

Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council

Regeneration and Community Engagement Committee Special Meeting

Wednesday 8th September 2021

Dydd Mercher 8^{fed} Medi 2021

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

Present: Councillors Peter Freeman, Robert John, Karen Morris, Michael Theodoulou (Chair), Sharon Thomas and Karen Trimble.

In attendance: Huw Thomas (Town Clerk and RFO), Shân Loudon (Deputy Town Clerk), Louise Robinson (Community Development Officer), Ed Davies (Administrative Assistant-Minute Taker)

Apologies: Cllrs Les George, Moira Thomas, Bob Walpole and Mary Wenman

Absent: Cllr Stephen James and Lisa Mitchell

Via Zoom 6.35pm to 7.50pm

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Les George, Moira Thomas, Bob Walpole and Mary Wenman.

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

None were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Regeneration and Community Engagement Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14th July and Special meeting held on 30th July 2021.

Cllr Karen Morris **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Peter Freeman that the minutes of the 14th July were an accurate record of the meeting. **RESOLVED**.

Cllr Sharon Thomas **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris that the minutes of the 30th July were an accurate record of the meeting. **RESOLVED**.

Cllr Robert John abstained in the above vote as he was not present at the meeting.

4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes.

No arising matters.

5. Consideration of the Committee's budget monitoring report.

Members noted the report accepted the explanation of the variances. The Clerk/RFO highlighted that in future he would be clarifying in his report the difference between income versus expenditure timing variances and others.

Members noted that in response to an email question the Community Support Expenditure was almost entirely offset by the income labelled as Resilience Fund in the budget.

6. To consider the schedule of accounts.

No further questions raised.

7. Consideration of applications received for financial donations.

Pembrey AFC

Members considered the application for £2000 for the purchase of a new ride on mower.

Members were keen to support but noted that the sum requested would use up a large amount of the total budget for this grant.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris to award the club £1500 towards the purchase. **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: Clerk/RFO

Pembrey and Burry Port Cycle Club

Members considered the application for £1500 to purchase replacement equipment to help the club restart following the pandemic, including the purchase of two loan bikes for those looking to try out the sport.

Members noted again that if the full amount was awarded it would use up a significant amount of the available fund.

Cllr Karen Morris **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Sharon Thomas to award the club £750 towards their purchases. **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: Clerk/RFO

8. Update on grants applied for/received.

Relating to the Places for Nature grant the CDO had submitted for Maes y Capel play area, she had responded to some queries from the funding body and was awaiting their response.

The CDO informed members that having submitted the expression of interest for the grant for the Bowls Facility, they had been successful and were invited to submit the next stage. She had prepared this work already and requested Committee permission to submit to the next round.

Cllr Peter Freeman **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris that the permission be given. **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: CDO

The CDO stated that she would be arranging a Zoom meeting to present to members the new website. She invited members to inform her of any news articles they wished to be included on the new website, with the Clerk/RFO to check them for political bias and legality.

Members discussed the provision of a bilingual materials for the website. It was noted the difficulties in producing translated materials in a timely manner on all occasions.

Members **AGREED** to request that staff prepare a paper outlining the options and costs for providing the website and more council services in Cymraeg and English.

ACTION: CDO

Members **AGREED** that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Men's Shed team for their work in the Amelia Earhart garden.

ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk

Members noted that the Youth Theatre was holding an additional matinee performance on the 30th October at 2pm. All were invited to attend or help out at either performance.

The CDO confirmed that the income generated by attendance at the Youth Theatre practices was being used to offset the costs of props and costumes. Ticket sales would be used to offset any equipment costs purchased for the performance and left as a legacy to the Memorial Hall.

Members noted these variances for consideration during future budget reports.

Members considered the CDO request to start a Teddy Tywyn says campaign to highlight messages and issues for local schools/children. Members **AGREED** unanimously for her to proceed.

ACTION: CDO

Members considered a request from the CDO to use the Community Support budget to provide free training for some individuals in the community such as first aid. It was highlighted that a number of organisations provide free training opportunities like this already and that the budget could be better utilised in a different way.

Members considered a request to support the Community Lighthouse books bring and borrow scheme, by providing a space in a Council facility to run the service. It was a voluntary effort which the CDO highlighted could be housed in the community hub if that was approved.

Members discussed possible costs to the Council.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris that provided the costs were no more than £100, the scheme could use the suggested space, with a review to take place in January. **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: CDO

Members noted the proposed plans for the Fairtrade day.

Cllr Karen Morris **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Sharon Thomas that the Fairtrade day proceed as set out by the CDO. **RESOLVED**.

It was requested that the CDO arrange for a display of the non-polystyrene food trays and cups to be made at the event.

ACTION: CDO

Members noted the CDO's plans to reinstate a Remembrance event in Pembrey and suggested she contact Bethel Chapel as a possible venue in lieu of Pembrey Memorial Hall due to the ongoing works to the roof and heating system.

ACTION: CDO

Members considered a request from the CDO to pursue options in purchasing a marquee to enable the event to run in all weathers and seasons. Members noted the potential benefits in securing this asset for other council events and potential for hire. She suggested that she could apply for an Awards for All grant from the Lottery Fund to cover the costs of purchasing one, and if that was unsuccessful the options for purchasing one outright within the Committee budget would be presented to members.

In response to a query the CDO stated that once the works to the Burry Port Memorial Hall were complete, a marquee could be stored in the new storage area at the rear of the hall.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris that authorisation be given to apply for the Awards for All grant to purchase a high specification marquee. If unsuccessful the CDO is to present the options for funding within the Committee budget at a lower specification for a decision on whether or not to proceed. **RESOLVED.**

ACTION: CDO

9. Update on the Asbestos found on Burry Port beach.

Members noted that there had been personal correspondence between the Councillors pursuing this issue and the County Officer responsible.

10. Consideration of cleaning of footbridges.

Members noted the request and expressed concern at exposing the Council to liability in the event of an accident if it were to begin cleaning the footbridge owned by Network Rail.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Karen Morris that a letter be sent to Network Rail asking them to improve the standards of cleaning they set. **RESOLVED.**

ACTION: Deputy Town Clerk

11. Consideration of implementation of parking fees in beauty spots surrounding the local area.

Members noted the public complaints about the introduction of parking fees in some of the car parks in the area. It was also noted that the land was not owned by the Town Council, nor was the parking charge introduced by it.

12. Any referred matters.

No referred matters.

13. Any urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.

None raised.

Meeting ended 7.50pm