## **Ordinary General Meeting held on the 16th May 2022 by virtual platform zoom due to Welsh Government restrictions, commencing at 7.15 pm**

## **Present:**

Councillor Ms R Phillips (presiding), Ms J Lord, P Temblett, B Howells, G Davies, S Todd, Ms G Ffrancon, Ms E Thomas, M Vincent, D Brain, J Nemeth, A Richards, J Watkins and H Davies

**Apologies:**

Councillor Mrs L Purcell and M Davies

## **11978: Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interests:**

None.

## **Resolved** to be noted**.**

## **11979: Signing of the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 11th April 2022:**

## **Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 11th April 2022 having been read and confirmed as a true record be accepted by Council.

## **11980: Matters raised by Members of the Public:**

None

## **Resolved** to be noted**.**

## **11981: Defibrillator Mapping Project:**

The Clerk was still awaiting a licence to place the external box at Pontardawe Art Centre from Neath Port Talbot Council, however it was likely that the licence would be available for agreement by the June Ordinary meeting. (The Town Council was to act as ‘Guardian’ for this unit)

The Town Council’s spare unit was now within an external box at ‘The Other Place’

The NHS had also advised the Clerk that the unit at the Travellers Wells and Sales room had been installed with the Unit at the Ivy Bush to be placed shortly

There was also some debate as to whether an additional unit could be placed in Rhyd y Fro

## **Resolved** Members of the Public would need to be advised of the location of the units in the area. The Clerk would also provide and update on the prospect of additional units

## **11982: Eco and Wellbeing Committee including Cwmdu:**

The Pontardawe Conservation Group had now been set up with similar ‘Friends’ groups to be created in other areas of the Swansea Valley.

The group were currently working on light maintenance at Cwmdu however following the ending of the ‘Working with Nature project’, they would benefit from more effective communication with Neath Port Talbot Council on the work being carried out by the County Borough

## **Resolved** that Councillor Todd would provide details of the current projects and that the Clerk would liaise with Neath Port Talbot Council in order to determine the work being carried out by them. There were particular concerns over the safety of the bridge on the Glanrhyd Estate (Neath Port Talbot Council owned)

## **11983: Police Matters:**

No PACT meetings had been arranged.

Pontardawe statistics –March 34 down from February 37(Violence 24, Public Order 3, Criminal Damage 2 and Shoplifting 2)

Trebanos statistics –March 3, no change from February 3 (ASB 1, Burglary 1 and Other theft 1)

Councillor Phillips and Watkins were in discussion with the PCSOs in order to try to reinstate the PACT meeting

## **Resolved** that the Clerk will also request PACT meetings reinstated

## **11984: Grant applications and letters of thanks:**

It was agreed to review Grant Applications at a forthcoming Finance Committee

## **Resolved** to arrange a Finance Committee.

## **11985: Office and Facilities:**

Council was advised that the lease to utilise the Office at the Art Centre had been signed. The Office was being painted and furniture was due to be moved on the 25th May 2022. The Clerk confirmed that she would hold a set of keys for the building.

Once the move had taken place the Clerk would look at action to be taken to facilitate Hybrid meetings in order to allow Councillors to meeting in person as soon as possible.

Council was content for surplus furniture from the office such as the conference tables and chairs to be removed as due to current trends they could not be sold.

## **Resolved** that all surplus furniture to be donated or disposed of prior to the lease end at 4 Herbert Street on the 31st May 2022.

## **11986: Christmas 2022:**

The Clerk advised Council that the partners organising the event would be slightly different for 2022 but that a meeting would be arranged shortly after which further details would be available.

As it was likely that the Parade would be managed by the Town Council the Clerk requested some funds made available from Reserve in order to facilitate.

She also confirmed that Neath Port Talbot Council would permit the Bypass Car Park to be used as the location for the fireworks.

## **Resolved:** that £500 will be made available from Council Reserves to facilitate the Parade.

## **11987: Crossing Patrol Officer:**

Council was advised that a candidate had verbally accepted the position. Further details together with a start date would be provided in due course.

## **Resolved** to be noted.

## **11988: Additional Outdoor seating request:**

Council was advised that a request had been received for the Town Council to place an additional seat at Alltywerin

## **Resolved** that the Clerk will obtain costings together with details of the location of other seats in that area prior to the Council’s decision.

## **11989: Planning:**

None

**Resolved** to be noted.

## **11990: Annual Return 2021/22:**

The Annual Return had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was accepted.

**Resolved** that the Mayor sign the Annual Return on behalf of Council.

## **11991: Internal Auditor:**

The Internal Auditors final report had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was accepted. Council also agreed to KLG Internal Auditor to act as Internal Auditor for Pontardawe Town Council for the remainder of the Council term

**Resolved** that KLC Internal Auditor remain as the Town Councils Internal Auditor for the term of this Council.

## **11992: Finance Committee:**

A Finance Committee was to be arranged to discuss and review the Town Councils Investment Policy.

**Resolved** that a Finance Committee will be arranged.

## **11993: Account Schedule 392 together with Bank Reconciliation and Direct Debit/ Standing Order Schedule for 2022/23:**

All documents were made available to Councillor prior to the meeting.

## **Resolved** that Account Schedule 392 totalling £20894.95 together with bank reconciliation will be accepted by Council in line with Standing Orders. Also, the Direct Debit/Standing Order schedule for 2022/23 was also accepted

## **11994: Urgent Road Safety Matters:**

The Clerk provided an update on the position regarding an accident that had taken place on lower Herbert Street from the Police and Neath Port Talbot Council. The PCSOs would be advised to speak to any drivers found to be driving dangerously or mounting the pavement in that area and Neath Port Talbot Council safety team would look for a more permanent solution to the problem

## **Resolved** to be noted.

## **11995: Next Meeting:**

The next Ordinary Meeting will take place on the 13th June 2022 venue to be advised.

Signed ………………………………………………………………………

Dated ……………………………………………………………………..