

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on Monday 13 May 2013,
at ARCH Hall, Cefn Llan Road. Pontardawe commencing at 7.15pm

9171. Present Councillors Sue Northcott (presiding), P Williams, G Davies, D Harris, D B Thomas, M James, Mrs E Puzey, V Hotten, Mrs J Bowen, Mrs L Purcell, B Williams A Nicholson, H Evans, M Thomas, Ms R Lewis

Apologies: Councillor H Pickrell.

9172. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary interests:

Councillors Linet Purcell and Rebeca Lewis declared an interest in planning and Councillors Jean Bowen, Andrew Nicholson, Sue Northcott, Gary Davies and Vince Hotten declared an interest in the Pontardawe and District Youth Facility.

Resolved this be noted.

9173. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th April 2013:

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th April 2013, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

9174. Police Matters: A letter was received from Chief Inspector Andrew Kingdom, Operational Chief Inspector for Neath & Port Talbot. He gave an update of the crime position in the areas under him which on the whole had decreased. He stated that they would be recruiting police officers from within the ranks of the PCSO's and would then be taking on new PCSO's. He also gave a list of contact details that could be used.

Resolved to send the list of contacts to each Councillor and to note the contents of the letter.

9175. Pontardawe & District Youth Facility: The Clerk stated that the facility had £1485.80 in their account but they had received an invoice for the lease of the building in excess of £2,900.00 from the County Borough. Only a small rental invoice was due from Crossroads and the next large amount from Engage would not be in the account until July/August.

Resolved to appeal the lease amount also to request a valuation of the building with a possible view to purchase.

9176. Children's Out of School Activity Booklet: Councillor Hotten stated that the draft booklet, which all Councillors had received, would be available very soon in its finished form with, hopefully, Cwmtawe Comprehensive School doing the art work and Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera doing the translation work.

Resolved to launch the booklet with an 'open evening'.

9177. Road Safety Matters: Councillor James stated that the sundial was being removed from Herbert Street in order to possibly put in more disabled parking places. This was now an ongoing new project which changed the position regarding the bollards.

Resolved to note the above and look forward to an update once the position is known.

9178. Parking on Footpaths: Concern was again expressed about the parking on the footpaths in Herbert Street, Pontardawe also in Trebanos. Parking on footpaths is an offence but there seems to be a need to ascertain how seriously the Police take this offence.

Resolved to invite Inspector Huw Griffiths to the June meeting of Council to discuss the above and other items of interest.

9179. Reinstatement of Roundabout: Councillor Purcell stated that the roundabout, modified when towers and blades were being taken to the Wind Farm, would be replaced fairly soon.

Resolved that this be noted.

9180. Letters of Thanks for Grants Received: Council received letters of thanks from the following organisations:

- Pontardawe Arts Club
- Bobath Therapy
- Shelter Cymru
- Victim Support
- Stroke Association
- Dyslexia Wales
- Macmillan Cancer Care
- Urdd
- NSPCC
- Wales Air Ambulance
- Marie Cure Cancer Care
- Ynysmeudwy AFC
- West Glam Drug & Alcohol Abuse.

Resolved to note the above.

9181. New Play Area Trebanos Park: The Clerk stated that there were no updates but it was hoped that the project would be completed by August 2013.

Resolved that this be noted.

9182. Aber Valley Heritage Group, Mining Memorial Appeal: The appeal committee stated that they were unable to include the Gleision Mine disaster on the main memorial but they would put the name on the paving commemorating all the disasters of 5 or under deaths naming Gleision Mine as the most recent.

Resolved to put a mining memorial on the June Agenda

9183. Planning Applications:

P2013/0093 Mr G Carlsson, Spa House, Gellionen Road, Trebanos
Proposed demolition of single storey side extension, construction of single storey attached garage and covered walkway on rear elevation and retention and completion of front porch.

Resolved no objection.

P2013/0218 Mr D Doyle, 28 Swansea Road, Pontardawe
Proposed retention and completion of retaining wall and steps to front boundary of above.

Resolved no objection

P2012/0565 Mr Gianni Sansone, 4 Frinton Grove, Bristol
Proposed detached split level dwelling (badger survey and amended layout received) land near 74 Swansea Road, Trebanos.

Resolved no objection provided there is neighbourhood notification.

P2013/0291 SLR Consulting, Fulmar House Cardiff.
Proposed Scoping request under regulation 10 of the Town & Country Planning Environmental Impact Assessment (England & Wales) Regulation 1999 as amended - Section 73A application to seek retrospective planning permission for continued coaling, at East Pit East, Gwaun Cae Gurwen.

Resolved no objection provided that the number of vehicles going through the area of Pontardawe does not increase.

P2013/0753 Janet Watkins, 2 Pant y Fedwen, Cwmgors.
Proposed refurbishment work including dismantling and rebuilding chimney, replacement flat roof to rear extension, lift stone floor slabs and re-lay over new concrete floor, re-pointing of external walls, replacement of ceiling and plastering of internal walls, replacement front windows and associated works (application for listed building consent) at 39 Swansea Road, Pontardawe.

Resolved that no objection be made provided that the frontage of this historic building remains intact and that there is sympathetic refurbishment of the building.

P2013/0371 John Wooliscroft, 20 Old Road, Ynysmeudwy
Proposed replacement roof to existing single storey side extension at above.

Resolved no objection provided there has been neighbourhood notification.

9184. Personnel Meeting: A report was brought to Council from the meeting held on 15th April 2013 regarding a number of personnel matters.

Resolved to reschedule a Personnel Meeting to discuss more fully now that new information was available.

9185. Internal Audit Report 2012/13: Councillors received a copy of the report prior to the meeting.

Resolved to accept the report.

9186. District Audit Return: The Clerk produced copies of the completed return before submission to the District Audit.

Resolved that Council accept the return and the Mayor sign the return on behalf of Council.

9187. Accounts Schedule 288:

Resolved to accept the schedule totaling £11520.76.

9188. Bank Reconciliation Statement:

Resolved to accept the Bank Reconciliation Statement up to 31st March 2013.

9189. Cefn Llan Residents Association request for Park Sign: The Residents Association requested 'No Dogs Allowed' sign also 'No Riding Bikes in Park' sign.

Resolved that the Clerk look into the cost to supply signs.

9190. The Cefn Llan Residents Association requested a skip for the area so that the area can remain free of rubbish.

Resolved to request recycling facilities for the area, also a one off skip for the area. Councillors to discuss the problem at the Residents Association meeting in June.

9191. Summer Play Scheme 2013: Councillor Brian Thomas to look into the availability of Trebanos Hall as a wet weather venue.

Resolved that there be no objection, in principle, but the item to be added to the June meeting agenda.

9192. Volunteer Fair: A volunteer fair will be held by the CVS in Neath on Saturday 1 June 2013.

Resolved to note the above.

9193. Parking in Pontardawe: A letter was received from the Chamber of Trade and Commerce concerning the confusion with regard to the free hour parking and return time without a penalty.

Councillor Mike James stated that this was being rectified and that it would probably be as follows: - |

One hour free parking with no return until after two hours not One hour free parking with no return until after 24 hours.

Resolved to follow up the confusion and request full costing of this new system with monthly updates.

9194. Loss of Parking Spaces: Concern was expressed concerning the loss of parking spaces in Paradise car park due to the way that the parking bays has been marked out.

Resolved to contact the County Borough with the concerns.

9195. Request for Grant Aid from Pontardawe Chamber of Trade and Commerce for Pontardawe Festival.

Resolved to discuss in the next Finance Committee.

9196. Lidl, Ffordd Parc Ynysderw, Pontardawe: Concerns were expressed regarding the wrong address for Lidl on their web site and flyers, also the need for Lidl to make sure that their suppliers know that they are not situated on Ynysderw Road.

Resolved that the Clerk contact the store.

9197. Urgent Road Safety Concerns Raised by Members: Concerns were express about the speeding along Swansea Road, Trebanos. Councillors Rebeca Lewis and Mel Thomas felt that there was a need to have some form of traffic calming measures.

Resolved to write to the County Borough requesting such measures.

9198. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be Monday 10th June 2013 at Trebanos Community Hall commencing at 6.45pm.

Signed **Dated**