

Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 20th March 2019

Present: Councillor Robert John (Mayor)

Councillors Richard Adler, Linda Edwards, Pam Every, Amanda Fox, Peter Freeman, John James, John Hedley Jones, Karen Francis-Morris, David Owens, Hugh Shepardson, Michael Theodoulou, Moira Thomas, Bob Walpole and Mary Wenman

In attendance: Alan Howells (Responsible Finance Officer), Shan Loudon (Temporary Assistant Town Clerk) and Kevin Williams (Technical Services Officer)

Minute taker: Ed Davies (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Cllr Stephen James

(Memorial Hall 7.10pm – 7.40pm)

163. Opening Prayer

A prayer was read by the Rev. Nicholas Jones.

164. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Lisa Mitchell and Shirley Matthews.

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

No new declarations of interest were made.

166. To consider Police Business if any

No police were in attendance and it was noted that they are only able to attend if duties permit.

167. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th February 2019

No corrections had been sent in or requested and it was therefore **AGREED** that the minutes were an accurate account of the meeting.

Action: Admin Assist

168. To receive a verbal update from the Chairs Committee

Members were informed that the Chairs Committee had met and that the details of the meeting would be discussed in camera later in the meeting.

169. To consider the budget monitoring report

The RFO informed members that he had not produced a report for the meeting as he had been focussing on finalising the annual return as instructed. He confirmed that he was arranging a meeting with the internal auditor to discuss the return in the coming weeks.

170. Consideration of planned car park charges at local parks by Carmarthenshire County Council

Members heard how the notice affected two parking areas in Pembrey and Burry Port, namely Shoreline (Pembrey) and Woodlands aka Tywyn Bach (Burry Port). A discussion took place where members raised concerns at the potential negative effects of raising car parking charges at these areas on cyclists, walkers and the elderly. It was felt that it would reduce access to exercise and impact upon the wellbeing of the community. It was highlighted that neither parking area was of a sufficiently well kept standard to justify charging for use. Concern was raised that some users, such as dog walkers, may need to use the parking areas twice a day and therefore be charged more, there were also concerns that there was no clarification on whether the parking areas would be included in existing parking permits that the Council charged for or otherwise.

Members noted that this was a different issue to the parking restrictions placed on areas outside of Pembrey Country Park.

Cllr Bob Walpole **PROPOSED** that the Council write a letter expressing these concerns and submit it to the consultation, seconded by Cllr Mary Wenman.

In the ensuing vote 14 members voted in favour with 0 against and 1 abstention. It was therefore **RESOLVED** for a letter to be sent to the County Council, outlining the Town Council's position.

The absenter requested it be noted that their vote was cast as such, in recognition that they sit on a committee which may form part of the review process of this planned action from the County Council.

Action: Temp Assist Town Clerk

171. Consideration of new committee structure

Members heard how the proposed new structure, which did not affect the four main standing Committees, only Sub-Committees, had been discussed with each standing Committee in advance of this meeting to seek approval. In light of the challenges the Council faced in the future, the proposal was designed to reduce the workload the current structure generated for office staff and Councillors by reducing the number of Sub-Committees. The following Sub-Committees were to be retained and operate as at present:

Burial Sub-Committee
Planning Sub-Committee

The following Sub-Committees would be disbanded, with their work assumed by their parent standing Committee:

Bowls Club Sub-Committee (Facilities and Assets Committee)
Parks and Flowers Sub-Committee (Facilities and Assets Committee)

The following Sub-Committees would be amalgamated into one Sub-Committee:

Events Sub-Committee
 Public Engagement and Communication Sub-Committee
 Wellbeing of Future Generations Sub-Committee

Many Councillors spoke welcoming the restructure with some stating they had had reservations about the volume of work from the beginning, while others recognised the duty of care they as members had for the staff.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou **PROPOSED** that the re-structure as outlined above be brought into effect, seconded by Cllr Mary Wenman.

In the ensuing vote 15 members voted in favour with 0 against and 0 abstentions. It was therefore **RESOLVED** for the Council to re-structure its Sub-Committees as outlined above.

ACTION: Temp Assist Town Clerk

172. To consider the following planning applications.

Members heard that the Planning Sub-Committee had met on 19th March to discuss the following applications.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Description of Application</u>
S/38493	M Jones	Removal of condition 10 on S/35195 (carriageway re-surfacing of nearby road junction) on land to the front of 21, Ar y Bryn, Pembrey, Llanelli SA16 0AX
S/38523	Nigel Phillips	Proposed alterations to& extensions to provide entrance lobby to dwelling, link to garage, internal remodelling of existing dwelling plus replacement boundary walls at Harbour House, the Harbour, Burry Port. SA16 0ER
S/38465	Mr. Hywel Harries	Provide additional maintenance and access for new pumping station to serve housing approved under application s/36380 on land at Garreglwyd, Pembrey, Burry Port. SA16 0UH. The site will include a pumping station enclosure 4x11m with a security fence surround. The proposal involves removing some ecological habitat which in turn will be located in another area of the site as indicated on our drawings. The new section of ecological habitat created will compensate for the loss where the pumping station is proposed
S/38468	Mr. Jones, 77 Gwscwm Rd, Burry Port SA16 0YP	Double Storey Side Extension
S/38488	Mr. K Green	Retention of conversion of former agricultural barn to a residential annexe and holiday-let accommodation, with alterations to roof to form first floor accommodation at land part of Cenrhos, y Graig, Burry Port, SA16 0DF.

The Sub-Committee made the following recommendations:

S/38493 – recommendation for refusal as the Sub-Committee viewed re-surfacing of the road to be essential for any development to take place due to the current state of repair.

Cllrs Karen Francis Morris and David Owens declared an interest in this application.

S/38523 – recommendation to approve.

S/38465 – recommendation to approve.

S/38468 – recommendation to approve.

S/38488 – recommendation to approve.

There were no further comments made and the Council noted the decisions of the Sub-Committee

Action: Technical Services Officer

173. To receive any County Councillors' reports

Cllr Hugh Shepardson stated that he had no update to give.

Cllr John James gave a report on behalf of himself and Cllr Amanda Fox as follows. They had attended a meeting with representatives from Transport for Wales on their proposals, stating that they intended to install a ticket machine and CCTV on the platforms at Pembrey and Burry Port Station. They would also be working in partnership with the County Council to repair the footbridges and the road bridge to improve its load bearing capacity.

He continued that landscaping works in the Millennium Coastal Park to the “hill” at Tywyn Bach were coming to an end, noting that the works had been essential to maintain the coastline. In response to a query regarding the eroding coastline to the west of the “hill” he confirmed that they had been fighting to make sure that maintenance works continue as, in relation to coastal defences it was understood that small amounts of work done often could help prevent larger expensive works at a later date.

174. To receive the Mayor's report.

The Mayor stated he had had a busy few weeks and had attended the following events:

- Probus annual dinner
- Rotary Club dinner
- A large number of local organisations charity coffee mornings
- Cawl Cennin – he expressed his thanks to the chef Cllr John Hedley Jones and to all the members who had assisted with the event thanking Cllrs Lisa Mitchell, Shirley Matthews and Linda Edwards especially.

Cllr John James wished it to be recorded that he had attended a number of public events recently where the Mayor and his consort had also attended and wished to praise the Mayor's consort and thank her for all of her work and involvement as she had engaged really well with the public.

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

Cllr Michael Theodoulou informed members that the Carmarthenshire Councils section of One Voice Wales would next be meeting in Burry Port Memorial Hall on 2nd April from 7pm onwards. He added that all members were welcome to attend.

Cllr Robert John stated that due to personal issues he would unfortunately need to reduce the number of activities he undertook, including resigning from his duties on the Board of Governors of Burry Port Primary School. He would keep members notified of his situation as needs be.

176. To note the following minutes for information:

Date	Meeting
Wednesday 6 th February 2019	Facilities and Assets Committee
Monday 11 th February 2019	Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee
Wednesday 13 th February 2019	DRAFT Regeneration and Wellbeing Committee
<i>Monday 11th February 2019</i>	<i>Events Sub Committee – to follow</i>
Wednesday 27 th February 2019	Facilities and Assets Special meeting
<i>Thursday 28th February 2019</i>	<i>Public Engagement and Communication/Wellbeing of Future Generations Sub Committee – to follow</i>
<i>Thursday 7th March 2019</i>	<i>Regeneration and Wellbeing Special meeting – to follow</i>

All of the minutes were noted.

177. To consider communications received

No additional communications had been received that had not already been forwarded to members and actioned.

178. In camera discussions

Ed Davies, Kevin Williams, Alan Howells and Cllr Amanda Fox left the meeting 7.40pm

In camera - That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

a) To confirm the confidential minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th February 2019 and the confidential minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th February 2019 (**copies enclosed**).

b) Update on staffing issues.

c) To note the following confidential minutes (**copies enclosed**):

Date	Meeting
Wednesday 6 th February 2019	Facilities and Assets Committee
Monday 11 th February 2019	Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee
Wednesday 13 th February 2019	Regeneration and Wellbeing Committee