

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup>  
December 2011 at Ynysmeudwy Community Hall commencing at 6:45p.m**

**8720. Present:** Councillors B Williams (presiding), Mrs E Puzey, Ms. S Northcott, A Nicholson, Mrs C Lambourne, Mrs J Bowen, Mrs L Purcell, D B Thomas, D Harris

**Apologies:** Councillor V Thomas, H Evans, M Thomas, A E Williams

**8721. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interest:** Councillor Mrs L Purcell declared an interest in item 5 of the agenda, (WRG's presentation on the proposed Anaerobic Digestion facility at Pwllfawatkin) and left the meeting for the duration.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8722. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011:**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

**8723. WRG Presentation on the proposed Anaerobic Digestion Facility at Pwllfawatkin:** Chris Ratcliffe and Mike Bullard attended the meeting and provided an overview of the proposed Anaerobic Digestion Facility at Pwllfawatkin they also explained that planning permission for this facility had recently been applied for from Neath Port Talbot Council.

**Resolved** to be discussed once the application has been received from the County Borough.

**8724. Presentation by Jean-Francois Dulong from 'Groundworks' on the CoRE project:**

Jean-Francois explained that 'Groundworks' had funds available for grants to local organisations for Environmental improvements such as natural play areas and community orchards. These funds would be available for projects up until December 2013.

**Resolved** that a committee will be arranged for January 2012 to identify opportunities.

**8725. Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm construction traffic:** The Clerk advised Council that a response had been received from Neath Port Talbot Council with regard to various questions posed, but that additional details on remedial works; times for abnormal loads and specific parking arrangements had not been available.

With regard to traffic flows however the following statement had been made:

'The traffic figures submitted with the planning application were indicative based on the applicants' experience of previous wind farms and early design information. It is apparent that the profile of traffic movements has not matched that predicted in the planning application, although ESBI do expect that the overall traffic movements will be in excess of the predicted peak of 430 HGV movements.

I am also assured by the applicants that they expect construction traffic to be comparable with the totals predicted in the planning application, although this is dependent on the actual conditions encountered when they start work on excavation and extracting stone from the borrow pits. This is a situation that the Council will continue to monitor.'

A response had not been received from the Police.

Councillor Purcell however had obtained feedback from the Chief Constable.

The Chief Constable had confirmed that they did not choose the route however once the A474 route had been suggested, they had reviewed the position and confirmed that the route was safe and suitable for the construction traffic for this development. He also confirmed that there was sufficient funding for the personnel required to monitor the transports.

The Chief Constable confirmed that Inspector Dean Thomas would be managing the situation on the ground and that outriders would be accompanying the convoy.

**Resolved** that the following question be posed to Neath Port Talbot Council;

'How many vehicle movements were predicted for this period and how does this compare to the actual movements for this period? What is Neath Port Talbot Council currently doing to ensure that the conditions of the planning permission including vehicle movements is being adhered to?'

It was also agreed that Councillor Purcell will be given the mandate to discuss with Inspector Dean Thomas, the issues associated with managing the convoys during transit.

**8726. Police Matters:** Council was advised that Neath Police Station as from the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 would be open from 0800 to 2300hrs daily and on Bank Holidays from 0900 to 1700hrs.

The PACT priorities for Pontardawe were:

- Licensing issues – Complaints of loud music from public houses. This was to remain a priority and would continue to be monitored. Councillor Purcell also confirmed that Neath Port Talbot Environmental Health department had agreed to be proactive in future, by providing details of the 'Temporary Event Notices' issued for the area in the 'One Stop Shop', and warning the Public Houses of the consequences of excessive noise prior to events.
- Parking in the Town Centre- Complaints of indiscriminate parking in the Town Centre. The police confirmed that extra patrols were to be conducted and Council car park wardens would be requested to make additional patrols in the area. A leaflet drop to residents and businesses in the area was also to be arranged.
- Church Street, Quarr Road and Dynevor Terrace – Complaints of vehicles contravening the one way sign was to be investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Speed monitoring control was to be introduced on New Road in Ynysmeudwy, but time scales were not yet available

The next PACT meeting for Pontardawe is to be held on the 9/2/12 at the Cross Community Centre at 6.30pm.

The PACT priorities for Trebanos were:

- Visibility patrols in the Trebanos Park area – These were to continue to deter anti social behaviour.
- There had been a ‘smash and grab’ at Trebanos Post Office, however at present there were no suspects.
- The main gate on the concrete road adjacent to ‘The Green’ was now being locked in the evenings, to prevent unwanted vehicles gaining access.

The next PACT meeting for Trebanos is to be held on the 9/2/12 at the Trebanos Community Hall at 6.30pm.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will contact the Police to express dismay over the reduction in the counter service at Neath Police Station.

**8727. Ynni’r Fro Programme:** Council was advised that the feasibility study for a hydro electric facility at Cwm du was still being pursued on the Councils behalf by Awel Aman Tawe, and further details would be provided when available.

**Resolved** that Council will be kept informed of developments.

**8728. Herbert Street Improvements:** The Clerk advised Council that Phase Two of the improvement was now in progress, this would begin at the ‘Cross’ and would move down Herbert street towards the Art Centre. She also confirmed that after some initial dismay that the Herbert Street Car Park would be closed to allow the renovation of the Toilets before Christmas, it now seemed that the original time line had been reintroduced, and the work on these facilities would take place after Christmas.

The Clerk also confirmed that the sun dial currently located at the end of Herbert Street would remain in place.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8729. Littering at the Bench on Alltycham Drive:** The Clerk confirmed that she had been advised by the County Borough that a litter bin would be placed across the road on the verge outside the Fire Station, but that it was unlikely that a bin could be placed next to the bench.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will look into the feasibility of moving the bench to an alternative location and the possible impact on elderly residents and would report back to Council.

**8730. Ancient Fir Trees at Alltycham:** Council was advised that a response had been received from the County Borough, confirming that a provisional tree preservation order had been drawn up to protect trees at Alltycham.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8731. Dynevor Terrace:** Council was advised that Neath Port Talbot Council had insufficient funds for additional signage at present and that no response had been received from the Police with regard to this matter

**Resolved** that this matter be dealt with via PACT.

**8732. Planning:** It was agreed that a Planning meeting would be scheduled for 6.00pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8733. Grant to Ynysmeudwy AFC:** Council was advised that a delegation from Ynysmeudwy AFC had requested that the £500 earmarked for the lawnmower is instead considered towards a line marker, as the cost of the line marker was approximately £500. They asked if it would be possible to receive the grant this month. Following discussion with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and in accordance with standing orders, it was therefore agreed that the £500 could be provided this month

**Resolved** that the change in the agreement be ratified by full Council.

The grant given is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, this area or any part of it, or all, or some of its inhabitants.

Expenditure authorized under Local Government (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19

**8734. Pwllfawtkin meeting 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011:** Councillor Williams advised Council that the meeting did not take place as it was not quorate; he also confirmed that no meetings had taken place for 2011 for this reason.

**Resolved** that in the Council AGM in 2012 three Councillors and two standbys be elected to serve the Pwllfawtkin committee. It was also agreed that for the remainder of the year Councillor Lambourne will be requested to attend the meetings as well as the two elected members.

**8735. Fire and Rescue consultation document 2012 onwards:** Council was advised that any response was required by the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

**Resolved** that all Councillors will be emailed the document (or provided with a paper copy), but that a committee would be scheduled to discuss in January 2012.

**8736. Accounts schedule 272:** totalling £8003.15

**Resolved** to be agreed under financial regulations.

**8737. Letter received from WREN:** The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been received from WREN confirming that we had received the grant of £50,000 towards to Cefn Llan Park. She also confirmed that a response from the Big Lottery Fund was due by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Council wished to express their thanks to WREN for the grant and confirmed that they were happy for the Clerk to sign the official contracts.

**Resolved** that Council be kept informed of developments, and that the Clerk sign the official contract for the WREN grant on Councils behalf.

**8738. Notification received from South Wales Transport:** Council was advised that from the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2011 the 209 Rhos to Penlan (Bryntawe Comp) Monday to Friday Schooldays only. Service was to stop.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will write to Neath Port Talbot expressing concern over the lack of transport for children attending this school.

**8739. Email received from resident of Gelligron Road:** Council was advised of an email received from a resident of Gelligron Road with various concerns from traffic to footpaths. The Clerk confirmed that a response had been provided to questions over traffic to the Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm and play provision in the Rhyd y Fro area, but there were a number of other concerns.

**Resolved** that the Clerk advise the resident to discuss speed restrictions and the footpath at the Upper Clydach River with Neath Port Talbot Council.

**8740. Road Safety matter:** None

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8741. The Next Ordinary Meeting:** Council was advised that the next ordinary meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at ARCH Hall.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**Signed .....** **Dated .....**

