situ. There was a discussion on grass cutting of community areas within the town such as the area near to Prospect Place. At present grass was allowed to blow around after being cut and this sometimes blocked drains. The Barrack Hill area was not cut on a regular basis (once a year for the purposes of the Kite Flying Competition run by the Civic Society) whereas in the past it was cut more regularly. There was still a problem with black rubbish bags being attacked by seagulls and other birds. The solution may be to use different coloured bags as had been tried in East Anglia. The Committee believed that there needed to be more co-ordination between those who collected the weekly refuse sacks and those who cleaned the streets. Brian agreed to take away the Committee's concerns to see what improvements could be made and he would report back to the next meeting. The Committee accepted that the question of rubbish bags being put out too early for collection could only be resolved by persuasion / education of householders.

19. Report back on Keep Wales Tidy event at Hobbs Point.

Simon Preddy stated that he was very pleased with the turnout for this event and the publicity it received by the TV, Press and local Website. A number of local scout groups had also taken part in other events collecting rubbish /litter from within the town area.

20. Other initiatives to be considered to improve the environment within the town.

It was accepted that more needed to be done to highlight environmental issues within the town. There was perhaps a need to have more "litter picks" and to highlight areas of concern. The state of the Memorial Park was discussed. The Committee was pleased to note that a bid for upgrading of the facilities was in the process of being put together under the "Parks for People" scheme. The Committee would support such a scheme. Comment was made that the two Umpire style chairs for use at the Tennis Courts at the Park had disappeared; the Nets had been removed and thrown away. Stones were now being removed from boarder areas and thrown elsewhere in the Park. Altogether it was a very sorry state. Police action was required to deal with youngsters who abused the facilities. Brian agreed to check whether the existing buildings which were in a poor state could be demolished.

21. Parking of Ferry Traffic vehicles overnight within the town.

The Committee commented adversely on the current practice of allowing lorries to park overnight and sometimes for longer periods in car parks where there were no toilet or washing facilities. Sometimes lorries were parked up on pavement areas breaking pavement slabs etc. It was decided that the Town Clerk should pursue with Milford Haven Port Authority the need for adequate facilities for drivers within the dockyard area. The Town Clerk would also make enquiries with the European Commission to see if there were any laws or regulations stating that port areas had to provide facilities to a set standard.

22. Any other business.

The Town Clerk enquired whether County Councillor Peter Stock had ascertained when Commercial premises would be included in the Orange Bag scheme. Peter agreed to make some further enquiries and report back to the next meeting. The group believed that businesses have a large part to play in meeting recycling targets.

23. Date of next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 4th October at 1700hrs.