

Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 26th October 2022

At a meeting of Ilston Community Council held at 7pm at the Barham Centre on Wednesday, 26st October 2022 and via zoom.

Present: Councillors: Mr. D. Ponting, Mrs A Elliott, Mrs H James, Mrs. S Mobbs, Mr S Pleydell, Mr C Bates, Mr R. Church, Mr N Huffer

In the Chair: Cllr D Ponting

Mrs A Elliott taking minutes as Clerk was absent. At the start of the Meeting Cllr Ponting asked for best wishes to be sent to the Clerk as she was unwell.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors: N Hollett, Clerk – Mrs C Toft

2. Declaration of Personal Interests

Cllr H James declared an interest in planning application, **2022/2317/PRE – Furzelhill House, Ilston**, and will leave the room when this is discussed.

3. Minutes

The minutes for the meeting held on 21st September 2022 were proposed as a true record by Cllr R Church and seconded by Cllr C Bates. All members present in agreement.

4. Matters Arising

On 4 (12b) Lunnon Hill – Cllr Church had spoken to a new resident on the hill who would be willing to fill in holes on the side of the road outside white lines. Legal implications were discussed by members and as council have said they only maintain between white lines it was agreed that Cllr Church give the new resident ‘permission’ to do this.

On 5(4) Reports from members – As Cllr L James not present, update at next meeting.

On 5(12) Hosting of Website Renewal – Tourism Swansea Bay have bought new screen and equipment – remove.

On 5(15) AOB - Roadsign - no change. Can Clerk Chase up?

On 5(18) Footpath in Parkmill – Chris Dale had visited site and had not thought there was a problem but since then a big tree had fallen down. Mr Dale contacted again and agreed to clear tree and give footpath some attention by end of October. Cllr Mobbs will monitor the situation.

On 5(6) Report from Members – Swansea Council will invite Cllr Church to next planning meeting for the IronMan event. Although in general there was support in the community for

the event, there was dissatisfaction with how it had been managed with all roads closed for the event. There was strong feeling that one or two roads should be kept open. Next year's date is 16th July and Cllr Church will keep a watching brief on this.

On 5(10) Sewerage Outfall at Parkmill – Cllr Mobbs sent photos to Hamish at NRW and he will be looking into it. Cllr Mobbs to monitor.

On 5 (18) Broadcasting and Streaming of Meetings – Clerk has had computer updated. Remove.

On 5(21) AOB – No update.

On 6 - Reports from Members – b) – No update. Wait until next meeting.

On 9 Training for Members – Cllr H James to find out when next Community Council Forum is to meet.

On 11 – Traffic Working Group – Agenda item.

On 12 – Website and Communications – Agenda item

On 18 Correspondence – a) Sustainable Wales Grant – update on Agenda

- i) Check for update with Clerk regarding the Landscape and Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme.

On 19 AOB – a) Environment Budget – Cllr Ponting reported that Cllr Hollett to coordinate purchasing a tree and this was to be funded by ICC. The idea of a plaque was suggested and could be re discussed once tree in place.

Maintenance Team – Cllr Pleydell reported that work has started. A running list ideas of what needs attention would be welcome. Cllr Pleydell will put a template on the website for all councilors to contribute to.

In Cllr L James's absence there was no update on Tor Bay Car Park.

On 5 Reports from Members –

- a) Accident on Lunnon Hil, addition of Give Way Sign - Awaiting update from Cllr L James.
- b) Cllr Griffiths resignation – Cllr Church reported that there might be interest in the vacancy and he will pursue to confirm.

On 6 – Planning – Application No 2021/3250/FUL

- **Land south of Furzehill Green, Parkmill** - Cllr Elliott reported that there was no update on this.
- **Gower Society Aerial Survey No. 30** – the appeal was due this week.
- **Three Cliffs Campsite Yurts and Car Parking Issues** – Cllr Hollett would be keeping a watching brief.

On 7 – Financial Statement – Cllr Ponting reported that Clerk's pay and expenses had been paid. Flowers for Cllr Griffiths had not yet gone through.

Noticeboard – Cllr Ponting has spoken to Viv Jones and will arrange for the replacement board to be put up in Lunnon.

On 8 – Training for Members – agenda item

On 9 – ICC Activities Record – agenda item.

On 10 – Update from the Traffic Working Group – agenda item.

On 12 – Replacement of Emergency Phones at Three Cliffs Bay – carry forward to next meeting.

On 13 – Non-Collection of Green Bags in Lunnon - Cllr H James reported that issue with Green Bags has been resolved but the issue with Black bags is still ongoing. Head of Refuse, Carl Watkins, is asking Enforcement Team to investigate. The extra black bags seem to have orange baler twine on them. Cllr H James will monitor.

On 14 – Discussion on the use of Vocaleyes for Community Engagement – Cllr Huffer queried what had been decided on this – ICC had decided to use own website to promote community engagement, not Vocaleyes, thus saving money. Members discussed having a surgery meeting at a local venue, perhaps the Gower Inn, on an evening and volunteers from ICC would be there to answer questions/queries from anyone who came along. Cllr Church to look into flyers to advertise and also check with the venue before deciding on a date.

On 17 – Correspondence

- a) Local Community Councils’ working collaboratively - Cllr Ponting has spoken to Sue Rodaway about arranging a meeting between community councils in Gower Ward. So far Penrice and Reynoldston have said yes, waiting for replies from Llangennith and Llanrhidian and Rhossili.
- c) From Welsh Government re Welsh Government, the Section 6 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Duty – this will be put on next meeting as Agenda item for Cllr Mobbs and Cllr Huffer to report back.
- e) Local Places of Nature – has been forwarded to Cllr Mobbs and Cllr Huffer.
- f) Community Orchard Scheme – should be on website.
- l) Home Start Cymru – should be on website.

On 18 – Any Other Business –

- a) Daffodil Bulbs – bulbs are being distributed and being planted.
- b) Parkmill Signage – awaiting update from Cllr L James

5. Advertising Vacancy Community Council

This has been advertised as regulations require – possible interest which Cllr Church will follow up.

6. Reports from Members

Cllr Pleydell reported that the community bus has been successful and getting busier. Current pilot is due to finish mid-November and extra funding achieved by Cllr L James extends to February. Next steps for grant to be considered require ideas for continuation –

- a) Register bus as official service, people get a bus pass and money claimed back from Swansea Council – this could result in handing over of control to Swansea Council.
- b) Establish a charity to administer operational running and control of bus service

Other options that have been discussed, these include:

- Bishopston has a community bus scheme and they could be consulted on how they run their programme.
- A working group to be convened to work on next steps and ideas for continuation and funding. Cllr Pleydell has volunteered to be on this committee as a means of including Ilston in the decision making. Cllr Pleydell reported that he was unable to attend the meeting the next day, Thursday 27th October at Pennard Library at 9.30 am. Members were asked if they could volunteer if they were able to go.
- Briggs coach company is the only bus company who have expressed an interest in the scheme. It would cost approx. £30,000 a year to run for 2 days a week and the service runs from Nicholaston to Mumbles via Parkmill, Pennard, Southgate and Mayals. It is a free service to all and the challenge will be keeping it going as a free service.

Members present suggested a monthly update on the agenda.

Cllr Pleydell reported on the Pennard Area Community Partnership.

Cllr H James raised the recent Mumbles Triathlon event – there appears to be permanent marker sprayed arrows at junctions. It is evident at the junction onto North Gower Road by the Bee Bus Stop. It was agreed to ask the Clerk to write to the organizing department at the Council to make them aware.

7. Planning Applications

Cllr Elliott reported –

Application No. 2022/2037/FUL

Location: Sandy Haven, Parkmill, SA3 2EJ

Proposal: Replacement of metal container with building with hard standing and stone access

Applicant: Mr C Diulio

This had been sent through by Cllr L James after last meeting and circulated to members for comments. No negative comments received.

Application No. 2022/2317/PRE

Location: Furzehill House, Ilston, SA2 7LE
Proposal: This is a pre-application for the demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling and garage in a slightly different location and the relocation of entrance gates and garden walling
Applicant: Mr S James

Members were able to see the plans on the screen during the meeting and felt that until the full plans were presented, discussion could not take place apart from the fact that the property was a Gower Long House and planning was going to be sought to demolish it.

Application No. 2022/2316/FUL

Location: Land at Little Hills Farm, Llethryd
Proposal: Agricultural building and hard standing for Access.
Applicant: Mr D Holland

A similar request for adjoining land, under different ownership, had been made within the last 3 years and no objections so no objections were raised.

Cllr H James had had a query from Viv Jones, Lunnon, about the property at Stone Mill, Parkmill to see if anyone was keeping a watching brief on it and any further development? It was discussed and agreed by all present that Cllr H James ask Viv Jones to email any concerns to the Clerk.

8. Financial Statement

In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Ponting had looked at the Bank Account.

Noted transactions since the last meeting are as follows:

Debit –

C Toft	£298.80
C Toft	£8.37

Total: £307.17

Therefore –

Balance:

£2,399.42 Current Account
£3,340.04 Saving Account

9. Training for Members

Cllr H James had completed the Training Plan, which has to be published by 5th November, and circulated to members. Cllr Ponting thanked Cllr James for her hard work in preparing this document and asked for it to be approved. Proposed by Cllr Ponting and Seconded by Cllr Pleydell.

Cllr H James reported that the Training Plan has to be approved by the Council Standards Committee. The £500 annual budget forecasted may not be enough as there is training required by all councillors but it was discussed and agreed that the budget could be flexible and that most of the training would be in the first year. Each course costs £35 pp but the first 2 places are free.

It was decided to ask the Clerk to look at projection for essential training and all councillors let the Clerk know when they plan to do training courses. All training to be booked through the Clerk and also Cllr H James should also be advised so that she could complete on the Training Activity Plan.

It had been agreed previously that any training that the Clerk, as member of staff, does would be kept separate from the members training and not publicized on the website at the moment.

10. ICC Activities Record

Cllr H James reported that this was a trial document at the moment, to be voted on in November meeting. Any work outside meetings should be notified to Cllr H James to be included in the record.

11. Update from Traffic Working Party

Cllr Bates presented a draft report for members addressing issues relating to Traffic and Pedestrians and Bike traffic in the following areas – Nicholaston Farm and Penmaen Hill; Gower Heritage Centre and Gower Inn and Gower Inn and Vennaway Lane. The report contained detail about the issues and proposed solutions in these areas. It was discussed and members agreed that Cllr L James should be asked about provisional costings once a full report has been completed. It was agreed that it was important to have evidence to support the issues and Cllr Church will get more traffic data. Cllr Bates agreed to speak to the Council about bike accidents and pedestrian accidents.

12. Website and Communications

Cllr Pleydell outlined 3 main areas of importance –

1 – Website function - there appears to be approximately 50 visitors to the website each month. There is some maintenance in adding emails etc to the site. Anything relevant to the community would be added to the site. It was agreed that this item be taken off the agenda as it had become has been update and just requires maintenance. Cllr Pleydell thanked those who had shared the places of interest.

2 – Reaching out to the community - Cllr Pleydell has done some research into how many people could be reached in the community and by the most appropriate method of communication using age demographics and electoral numbers. Two hundred households with four hundred and seventy-five residents (approx.) In the over 75 age group there are approx. 100 people who may find a face to face ‘surgery’ an appropriate form of communication. It was agreed to continue to use the email lists already in existence. Cllr Pleydell will approach Cllr L James and Cllr R Lewis to ask them to include ICC information

in their emails going out to their mailing lists. Cllr Pleydell to contact Merlin Kingham, who is in charge of mailing list for the local church community, for the same reason. ask Cllr L James for her list too and maybe Cllr Richard Lewis may also have a list. Using email lists already in existence should comply with GDPR. Notices can be put in churches and on the community bus.

3 – Data Sharing - Cllr Pleydell has looked into putting information in a central place rather than emailing information out to people and has trialed a cloud based file sharing solution using Google Drive, with Cllr Ponting and it seemed to work. A user guide can be given with instructions how to log onto Google Drive and Cllr Pleydell is happy to provide this and send the relevant documents and passwords to all members.

Cllr Ponting thanked Cllr Pleydell for all his hard work in researching this and preparing it.

Cllr Church suggested that we add Lucas Williams (employee of Tourism Swansea Bay) to the email list as he might be able to open a door to other community residents of a similar age group.

13. Broadcasting & Streaming of Meetings – Ongoing.

14. OVW/SLCC Conference

Cllr Ponting will speak to the Clerk about this matter.

15. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales draft Report

Cllr Church reported that there had been a discussion regarding expenses for councilors – this was discussed but members felt that all ICC members were aware that they could claim for expenses for elections but expenses for monthly meetings and related outside activities would not be claimed as it would result in the precept having to be raised. It was best left as optional rather than it being imposed as mandatory. Clerk would be asked to respond to this draft report on behalf of the ICC by 1st December to this effect.

16. Parking Problems in Penmaen

As Cllr L James was not present it was hoped that there might be feedback at next meeting.

17. Correspondence

In Clerk's absence Cllr Elliott had had a look at the emails sent through and highlighted a few:

- a) Received on 20th October 2022 from Ursula Jones, the Communities and Nature Project Officer, Swansea Council, reporting that the Japanese Knotweed treatment had finished for this year and the third treatment would commence next October.

- b) Received on 4th October from Endurance Life regarding their four annual Trail Running Events which are happening in Gower on November 5th.
- c) Received on 19th October, from Vicki Thomas, External Funding Programme Officer, Swansea Council, inviting ICC members to the launch to 'Stories of a Changing Landscape – a Farmer's Perspective' Talk on 26th October (last night)
- d) Received on 21st October 2022 from Bob Oliver, regarding an update for stakeholders on Swansea Airport – an update had been sent round but no definitive decisions yet – awaiting a Swansea Council meeting in December.
- e) Received on 12th October, from Elections.Consultation@gov.wales, forwarded by OVW, re Electoral Administration and Reform White Paper Consultation – up to 10th January to comment.

These emails have been received and been passed onto council members and noted.

18. Any Other Business

Nothing raised by members.

Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 30th November at 7 pm

Meeting closed at 9.27 pm.

Chairman: