

Ilston Community Council

Mrs Charlotte Toft
Clerk to the Council
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Swansea
SA3 3LA

The monthly meeting of Ilston Community Council held on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7pm, at the Barham Centre and via zoom.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND ANY MATTERS THEY WISH TO RAISE WILL BE HEARD DURING THE FIRST TEN MINUTES OF THE MEETING PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE AGENDA

Decisions Made at the Meeting

Present: Councillors – Mr. D. Ponting, Mrs S Mobbs, Mr R Church, Mr S Pleydell, and Mr N Huffer. Cllr N Hollett joined that meeting at 7.10pm via zoom and left at 7.30pm to attend another meeting. Cllr L James joined at 8.19pm.

Also Present: via zoom, Ms S Llewellyn

In the Chair: Cllr D Ponting

1. Apologies for Absence – Councillors: Mr C Bates, Mr B Beynon, Mrs H James and Mr I Brown

2. Declaration of Personal Interests – Cllr D Ponting declared an interest in item 8 - To consider parking issues on the land adjacent to the Penmaen and Nicholaston Village Hall, as he is the chair of the Village Hall committee.

At this point Cllr Ponting proposed to move to item 6 - To consider any Planning Applications followed by Item 12 - To consider the Local Development Plan Review and Replacement so that Cllr Hollett could report back to the council on these items before needing to leave to attend a different meeting.

6. Planning Applications –

Application No. 2023/0771/FUL

Location: Green Cwm Cottage, Parkmill, SA3 2EH

Proposal: Installation of a ground mounted solar array

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Robson

Cllr Hollett had circulated a summary to all members via email prior to the meeting. It was agreed by all members present not to raise any objections.

12. Local Development Plan Review and Replacement – Cllr Hollett had previously circulated a summary to all members prior to the meeting of the most relevant parts concerning Gower. It was agreed by all

members present to keep a watching brief of the revision of the Gower Management Plan and any candidate sites in the ICC area.

Cllr Hollett then reported on item 4. **Matters Arising – On 4 (4,19) AOB a) Environment Budget** – Planting of the tree to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II - Cllr Hollett reported that the tree was due to be delivered by 8th May and therefore it was agreed by all members present that the tree planting ceremony take place on 8th May. It was agreed that the information go out on the mailing list and website. It was agreed by all members present that Cllr Hollett talk to Cllr Brown regarding Greens sponsorship of the plaque to accompany the tree.

At this point, so as not to keep Ms Llewellyn waiting further, Cllr Ponting proposed moving to item 8 - To consider parking issues on the land adjacent to the Penmaen and Nicholaston Village Hall. This was agreed by all members present

8. Parking issues on the land adjacent to the Penmaen and Nicholaston Village Hall -

As Cllr Ponting had declared an interest in this item, he took no further part of the discussion other than when asked to respond. Cllr Church took over as chair at this point. After discussion, Cllr Church proposed that the community council await the response from Swansea Council Estates Department. This was agreed by all members present with voting rights on this issue. It was also agreed that the Clerk chase up a response to the questions asked by the community council to the Housing Department and ask if the community council can facilitate a meeting between Swansea Council, the residents of Tor View and the Village Hall Committee members. Ms Llewellyn then left the meeting.

At this point the chair reverted back to Cllr Ponting.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 28th March 2023 - The minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2023 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Pleydell and seconded by Cllr Mobbs. All members present in agreement. The minutes were then signed and dated by the chair.

4. To consider any matters arising out of the minutes –

On 7 (4) Footpath in Parkmill – After a brief update from Cllr Mobbs, it was agreed by all members present to keep a watching brief.

On 7 (4) Report from Members – Iron Man Meeting – Cllr Church had circulated the map of the route for the Iron Man event on 16th July 2023. After discussion, it was agreed by all members present that the clerk write to Swansea Council and ask them what arrangements have been made for residents who require access for carers, those working antisocial hours or who need access for any other reason. Cllr Church proposed replying to Mrs Lloyd, who has written to the community council with her concerns over the road closures due to the event and ask her if she has any specific needs with regard to access during the event and if she would like the community council to take up her concerns with race officials. This was agreed by all members present. It was also raised by Cllr Church the need to contact the council and race organisers regarding compensation for the loss of business of local businesses affected by the road closures. It was agreed by all members present that the clerk liaise with Cllr Church over the wording of the letters to Swansea Council and event organisers.

On 4 (5,10) Sewage Outfall at Parkmill – As the clerk reported that she had had difficulty finding a contact email address for Welsh Water, Cllr Ponting agreed to share the contact he has with her.

On 7 (4) - Website and Communications – 3) Data Sharing – Cllr Pleydell reported that he had sent the details to access Google Docs with Cllr Beynon and Cllr Brown and asking them to provide their details and statement of interest to be uploaded to the website. It was agreed by all members that the clerk chase up the two councilors for their details and information needed.

On (4) 6 Reports from Members – eLearning Training via Swansea Council – It was agreed by all members to keep a watching brief.

On 4,7 (11) ICC Activities Record – It was agreed by all members present to keep a watching brief.

On 4, 6. To consider the Emergency Phone at Three Cliffs Bay – It was agreed by all members present that Cllr Pleydell ask Lucas from TSB for information on the Gower Ambassadors thanking them for their sponsorship of the replacement phone unit to be placed at Three Cliffs Bay.

On 4, 5. Reports from Members –

3) Next ‘Meet your Councillor’ evening – Cllr Church reported that the Gower Inn would prefer a date in June as May is so busy. Cllr Church suggested 13th or 20th June as possible dates. After discussion, it was agreed by all members present that the next event has the theme of the Biodiversity Report and the Biodiversity Action Plan. It was agreed by all members that Cllr Church liaise with the clerk to get this organised.

5) Grazing and how the commons are managed report for the website – Cllr Huffer reported that he had been liaising with the Gower Commons Safety Group, members of which have a lot of knowledge and information on the common and how it is managed. He suggested using the information already written by the group to promote their work for the piece to go on the website and also to go out to the local press as publicity for the group and ICC. Cllr Huffer also reported on the litter problem on the common that is very visible before the spring and summer growth. It was agreed by all members present to ask Cllr James what can be done about it. Once Cllr James joined the meeting she agreed to look into getting Swansea Council’s Cleaning Team to do a litter pick from Vennaway Lane to Upper Killay. Cllr Huffer asked if it is possible to get them to also look at litter along the North Gower Road. Cllr James agreed to do this.

Cllr Church reported he had spoken to the new officer for the 20mph speed limit scheme and sent him the ICC Traffic Report. Mr Ferris, the new officer responded that he can look at other roads but the national scheme is only concerned with roads with street lighting. Cllr Church proposed that the council still pursue the implementation of 20mph limits of Gower roads on a health and safety issue. This was agreed by all members present. It was also agreed to ask Cllr Bates to send the report to Go Safe and also to the Welsh Transport Secretary, Lee Waters.

On 4, 7 Financial statement –

- a) To consider any payments to be made before the end of the financial year –
 - It was agreed by all members present that the £250 originally allocated to the Gower First Responders be put into the training budget for the forthcoming financial year.

On 4, 15. Correspondence –

- b) Received on 31/01/23 from OVV, TAN 15: Development, flooding and coastal erosion – further amendments. It was agreed by all members that the clerk resend the information to Cllr Huffer to take a look.

On 10. Financial Statement –

- c) To consider extra hours worked by the clerk – the clerk reported that she had not, as yet, had a chance to look at getting a different sim for her phone. It was agreed by all members present that she investigate it by the next meeting.

On 11. To consider the process of Road Closures – After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Church and Cllr L James get together to write to Swansea Council about the road closure procedure. It was agreed that Cllr Ponting also bring this issue up at the next Community Council Forum meeting.

On 14. To consider the Independent Remuneration Panel Report regarding payments to members – The clerk reported that she had emailed all members separately regarding the acceptance of payments and

that she had not heard back from all members. It was agreed by all members that the clerk send out a reminder to those who hadn't yet responded.

On 16. To receive any Correspondence –

e) Received from Wendi Patience, OVW on 21/03/23 – Training Dates for March and April – It was agreed by all members present that Cllr Ponting remind the new councillors that they need to do the new councillor training and Code of Conduct training. The clerk reported that the Advanced Local Government Finance training session clashed with the monthly meeting. It was therefore agreed by all members present that she looks at alternative dates.

5. Reports from Members

1) Cllr Pleydell reported that he had spoken to the new local co-ordinator and the new Gower ranger for the National Trust. The local co-ordinator has agreed to make a presentation at the next monthly meeting and will send her details via Cllr Ponting. She also mentioned that the National Trust have trees for planting. It was agreed by all members present that residents can be asked if they would like to plant trees at the next 'Meet your Councillor' evening.

2) County Councillor Lynda James reported she has been unable to locate who owns the tree that has fallen from the riverbed in Parkmill. Cllr James agreed to ask the Parks Department to remove the tree this once.

3) Cllr Ponting asked Cllr James if the maintenance team could look at the broken post on the cattle grid gate on the loop road behind Penmaen Church. Cllr James responded that it wasn't a job for the maintenance team but she had reported this to highways and will therefore, chase it up with them.

4) Cllr Ponting reported that the path along Pennard Valley, on the opposite side to Pennard Castle is unfinished and extremely muddy. Cllr James agreed to contact the Countryside Access Team to look at it.

5) Cllr Ponting reported that the Penmaen Village sign at the junction of North Hills Lane is in ribbons. Cllr James reported that Swansea Council are in the process of replacing all damaged signs and agreed to chase them up.

7. Financial Statement

After receiving the financial statement, it was agreed by all members that the clerk move £500.00 from the savings account to the current account to cover costs.

b) To receive a Budget update – After receiving the budget update, it was agreed by all members present that the clerk send out the documents showing what was actually spent compared to what was agreed at the last budget meeting.

9. Co-option to fill current vacancy –

The clerk reported that democratic Services had confirmed that no election had been called for and that the council was now free to co-opt. It was agreed by all members present that the clerk put up the relevant notices advertising a vacancy in the Ilston Ward in the locality and on the website.

10. Insurance Renewal

The clerk had sent out the renewal document for this year's insurance before the meeting. After discussion it was agreed by all members present to accept the renewal quote as the renewal price had not increased and the council's requirements had not significantly changed from last year. It was agreed that the clerk look into the risk assessments needed and to ask the clerk to Pennard CC if we can borrow their format for any risk assessments relevant to our activities that we do not currently have in place.

11. Biodiversity Report

The clerk met with Cllr Mobbs and then circulated the draft report prior to the meeting for councillors to comment. It was agreed by all members present that the clerk implement the additions and amendments suggested by Cllr Pleydell, Cllr Ponting and Cllr Huffer and then recirculate and put on Google Docs for agreement before publishing the document. Cllr Huffer recommended report on the agenda as a regular item.

13. Traffic working party

Cllr Ponting reported that he had asked Cllr Bates to follow up with GoSafe to look at implementing speed camera vans and also look at night races. Cllr Ponting asked Cllr Church and Cllr Pleydell to record timings of when they hear them going on.

14. Correspondence

a) Received on 4/4/2023 from Mrs J Crocker, Clerk to Pennard CC, asking for interest in joining a zoom meeting to discuss the use of Glyphosate on verges and grassed areas. Pennard CC do not use glyphosate on their own grounds and have tried to opt out of it being used within the Pennard CC area but have come up against many obstacles. Cllr James reported that Swansea Council have an all or nothing policy, therefore, if you opt out of the use of glyphosate then they will not use any other chemical weed killers or supply man power for weeding. It was agreed by all members present that Cllr Mobbs discuss this item with Cllr Beynon and Cllr Brown to see who is available to attend a meeting and report back.

b) Received on 20/04/2023 forwarded by OVW, from Naturewise, advertising a forthcoming free Eco-literacy course. It was agreed by all members present that the clerk forward to Cllr Huffer to see if any of the dates suit him.

c) Received from Mrs C Lloyd, resident of Lunnon Hill, regarding the Iron Man road closures. As discussed under Matters Arising, it was agreed by all members present that the clerk reply to Mrs Lloyd and ask her if she has any specific needs with regard to the Iron man event.

d) Received from Adam Davis, from the Office of Tonia Antionazzi MP, inviting members of the council to attend a grant funding advice day for Gower Constituents on 19th May. Cllr Ponting and Cllr Mobbs agreed to attend.

15. Any Other Business

a) Cllr Church reported that the end cottage of the Three Grove Hill Cottages has been abandoned. It was also reported that Stone Mill Farmhouse has been abandoned and one in Penmaen alongside the cattlegrid on the Cefn Bryn loop road, behind Penmaen Church. Cllr James agreed to contact the relevant officer at Swansea Council to look into them.

It was agreed by all members present that the AGM be set for 31st May at 6.30pm at the Barham Centre and online.

Meeting finished at 21.57pm