

Minutes of Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council

Chairs Committee Meeting

3pm Wednesday 31st March 2021

Dydd Mercher 31 Mawrth 2021

This meeting was held via video conference under the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) 2020

Present: Cllrs Michael Theodoulou (Chair), Karen Morris, David Owens, Cllr Linda Edwards

Non-members present: Cllr Les George; Sgt Gemma Davies (neighbourhood policing)

Officers: Huw Thomas (Clerk/RFO), Louise Robinson (CDO)

Started 15.00 end 16.20

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllrs Peter Freeman and Robert John had sent apologies.

2. To discuss recent community concerns of large number of young people gathering at the harbour and the recent fire at the sand dunes.

Cllr Theodoulou outlined the concerns of members of the public following last nights incidents at the harbour, It was noted that the Town Council should do everything it offer help and support to the police on behalf of the community.

Sergeant Davies gave an update on the current situation and work of the police regarding these issues.

The ASB MAVIS is still in place from last summer for Burry port and won't be closed until the matter is fully resolved.

Her team have carried out 2 meet the street initiatives and spoken to residents of Chandlers yard.

The crime prevention officer and harbour master have carried out an environment survey which will be completed within the next two weeks.

Patrols have been increased and additional officers have been provided for the Easter period.

Last weekend over 100 bottles were seized to prevent underage drinking (please see attached document).

Last night many youths had gathered to drink alcohol which had got out of hand with some of the young people and resulted in a fire loosing control on the dunes and a young person that had entered the water needed hospitalisation.

A section 34 dispersal notice has been put in place for the next 48hrs where police have the power to move any groups on in the area and remove under 16-year-olds to a safe place. If needed this can be reinstated for a further 48 hrs.

The arson reduction team have been at the harbour this afternoon and a report is expected of their findings.

Gemma stressed that with large number of young people it is difficult with a small number of police.

It has been noted that by dispersing groups only moves the problem on to another area.

British transport police have been asked to monitor groups of young people travelling on the train to the area.

When asked what we can do to help, a Public Spaces Protection Order could be sanctioned by the County Council supported by the Town Council.

This could have clauses such as no alcohol which would give the police the power to take action on breaches.

Cllr George stated that he had been advised that a large group of over 200 young people were planning on coming to the area on Saturday, Gemma asked if he can find out the details of this meet so that they can be present.

Gemma noted that the young people last night were local to Burry Port and Llanelli and many had been dropped off by parents. The police aim to advise parents of the seriousness of the situation that they are dropping their children at.

Cllr Morris asked if the CCTV at stations could be monitored to detect large groups before they get here. Gemma confirmed that this is being done but any on the ground information will speed the process of police getting to them.

Cllr Owens addressed his concerns that people are coming to stay from England which is not allowed. Gemma confirmed that the local holiday let and caravan let managers are contacting them if anyone is booking from England and that is currently not the case.

It was discussed that the reason they are coming to Burry Port is the appeal of the area, the isolated beach/dunes area and the ease of accessibility. However, some of the young people are littering, bringing in and buying alcohol under age to drink on the beach.

The ongoing issues at the Memorial Park were discussed and Gemma reassured members that she has the data that shows that this issue has improved since the police are patrolling the park at least once every day.

It was noted that the town council can provide a voice for the community and must communicate to the community what we are doing and how we are working with the police to reassure them that the issues are being dealt with.

Gemma would appreciate any information that members may acquire through her or by contacting 101.

Cllr Mike Theodoulou thanked Gemma for attending the meeting and the work that her and her team are doing.

<https://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/news/dyfed-powys/news/2021/march-2021/groups-of-up-to-100-teens-moved-from-coastal-path-on-as-police-deal-with-antisocial-behaviour/>