

**Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council**

**Ordinary Meeting**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
**Dydd Mercher 17<sup>fed</sup> Chwefror 2021**

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

**Present: Councillor Lisa Mitchell (Mayor)**

**Councillors Linda Edwards, Peter Freeman, Les George, Robert John, John Hedley Jones, Karen Morris, Andrew Phillips, Hugh Shepardson, Michael Theodoulou, Moira Thomas, Karen Trimble, Bob Walpole and Mary Wenman**

**In attendance: Huw Thomas (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer), Shân Loudon (Deputy Clerk), Paul Mann (Cemetery and Facilities Superintendent) Louise Robinson (Community Development Officer) and Ed Davies (Admin Assistant)**

**Absent: Councillors Rachel Evans and Stephen James**

**Via videoconference 7.05pm – pm**

**139. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs David Owens.

**140. To receive members' declarations of interest in respect of the business to be transacted**

Cllr Les George declared an interest in any item related to the harbour.

Cllrs Peter Freeman and Michael Theodoulou declared an interest in agenda item 95

**141. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

Cllr Robert John **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Linda Edwards that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. **RESOLVED**.

Cllrs Les George, Lisa Mitchell and Bob Walpole abstained from voting as they were not present at the meeting.

**142. To consider the budget monitoring report**

As previously agreed, the Clerk provided members with a high level report and invited members to ask any questions regarding the detail should they require it. He stated that the expected percentage position for each budget for this point in the year was 75%.

The Facilities and Assets budget stood at 79%, although this was artificially inflated by the payment for the works to the pitch for Pembrey AFC which would eventually be covered by Section 106 money.

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The Finance, Governance and Personnel budget stood at 79% also, which had been caused by the employment structure they were paying for being different to the one they had budgeted for.

The Regeneration and Community Engagement budget stood at 61% as the Council had done less than they had budgeted for in relation to events.

The overall budget stood at 71% which put it marginally under budget.

Cllr Linda Edwards **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr John Hedley Jones that the report be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

**143. To consider the following planning applications, see attached list.**

The Planning Sub-Committee had discussed the listed applications and made the following recommendations:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Site Address</u>	<u>Description of Application</u>
PL/01147	22/01/2021	Pembrey Burrows & Saltings Local Nature Reserve, Pembrey, SA16 0EJ	Approval of details reserved by a condition, Discharge of Condition 3 (provide Written Scheme of Investigation (Archaeology) on S/40799, approved 24/09/2020
As the application has recently received approval, the Committee raised no objection.			
PL/01126	19/01/2021	14 Bryn Illtyd, Burry Port, SA16 0LB	Full planning permission: Right hand side 2-storey extension replacing an existing slightly smaller single-storey extension
The Committee raised no objection.			
PL/01252	03/02/2021	79 Stepney Road, Burry Port, SA16 0BP	Proposed double storey side extension & single storey rear extension to existing dwelling
The Committee raised no objection.			
PL/01158	03/02/2021	Park Restaurant and Visitor Centre, Pembrey Country Park, Factory Road, Pembrey, Burry Port, SA16 0EJ	Low level play equipment, extension to patio area and construction of pathway to allow accessibility for all from the car parking areas
The Committee raised no objection.			
PL/01233	09/02/2021	Plot Adjacent to Burry Villa, Burry Port, SA16 0NH	Non Material Amendment on S/26636. Remove conditions relate to Code for Sustainable Homes as the Code for Sustainable Homes is no longer applicable
The Committee raised no objection.			
PL/01140	09/02/2021	Pembrey Country Park (Camping Site), Pembrey, Llanelli, SA16 0EJ	Pembrey Country Park campsite has 320 pitches where caravans, tents and motorhomes pitch. There are electric, non-electric and fully serviced pitches it is proposed to put 17 removable glamping pods within a dedicated field on the campsite

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The Committee raised no objection.

In relation to PL/01147 members noted that the application had already been approved.

In relation to PL/01126 – Cllr Moira Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Bob Walpole for the recommendation to be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

In relation to PL/01252 – Cllr Moira Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Mary Wenman for the recommendation to be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

In relation to PL/01158 – Cllr Moira Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Mary Wenman for the recommendation to be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

In relation to PL/01233 – Cllr Moira Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr John Hedley Jones for the recommendation to be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

In relation to PL/01140 – Cllr Moira Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr John Hedley Jones for the recommendation to be accepted. **RESOLVED**.

Members discussed that they would benefit from knowing the results of the planning applications that they gave a recommendation for and the ways of finding out that information. If a suitable mechanism could be found members asked that this be reported by the sub-Committee to the Ordinary Meeting.

**144. To receive the County Councillor’s report.**

Cllr Hugh Shepardson gave his report for the Pembrey ward. There would be further investment in Pembrey Country Park in the form of a low level play area adjacent to the restaurant, partly funded by Section 106 money. He also informed members of the previously mentioned planning application for glamping pods and gave more detail. He stated that the intention of the manager was to purchase 2 pods initially to test the demand and popularity because of the investment costs involved. If they proved successful, more would be purchased up to the maximum of 17 in the planning application.

He confirmed that the pods would be made available to let rather than purchase.

His final update related to the 100 house development in Pembrey which had been repeatedly turned down over many years, which was currently being appealed by the developer. Following legal advice with expertise in this area the County Council would focus its defence on their concerns around highways and access as these had the highest chance for success.

The Clerk/RFO informed members that he had been in communication with County Cllr John James who had sent a letter to him which had had permission to read aloud to members. In it he requested that the Town Council, the ward representatives and the County Council worked together to tackle problems the community faced. In particular he highlighted his concerns regarding future of the grass-cutting regime.

Members welcomed the letter and noted that the Town Council was already working through its officers with the County Council to tackle changes to place-based services in the area, including the grass-cutting. Members were reminded that non-councillors could not be invited to participate in Town Council meetings other than as an observer, but that County Cllr John James

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would be welcome to contribute to the community forums, which could make use of funding streams that were not available to any of the other parties.

Members discussed their options for responding and were **AGREED** for the Clerk/RFO to prepare a response which encapsulated their comments and concerns, for the draft letter to be approved, via email by the Chairs Committee, and for all members to have sight of the final agreed version prior to its sending.

**ACTION: Clerk/RFO**

Members were advised to contact the Clerk/RFO to raise any concerns they had so that they could be considered by the appropriate committee.

**145. To receive the Mayor's report**

The Mayor thanked members and staff for their cards and kind words during her recent absence and thanked the Deputy Mayor for chairing the previous Ordinary Meeting in her place.

**146. To receive reports by elected members as Council Representatives on outside bodies**

Members heard a report of the meeting of the Larger Councils at One Voice Wales. A number of issues had been raised including defibrillators in the community and the advice would be referred to the Regeneration and Community Engagement Committee for consideration.

**Action: Deputy Clerk referral**

Discussions had taken place regarding the new local government act which had recently been signed into law and the Clerk/RFO was asked to compile the information and advice from One Voice Wales for consideration by the Chairs Committee for dissemination to each Committee in turn.

**Action: Clerk/RFO**

There had also been an update regarding the requirements on Town Councils by the Land Registry for registering all of the land in their ownership.

The Carmarthenshire Area Committee of One Voice Wales had also met where it was apparent the Town and Community Councils were providing a number of additional services for their communities.

Members also heard that progress was being made in persuading the Welsh Government to make resources available for Town and Community Councils to respond to the aftermath of Covid-19 via a three year funding agreement with One Voice Wales. There would also be resources available to help them to tackle their responsibilities in relation to the Environmental Act.

**147. Consideration of reverting to Teams for Council meetings, for a month's trial.**

Members discussed whether or not it would be a worthwhile trial as many felt that problems existed across each platform available for video conferencing.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou proposed that the recommendation of the Chairs Committee be accepted, but no one seconded the motion and so it failed.

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