

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on the 15th May 2017 at Ynysmeudwy Hall, Old Road, Ynysmeudwy commencing at 6.45pm.

10493. Present: Councillor A Nicholson (presiding), G Davies, Ms S Northcott, V Hotten, H Evans, Ms C Ford, A Richards, C Morgan, J Jones, G Nicholson, Ms R Jones, W Thomas, Mrs L Purcell and R Smith

Youth Representatives: Jamie Edwards.

Apologies: Councillor R Phillips.

10494. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary interests: None.

Resolved to be noted.

10495. Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 10th April 2017:

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 10th April 2017, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

10496. Matters raised by Members of the Public: None.

Resolved to be noted.

10497. Cwmdu:

The Clerk provided some background information on the 'Working with Nature Project' and advised Council that further events were planned during the Summer. The team were also in the process of creating a 'Friends of Cwmdu and the Glanrhyd Estate' group although further details were not yet available.

Resolved that the Town Council will be kept up to date with developments.

10498. Police Matters:

The Clerk advised Council that for February there had been 25 crimes in the Pontardawe area and for March there had been 30 crimes however in comparison for March there had been 32 crimes in Clydach.

The next PACT meeting was due to be held on the 22nd June 2017 at Pontardawe Art Centre commencing at 6.30pm

In Trebanos there had been 4 crimes for both February and March. The next PACT meeting was to be held on the 17th August 2017 at 6.30pm at Trebanos Hall as the June meeting had been cancelled due to the forthcoming General Election.

Councillor Purcell requested that Town Councillors attempt to attend the PACT meetings in both Trebanos and Pontardawe if possible.

Resolved to be noted.

10499. Good Citizens Award:

The Clerk provided Council with details of the proposed event. She confirmed that there was still time to nominate an individual for the award as the closing date had been extended to the end of May. Following the closing date a meeting would be convened to review the nominations prior to an event which would be held in September.

Copies of the nomination form would be sent to all Councillors as new Councillors had not been able to nominate anyone. As previously agreed there would be a maximum of two nominations per Councillor. As the nominations could also be made by members of the public it was agreed that social media could be used to publicise events.

As the Town Council had no social media accounts it was agreed that Councillors Morgan and G Nicholson together with Jamie Edwards (Youth Representative) would arrange to set up social media accounts for the Town Council

Resolved that Councillors Morgan, G Nicholson and Jamie Edwards will set up Pontardawe Town Council social media accounts. Good Citizen Award nomination forms will be forwarded to Councillors prior to the 31st May 2017 deadline.

10500. Ynysmeudwy Park: Council was advised that the Park refurbishment was in progress and was to be completed prior to the start of the School Summer Holidays.

Resolved that Council will be kept up to date with developments.

10501. Defibrillators: Council was advised that the Clerk was in discussion with Trebanos Service Station to identify the most effective location for the defibrillator at Trebanos Service Station. Once the unit had been placed, the local media would be invited to attend its official unveiling together with the Mayor, a representative of from the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority and representatives from Trebanos Service Station.

Following the successful installation of the Trebanos Defibrillator, the Clerk confirmed that she would look for suitable locations in Ynysmeudwy and Rhyd y fro.

There was some concern that members of the public would be reluctant to use the device without training although the Clerk confirmed that no official training was required for the Zoll Defibrillator acquired by the Town Council.

It was therefore suggested that the Clerk contact the Mid and West Wales Fire Authority to identify if there was an instruction video available that could be placed on the Town Council's new social media pages.

Resolved that the Clerk will contact the Mid and West Wales fire Authority to identify if a video was available. She will also arrange for the placement of the Trebanos defibrillator and research areas for further defibrillator placements.

10502. Planning:

P2017/0395

Applicants name: Mr G John, 155 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BS.

Site Location: 155 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BS.

Proposed Development: Alterations in the roof design of the existing single storey rear extension.

Resolved No objection provided there is neighbourhood notification.

P2017/0408

Applicants name: Jonathan Hale, Hale Construction, Unit 2 Milland Road Industrial Estate, Neath, SA111NJ.

Site Location: Waun Sterw, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4PG.

Proposed Development: Variation of Condition 5 of application P2015/778 granted on the 16/10/16 to amend the approved plans including drawing no 1497a 4-2 rev M with drawing no 1497a 4-2 Rev R, 1497A 3-8 Rev C and c0442s – 020 Rev C. To provide details of retaining to the side of number 7 Waun Sterw to the rear of numbers 4 to 11 Cwrt y Waun and 14-20 Cysgod y Fro.

Resolved No objection provided there is neighbourhood notification.

10503. Actual/Budget Report for 2016/17: The Clerk provided the report prior to the meeting.

Resolved that the report will be accepted.

10504. Revised Code of Conduct: Council were provided with the full Revised Code of Members Conduct prior the meeting.

Resolved that the Council will accept the Revised Code of Members Conduct.

10505. Authorised Signatories: It was suggested the Councillors Mrs Linet Purcell, Vince Hotten, Ms Sue Northcott, A Nicholson and Rebeca Phillips be both authorised signatories and internet authorisers for Pontardawe Town Council

Resolved to be accepted.

10506. Annual Return and Internal Auditors Report: Council was advised of the Internal Auditors Report which had no matters that needed to be brought to Councils attention.

The Internal Auditor did however suggest that the Town Council consider charity business rate relief for the Community Halls. One Voice Wales could provide guidance.

Council also reviewed the Annual Return and were happy for the Chair to sign on behalf of Council.

Resolved that the Chair sign the Annual Return on behalf of Council and that the Internal Auditors Report and recommendations will be accepted by Council.

10507. Account Schedule 333:

Resolved that Account Schedule 333 totalling £18200.95 and the Bank Reconciliation be accepted in accordance with Standing Orders.

10508. Email received re early morning/late night noise in Herbert Street, Pontardawe:

The position was discussed in full. There were several issues which required different actions to be taken.

- Residents who are experiencing issues with noise from public houses or other establishments late at night needed to report this as it happens to Neath Port Talbot Council by ringing 01639 686868 and choosing 'Emergency' from the options. If three different reports were received via the Emergency number about the same issue then the out of hours' enforcement team would be dispatched to investigate.
- Councillors were keen to have input prior to the renewal of Public House licences.
- If residents were concerned about anti-social behaviour by individuals late at night they should telephone 101 to report it. It was however imperative that a crime number was received. Members of the Public should be encouraged to report all instances regardless of if action would be taken immediately by the Police Force as without accurate statistics the local constabulary would be unable to draw down funds to address the problem.
- If residents felt that there was a likelihood of death or serious injury then the report should be made via 999.
- There had been issues also with very late or early deliveries to retail establishments in Herbert Street.

Resolved that the Town Council will write to the retail establishments to request their delivery drivers keep noise to a minimum when delivering late at night and in the early morning. Details of the action to be taken for the types of disturbance will be added to the Town Council's social media pages when they are set up. The Town Council will also write to the County Borough requesting input prior to the renewal of public house licences.

10509. Letter received from Neath Port Talbot Council re alleged public footpath:

A letter was received from Neath Port Talbot Council requesting representations or objections to the alleged public footpath alongside the Upper Clydach river between Waun Gron and Footpath 236. The Council was aware that the path had been used as a footpath for many years and originally formed part of the circular walk at Cwmdu Glen.

Resolved that Neath Port Talbot Council will be informed.

10510. Town/Community Council Path Maintenance Scheme: Council was advised that the scheme was to be altered in future with a fixed rate being offered per kilometre of paths maintained. Neath Port Talbot Council had offered £250 per kilometre in grant for the maintenance of various footpaths in the area. As the Town Council managed £10.9k of footpaths this would provide a grant of £2725 for 2017/18

Resolved that the Town Council will agree the Path Maintenance Grant of £2725 for 2017/18.

10511. Letter of Thanks: Letters of Thanks were received for Grants provided from Heart of the Valley, Macmillan and Pontardawe Art Club.

Resolved to be noted.

10512. Letter received from the Welsh Assembly Government re Integrated Ticketing:

The Letter stated that it was the Welsh Assembly Governments intention to pursue a form of integrated ticketing as this was seen as important to the overall public transport system and fundamental to their objective of building a more connected and sustainable society. A consultation on the matter had recently been set up.

Resolved that the Consultation be forwarded to individual Councillors for completion.

10513. Letter received from the Cwmtawe 7s: Council was advised that the event was to take place on the 29th July 2017 at Parc Ynysderw Playing fields. Unfortunately, there required assistance with the setting up and taking down of the event on the Friday and Sunday and some work was required on the Wednesday prior to the event.

The request had been made on Social media however there was still insufficient people willing to assist. It was suggested that the Youth Club may be able to provide some assistance however there may be an insurance issue due to the ages of the children.

Resolved Councillor Jones will discuss the matter with the organisers of the Cwmtawe 7s and will contact the Youth Club if there is no issue with ages.

10514. Urgent Road Safety Matters:

- There had been an issue with a car parked facing the wrong direction in Herbert Street. Unfortunately, as there were no witnesses to the car driving the wrong way in Herbert Street no action could be taken by traffic patrol officers
- It seemed that the bus stop on Holly street was not registered as a bus stop. This needed investigation.
- There was still an issue with the double yellow lines close to the junction of Alltycham Driver and Church Street. (The lines stop prior to the junction which means parked cars causing an obstruction at the junction)

Resolved that all required action will be taken.

10515. Time and Date of Next Meeting: The next Ordinary meeting and AGM are due to be held at ARCH Hall on the 12th June 2017.

Signed Dated