

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pontardawe Town Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011  
at Ynysmeudwy Community Hall commencing at 6:45p.m**

**8557. Present:** Councillor B Williams (presiding), Mrs J Bowen, A E Williams, H Pickrell, Mrs L Purcell, Ms S Northcott, Mrs C Lambourne, Mrs E Puzey, M James, H Evans, V Thomas, D Harris, A Nicholson, Mrs A Davies.

**Apologies:** Councillor DB Thomas.

**8558. Councillor M Thomas:** Council was informed that Councillor Thomas was improving and out of hospital, and would be in a position to return to meetings shortly.

**Resolved** to extend agreement of absence on the grounds of ill health.

**8559. Disclosure of personal and pecuniary interest:** Councillors Mrs L Purcell and M James took no part in the planning discussion and left the meeting for the duration.

**8560. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting having been read and confirmed as a true record, be accepted by the Council.

**8561. Police Matters:** Council was informed that the 'Cycle Smart day' took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, and was a great success. Councillor L Purcell confirmed that she had attended the event, which was covered by the local news.

Trebanos PACT: The priority was the issue of parking at Swansea Road, Trebanos. The PACT committee had requested that a member of highway department at the County Borough be invited to attend a future PACT meeting in order to discuss the situation. The Clerk also confirmed that she had made a similar request.

The next PACT meeting in Trebanos is to be held at the village hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Pontardawe PACT: The priority was vehicle nuisance at Ffordd Parc Ynysderw and Tesco car park. The PCSO had however conducted patrols in the area and had found no issue.

The next PACT meeting in Pontardawe was to be held at the Cross community centre on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011.

The Clerk then requested clarification of whether it was the Chief Constable or the local Inspector of South Wales police who should be invited to the next meeting to discuss the closure of the counter service at Pontardawe Police Station.

**Resolved** that the Clerk is to invite the Chief Constable and the local Inspector of South Wales Police to a Town Council meeting to discuss concerns over the future of Pontardawe Police Station.

**8562. Ynysderw road, Pontardawe:** Councillor James stated that an update on the situation should be available next week.

**Resolved** to be monitored.

**8563. Hanging Basket Scheme – Summer 2011:** The Clerk confirmed that the winter displays had been removed and the five new hanging basket brackets had been made, with one erected outside the 'Tamarind' restaurant. The contractors were in the process of completing weight testing which would be completed this week.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8564. Ynysymond Road, Pontardawe:** Councillor Pickrell advised council that he had made a request to our local Assembly member expressing concern over the work being carried out at Ynysymond Road. A reply had been received stating that she had requested a review by the Minister for Environment for the Welsh Assembly Government.

The Clerk confirmed that following some initial enquiries with Murphy's, she had been in contact with Jason Pacy of National Grid, who had explained that following extensive testing on the gas pipe line at Ynysymond Road, there was found to be an issue with the outside coating of the pipe. Discussions were underway on what remedial work was required. Councillor Davies confirmed that following a site meeting, the same information had been provided.

The Clerk did however confirm with National Grid that there was no issue with any other portion of the pipe line, in this area.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will contact Jason Pacy and request that the Town Council be kept abreast of developments. The Clerk will also try to obtain a technical report of the current issue, in order that it can be reviewed by an expert on a voluntary basis.

**8565. Cefn Llan Resident Association, Application for grants for the new playground:** Council was advised that Paul Hinder of Neath Port Talbot Council was in discussion with NPT Homes on behalf of the Council to secure a lease of the land, they were also informed that the grant from People and Places had moved on to the second stage, and that the local residents had been canvassed and were in favour of the project.

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

**8566. Teenage Shelter at Trebanos Park:** Council was advised that the Teenage shelter was being routinely used by the teenagers in the area. There had been no anti social behaviour reported since the installation of the facility. There was however a request that in future the facility is referred to as 'the shelter' rather than the 'teenage shelter'.

**Resolved** to be noted

**8567. WIFI at Trebanos Hall:** The Clerk advised Council that the Hall committee had been advised of the permission and would now look into the matter

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8568. Local authority charter agreements:** Councillor Nicholson stated that there were no updates at present, but Council would be kept up to date with developments.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8569. Cwm Nant Lleici Quarry Meeting:** Councillor A E Williams had presented his apologies at the meeting as he was unable to attend.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8570. Ynni'r Fro Programme:** Council was advised that although a letter had been sent, no response had yet been received.

**Resolved** that the Clerk would write again.

**8571. Pontardawe Old Foundry Site:** Council was advised that a review of the site had been carried out however no remedial action had as yet been carried out. Council was also advised that the Police were concerned over the site safety.

**Resolved** that the Clerk would request an update from the owners, and would also discuss the matter with the Police.

**8572. Planning:**

It was agreed that in future in order to ensure that objections could be forwarded to the County Borough within the 14 day time scale, the Clerk may call a separate planning meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month if this is required.

**Resolved** that a planning meeting be called on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month if this is required.

**P2011/0331**

**Applicants Name:** Wall Colmonoy, Alloy Industrial Estate, Pontardawe, Swansea.

**Site location:** Darren House, Alloy Industrial Estate, Pontardawe, Swansea. SA8 4EN

**Proposed development:** Re-cladding of existing building, creation of two new doorways with canopies, new canopy to main doorway, new window openings on front and side elevations and alterations to side elevations.

**Resolved** No objection.

**P2011/0342**

**Applicants Name:** Mr Stephen Tustain, Bearpaw Lodge, 23 Bryn Derwen, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4LF.

**Site Location:** Bearpaw Lodge, 23 Bryn Derwen, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4LF.

**Proposed development:** First Floor side extension.

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

**P2011/0276**

**Applicants Name:** Richard Grey, 2 Cwrt y Cadno, Birchgrove, Swansea, SA7 9TF.

**Site Location:** Plot 7, Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4DR.

**Proposed development:** Application to fell two Ash trees and one Silver birch tree covered by Tree Preservation Order T154.

**Resolved** to object on the grounds of the TPO.

**P2011/0281**

**Applicants Name:** Mr Spencer Davies, Thomas Davies Associates Ltd, Preswylfa, Pontardawe, 18 Coedcae, Swansea, SA8 4PE.

**Site Location:** Preswylfa, Pontardawe, 18 Coedcae, Swansea, SA8 4PE.

**Proposed development:** Two storey rear extension.

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

**2011/0306**

**Applicants Name:** Mr Nigel Clifford, NAAMEC, 4 The Birches, Clydach, Swansea, SA62NJ.

**Site Location:** Plot 8, Lloyd Street, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 4DR.

**Proposed Development:** Retention and completion of one detached dwelling house (Amendment P2010/1075).

**Resolved** to continue to object to the developments on Lloyd Street due to overdevelopment of the area, together with the possible increase in surface water producing a flood risk in an area already prone to flooding.

**2011/0203**

**Applicants Name:** National Grid Property Holdings, National Grid House, Warwick Technology Park, Gallows Hill, Warwick CV34 6DA.

**Site location:** Former Gas works, Holly Street, Pontardawe, and Swansea, SA8 4ET.

**Proposed Development:** Excavation and removal of soils and disused underground apparatus and infilling and levelling.

**Resolved** No objection to the proposed development there were concerns that the method of removal of the tanks may weakening the canal banks.

**8573. Trebanos Park Report:**

The following information was provided by the Clerk

- A tourist 'brown' sign may be appropriate for placement on the main road to identify the park
- The current signage on the park boundary was insufficient
- The smaller children's play area safety surface was older but still fell within the required safety margins
- A letter had been sent to Hyder to request that the gate to the sewerage works be closed and locked when not in use.
- A letter had been received from Trebanos Rugby Club requesting that they be given authority to use the old toilet block in the park as a tea stand and storage area. The rugby club would renovate the building and provide the ongoing maintenance of the building.
- Councillor B Thomas was to discuss with the local primary school, the planting of bulbs in the park
- The cost of an additional litter bin for the teenage shelter was approximately £400
- The approximate cost of the metal park fencing and self closing gate for the older children's play area was £4000.
- Overall costs to undertake all the proposed changes were approximately £7750.

**Resolved** that the use of the old toilet block by the rugby club be agreed in principle however a development committee would be arranged to discuss the changes needed in the park, the time scales and the funding required. The development committee is to be scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 6.00 pm.

**8574. Finance Committee – grants:**

The committee recommended the following:

Citizens Advice Bureau, Ystradgynlais	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S 142	
Urdd Eisteddfod	<b>£100.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S 145	
National Eisteddfod	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S 145	

Shelter Cymru	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Stroke Association	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Bobath	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Air Ambulance	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Mencap	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Marie Curie Cancer	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Swansea Valley Historical Society	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Pontardawe Girl Guides	<b>£100.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	
West Glamorgan Council on Drug & Alcohol Abuse	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government Act 1972 S137	
Elephants not included	<b>£200.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	
It was also suggested that Elephants not included be informed of the availability of the village halls at Ynysmeudwy, ARCH and Trebanos, as venues for their organization as this may provide a cost effective venue for additional workshops.	
Ynysmeudwy AFC	<b>£50.00</b>
Expenditure authorized under Local Government (Misc Prov) Act 1976 S19	

The Ynysmeudwy AFC request was for funding towards a tractor mower. As this Council must provide grants in proportion to benefit derived (Local Government and Housing Act 1989), we were unable to provide more than a nominal figure, however, Council did suggest that details of other grant funding organizations be given to the AFC, as this may provide an avenue for the funding required.

Pontardawe Chamber of Trade and Commerce requested £3000 in order to support the Carnival, winter, spring, summer and autumn festivals. Council however requested that additional details be made available on how this figure was to be spent prior to making a decision on the level of funding.

**Resolved** to be ratified.

The grant given is in the interest of, and will bring direct benefit to, this area or any part of it, or all, or some of its inhabitants.

**8575. Accounts 266** totalling £5222.61

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

**8576. Memorial plaque for local soldier killed in a recent conflict:** Council was advised that an email had been received from the family stating that the young soldier's father had requested he cover the cost of the plaque. The family were therefore very grateful for the Council's offer of funds, but the grant of funds would no longer be required.

**Resolved** that for the present the £363 originally earmarked for this purpose be ring fenced and retained for the present.

**8577. People and the Arts in Neath Port Talbot:** Council was informed that there was a meeting planned for the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at the Cross Community Centre, Pontardawe.

**Resolved** Councillor Bob Williams and Councillor Sue Northcott to attend.

**8578. Western Power Distribution:** An invitation was received to the stakeholder workshop on future investment plans. It was to be held at Cardiff Wales millennium Centre on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**8579. Email received re the post of Town Crier:** An email was received enquiring whether the Town Council would support the concept and post of a Pontardawe Town Crier.

**Resolved** that Councillor Bob Williams would contact the constituent to identify exactly what he envisaged the post would entail.

**8580. Summer Play Scheme:** A letter was received requesting use of Trebanos and ARCH halls for the period from the 1<sup>st</sup> August to the 26<sup>th</sup> August 2011, free of charge.

**Resolved** that agreement be given.

**8581. The Next Ordinary Meeting:** Council was advised that the next ordinary meeting would be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

**Resolved** to be noted.

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