

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE PEMBROKE  
DOCK ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007 COMMENCING AT 1730HRS.**

**Present:**

Councillor Ron Watts	Pembroke Dock Town Council (Chairman)
County Councillor Peter Stock	Pembrokeshire County Council Cabinet Member
County Councillor Kate Becton	Pembrokeshire County Council (Central Ward)
Miss Maureen Bermingham	Pembroke Dock Civic Society
Mr Simon Preddy	Keep Wales Tidy Group & Fly Tipping Officer
Mr Andrew Lewis	Pembroke Dock Chamber of Trade
Mr Andrew Johnstone	Pembroke Dock Website Project
Mr Graham Roberts	Pembroke Dock Website Project (Observer)
Mr Roger Thomas	Pembrokeshire County Council

**In attendance:**

Mr Ian Jones	Town Clerk, Pembroke Dock Town Council
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**Apologies for absence:**

Mr Bob Phillips	Environment Agency
Mr Brain Maddocks	Pembrokeshire County Council

**48. Minutes of the last meeting.**

These were accepted as an accurate record with the amendment of some spelling errors. The WEE mentioned in the previous minutes would come into effect from 1 July 2007 and not March as indicated in the minutes.

With these amendments acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Andrew Johnstone and seconded by Simon Preddy. All members were in agreement.

**49. Matters arising from the minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**50. Correspondence.**

There was no correspondence which had arrived which would not be covered elsewhere in the agenda.

**51. Report on the current state of the area at London Road following the litter pick on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2007 including results of representations to Morbaine Ltd.**

Ian Jones read out details of the letters to / from Morbaine Ltd concerning the shrubbery area near to the FOCUS store. He stated that he had spoken to Mr Lee Griffiths of FOCUS and sent him a copy of Morbaine's letter. FOCUS continued to maintain that the land was not their responsibility and he would now await a response from FOCUS. Comment was made about the state of the pathway from TESCOs towards King William Street. A number of TESCOs trolleys had been pushed down the embankment into the rear gardens of properties along London Road. Ian was asked to write to TESCOs to ask for their proposals for their removal or improved security in respect of their trolleys so that they were not taken away from their site. Simon Preddy referred to the "Trolley Watch Scheme" which was in place in respect of a number of businesses throughout Pembroke Dock. Ian was asked to write to TESCOs and ASDA etc to ask them to attend the next meeting so this topic of trolleys being dumped elsewhere in the town could be properly discussed. Ian would also write to Mr Gareth Watts of the Environmental Protection Section at the County Council to see what legal action could be taken to reduce this problem. There was a discussion on the powers contained in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the secondary legislation to be brought in by the National Assembly. There was a consensus that more rigorous enforcement was now required. It was suggested that the group ask Sarah Johns from the County Council to come and address the next meeting to cover enforcement procedures. Miss Maureen Bermingham on behalf of the Civic Society wished to thank Simon for all the work he has carried out in the town to improve its environs e.g. litter picks etc. Members of the Civic Society were prepared to help in future events. County Councillor Peter Stock stated that he had brought to the Assembly Government's attention the work which the group were carrying out within Pembroke Dock.

**52. Report on the removal of Shopping trolleys / collection of litter from Western Way Slipway and adjacent area.**

Simon updated members on the result of the exercise which included the removal of a motorbike from the mud / silt as well as 16 trolleys.

**53. Keep Wales Tidy Smoking Litter Campaign.**

Simon reminded members that with effect from 2 April 2007 there was a ban on smoking in public places. As a result it was expected that there would be an increase in the number of cigarette stubs on pavements etc. Shops / Offices were encouraged to purchase "Smoking Litter Bins" which could be erected outside their premises. The web site which was appropriate to this was [smokinglitter.org](http://smokinglitter.org). Ian was asked to check with the County Council Planning section to see if this would be permitted in a conservation area. Consideration would also need to be given as to whether "control areas" needed to be designated in order to ensure that cigarette ends and chewing gum "litter" did not become a big problem within the town.

#### **54. Pembrokeshire County Council Update.**

Mr Roger Thomas stated that with effect from next month Mr Glenville Codd would be taking over his responsibilities at the Stockwell Road Depot. He stated that over the next few weeks benches / seats within the town as well as litter bins would be repainted as part of the cyclical maintenance. Ian brought to his attention that 6 or 7 street lights on the pathway used by pupils to / from Pembroke School along the Pembroke Road were damaged such that the light fittings had been removed. He had e mailed the County Council Contact Centre about the matter and has received an acknowledgement; however, to date there had been no action to repair / replace the lights. He was unsure whether the damage was due to vandalism or the strong winds in February. County Councillor Peter Stock agreed to make some enquiries with the Street Lighting Section and ask that a reply be sent. Mr Thomas reported that action of weed eradication within the town would be started shortly. Comment was made that the waste from 36/37 St. Patrick's Hill was not normal building development waste in that there was now a mattress and other debris "sticking out over the edge of the back of the garden of the house" such that it would shortly be falling into the Car Park. Ian agreed to make contact with Bob again about the matter.

#### **55. Environment Agency Report.**

In the absence of Bob Phillips Ian gave a resume of what work was currently being undertaken by the Agency. Bob had stated that the tipping of waste at St. Patrick's Hill, Llanreath had been inspected but it appeared to be generated on site due to the ongoing building work. Ian also reported that Bob had indicated that there had been a problem with the maintenance of the sewerage pumping station at Bentlass but this had now been resolved and an effective clean up operation had taken place. An exercise involving other Agencies such as the Fire and Rescue Service, the Police, Welsh Water and the MOD had taken place within Pembroke Dock Mooring and Salvage Depot and was a successful training event.

#### **56. Pembroke Dock Environmental Action Plan.**

Ian reminded members of the points which had been raised at the last meeting of the Committee.

County Councillor Kate Becton mentioned that she had asked the County Council to look at the question of renewing / replacing pavements on a cyclical basis. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Transport and the Environment were looking at the matter and a working party had been formed to look at the issue.

Comment was made about the old railway line from Gordon Street to the rear of the St. Govan's Centre. It appeared that this was private land but had been cleared before by the County Council. Simon Preddy stated that money the Keep Wales Tidy had received from the National Assembly may be able to be used to clear the fly tipping which had accumulated there. He suggested that the group make contact with Peter Laugharne at the

County Council Depot at the Thornton Industrial Estate to see who owned the land and whether this sum could be used for the clearance. Ian would write and see what could be done to clear this eyesore.

Comment was raised about the amount of carpet rolls put out for waste collection by Parfitts which are then subsequently tampered with by youngsters at night. The result was a great deal of waste being strewn over the area. Ian was asked to write to Parfitts to see if some other way of removing the waste could be introduced.

It was agreed that another afternoon “Walkabout” take place shortly. The date Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May was selected with a start at 1400hrs (2.00pm). Bob Phillips from the Environment Agency, each County Councillor within the town, Councillor Ron Watts, Simon Preddy, a representative from the County Council Maintenance section together with the Town Clerk would be invited to join the “inspection” team. The Town Clerk would select the route to follow.

### **57. Any other business.**

County Councillor Kate Becton wished to bring to members’ attention the apparent abandoned caravan in Commercial Row. She understood that the Gas bottle storage for the caravan had been broken into recently and it was steadily deteriorating. The owner was not known. Mr Roger Thomas would have a look at it and report back to Ian.

There appeared to be a problem with skips in the lane adjacent to the St. Govan’s Centre and to the rear of the Spar shop in Dimond Street. Recently one of the skips had been set on fire by vandals. The skips are on a private roadway / land and it was unclear as to what action could be taken to ensure that the skips were secure etc. Ian was asked to approach the Environment Agency to see if they could take any action. He was also asked to write to the Fire Precautions Officer for the Mid and West Wales Fire Service (Mr. Bellerby) about the matter to see if they skips were a fire risk which would have an impact on the fire precautions for the St. Govans Centre itself.

The Call centre Car Park on the south side of the Cleddau Bridge Business Centre was being used to abandon vehicles in and in some cases vehicles had been set on fire there. Some fly tipping was also taking place as well as other anti social behaviour. Simon Preddy was already dealing with the matter by trying to establish who owned the area. Use of the provisions of the Clean Neighbourhood Act may be a way forward.

County Councillor Kate Becton mentioned the problems around the Library area and the public Toilets in the “ASDA” Car Park. Toilet Paper was being thrown against the walls and windows of the Library and the area was in a poor condition. Similarly the raised flower beds were being misused and anti social behaviour was on the increase in that area. It was suggested that better seating and lighting maybe a solution to this problem. Roger Thomas agreed to look at the problem and report back.

County Councillor Kate Becton also stated that she had spoken to the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Hugh George, and suggested that he be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss some of the environmental issues which are affecting Pembroke Dock. Ian agreed to write and invite him.

Simon Preddy stated that there would be a further underwater clean off Hobbs Point on 22/23 June with a follow up on 27 July.

The meeting closed at 1845hrs with the date of the next meeting being set for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at 1730hrs