

Ordinary General Meeting held on the 11th December 2017 at Ynysmeudwy Hall, Old Road, Ynysmeudwy, commencing at 6.45pm

Present: Councillor A Nicholson (presiding), Ms S Northcott, G Nicholson, R Smith, Mrs L Purcell, J Jones, G C Davies and W Thomas.

Apologies: Councillor K Flynn, Ms R Jones, Ms C Ford, Mrs R Phillips and H Evans.

10659. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interests: None.

Resolved to be noted.

10660. Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 13th November 2017:

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 13th November 2017, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

10661. Matters raised by Members of the Public: None.

Resolved to be noted.

10662. Gwenda Thomas, Member of the Independent Review of Town and Community Council: It was agreed to suspend the order of the agenda to enable Gwenda Thomas to speak when she arrived.

Resolved that the order of the agenda be altered to allow Gwenda Thomas to speak when she arrived.

10663. Youth Representatives: Unfortunately, although there had been interest in the positions, actual applications had not yet been received. The Clerk however had obtained feedback from Harri Evans-Mason who believed that the timing of the applications was not suitable for those in education due to the proximity of exams.

It was therefore agreed that the term of office for Youth Representatives should be from October to September each year to align with the school terms.

Resolved that for 2018 the Youth Representatives would be elected early in 2018 and will serve a term until September 2019. The Election would then follow in October 2019 for future one-year periods.

10664. Cwmdu Glen: The Clerk confirmed that the boundary fence adjacent to the properties at Waun Gron was in the process of being reinstated. The residents adjacent to the boundary would then be contacted to advise them to contact the Town Council if they wished to carry out any work on the trees on the boundary line so that work could be monitored and carried out sympathetically to the needs of the nature reserve.

Resolved to be noted.

10665. Police Matters:

There were 47 crimes carried out in Pontardawe during September (September 2016 – 33 crimes) this was up from 33 crimes in August.

No changes to the PACT Priorities following the meeting on the 7th December 2017

There were 4 crimes carried out in Trebanos during September (September 2016 – 3 crimes) this was down from 11 in August.

No changes to the PACT Priorities following the meeting on the 7th December 2017

Neath Port Talbot Council were however going to conduct an informal consultation to determine the feelings of the local community to the placement of speed bumps on Swansea Road.

Resolved to be noted.

10666. Defibrillators: The units at Ynysmeudwy and Rhyd y Fro were to be installed early in the New Year. The Clerk was still awaiting details of the cabinet that may be purchased by a local business to site the spare unit.

Resolved to be noted.

10667. Town Council Web Site: As Councillor C Morgan was not at the meeting there were no further updates on this matter.

Resolved to be noted.

10668. Shh Campaign: The Posters, stickers and beer mats were to be collected from the printers on the 12th December and distributed that week.

Resolved to be noted.

10669. Christmas 2017: Council was informed that the feedback in the Winterfest had been extremely positive. Council thanked the Chamber of Commerce, Art Centre, Clerk and all the volunteers who had worked to organise and run the event.

Resolved to be noted.

10670. One Voice Wales meeting: As Councillor Ms C Ford was not at the meeting there were no further updates on this matter.

Resolved to be noted.

10671. Pontardawe Town Council Brochure: The Welsh version of the brochure was being proof read prior to printing.

Resolved to be noted.

10672. Gwenda Thomas, Member of the Independent Review of Town and Community Council: Gwenda Thomas provided some information on the work being carried out by the panel then requested feedback on the four main questions being considered by the Panel:

- What should Town and Community Council's be responsible for?
- How should they operate?
- What's standing in their way to deliver for the local community?
- How do Council's ensure they best represent their local community?

Resolved that Councillors will provide feed back to the Clerk who will in turn forward this to Gwenda Thomas. Council thanked Gwenda for attending the meeting.

Councillor Nicholson will also put details of the consultation on the Town Council's Social media sites.

10673. Planning:

Planning Committee held on the 4th December 2017

P2017/1081

Applicants name: Mr Wayne Lewis, 19 Uplands Road, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4AH

Site location: 19 Uplands Road, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4AH

Proposed Development: Erection of out building to the side of the dwelling

Resolved No Objection provided there is neighbourhood notification.

P2017/1071

Applicants name: Mr Lee Davies, Tyn y Coedcae House, Lon y Wern, Pontardawe SA8 3BL.

Site location: Pontardawe Sports Bar, 33 Church Street, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4JB

Proposed Development: Prior notification for the demolition of Pontardawe Sports Bar.

Resolved No Objection

Consultation Document of Town and Village Greens

Q1. Do you agree that the information required in paragraph 2.4 is appropriate? – **Yes.**

Q2. Do you agree that it would be reasonable for a landowner to have their statement signed by a representative of their choosing if they are unable to sign the statement themselves? – **Yes, however the regulations would need to stipulate a list of appropriate representatives i.e. Solicitor, Partner etc.**

Q3. Do you agree that the commons registration authority should be able to charge their own fee for the administration and processing of a statement with the aim of recovering the cost of providing this service? – **Yes, but there should be a prescribed list of charges which are standard to each authority and published.**

Q4. Should any further information be contained in the register in addition to what is proposed in paragraph 2.19? **We feel that the statement ‘any other information they feel is necessary’ should be removed as the parameters are too wide.**

Q5. Do you agree the register should be kept and maintained by commons registration authorities in both electronic and paper forms? **Cost is a consideration however the committee felt that it would be dangerous to hold only electronic information and therefore both should be maintained. All electronic documents should be version controlled to ensure that any changes are accurately catalogued.**

Q6. Do you agree with our proposals to provide a period of 28 days for landowners (or their appointed representatives to submit any revised information or documentation to remedy a material error? **Agreed however it needs to stipulate if this is 28 calendar days or working days.**

Q7. Do you have any additional comments?

- **Clarification is needed as the committee is unsure if this is a transition document enforcing prior Acts that although passed have not been yet included in Welsh Law.**
- **The document is grammatically poor and is sometimes difficult to understand.**
- **Please use plain English in consultation documents.**

Planning considered at the Ordinary meeting:

P2017/1089

Applicants name: Ms S Oliver, 162 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BU

Site Location: 162 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BU

Proposed Development: First Floor Front Extension

Resolved No Objection provided there is neighbourhood notification.

10674. Clerks Report on P&R Committee: The Clerk confirmed that the P&R Committee had not taken place as of the three consultations to be considered, one related to Planning and was discussed in the subsequent Planning Committee, one required individual responses and one was for guidance only.

Resolved to be noted.

10675. Clerks Holiday: The Clerk requested a holiday between Christmas and New Year.

Resolved that the Clerks request for holidays be granted.

10676. Clerks report on Prepaid bank cards: The Clerk confirmed that the prepaid bank card originally supplied by Unity Bank had been withdrawn and therefore a new prepaid option was required to enable online purchases to be made.

Resolved that the Clerk apply for a suitable prepaid visa/master card to allow online purchases.

10677. Account Schedule 339:

Resolved that Account Schedule 339 totalling £9783.23 together with the Bank Reconciliation be accepted in accordance with Standing Orders.

10678. Correspondence: None.

Resolved to be noted.

10679. Urgent Road Safety Matters:

- A resident of Trebanos wanted an additional grit bin placed at Graig Road in Trebanos. Unfortunately, the County Borough had stated that no additional grit bins would be placed. He was therefore taking the matter up with his MP.
- The owner of Rhyd y Fro Post Office was concerned about the County Boroughs plans to place double yellow lines outside his shop at Rhyd y Fro.

- Concerns over road safety outside YGG Pontardawe were being dealt with by Councillor Richards.

Resolved that the Clerk request the owner of the Post Office contact Councillor Purcell as there had been developments in the matter of the double yellow lines in the area. Other points to be noted.

10680. Date of the next Ordinary Meeting: To confirm that the next meeting of Council will be held on the 8th January 2018 at ARCH Hall commencing at 6.45pm.

Signed **Dated**