

**Ordinary General Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 by virtual platform zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions commencing at 6.45pm**

**Present:**

Councillor A Nicholson (presiding), Reverend Ms S Northcott, A Richards, Mrs L Purcell, V Hotten, J Nemeth, H Davies, D Williams, R Clapham, G C Davies, Mrs R Phillips, J Jones, and Mrs J Ashton-Mears

**Apologies:**

None

**11646: Disclosure of Personal and Pecuniary Interests:**

None.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11647: Signing of the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021:**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 having been read and confirmed as a true record be accepted by Council.

**11648: Matters raised by Members of the Public:**

None

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11649: Defibrillator Mapping Project:**

Councillor Thomas was not at the Ordinary Meeting and therefore could not provide an update on the action being taken or decisions taken in the recent Defibrillator Mapping Project Meeting.

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

**11650: Eco and Wellbeing Committee including Cwmdu:**

The ARB Team were to address the Ash Trees at Cwmdu that required felling within three to six Months shortly.

Tenderleaf would conduct a full review of the remaining Ash Trees in the Summer when there would be a full canopy of leaves.

The warning signs had been placed on the path from the Green bridge at Cwmdu after the Picnic area. Warning signs had also been placed on the path from Waun Gron towards the Picnic area.

The Trebanos Park volunteer tree planting event could not take place due to current restrictions. Neil Hinds at Coed Cymru would therefore arrange to plant the trees. Further trees had been applied for which would be received in November if successful. A volunteer event could be considered at that time.

It was agreed that any discussion on the joint management of Riverside and Cwmdu would fall within the proposed Town Council Community Plan. A steering Committee would be organised from Councillors to consult with the Community on the proposed Community Plan and any Place Plan that would be created as a result.

## **Resolved**

- That a Steering Committee will be arranged to create a Pontardawe Town Council Community Plan

### **11651: Police Matters:**

There were no details of a Pontardawe virtual PACT meeting at present however it was hoped that a virtual Trebanos PACT meeting would be held by the end of March. Councillor Phillips would provide details.

Pontardawe statistics –January crimes 53 up from December total crimes of 44 (Most Common: Violence, ASB, other theft and Public Order)

Trebanos statistics –January Crimes 2 down from December total crimes of 3 (Most Common: ASB)

A volunteer had come forward and agreed to open and close Parc Chwarae Teg to prevent Anti-Social Behaviour during the evening at the Park.

**Resolved** to be noted.

### **11652: Junction of Road to Recreation Ground and Canal Bank:**

The Clerk was awaiting licences to place both signs on the road to the Recreation Ground from Brecon Road.

It was suggested that a similar issue might be a problem on the road to the Green from Swansea Road in Trebanos. Councillor Phillip would look into matters.

**Resolved** to be noted.

### **11653: Welsh Water works at the Gwachel Roundabout:**

All Councillors had been provided with the link to the Welsh Water web site which provided information on the actions being taken.

Both Neath Port Talbot Council and Welsh Water had agreed that following reinstatement of the roundabout, replanting would take place.

**Resolved** to be noted.

### **11654: Web-Site Update:**

The majority of the English portion of the web site was now created. The team were now looking at the most effective way to amalgamate the 'Go Valley' Information. Councillor emails and the new .gov email designation for the Town Council was also in progress.

Councillor Daniel Williams was in the process of reviewing the Welsh portion of the web site.

**Resolved** to be noted.

### **11655: Pontardawe Emergency Plans:**

Neath Port Talbot Council had confirmed that there were numerous plans to cover many eventualities, but they were unable to provide details as they included sensitive information.

Councillor Purcell stated that during the recent Skewen Emergency, the planning was highly effective.

**Resolved** that the Clerk contact the County Borough to ensure that in the event of an incident in the area, the ward Councillors were contacted as a matter of priority to ensure that local knowledge was available to the Emergency Planning Team

**11656: School Crossing Patrol at Swansea Road, Pontardawe:**

Council agreed that the Clerk should sign the contract on behalf of Council.

**Resolved** that the Clerk will sign the contract on behalf of Council.

**11657: Planning:**

**P2021/0091:**

Councillor Thomas was not at the meeting.

Applicant's name: R Thomas, 19 Oakfield Road, Pontardawe SA8 4LD

Site Location: 19 Oakfield Road, Pontardawe SA8 4LD

Proposed Development: First Floor rear extension and ground floor rear extension, works including the demolition of an existing outbuilding.

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

**P2021/0184:**

Applicant's name – Mr Handford, Land Adjacent to 103 Brecon Road, Pontardawe, Swansea

Site Location: Land Adjacent to 103 Brecon Road, Pontardawe, Swansea Proposed Development – Details pursuant to condition 2(contaminated land verification report) of Planning application P2019/5402 approved on the 21.11.19.

**Resolved** Council did not feel they had the experience to review this report however they wished the Neath Port Talbot Planning Officers to be mindful of risk.

**11658: Financial Regulations:**

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no recommended alterations to the Financial Regulations since they were reviewed previously.

The Financial Risk Assessment was a live document which was continually reviewed and updated to cover risks identified.

Usually, Grant requests for the 2021/22 Fiscal year would be reviewed at this time however many groups were not yet meeting due to Covid Restrictions and therefore there had been few requests.

A request had been made by Harrys Fund for the Town Council to support a 'Yarn Bombing' Event in Pontardawe and Alltwen in September.

**Resolved** that the Financial Regulations will be agreed by Council.

The Financial Risk Assessment will be forwarded to Councillors for review. The Clerk will arrange for any requests for alteration to be included. If no requests are received within a two-week period the document will be considered agreed by Council.

Grant applications will continue to be available and will be reviewed by Council later in the year.

The Town Council will support in principle the Harrys fund Yarn Bombing Event and will request additional details.

**11659: One Voice Wales Area Committee:**

Councillor Ford was not at the meeting and therefore an update was unavailable.

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11660: Account Schedule 378:**

**Resolved** that Account Schedule 378 totalling £13476.28 together with bank reconciliation, should be accepted by Council in line with Standing Orders.

**11661: Welsh Government Consultation – Litter and Fly Tipping prevention:**

Councillors were provided with the link to the Consultation prior to the meeting.

**Resolved** that Councillors will complete the consultation individually and also a link will be added to the Pontardawe Town Council social media page.

**11662: Urgent Road Safety Matters:**

The Clerk confirmed that the consultation on the creation of a permanent disabled bay in Herbert Street had recently concluded. The Order also included proposals for parking by residents at Herbert Street. (Councillors Richards and Jones would liaise re the latter)

**Resolved** to be noted.

**11663: Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of Council will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 by virtual platform commencing at 6.45pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....