

Ordinary General Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Trebanos Hall, Swansea Road, Trebanos commencing at 6.45pm.

Present:

Councillor A Nicholson (presiding), Ms S Northcott, V Hotten, G Davies, K Flynn, D Williams, R Thomas, H Davies, Ms R Jones, W Thomas, Ms C Ford, A Richards, Mrs R Phillips and B McCarthy (Youth Representative)

Apologies:

Councillor Mrs L Purcell, J Jones and G Nicholson

11343: Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interest:

Councillor Hotten disclosed an interest in Planning as he is a family Member of the applicant. (P2019/5690)

**Resolved** to be noted.

11344: Signing of the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019:

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

11345: Consider matters raised by Members of the Public:

Mr Williams provided details of a clothing hub available in the Neath area that provides clothes for disadvantaged people, referred to them by various organisations in the Neath area. The scheme is fully funded with no cash changing hands, is strictly confidential and all volunteers are DBS Checked.

The organisation was keen to advertise the facility to communities outside of the Neath area and therefore wished details of networking opportunities within the Town Council area.

The clothing hub had a Facebook page 'Clothing Hub Neath' and contact details for Mr Williams was also made available.

Council thanked Mr Williams for attending the meeting to provide details of the facility and suggested that he liaise with Councillor Hotten, at the PANTRY Foodbank.

**Resolved** to be noted.

11346: Defibrillator Mapping Project:

Councillor Thomas explained that the centre of Pontardawe required two additional exterior 24-hour cabinets. They had received agreement from the Art Centre for one to be sited there and wished one to be sited on the exterior of the Town Council Office.

Funding for the cabinets would be provided via Councillor Richards, County Borough Councillor Fund and it was requested that the application be submitted by the Town Council to facilitate the grant.

The Town Clerk also confirmed that both Planning and Highways had provided agreement to the siting of the cabinet, and she had also received verbal confirmation from the owner of the building.

Councillor Phillips had also received a request for funding from her community benefit fund for a unit at Graig Road, Trebanos. It was agreed that the Town Council would submit an application for funding for this cabinet.

**Resolved** that the Town Council will submit the applications to Councillor Richards and Phillips community benefit funds for the required defibrillator cabinets.

11347: Cwmdu Glen:

The Clerk provided an update on the action being currently carried out:

- Ed was currently on secondment from the 'Working with Nature' project but would arrange for the picnic sign to be created by the volunteers on his return
- A qualified arborist was to complete that actions from the management plan shortly. He would also review the trees on the boundary with Waun Gron and the Ash trees that remained adjacent to the paths that would be subject to the joint Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council/ Town Council Ash Dieback plan
- The Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Coed Cymru post was once again vacant. The joint Ash Dieback plan was therefore to be delayed until and the post had been filled.
- The split oak adjacent to the steps close to the Green bridge had been reviewed by the County Borough arborist and had been deemed not a risk as the broken bough would fall into the river and not on to the path in inclement weather.

**Resolved** to be noted.

11348: Police Matters:

Pontardawe

Statistics

November - 32 crimes in total (Top two -14 violent & 4 Burglary) which was down from October (38 in total)

PACT meetings in 2020 would be held at Pontardawe Art Centre, commencing at 6.30pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 23<sup>rd</sup> April 18<sup>th</sup> June 27<sup>th</sup> August 8<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Trebanos

Statistics

November – 1 crime in total which was down from October (8 in total)

PACT meeting in 2020 would be held at Trebanos Hall, commencing at 6.30pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 23<sup>rd</sup> April 18<sup>th</sup> June 13<sup>th</sup> August 8<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Resolved** to be noted.

11349: Electoral Arrangements:

The proposed alteration of the Electoral arrangements for the County Borough Council to combine Pontardawe and Trebanos into a single ward with three Councillors was discussed in full. Council felt that as there was no financial saving to the alteration, the change would be a retrograde step. Council fully understood that changes were warranted to balance the number of Electors between the wards but that to alter the boundaries to increase the size of the Trebanos ward by the inclusion of Swansea and Pontardawe Roads would satisfy this, without the loss of identity, that would be the result of the current recommended plan.

**Resolved** that the Council will object to the current proposal to amalgamate the Pontardawe and Trebanos County Borough wards and will instead suggest an alternative method of addressing the lack of balance, by adding Swansea and Pontardawe Roads to the Trebanos ward.

11350: Planning:

P2019/5690:

Councillor Hotten expressed an interest as he is a family member. He took no part in the discussion

Applicants name – Mr L Vincent, 113 New Road, Ynysmeudwy, Pontardawe SA8 4PP

Site Location - 113 New Road, Ynysmeudwy, Pontardawe SA8 4PP

Proposed Development – Part two storey, part single storey rear extension plus 1no. additional first floor window inside elevation.

**Resolved** No objection provided there is neighbourhood notification

P2019/5689:

Applicants name- Mr Justin Jones, 54 Swansea Road, Pontardawe, SA8 4AL

Site Location - 54 Swansea Road, Pontardawe, SA8 4AL

Proposed Development – Two storey rear extension

**Resolved** No objection provided there is neighbourhood notification

P2019/5681:

Applicants name – Mrs Sara Humphries, B3 Mucklesone Business Park, Eccleshall Road, Mucklestone, Market Drayton, TF9 4FB

Site Location – 70 Herbert Street, Pontardawe SA8 4ED

Proposed Development – One Fascia sign and one projecting sign

**Resolved** No objection.

P2019/5565:

Applicants name- Mr Evans, 16 High Street, Pontardawe SA8 4HU

Site Location - 16 High Street, Pontardawe SA8 4HU

Proposed Development – Change of use of former bank (class A2) to café/ wine bar with living accommodation to upper floors (2 flats) and construction of single storey rear extension and alterations (Amended plans received 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020)

**Resolved** No objection.

P2019/5554:

Applicants name – Mr P Canfield, 8 Parc Gilbertson, Rhyd y Fro, Pontardawe, SA8 4PU

Site Location – 8 Parc Gilbertson, Rhyd y Fro, Pontardawe, SA8 4PU

Proposed Development – Retrospective application for the conversion of the garage into living accommodation.

**Resolved** No objection provided there is neighbourhood notification. Council was also concerned that this application had not been made prior to work being carried out.

11351: One Voice Wales area Committee:

Unfortunately, Councillor Ford was unable to attend.

**Resolved** to be noted.

11352: Christmas 2020 and Pontardawe in Bloom:

It was agreed to discuss in a forthcoming Policy and Resources Committee

**Resolved** that a Policy and Resources Committee will be arranged.

11353: Personnel Matters:

**Resolved** that a Personnel Committee will be arranged.

11354: Clerks Report on the Green Infrastructure Enhancement Strategy at Ynysmeudwy Park:

Council had been provided with the plan for Ynysmeudwy Park prior to the meeting which included planting an additional hedge and fruit trees together with the creation of a meadow area and bird and bug boxes. A community event had been organised for the 25<sup>th</sup> January from 11am to 1pm and a further event would be carried out to include children from Llangiwg school. Information panels would also be included in the plan.

Council was advised that Neil was in discussions with the local GP practices to encourage healing through nature and caring community projects to encourage health through walking and wildlife. The projects would take several forms but were in a very early stage of planning at present.

Council was very interested in the plans and agreed to support the initiatives in principle.

**Resolved** to be noted.

11355: Pavilion at George V Park:

Council wished to look at all the available information and requests prior to taking any further action.

**Resolved** that a Policy and Resources Committee will be arranged.

11356: April Ordinary Meeting:

As the usual date for the Ordinary meeting would this year fall on the Easter Bank Holiday, the Clerk requested we alter the date of the April Meeting to Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**Resolved** that the Ordinary General Meeting will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> April.

11357: Actual/ Budget Report:

Council was provided with the Actual Budget Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> third of the financial year.

**Resolved** to be agreed.

11358: Account Schedule 364 totalling £11336.83 together with Bank Reconciliation:

**Resolved** that the Account Schedule 364 totalling £11336.83 together with Bank Reconciliation should be accepted by Council in line with standing orders.

11359: Observatory on Human Rights of Children:

Each year the 20<sup>th</sup> November is 'International Children's Day'. Councillor Williams would like the Town Council to celebrate this with a project involving the Primary age children in the area. Several ideas were put forward however it was agreed that a Development Committee would be required.

**Resolved** that a Development Committee will be arranged.

11360: History Project:

Councillor Williams was concerned that the rich diverse history of the local area was not known to many people and that there were only limited information plaques in the Town providing details.

**Resolved** that a Development Committee will be arranged.

11361: Changes to Planning and related application fees:

Council agreed with the changes but made no further comment

**Resolved** to be noted.

11362: Letter re Heritage:

A letter had been received requesting the Town Council look to providing information panels at the Cross, giving details of the industrial heritage of the area.

**Resolved** that a Development Committee will be arranged.

11363: Email re Bench:

A request was made for a plaque to be placed on one of the Town Council benches in memory of Marion Comasky and her son Donald who for many years had supported the Community and who had been leading campaigner for a children's play area at Cefn Llan

**Resolved** the Clerk request the family's agreement to a Memorial Plaque being placed on the new bench to be placed at Alltycham Drive.

11364: Urgent Road Safety matters: [None](#)

**Resolved** to be noted.

11365: Next Meeting:

The next meeting of Council will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at Ynysmeudwy Hall, commencing at 6.45pm

Signed .....

Dated .....







