

# Ilston Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020

At a meeting of the Ilston Community Council held online via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

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

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

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr D Llewellyn and Cllr N Hollett

2. **Personal Interests.**

None

3. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

On 4(12b) Lunnon Hill – Nigel Fitzgerald has replied that all the patches have been filled using a jetpatcher and are holding well. He reported that one area, on the bend, was once a grass verge but over the years has been over run and is now used as an ‘extended highway’. This is not therefore a part of the adopted highway and not within their area of responsibility. He is going to check this out with the adoption team and get back to us.

Members are concerned about the increase in traffic using Lunnon Hill and also the speed of this traffic. A resident with a horse has pointed out that there are no signs saying what speed vehicles should be going up the hill.

On 12 (A.O.B) 3 Trail Bikes – It has been established that Chris Dale, the Countryside Access Team Leader, is the person to talk to regarding the re-designation of the bridal way on Cefn Bryn and the issue of the trail bikes. The clerk has made contact and will arrange a meeting on site to discuss the issues. The Clerk will Liaise with Cllr Kingham and Cllr Ponting who will attend the meeting.

On 7 RPD: Japanese Knotweed – it is now too late in the season to spray the knotweed so this will be postponed until early summer 2020. In the mean-time Cllr Church is looking into alternative methods. The RPD application was not successful but Cllr church has been discussing methods that are more respectful of biodiversity which may help to meet funding criteria if we try again. One such method is to bury the knotweed on site in lead caskets, once each individual stalk has been injected to kill it. Clerk to contact Leeder Property Services to update them of the situation.

On 5 V.E. Day - Cllr Ponting has written a letter to all residents of Tor View explaining the plans to plant trees for VE Day. The Clerk will print and post the letter to the residents.

On 10 (A.O.B) a Blocked Culvert – Nigel Fitzgerald has replied that he is arranging a team to visit. In the meantime the culvert still blocks up every time it rains and will soon become impassable to residents. Clerk to chase up.

On 10 (A.O.B.) e Dead Alder Tree – The Clerk wrote to the Countryside Access Team and they said it was the responsibility of the landowner, presumably the Church to deal with the tree. The tree has been dealt with.

10. Parking Problems in Penmaen - email from Mike Scott will be discussed later and possibly traffic department, clerk waiting to hear back

On 4 ICC's response to Planning Applications 2020/0744/FUL – no further update.

On 5. Outstanding Review Points from the Annual Review for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020  
Welsh Council Audits have emailed again asking for a further explanation of the expenditure in 2019/2020 compared to the previous year. We did explain the variance in the audit but they require more information as the 'Other Payments' decreased by 43, equating to £1500. The Clerk has sent a comprehensive reply explaining the variance as the reasons behind it.

On 12 (A.O.B) a – an update on Zoom will be discussed later

b- broken bridge and trees down in Ilston valley - the clerk wrote to the Countryside access team who replied that the bridge would be repaired the next day and the tree removed the following week.

c- The AGM will be held at the next meeting.

## **5. Reports from Members**

Cllr Owen-John reported on the subsidence on Gower Road, A4118 at Nicholaston. The hole has been filled in but the road hasn't been resurfaced yet. A portion of hedgerow and bank has been taken away on the eastbound side. It is hoped that the road will be opening at the beginning of November.

## **6. Planning Applications**

Application No. 2020/0169/FUL

Location: Bryncoch Farm Fairwood Swansea SA2 7LB  
Proposal: Retention of 2 yurts for temporary holiday accommodation  
Applicant: Mr R Beynon

After discussion member decided no to object to this application on the basis that the development is on a small scale, is in a remote location, is screened by high trees and cannot be seen from anywhere else at ground level. However, it is a retrospective application and if not for the aforementioned factors, it would have been objected to.

## **7. Financial Statement**

### **Balances**

**Noted** transactions since the last meeting were as follows:

Debit -

C E Toft	£208.20	09/10/2020
Penmaen & Nicholaston Hall	£39.80	09/10/2020

Total: £248.00

Therefore –  
Balances:

£4,141.44 Current Account  
£3,338.28 Deposit Account

1. An invoice has been received for £300.00 from Tourism Swansea Bay for the production and printing of ten litter posters. All members present unanimously agreed to pay.

### **8. Update on the RDP**

See Above.

### **9. To consider subscribing to Zoom for future meeting**

It was agreed to subscribe to Zoom for a year at a cost of £95.92 plus vat for future meeting. This will be looked at again this time next year. It will be cheaper than the cost of the hire of the hall for the period already missed and the associated electricity and will be less disruptive than having to restart the meeting after forty minutes, wasting time waiting for everyone to come back in again.

### **10. Correspondence**

- a) Email received on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020, from Mike Scott, Gower AONB Officer, regarding car parking on Cefn Bryn. The email was read out by Cllr Elliott. Mr Scott stated that the area near Arthur's Stone which has been used as a car park is in fact common grazing land. His team have been working with all the interested parties to address the illegal parking which has been getting progressively worse over the years, with vehicles parking further and further inland from the road and parking overnight. The area was cordoned off following COVID 19 restrictions in March, blocking off access to tackle the issue. Since then parking has continued along the roadside. The AONB team, working with Swansea Council, the commoners, community council and the police have secured funding to provide a defined parking crescent up to 15yds from the highways, as permitted by legislation, at the top of Cefn Bryn. They are currently waiting for the required documentation before work commences.
- b) Email received on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020, from One Voice Wales, regarding 2020/21 National Salary Award, new pay scales for clerks and staff other than clerks has been received. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- c) Email received on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, from One Voice Wales, containing a letter from the Environment Agency regarding the request from NNB Generation Company to vary an

environmental discharge permit from Hinkley Point Power Station into the Bristol Channel. The members wish to support the Environment Agency in their refusal of the application. The clerk to write a letter of support.

**11. Any other Business**

None

**Date of next meeting.** Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> November after the AGM

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman.