

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at ARCH Community Hall commencing at 6:45p.m**

**8742. Present:** Councillors B Williams (presiding), H Evans, Mrs E Puzey, Ms. S Northcott, A Nicholson, Mrs C Lambourne, Mrs J Bowen, Mrs L Purcell, D B Thomas, D Harris, A E Williams, V Thomas, H Pickrell

**Apologies:** None

**8743. Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interest:** Councillor Mrs L Purcell declared an interest in item 5 of the agenda, (Proposed Anaerobic Digestion facility at Pwllfawatkin) and left the meeting for the duration. She also left the meeting during the planning discussion.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8744. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011:**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011, having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by Council.

**8745. Proposed Anaerobic Digestion Facility at Pwllfawatkin:** Council was advised that the planning application had been received for this facility under reference P2011/1063.

**Resolved** that although Council is in favour of a digestion facility, it objects to this application on the grounds of location, due to the increased level of traffic through Pontardawe Town Centre should the facility be located at Pwllfawatkin.

**8746. CoRE project:** Council agreed that a 'Development Committee' meeting should be arranged to discuss proposals for projects.

**Resolved** that a committee will be arranged for 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 6.00pm to identify opportunities.

**8747. Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm construction traffic:** The Clerk advised Council that a letter had been sent to Neath Port Talbot Council requesting details of the actual vehicle movements to the site but no response had been received.

Councillor Purcell however confirmed that Inspector Dean Thomas had stated that he was interested in a meeting with Town Councillors prior to the 'Dummy Run' in order to obtain local knowledge on the construction traffic route, however, at present the Town Council had not been invited to attend the actual 'dummy run' for the construction traffic vehicles.

**Resolved** That the Clerk will request a response from Neath Port Talbot Council on the level of vehicle movements together with their monitoring protocols. Councillor Purcell will also be given the mandate to arrange with the Police for Town Councillors to attend the 'dummy run' for the turbine traffic.

**8748. Police Matters:** The Clerk advised Council that a comparison between crime figures for November 2010 and November 2011 showed a reduction in all types of crime except burglary of dwellings, which had remained the same. Overall in November there were 52 fewer victims of crime with the communities.

Council was also advised that the 'bag a burglar' scheme had run over Christmas and that in Pontardawe speed camera operations had been carried out targeting dangerous driving on the roads and in the car parks of the area.

The Clerk confirmed that she had also contacted the Chief Constable due to the lack of a twenty four hour counter service at Neath Police station following the closure of the regional police station counter services, but had been told that the twenty four hour opening at Neath Station had ceased in 2006, and there was no plans to increase the opening hours due to the current financial constraints.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8749. Herbert Street Improvements:** Councillor Purcell advised Council of details of the previous PACT meeting which had highlighted chaotic parking in Herbert Street outside the Art Centre following the regeneration, and confirmed that Neath Port Talbot were awaiting agreement by the Welsh Assembly Government to place signs indicating rights of way and 'No Parking' zones. They had also confirmed that no double yellow lines would be placed on this street.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will contact the County Borough Council to request that a representative attend the next meeting to discuss the parking issue at Herbert Street following regeneration.

**8750. Littering at the Bench on Alltycham Drive:** The Clerk advised Council that contrary to their original statement, the County Borough had been able to place a litter bin adjacent to the seat at Alltycham Drive and had also placed one across the road outside the Fire station. She had also received confirmation that the County Borough litter crew would review this seat regularly to ensure that any litter was removed in a timely manner.

The Clerk did however confirm that a number of emails had been received from the resident at Alltycham Drive who had expressed concern about anti social behavior by some individuals at the site, together with a crime that had occurred in the area, and had requested the bench removed immediately.

The Clerk did however confirm that the Police had been contacted and had visited the site and

in their opinion the location of the bench was not unsuitable or concealed, and that although there was some evidence of alcohol consumption at the location, this did not seem excessive. There was also no evidence that this related to under-age drinking. The Police also confirmed that the location of the bench was not in any way connected to the alleged crime that had taken place on Alltycham Drive in December.

Inspector Thomas did however confirm that the Neighbourhood policing team had been informed of the issue and would be patrolling the area and dealing robustly with any persons found to be behaving in an anti social manner.

The Clerk then provided Council with details of the proposed movement of the seat. She explained that she had confirmed that a seat could not be placed directly across the road from the footpath due to the access to the Fire Station and that we would not be provided with permission to place a bench on the pavement. She did however confirm that in principle a seat could be placed further up the road on the grass embankment however due to the age of the current seat, this could not be moved but would need to be replaced.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will continue to monitor both the littering issue and would liaise closely with the Police to determine if there is an anti social behavior issue. She will also invite the resident at Alltycham Drive to the next PACT meeting at Pontardawe, where his concerns on anti social behavior in the area can be recorded and dealt with by the proper authorities.

**8751. Fire and Rescue consultation document 2012 and onwards:** Council was provided with the document for their information.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8752. Cefn Llan Park:** Council was advised the funding had been secured from both WREN and the Big Lottery Fund, and that we hoped to begin work on the park in March 2012 with a finish date of May or June 2012.

**Resolved** that Council would be kept advised of developments.

**8753. Planning meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011:**

**P2011/1030**

Applicant: NPTCBC Estates

Site location: Glanrhyd Business Park, Pontardawe

Proposed Development: Construction of four industrial units (class B1,B2 and B8) and associated access and works.

**Resolved** No objection.

**P2011/0743**

Applicant: Mr Stephen Thomas, 12 Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84DR.

Site location: 12 Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84DR.

Proposed Development: Detached shed.

**Resolved** No objection.

**P2011/1013**

Applicant: Mr Dick Neumann, 23 Ynysmeudwy Road, Ynysmeudwy, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA84QD.

Site location: 23 Ynysmeudwy Road, Ynysmeudwy, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA84QD.

Proposed Development: First floor rear extension.

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

**P2011/1038**

Applicant: Mr Richard Grey, 14 Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84DR.

Site Location: 14 Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84DR.

Proposed Development: Works to single tree covered by Tree preservation order T154/W2.

**Resolved** No Objection provided the health of the tree is maintained.

**P2011/0948**

Applicant: Mr Ceri Williams, 34 Coedcae, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84PE.

Site location: 34 Coedcae, Pontardawe, Swansea SA84PE.

Proposed Development: Detached double garage.

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

**P2011/0583**

Applicant: Ms F Hussain, 7 Greenbank Avenue, South Easton, Bristol, BS5 6EP.

Site location: 117 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4BN.

Proposed Development: One detached dwelling.

**Resolved** Objection due to unsuitable access.

Planning reviewed at this meeting:

**P2011/1096**

Applicant: Mrs Sharon Lewis-Bowen, 166 Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BU.

Site location: Swansea Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4BU.

Proposed Development: Two storey rear extension with basement level.

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

**Mynydd y Gwrhyd Community Wind Farm, Awel Aman Tawe: Section 194 Law of Property Act 1925 and Section 147 Enclosure Acts 1845 to 1882 and the Commons Act 1899**

Council was advised that a request had been received for comments on the proposed usage of some common land for the wind farm and for the transfer of land from privately owned to for common usage. One Councillor objected on principle to the wind farm, however, this object could not be noted as the request for input was for the two order above and not for the wind farm itself which had been granted planning permission in 2009.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8754. One Voice Wales meeting 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011:** Councillor Nicholson was unable to attend this meeting.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8755. Annual Return 2010/11:** Council was advised that the Annual Return for 2010/11 have been received back from the external Auditors and that there were no qualification issues.

**Resolved** that the Return be approved and the Chairman sign the Audit form on behalf of Council.

**8756. Accounts schedule 273:** totalling £8298.81.

**Resolved** to be agreed under financial regulations.

**8757. Letter received from One Voice Wales re the Buckingham Palace Garden Party:** The Clerk advised Council that a letter had been received from One Voice Wales providing details of the garden party at Buckingham Palace for the outgoing Mayor.

**Resolved** that Councillor Bob Williams name be put forward to the draw.

**8758. Consultation Document- Proposed procedural changes for advertising road traffic regulation orders:** Council was provided with the consultation document and made the following observations:

- Publicising the traffic orders – there should be at least two methods which should also include advising Town/Community Councils and Local Councils.
- Requirements for Temporary Traffic Orders need to be placed at least seven ‘working’ days rather than ‘days’ before the restriction comes into force.
- Any public communication should be in both an electronic and a traditional publication method as not all members of the public have access to either a computer or email.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will provide the above feedback to the consultation.

**8759. Consultation Document- Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Bill:** Council had reviewed the document but had no observations to be made.

**Resolved** that this be noted.

**8760. Neath Port Talbot Plan Partnership Annual Seminar 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012:** Councillor Bob Williams agreed to attend on Councils behalf.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8761. Road Safety matter:**

- Possible hazard at Waun Sterw due to overflowing sewers and raw sewage on the road during the Winter weather that could have caused a danger to road users should the conditions become icy.
- Possible damage to vehicles and property together with possible drunk driving at Church Street following a party at the football Club over the Christmas period.

**Resolved** that the Clerk would contact Welsh Water with regard to overflowing sewers and the Police with regard to issues at Church Street.

**8762. The Next Ordinary Meeting:** Council was advised that the next ordinary meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at Trebanos Hall.

The Mayor also provided the Clerk with her certificate and the Councils congratulations on completing and passing the CILCA examination.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**Signed** ..... **Dated** .....

