

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on Monday 8th July 2013, at Ynysmeudwy Hall, Old Road, Pontardawe commencing at 6.45pm

9223. Present Councillors Sue Northcott (presiding), G Davies, D Harris, D B Thomas, Mrs E Puzey, Mrs J Bowen, Mrs L Purcell, A Nicholson, H Pickrell, V Hotten, B Williams, M Thomas.

Apologies: Councillor Ms R Lewis.

9224. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary interests:

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

Resolved this be noted.

9225. Minutes of the AGM held on 13th May 2013 and the Ordinary Meeting held on the 10th June 2013:

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th June 2013, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council, with the following amendments:

- 9203. The PCSO's no longer attend Town and Community Council Meetings and not PACT meetings as stated in the minutes.
- 9205. Councillor B Thomas mentioned the need for a brown tourist sign on Swansea Road, Trebanos to direct members of the public to Trebanos Park. Councillor R Lewis confirmed that she would look into the matter.

The minutes of the AGM held on the 13th May 2013, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

9226. Chief Inspector Julian Williams and Allison Harris, Play Co-Coordinator for the Neath and Port Talbot Young Peoples Partnership addressed Council:

Chief Inspector Julian Williams introduced himself and provided some background information on his experience and the current priorities in the Neath Port Talbot Area. He explained that there would be some inevitable personnel changes to the team in the future and requested that the local community support the new personnel while the team was forming. He explained that serious crime was the priority and that Members of the public needed to report crime to ensure that resources were being directed correctly.

Council felt however that if misdemeanors were ignored this may cause a cultural problem in the future.

Council thanked Superintendent Williams for attending the meeting.

Allison Harris the play co-coordinator for the Neath and Port Talbot Young people's partnership provided Council with an overview of the 'Play Sufficiency Assessment' that has recently been carried out on the area and provided various documentation for review. She confirmed that electronic copies would be made available to the Clerk and these could be then forwarded to Council Members for their information.

Council reviewed the information and asked various pertinent questions on the assessment and its range.

Allison did mention signs for 'smoke free' playgrounds, however Council felt that at present there didn't seem to be an issue with smoking in the playgrounds and that as the signage was not free it would be an unreasonable expense at present.

Council thanked Allison for attending the meeting.

Resolved to be noted.

9227. Matters raised by members of the public: None

Resolved to be noted.

9228. Police Matters: The Clerk provided the following information:

Trebanos:

Operations were continuing on Swansea Road to tackle speeding, however, it did seem that motorists were now slower than on previous operations.

A joint operation had been carried out between the Police and the Neath Port Talbot Waste Enforcement officers to tackle dog fouling.

Waste Enforcement Officers were also looking into an instance of fly tipping in the area.

Pontardawe:

Speeding at Llangiwg School was continuing to be a PACT priority and a Rural Watch meeting had taken place to allow everyone to voice their concerns over rural issues.

Other concerns raised in the PACT meeting were:

- One way travel from the Art Centre.
- A tree causing obstruction on the corner of Tawe Terrace and the Alloy Industrial estate.
- Damage to the cricket club – Residents had been asked to contact 101 if they noticed anything suspicious.
- Noise levels at a central Public House.
- The exercise to tackle dog fouling in Trebanos had also been carried out in Pontardawe.

One suggestion was that the Traffic Wardens in the area may also be provided with the authority to issue fixed penalty notices for littering and dog fouling.

Resolved that the Clerk will contact the County Borough to determine if the Traffic Wardens could address multiple issues (traffic violations, littering and dog fouling)

9229. Pontardawe & District Youth Facility: A letter had been received from the County Borough confirming that the Youth Facility would have a ten year lease from April 2016 and requesting the reason for Councils wish to purchase the building. The Clerk also confirmed that to the end of June 2013 the Town Council had provided financial assistance totaling £1500.

Resolved that the Clerk will advise the County Borough that the reason for the request for purchase was the current cost of the lease and the Town Councils financial support of the Youth Facility.

9230. Parking in Pontardawe: The Clerk confirmed that no response had been received to her original questions. Council then discussed the position in full.

Resolved that the Clerk contact the Chief Executive to request answers to her original queries and that the matter be reviewed in the September meeting.

9231. One Voice Wales AGM: Council was advised that in the past the AGM was attended and the costs covered by the Council however it was felt that unless a motion was being proposed then the cost of the day outweighed the benefits.

Resolved that the Council would not send a representative this year.

9232. Abandoned property off Brecon Road, Pontardawe: A request was made for the Town Council to contact Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to request a review by an Environmental Health Officer.

Resolved that the Clerk contact the County Borough.

9233. Pontardawe Food Bank: Councillor Hotten advised Council that an open meeting was to be held on the 10th September 2013 at 7.00pm at Pontardawe Leisure Centre and would Council Member attend to show their support.

The Mayor advised Council that the Pontardawe Food Bank would be the Mayors Charity for this year.

Resolved to be noted.

9234. Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011: Part 7 Communities and Community Councils: Council was advised of the consultation with a response date of the 23rd August 2013.

Resolved that this will be discussed in a Policy and Resources committee to take place on the 15th July 2013 at 6.30pm with plenary powers to respond on Council behalf.

9235. Planning: The Clerk produced various planning applications that required review.

Resolved that a planning meeting would be arranged for the 15th July 2013 at 6.00pm.

9236. 'Out of School Activities' pamphlet: Councillor Hotten provided Council with an overview and explained that unfortunately Cwmtawe School had been unable to produce the pamphlet, but that his son Leon had stepped in to produce the pamphlet, which was now being printed. He also explained that the open evening was to be held at Cwmtawe School on the 18th July 2013.

Councillor Hotten explained that the pamphlet would be slightly smaller than anticipated and therefore he suggested that the contribution from Cilybebyll Community Council should be reduced to £150.

Council gave their thanks to Leon Vincent for his help in this matter.

Resolved that the reduction in the contribution from Cilybebyll Community Council will be agreed and also that a copy of the pamphlet will be forwarded to Allison Harris at Neath Port Talbot Council.

9237. Herbert Street, Garden Maintenance agreement: Council was advised that Rose Villa who held the garden maintenance contract for the Herbert Street Garden (minute number 8108) had requested an alteration to the contract from two visits per year at £110 to 3 visits at £40.

Resolved that the maintenance agreement will be altered.

9238. Accounts Schedule 290:

Resolved to accept the schedule totaling £23805.59.

9239. Ombudsman Annual Report 2012/13: Councillor Andrew Nicholson confirmed he would review and report back to Council at the next meeting.

Resolved to be noted.

9240. Response from Neath Port Talbot Council re dog waste bins: Council was advised that the bins were emptied weekly or as and when required and that the process for reporting full bins or for requesting additional bins was to telephone the call centre on 01639 686868.

Resolved to be noted.

9241. Town and Community Council web site funding: Council was provided with information from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Resolved that the matter would be discussed in the Policy and Resources Committee due to be held on the 15th July 2013.

9242. Clerks Holiday: The Clerk requested a weeks' holiday from the 31st July 2013.

Resolved to be agreed.

9243. Neath Port Talbot Council Community Benefit Review: Council was provided with the relevant information.

Resolved to be discussed at the Policy and Resources Committee due to be held on the 15th July 2013.

9244. ROSPA Reports: Council was advised that ROSPA Inspections had been carried out at Ynysmeudwy and Trebanos Parks and that the risk category for both was 'Low' The Clerk confirmed that a report was not yet required for Parc Chawarae Teg.

Resolved to be noted.

9245. Swansea Road, Trebanos: The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been received from Neath Port Talbot Council with regard to the speeds on Swansea Road, stating that they felt that no further action could be taken.

Resolved that feedback would be obtained by County Councillor Rebeca Lewis.

9246. Proposed National Mining Memorial Appeal: Council was advised that the Aber Valley Heritage Group had confirmed that as the loss of life at the Gleision mine was less than 5, then they would not be able to dedicate a specific pavier to Gleision but would mention the mine by name.

Resolved to be noted.

9247. Commission on Public Service in Wales: Council was advised of the position.

Resolved to be noted.

9248. Draft TAN 23 Economic Development: Council had been advised of the internet link prior to the meeting and had reviewed the documentation.

Resolved to be noted.

9249. Pontardawe Summerfest: Council was advised that the Summerfest was not to take place as Neath Port Talbot Council had not provided a grant to the Chamber of Commerce. Our cheque for £3000 was therefore to be returned.

Resolved that Council will give County Councillor Linet Purcell authority to request information on the expenditure by Neath Port Talbot Council on Community Events over the previous twelve months. Councillor Purcell will then report back to Council at the next meeting.

9250. Urgent road safety matters: None.

Resolved to be noted.

9251. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be Monday 9th September 2013 at ARCH Community Hall commencing at 6.45pm.

Signed **Dated**