

**Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council**

**Regeneration and Community Engagement Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**Dydd Mercher 11<sup>fed</sup> Tachwedd 2020**

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

**Present: Councillors Michael Theodoulou (Chair), Peter Freeman (arr. 10.05am, left 10.54am), Les George, Robert John, Lisa Mitchell, Karen Morris, David Owens, Moira Thomas, Karen Trimble (arr. 11.05am) Mary Wenman and Bob Walpole.**

**Absent: Councillors Rachel Evans,**

**In attendance: Huw Thomas (Town Clerk and RFO), Louise Robinson (Community Development Officer), Kevin Williams (Projects Manager), Ed Davies (Administrative Assistant-Minute Taker)**

**Via Microsoft Teams 10am to 12.54pm**

**1. To receive apologies for absence.**

None had been received.

**2. 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 Burry Port Harbour.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the Regeneration and Community Engagement Committee meetings held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020.**

Cllr Mary Wenman **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Moira Thomas that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. **RESOLVED**.

Cllr David Owens abstained from voting as he was not present.

**4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes.**

Members requested an update on progress on the newsletter, and the CDO updated them to say she would contact the working group once the next draft was ready.

In response to a query the Clerk/RFO confirmed that he had not yet received a response from the County Regeneration team to arrange a meeting, and he would follow up on that request.

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

Cllr Peter Freeman arrived at 10.05am

Members noted the following highlights made by the Clerk/RFO during the September report:

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Income

The £7000 income was for the digital community project.

Expenditure

A grant from £1500 had been given out to Pembrey AFC as instructed by this Committee.

The Blue Plaque dedicated to Francis Randall had been purchased.

The community support expenditure was for Fruity Friday.

In closing the Clerk/RFO highlighted that although the budget was currently under spent, however the Christmas lighting had yet to be paid for which would account for a significant part of this Committee's budget.

**6. Consideration of the 2021/22 budget.**

Members went through the main headings to begin considering the budget setting for 2021/22.

Income

Members noted that they should not set a target for community events income as they had no way of knowing if any would be possible. It was also noted that they could not set a target for grants income as they too were unknown.

Expenditure

Marketing – members believed they should reduce the budget to £500 as they could not expect to be marketing if they could not hold events.

Staff costs – these should remain as they were only be adjusted according to reflect increases and on the advice of the Clerk/RFO.

Training and conferences– retain a small budget of £500 as this would allow members participation in online courses.

Christmas lighting– to remain the same as it was tied to a contract.

Floral displays– also to stay as per the original budget.

Community grants and donations – members discussed introducing a new element to this heading, whereby a certain amount was open to a “participatory budgeting process” whereby the public could vote to award financial support for community organisations who submitted projects for shortlisting by the Council. Members noted that this would be open to application from the Community Forums too.

Members were agreed in principle to the idea, and discussed whether it should be an additional pot of money or be drawn from the existing budget.

Cllr David Owens **PROPOSED**, seconded by Cllr Robert John for the £10,000 budget for community grants to be retained and an additional line for £5000 to be included for a public participatory award. **RESOLVED**.

Cllrs Karen Morris and Mary Wenman abstained from voting.

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