

# Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017

At a meeting of the Ilston Community Council held at Penmaen and Nicholaston Parish Hall on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017:

**Present:** Councillors Dr. J. Kingham, Mrs A. Elliott, J. M. H. Howells, V. M. Jones, R. Church, N Hollett and Mrs. F. Owen-John.

**In the Chair:** Councillor Dr. J. Kingham.

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Ponting, Mrs J Griffiths and Mrs C. Grove

2. **Declarations of Personal Interest**

There were none on this occasion.

Item 4. Appointment of Clerk was then dealt with as the only applicant was in attendance. Mrs Charlotte Toft of Belvedere Close, Kittle was introduced to the members and after a lengthy interview Mrs Toft retired to an anteroom. Discussion then took place. The members unanimously agreed that Mrs Toft was an excellent applicant and well qualified and had no doubt that she would make a very good clerk. The council were prepared therefore to offer her the clerkship from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018, subject to the normal 6 months probationary period. Mrs Toft was called back into the meeting and offered the position which she accepted. Mrs Toft was congratulated by the members and the clerk, who offered to act as her advisor until the end of the council year in May 2018. The council accepted his offer with grateful thanks.

3. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were read, confirmed and signed as a true record. The Chairman thanked Councillor John Howells for introducing the agenda and minutes.

4. **Matters Arising.**

On 4. Welsh Government & AONB. Watching brief be kept.

On 8(c) Accidents, Penmaen Hill – further information under report from members.

On 6. Draft letter to residents – Councillor Church to further with Clerk.

On 9a. Bus Shelter at Perriswood.- Notes, letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 and bus shelter will be replaced.

On 11a. Bin at Tor View Car Park – matters still ongoing with Councillor Richard Lewis

On 12/2a Bryn Afel to Ilston -Councillor Richard Lewis furthering matter.

5. **Reports from Members.**

Councillor Church reported on the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 with Nichola Mathews, PA to Ms Antoniazzi, MP for Gower, regarding speeding in Parkmill together with Mr J Green, Highways Department. Councillor Church reported that signs are inadequate and reinstatement of speed indicators at Parkmill needed to be looked at. Mr Green undertook to carry out a survey for a Speed Indicator Sign (SID) at the Gower Inn and to apply for more funding for average speed camera indicator for Penmaen

to Parkmill and chevrons on the south side on the bend on Penmaen Hill.

6. **Planning Applications.**

The following applications had been received:-

a) Application No. 2017/2420/FUL

Location: Field adjacent to Maes Y Haf Parkmill.

Proposal: Siting of upto 25 touring caravans/campers on 28/06 to 01/07/18, 27/07/ to 28/07/2018 and 06/09 to 10/09/2018

Councillors R. Church and V. Jones declared an interest and took no part in this application.

After discussion Council agreed not to raise an objection.

7. **Financial Statement.**

**Noted** only transaction since the last meeting was payment of fees to the Clerk of £175 in the quarter to 31/12/17 (£140 fee, £35 tax)

Balances: £3321.89 Deposit account  
£4409.73 Current account

8. **Budget and Precepts for 2018/19.**

The Budget was reviewed and after deliberation was approved to the sum of £5535.00.

The precept was set at £12 i.e. 323 Band D equivalent properties amounting to £3876.00

8.a **Budgets and Precepts in Detail**

	<b>Expected Expenditure</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>	<b>2018/2018</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Insurance	167	170
	Clerical	400 (936)*	400
	Clerks Salary	700	1000
	Petty Cash	140	140
	Rent – Parish Hall	180	180
	Computer and Printer		500
	Tourism Swansea Bay Membership	75	80
	Friends of Pennard Library	100	100
	Swansea County Council Funding – Gower Sunday Bus	1100	1100
	Audit Fees	250	250
	Lifeguards at Three Cliffs	1000	1000
	Elections	(1500)**	200
	J Rulter Hedge Cutting	10	15
	Possible donations to local charities etc	400	500
	Gower 1 <sup>st</sup> Responders	1000	1000
Expenditure To date		5722	5535

- \* Increases to Clerk wages and clerical computerisation
- \*\*Money put aside in case of an election – not spent

Precept 2017/2018 –£3349.50  
 (319 Band D equivalent properties @ £10.50)

A/C Balances 6/12/17  
 Deposit - £3321.89  
 Current - £4409.73 (3 precept £1116.50  
 Dec 17)

Precept 2018/19

Tax base calculated as 323 Band D equivalent properties, if precept remains the same, precept would be 323 Band D x £10.50 = £3391.50

However, major changes in administration (computerisation) will cause increases and a modest increase of £1.50, taking precept to £12 was recommended and approved (323 Band D equivalent properties at £1.50).

Resolved the precept to be £12 i.e. 323 Band D equivalent properties at £12 = £3876 and the City and County of Swansea to be notified accordingly.

9. **Rural Development Partnership.**

Councillor R Church reported back on the RDP meeting of 9/11/17, which looked at sustainable transport for Rural Swansea, particularly Gower. A transport hub idea has been put forward by Gorseinon students. Better links to bus station, increase off road cycle routes such as that proposed from Bishopston to Mayals. National Resources Wales are in favour of a cycle route to link south and north Gower through Parkwoods. More information to follow.

The Community App, which will cover the Parkmill area, is in progress and under construction by an app designer. It will include maps, walking trails, heritage and other useful information. Potentially it will be translated into seven languages to increase accessibility and engagement. Once up and running, the app could be added to and built upon as currently funding only for Parkmill. In March the Heritage Centre will take it over, run and maintain it at a cost of £200/year.

10. **Correspondence..**

Received and noted:-

a) Invoice for Penmaen and Nicholaston Parish Hall, rent and electricity (Rent – 3x £15 for Sept, Oct, Dec 2017, electricity -£4.80), to the sum of £49.80.

Council approved payment.

b) Invoice D.J. Cottle – typing, July 17 to October 17 in the sum of £88.12.

Council approved payment.

c) Letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> November from A Hughes, Gower 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. Manager, Reynoldston - Gratitude for donation of £1000.

d) Letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 from Tourism Swansea Bay acknowledging renewal of membership 2018.

e) Welsh Government letter, dated 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017, appropriate sum under Section 137 (4) (A) Local

- f) Memo to Councillor J Howells from Paul Sherwood, regarding Cefn Bryn – Welsh Water work. The work carried out has created almost a new road. Welsh Water to be contacted to confirm that once work is completed, the Council hopes that the land will be reinstated to the original condition.
- g) Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 from Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service – the council wishes to remain on the database.
- h) Clerks and Councils Direct, November 2017, Issue 114
- i) Play for Wales, Issue 49 Autumn 2017.
- j) CISS (Cancer Support Services) -financial appeal
- k) Llangollen 3-8<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – financial appeal
- l) Glasdon Wicksteed Equipment brochure
- m) Swansea City Council Invitation to Carol Service on 21/12/17, Chairman and Lady to attend

11. **Any Other Business.**

- a. Date of next meeting.  
**Noted** date as Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 p.m.  
(Councillor John Howells and Mrs F Owen John send apologies)

This being the last meeting of the year, the Chairman wished Members and the Clerk the compliments of the season. The Members and Clerk suitably responded.

Matters of emergency to be referred to the Chairman and Vice Chairman, planning matters to be referred to the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillor Dale Pointing and local Members.

However, this was not the end of the meeting as glasses and champagne appeared and the Chairman and Members drank a toast to the Clerk on his pending retirement on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, after almost 30 years with the Council (this being his last official meeting although he would assist the new Clerk in an advisory capacity over her first few months in office).

The Chairman thanked the Clerk on behalf of the Council for his 30 years exemplary service and said he and the Members had found it a pleasure working with him. The Clerk was then presented, by the Chairman, with two bottles of malt whiskey as a farewell present and wished well for the future. The Clerk suitably responded and said it had been a joy working with all the Members and how much he would miss everyone in the future, but hopefully paths would cross from time to time.

There being no further business, the formal business was completed.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Chairman.