# **Policy and Resources Committee held on the 2nd June 2025 by virtual platform Zoom commencing at 6.30pm**

# **Present:** Councillor Jill Lord (presiding), Linet Purcell, D Brain and J Nemeth

# **Apologies**: None

# **Open discussion on a proposed Emergency Plan for Pontardawe Town Council**

Background:

Following extensive and delayed power outage following Storm Darragh in December 2024, Council felt that a local Emergency resilience plan was required to ensure that Community Assets such as the Community Halls could be utilised to support the community during an emergency situation.

The Committee was provided with responses to questions raised by the Town Council from the Neath Port Talbot Emergency Planning team and a draft Emergency Plan template for discussion.

Emergency Plan notes based on draft Emergency Plan provided:

Additions and alterations suggested to the draft plan have been included in the Draft Plan V2

Action required prior to the adoption of the plan

* Council should agree on a budget that could be called on to purchase emergency supplies in the event the plan is instigated – These funds could be reimbursed on presentation of receipts
* Publicise utility company priority lists and encourage residents to apply (to be carried out before the Winter)
* Plan should be prioritised during the Summer months as the Town Council’s response to the Storm Darragh emergency so that it is in place prior to the Autumn 2025
* Council to decide on some general contingency rules for the instigation of the plan and actions to be taken in the event of issues

Appendices to the plan:

* Lists of volunteers with the requisite skills and qualifications i.e. DRB checked for childcare etc (Held on the Members area of the Pontardawe Town Council website)
* Emergency contact list would be needed with lists of people with skills, equipment that would be available for emergencies i.e. 4 wheel drive vehicles, willingness to lend generators etc (Held on the Members area of the Pontardawe Town Council website)
* List of vulnerable people required. Contact Social Services NPT, Call to community also liaise with Kirsty (Local Area Co-Ordinator) – List of vulnerable people to be kept on the members area of the website together with the final Resilience plan

Additional Actions required:

* Set up a dedicated WhatsApp group for communication (Would be available provided there is internet of 4G coverage) – This would be the Emergency planning group
* Contact Neath Port Talbot Council to ensure that in future their emergency personnel are contactable and able to instigate their plans 24/7 (currently this is only within business hours)
* Pontardawe Town Council Insurance (Employee and Public liability held) –Insurance company should be advised following creation of plan, to ensure that there would be no insurance issues
* Emergency box for each hall with disposable plates/cups and crockery / foil blankets/ USB Plugs, power banks and phone chargers, cards and games first aid kits, high vi vests, area street maps and signs, and registration docs for completion
* All halls would require Emergency key cabinets
* Publicity will be key (social media, community mag etc)

# **The Committee wishes Council to ratify proposals for the Emergency plan**