

Ilston Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 30th September 2020

At a meeting of the Ilston Community Council held online via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic on Wednesday, 30th September 2020.

Present: Councillors Mrs. A. Elliott, D. Ponting, Mrs. J.A Griffiths, Mrs F Owen-John, R. Church, V. Jones, J. Howells, Dr Kingham and N. Hollett.

In the Chair: Councillor: Mrs. A. Elliott.

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr D Llewellyn

2. **Personal Interests.**

None

3. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2020 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

On 4(12b) Lunnon Hill – White lines have been painted on the edge of the tarmac and a few parts of the edges have been filled but the Community Council were hoping for more. Members feel that as the hill is experiencing additional traffic, as Gower road at Penmaen is closed off, the remedial work is insufficient and inadequate. The clerk to contact Nigel Fitzgerald regarding this.

On 12 (A.O.B) 3 Trail Bikes – The clerk has spoken to the chair of the Gower Commoners and Christopher Smith who deals with that part of the Beaufort Estate. They don't object to signage but Mr Smith said that he had little expectation of it doing any good and suggested blocking the parking places and increased police intervention and presence. Cllr Church reported that the main bridal way up the Bryn is open to all traffic and therefore it may be legal to take a vehicle over the track. The clerk to contact highways to discuss the need to re-designate the track to a bridleway without vehicle access but this may be objected to by the Beaufort estate and Welsh Water who may require access. Clerk to report back.

On 7 RPD: Japanese Knotweed –to establish who had done the spraying work previously. The company Hortech Ltd, had been ready to do the work last summer but the work didn't go ahead because of lack of funding. The clerk asked Hortech Ltd to quote for the work. The clerk contacted Leeder Property Services, the management company for the landowners of Ilston Valley, and they are happy to pay for half the work. The quote came in at £430 plus vat. Hortech Ltd have completed all the relevant forms and presented the relevant licenses to Natural Resources Wales. All Members agreed to the spraying being carried out in the next few weeks.

On 5 V.E. Day - Cllr Ponting to liaise with the clerk to the Hall committee to contact the residents regarding the planting of the trees for VE Day.

On 10 (A.O.B) a Blocked Culvert – The culvert is still blocked, the clerk to chase up with highways and send them the photo provided by Cllr Jones.

On 10 (A.O.B.) e Dead Alder Tree – The tree has not been dealt with. It is situated on the bank of the Ilston river, above the notice board by the bridge next to the church. The clerk to contact Chris Dale at Swansea Council. The confusion may have arisen due to the tree being an alder not an elder.

On 4 ICC's response to Planning Applications 2020/0744/FUL – this will be dealt with later.

On 8 (b) The footpath from Great Lunnon Farm to Stonemill via Limerick Cottage – more work has been done, Cllr Jones to monitor.

On 10 (c) Right of Access to Three Cliffs Bay -The clerk has replied to Mr Beynon, and included all the ombudsman's contact information in the letter.

On 11 (a) A4118 verges -Clerk contacted highways, all the verges along the A4118 have now been cut except where the traffic lights were situated.

(b) Fibre Optic broadband at Penmaen -The clerk contacted Openreach without much success, there are no plans at present to connect the Penmaen exchange up to fibre optic broadband.

(c) Notice for AGM -The notice required for an Annual General Meeting is the same as a normal meeting.

5. Outstanding Review Points from the Annual Review for the year ending 31st March 2020

Welsh Council Audits have emailed regarding some outstanding points from this year's audit. The dates for the exercise of elector's rights notice was changed from the original ones issued with the annual return due to lock down. These were not changed and so not all electors could exercise their rights. New dates have been issued and a new notice has now been uploaded to our website and put up in Lunnon. Back in the 2017/18 audit, Welsh Council Audits requested that evidence of the appointment of the internal auditor be presented this year. This has now been sent to them.

6. Reports from Members

Cllr Owen-John reported on the subsidence on Gower Road, A4118 at Nicholaston. The road is closed at Nicholaston, Cllr Owen-John emailed Mr Fitzgerald to establish how long this would be for.

7. Planning Applications

No further update.

Application No. 2020/1328/FUL

Location: Three Cliffs Holiday Park, North Hills Lane, Penmaen, SA3 2HA

A letter has been sent to Ryan Thomas, head of planning, regarding the negative impacts of the development and the possibility of an alternative entrance. No reply has been received.

No other planning applications this month

8. Financial Statement

Balances

Noted transactions since the last meeting were as follows:

Debit -

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Tourism Swansea Bay | £80.00 | 25/09/2020 |
| R Dolbear | £75.00 | 25/09/2020 |
| C E Toft | £193.80 | 14/09/2020 |
| HMRC | £2.40 | 14/09/2020 |
| Swansea Women's Aid | £500.00 | 03/09/2020 |
| Matthew's House | £500.00 | 03/09/2020 |
| HMRC | £2.40 | 11/08/2020 |
| C E Toft | £193.80 | 11/08/2020 |
| Cefn Gwlad Solutions | £500.00 | 11/08/2020 |

Total: £2,047.40

Credit –

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Interest paid | £0.46 | 07/09/2020 |
| Precept | £1,635.00 | 28/08/2020 |

Total: £1635.46

Therefore –
Balances:

£4,389.44 Current Account
£3,338.28 Deposit Account

1. An invoice has been received for £39.80 for the use of the hall and utilities. All members present unanimously agreed to pay.
2. Charitable donation request are as follows:
 - a) Welsh Heart Charity – We have had another email from this charity, the clerk has enquired as to the cost and spoken to Cllr Dr Kingham. Cllr Kingham is not in favour of the equipment if it can't be placed in a location very close to where it would be needed. The Community Council do not have a place to put the apparatus and the cost is considerable. Cllr Church offered to put the one at the Heritage Centre outside for community use.

9. Update on the RDP

Cllr Church has completed the RDP application. He has applied to provide funding for environmental enhancements for Ilston Valley through the fast track application processes for applications of five thousand pounds or under. Cllr Church has discovered a company who can tackle Japanese knotweed without spraying. For £500 per day, depending on accessibility, they dig up the knotweed and use other materials to fill in the voids left behind by the removal of the knotweed. Then they use a graphite barrier in the ground to kill off any knotweed left. Members agreed to investigate.

10. Parking Problems in Penmaen

The council have received a letter from a resident regarding antisocial parking, antisocial behaviour and littering in Penmaen. A number of points were raised

1. Provide increased clarity as to where people can and cannot park – Clear markings in car parks and road side, signage and fencing (in National Trust car parks)
2. Provide physical deterrents to parking – e.g. large rocks, signage and posts (set into the ground)

Consider (longer term options):

1. Introducing a Gower ranger to talk to people, education and be a visible deterrent
2. Combine resources with the AONB steering group to ensure legal responsibilities are adhered to.

After discussion it was thought that the first two points were very sensible. The clerk to contact Highways to ask for a meeting to discuss a range of issues with a sub-committee. The sub-committee to consist of Cllr Ponting, Cllr Kingham and Cllr Hollett.

11. Correspondence

- a) Clerks and Council Direct September Issue 131

12. Any other Business

- (a) The clerk to investigate zoom package options. Monthly versus annually.
- (b) Several trees are down and the second bridge, near the ruined chapel, has a broken hand rail. Clerk to contact Chris Dale the rights of way officer. Cllr Griffiths to send photos to the clerk.
- (c) The AGM will potentially be in November

Date of next meeting. Wednesday, 28th October at 7 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman.