

**MINUTES OF THE PONTARDDULAI TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE  
6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr K Griffiths (Mayor)	Cllr A Wilson
Cllr H. Roberts	Cllr J. Harris
Cllr R. Harris	Cllr J. Beynon
Cllr K. Williams	Cllr J. Johnstone
Cllr P Downing	Cllr S. Lloyd-Janes
Cllr W. Jones	

Prior to the start of the meeting the Mayor announced that he had given permission to the Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee to add some items to the report he intended to give later on in the meeting.

Fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of business members of the public were invited to ask questions.

Mr A. Capp asked if the council is fully backing and taking ownership of the public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 given that there was only one representative from the council present at the Working Group meeting held earlier in the week. The Mayor confirmed that the public meeting has been called by and will be chaired by a representative of the Town Council. The Rugby Club has been booked.

**Meeting is being recorded for the purpose of recording the minutes and will be deleted once agreed.**

**183. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr C. Evans, Cllr E. Horne, Cllr J. Davies

**184. To receive declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest from Members in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct**

No declarations were received.

**To receive Declarations of Acceptance of Office from newly co-opted Councillors**

Declaration of Acceptance was received from Cllr S. Lloyd-Janes

**185. To sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 (copy attached).**

The minutes were **NOT ACCEPTED** as the following needed to be amended:

Minute No 168 to be removed from the minutes.

Minute No 170 to be split into 170 (a) and 170 (b)

Minute No 172 amend "to apply for planning", delete "if required".

Minute No 175 Delete brackets, create Min No 175(a)

**186. Special Events Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023\_v2:**

- **To receive and consider the minutes (copy attached)**
- Cllr J. Harris requested a financial report for the Special Events Committee.
- Cllr J. Harris to speak to Dylan Jenkins Pontarddulais Comprehensive to contact the Clerk.
- Clerk to obtain planning permission for memorial plaque. Tree and Gubb will provide a price. Position of plaque to be established. Planning permission is required.
- Policy and Resources to consider cost for a new jChristmas tree in the Dulais Square

**187. Estates & Development Committee meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023\_V2:**

- Minutes of the above meeting were received and considered.
- 24-hour turnaround of minutes of meetings will be discussed at the next Policy and Resources committee.
- Loop system in Institute to be considered as a matter of priority. Clerk to obtain quotes.
- Research possibility of obtaining grant funding to support expenditure for various projects.

**188. Policy & Resources Committee meeting held meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023\_V2**

- Minutes were received and considered.
- The job description for the Cleaner was **APPROVED**.
- Council **APPROVED** the purchase of Flick training software.
- The Hire of Hall Policy was **APPROVED**.
- The use of an external facilitator to support the council long-term vision and values planning workshop(s) to be **REFERRED** back to Policy and Resources.

**King's Coronation.**

- Item included here for discussion as reported at the start of this meeting – commemorative mugs for children to celebrate the King's Coronation. A motion to purchase mugs was proposed, seconded and **APPROVED**. IT brought to Policy and Resources, but should be taken back to Estates for further discussion.

**189. To receive an update on defibrillators.**

Cllr J. Harris reported that defibrillator training will be delivered on 29<sup>th</sup> April at St John's.

There are no defibrillators along Pentre Rd. Consideration may need to be given to installing one.

Costs have increased but Heartbeat Trust will insure defibrillators for seven years.

Schools would also welcome defibrillators outside the premises.

Possibility of grant funding will be explored.

**190. To receive reports from County Ward Member**

Cllr Downing reported how the City & County of Swansea has raised its income, how funds are distributed between services and how this is funded by Welsh Government Grants, non-domestic rates and Council Tax.

Survey of staff at Talybont Surgery by Canolfan; the presentation has been circulated. Main points included increase in patient levels, mental health pressures and new phone system.

Online petition has been set up to try and re-establish phlebotomy services back into Pontarddulais Surgery.

Walled Garden in Hollies – wall has been condemned. Cost of replacing the wall will be met by the County Council. This is a long-term sensory project.

Cllr Griffiths reported that he had met with the police and the manager of Robert Davies Court regarding off road bikers who are riding around the estate at high speed. Gates will be installed along the alleyways to discourage this.

**191. To receive and consider any urgent matters from Town Councillors.**

It was agreed that the special motion and written notice tabled by Councillors P. Downing and A. Wilson to revoke the resolution passed at the last council meeting and which was subsequently withdrawn be noted.

It was agreed that a request to appoint an event organisation company to support aspects of the organisation of the Summer Festival in June be **REFERRED** to Special Events Committee for consideration.

**192. To answer questions from Councillors (3 working days' notice of any question having been given to the person to whom it is addressed).**

The following question was given to the two county councillors, Cllr P. Downing and Cllr K. Griffiths, to respond individually or jointly together:

- Garnswllt road flooding - can they confirm works will be carried out this year to address this issue, as the highways have been aware of the situation for a number of years and all work they have previously conducted has been to help get the water off the road rather than solving the cause by dredging or building banks to stop the flooding higher up the river What will the work look like?

Cannot confirm the work will be carried out this year.

Authorities are investigating this issue with NRW who ultimately have the responsibility for managing the flow of the river. The County Council needs to meet to discuss the issues with NRW at an agreed date.

It was **AGREED** that a letter should be written by Pontarddulais Town Council to NRW and the County Council with a copy to the Chief Executive to apply pressure to try and move this issue forward in response to a letter of complaint signed by fourteen local residents.

Cllr S L Janes, Cllr P Downing, Stuart Davies and Jonathan Wilcome to be copied into the letter.

### **193. To receive and consider reports from the Clerk to the Council.**

All chairs have been cleaned.

Soup will continue to be served to Senior Citizens group who meet on a Monday until end of April.

Photographs on the website and the Mayor's board are to be updated.

**AGREED** that a group photo should also be taken to upload onto website.

Dulais West vacancy – the closing date for calling an election is 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

The Clerk has been unable to contact the Kick Boxing club so it is assumed that they no longer wish to use the Institute.

In the meantime, a request has been received for a Tai Chi class to be run using Room 3. This will commence from Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April on a weekly basis.

Afternoon Tea on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> for Senior Citizen's to celebrate the Coronation. The Mayor will not be available as he will be attending a Garden Party at the Palace.

- Clerk to provide a costing. The Mayor will pay for it if the costing does not exceed his remaining budget.
- E-mails received were discussed.

Cllr K. Williams raised the issue that there are only three volunteers on the What'sApp group for the cinema club and that there needs to be more to cover.

The next cinema club is on the same date as the Coronation and should be moved to 13<sup>th</sup> April

### **194. To receive any announcements from the Town Mayor**

The Mayor has received an invitation to the King's Garden Party on 3<sup>rd</sup> May which he has accepted.

### **195. To receive and consider reports from representatives on outside bodies.**

None received.

### **196. To authorise and approve the expenditure for the month of March 2023.**

Clarification was sought regarding some items of expenditure which were explained.

Audit Wales – return has not yet been received.

Cllr P. Downing and Cllr A. Lewis scrutinise the report every month.

**197. To receive a monthly income report and bank reconciliation for the month of March 2023 (copy to follow).**

- Clarification was sought regarding some items of income which were explained.

**198. To receive planning applications previously circulated to all Members (Appendix A).**

Cllr S Lloyd Janes raised a query regarding a notice that has been posted on a telegraph pole in Pentrebach. This referred to an application from Macmillan Distribution for more loading bays which is a concern as this will result in more lorries travelling along the road. Cllr Lloyd Janes wanted to know when the application was received. Cllr Downing stated that applications are circulated on a weekly basis.

Agreed that this will be investigated and an answer will be provided to Cllr Lloyd-Janes.

**199. Request of Motion of Exclusion of Public and Press – S.1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 for the following item:**

**To consider the remuneration of the Clerk for hours owed. (To follow).**

Cllr Downing went through the letter from the Clerk requesting payment for extra hours worked.

The request was **AGREED**.