

**Ordinary General Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Ynysmeudwy Community Hall, Old Road, Ynysmeudwy commencing at 6.45pm**

**Present:** Councillor Mrs L Purcell (presiding), Ms C Ford, K Flynn, D Williams, H Davies, V Hotten, Ms R Jones and B McCarthy (Youth Representative).

**Apologies:** Councillor A Richards, Mrs R Phillips, R Thomas, A Nicholson, Ms S Northcott, G C Davies and W Thomas

**11235. Nomination of Chair for July Ordinary Meeting:** In the absence of both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor Councillor Purcell was nominated as Chair for the meeting.

**Resolved** that Councillor Purcell will be acting Chair for the July Ordinary meeting.

**11236. Signing of the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019:**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

**11237. Presentation by Sero Homes:** James Williams, Managing Director of Sero Homes addressed Council. He provided details of a proposed housing project for Rhyd -y -Fro.

The properties would form part of the long term private rental sector and would be a showcase for their Zero Carbon Housing.

Initially, 35 properties were proposed adjacent to ancient woodland. The properties would be predominately three bedroom and would have rental that included utility costs. They would have both private gardens and would face a communal green.

There would also be included in the development, a community facility that would be available for both residents and the wider community.

The Formal 28-day Consultation would begin in July/August. Sero Homes would be pleased to accept any feedback from Councillors or residents.

Council were very interested in the proposals, and the benefits of zero carbon living. They thanked Sero homes for their presentation.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11238. Matters raised by Members of the Public:** None.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11239. Defibrillator Mapping Project:** Council was very interested in the project and wished to form part of the partnership. Councillor R Thomas had stated his wish to remain involved although was not in attendance.

**Resolved** that the Council will engage with the Defibrillator Mapping Project and that Councillor R Thomas will be the Councillor liaison.

**11240. Cwmdu Glen and the 'Working with Nature' Project:**

The Clerk confirmed that the actions under 'Area 1' as specified in the last meeting had been carried out. The Clerk had also reiterated to residents that Council Policy stipulated that no healthy boundary trees would be removed to improve satellite signals or to improve light to gardens.

Most of the property owners in this area had indicated that they were happy with the work carried out to improve the health of the boundary trees and understood that the actions would in turn protect their properties.

The previous Tree Warden at Cwmdu had produced an article on Ash Dieback for the Community Mag. This article was read to Council.

The Picnic Area at Cwmdu had now been completed. Signage was required to direct Members of the Public to the area, and the Clerk had asked the Cwmdu Volunteers together with the Working with Nature team for ideas. An article would be included in the Community Mag and on the Town Council's web site to advertise the area.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11241. Police Matters:** No additional Crime Statistics were available. The next PACT meetings were to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm at Trebanos Hall and Pontardawe Art Centre

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11242. 'Pontardawe in Bloom':** The Clerk provided photographs of 6-foot planters that could be provided for the 2020 Summer season at a cost of £340 plus VAT each.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will inform the Chamber of Commerce 'Pontardawe in Bloom' Committee

**11243. Grant Request - Urban Foundry:** Council was advised that the first market had been well attended. Urban Foundry had requested financial assistance with placing and removing road signs. The cost was £270 per market. Council wished to support the Market as it encouraged people from outside the area to the Town however they were also mindful that this was a commercial operation and that there were many community and volunteer groups that required funding in the Pontardawe Area.

**Resolved** that a one-off grant of £270 be awarded to Urban Foundry in support of the Monthly Market.

**11244. Grant Request from GCG Band:** A request for grant funding had been received from GCG Band to assist with their Educations programmes.

**Resolved** that a grant of £450.00 will be awarded.

**11245. Planning:**

Committee held on the 1/7/19.

**P2019/5084**

Councillor R Thomas declared an interest as he is known to the applicant

Applicants name: Mr David Thomas, 25 Gelligron Road, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4LU

Site Location: 27a Waun Gron, Rhyd y Fro Pontardawe SA8 4LW

Proposed Development: Conservatory on side elevation

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

**P2019/5143**

Councillor R Thomas declared an interest as he had been contacted by the applicant

Applicants name: Miss Paula Fornelos, 11 Allt y Waun Rhyd y Fro, Pontardawe Swansea SA8 4NX

Site Location: Florist, 47 Herbert Street, Pontardawe Swansea SA8 4EB

Proposed Development: Change of Use from A1 to A3 (Café)

**Resolved** Council is concerned about the number of Café's in Pontardawe but understand that commercial viability is not a condition of planning. They would however like a condition that the establishment is open during the day and is not to be used as an evening Food Takeaway only as it would impact on the Town Centre if there are additional establishments that would remain closed during the day.

**P2019/5035**

Applicants name: Ms Maree Fewlings, 28 Heol Illtyd, Caewern, SA10 7SF

Site Location: Flat A 24 Herbert Street, Pontardawe SA8 4EB

Proposed Development: Change of use from A1 to a tattoo and piercing studio (sui generic)

**Resolved** No Objection

**11246. One Voice Wales Committee held on the 12/6/19:** Unfortunately, Councillor Ford was unable to attend.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11247. Meeting held on the 19/6/19 with representatives of Pontardawe Bowls Club:**

The Pontardawe Bowls Club hold two leases with Neath Port Talbot Council. One for the Bowls ground and one for the Bowls Pavilion.

The Club would like the Town Council to consider taking over the lease for the Pavilion only.

The current lease is for full repair and the roof has already been replaced by the County Borough. The Club is happy to continue to carry out low level maintenance, opening and closing, cleaning and cover utility costs.

The lease for the building is £650 pa with a 5-year rent review clause. The Club receives a grant of £650 pa from the County Borough to cover the lease, and the club believes this will be available for the Town Council, should they agree to take on the lease.

The Club has also requested a grant of £500.00. They have also requested a similar amount from Cilybebyll Community Council which they believe has been awarded.

**Resolved** that the Clerk double check that the lease grant is available to the Town Council and sources a suitably worded Service Level Agreement prior to a decision being made in the September Ordinary meeting. The grant of £500.00 will be awarded.

**11248. Account Schedule 358:**

**Resolved** that the Account Schedule 357 totalling £9766.41 together with bank reconciliation be accepted by Council in line with Standing Orders.

**11249. Email re Minor Authority Governor at Rhyd-y-Fro School:**

Council was asked to nominate a new Minor Authority Governor for Rhyd y Fro School following Councillor Smiths resignation.

**Resolved** that Councillor Hywel Davies will be the Minor Authority Governor for Rhyd- y Fro School.

**11250. Crossing Patrol Officer, Swansea Road, Pontardawe:** Unfortunately, the current Crossing Patrol Officer had resigned with immediate effect. The County Borough will advertise for a replacement, however, there will be no Crossing Patrol Officer at Swansea Road until a replacement is employed.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11251. Email re St Peters Flower Festival:** A letter of thanks was received for the Town Council's support of the festival.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11252. Next Meeting:** The next Ordinary meeting of Council will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at ARCH Hall, commencing at 6.45pm

Signed .....

Dated .....