

Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council
Regeneration and Leisure Committee Meeting
Tuesday 7th July 2015

Present: - Cllrs Graham Davies, John James, Andrew Phillips, Mrs Moira Thomas and Hefin Williams.

In attendance: Melanie Carroll-Cliffe (Town Clerk) and John Ridgway (TSO)

(Former OAP Hall, Memorial Hall, Burry Port 9.30am –10.50am)

1. Personal Matters.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Shirley Matthews and Mrs Pat Jones. In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, members approved that the meeting be chaired by Cllr John James.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in respect of the business to be transacted.

Members confirmed their usual declarations of interest.

Prior to commencing the main agenda, it was proposed and **APPROVED** that item number 5 on the agenda be considered out of order, given the attendance by Ms Amanda Morgan of Coleg Sir Gar.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Regeneration and Leisure Committee meeting held on 4th June 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2015 were approved as a true record.

4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes.

P2 (5) Update from Heritage Trail Sub Group

Although it had been stated at the last meeting that Cllr Graham Davies was the Chairperson of the Heritage Trail Group, it was clarified that Cllr Andrew Phillips is in fact the Chairperson.

P4 (13) Forward planning of future large projects

Cllr John James indicated that he would like to be a member of the "Cross Party Sub Group" looking at the regeneration of the Bace area or alternatively, he felt that Cllr Pat Jones should be a member so that there is input from the County Council's perspective. Due to them both being County Councillors, he felt that through their membership of the group, it would avoid work being duplicated. Cllr Graham Davies also referred to the fact that Cllr Malcolm Davies had agreed to be a member but had not been nominated at the previous meeting. As he is the only Plaid Cymru member, it was felt that he should be involved in the group. It was therefore proposed and **APPROVED** that both Cllrs John James and Malcolm Davies be

additionally included in the sub group.

5. Update on marketing and promotion of the Memorial Hall and consideration of ideas for future events, including feedback from Amanda Morgan of Coleg Sir Gar

Amanda Morgan confirmed that the College is keen to develop its partnership with the Town Council. She advised that following the visit by a number of students to the Memorial Hall, they had prepared presentations, setting out their ideas to encourage the increase of footfall into the hall. Some of these ideas had been very inspiring and creative. These included events being held for the forthcoming Rugby World Cup, themed evenings to embrace the history of the building and to provide the community with a better understanding of its significance and also, use as a wedding reception venue.

Ms Morgan advised that she is a Public Services lecturer and last year, she had had the opportunity to travel to Normandy with her students, where she had been impressed with the various museums. She referred to the history of this area and the links with the RAF and an idea to possibly use the former snooker room to replicate some of the ideas she had seen, to educate the local community and to encourage visitors.

Due to the fact that the students will shortly be commencing summer holidays, Ms Morgan advised that the various ideas will be kick started at the end of August.

Cllr Graham Davies referred to the Heritage Trail project and the desire to get various organisations to be partners in this. Ms Morgan confirmed that she would speak to her colleague, Mr Gareth Harvey, who has been the contact to date in relation to this.

Ms Morgan left the meeting at 9.50am.

6. Update from Heritage Trail Sub Group

Cllr Graham Davies advised members that a constitution has now been prepared for the Pembrey and Burry Port Heritage Group, of which Cllr Andrew Phillips is the Chairperson and Geoff Thomas is the Deputy Chair. Cllr Graham Davies is the coordinator of the Heritage Trail project and he referred to the fact that the Heritage Trail is just one area of work and it is possible that the Heritage Group could undertake further projects at a later date.

Cllr Graham Davies advised that he had recently spoken to an advisor at the Heritage Lottery Fund, who was happy with the amendments which have been made to the bid. He now intends writing up the bid in the course of the next week, which will then be presented at the Town Council meeting on 15th July. It is hoped that the bid will be submitted by the end of July.

Cllr Graham Davies added that he has been informed that many projects tend to be rejected when initially submitted but are usually successful when amended and resubmitted. He also advised that clarification has been received that the Lottery Fund is happy for the money to be received by the Council, if the bid is successful.

7. Update on entry to Wales in Bloom/Britain in Bloom 2015

The TSO advised that the poor weather has been causing problems. The judging of Wales in Bloom is taking place on Thursday 9th July and the route for this has been prepared.

8. Future consideration of the new lamp post signs

The TSO advised that some of the new lamp post signs which have been erected did not require new brackets and therefore, there may be some available money left, for additional signage. However, if a number of new signs are to be obtained at additional expense, then members felt that this should be considered when setting next year's budget.

9. Update on directional signs to Burry Port Memorial Hall

The TSO advised that information had been received from the Environment Department of Carmarthenshire County Council. It has been confirmed that there can be new directional signs from Stepney Road and it is envisaged that there be one sign on the Carmarthen side and one on the Llanelli side. Members were happy with this suggestion and to recommend to the full Council that it be proceeded with. The TSO advised that once approved by the Town Council, he would be able to revert to Carmarthenshire County Council for an estimated cost.

10. Further consideration of alternative access entrance to the Burry Port Memorial Hall car park

As Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews was absent from the meeting and she had been the person making further enquiries about this, it was **APPROVED** that the matter be deferred whilst further information is awaited.

11. Update on proposed application for outline planning permission for the Copperworks site

The TSO advised that no application had been made to date to list the building. His view was that it was preferable to await the outcome of the planning application prior to proceeding to demolish. He confirmed that matters were progressing in relation to the application and it would appear that there are no major issues so far as the planning authority is concerned. The TSO also highlighted that planning consent would be required for demolition.

The Clerk emphasised that at the June Town Council meeting, there had been a resolution to proceed to demolish the building as soon as practicable, subject to suitable quotations. Therefore, this decision needed to be acted upon. The TSO confirmed that he would therefore seek alternative quotes.

12. Future consideration of the purchase of new flooring and potential redecoration of former OAP Hall

The TSO referred to the fact that the safety flooring currently present cannot be covered. Various options had been considered and some prices had been obtained in relation to these.

The first option would be to install laminate over the current flooring in the main part of the hall. This is floating flooring and would therefore be possible and create the least amount of work, although it is not advised to install in kitchen and toilets. An alternative solution would be to lay domestic vinyl over the safety flooring using the correct adhesive. The cost quoted for the laminate is £2,150 inclusive of VAT and for the domestic vinyl in the toilets and kitchen, it is £560 inclusive of VAT. The second option is to remove the existing domestic cushion floor, sand the safety flooring and to install new domestic vinyl to the main hall, bathrooms and kitchen. The quote for this is £2,760 inclusive of VAT. The final option obtained is to remove both existing floorings, prime and re-screed the sub floor and then to install new commercial wood effect safety flooring to the main hall, bathrooms and kitchen. The price quoted for this is £4,100 inclusive of VAT.

As these quotes had only just been obtained, it was **APPROVED** that they be fully considered by the TSO, who will also look at samples and the matter can then be further considered at a future meeting.

13. Ongoing maintenance of the Town Council website

The TSO expressed disappointment that members had not come up with ideas regarding the website when the new design was being undertaken. Members agreed that the website is very functional and provides all of the necessary information, although it was suggested that there could be improvement through the use of video and interactive information. The TSO emphasised that the website can only be as good as the information provided and he is dependent on organisations providing details of various events, for insertion on to the website. He also indicated that the website designer had stated that in terms of Councils, ours is one of the best websites.

It was also briefly discussed that currently, Coleg Sir Gar is looking to carry out work in terms of marketing the Council's facilities, particularly the Memorial Hall. Accordingly, it maybe preferable to see what the students revert with, prior to any additional expenditure being incurred.

14. Further consideration of issues relating to Burry Port Toddler Park and MUGA

The TSO expressed his view that he did not believe that by increasing the height of the fence, it would prevent the problem of children kicking the balls over. He stated that the focal point of kicking the ball is for target practice.

The TSO also referred to a current problem in relation to lights at the park being permanently on. The TSO has therefore been in communication with Carmarthenshire County Council and he advised members of a recent email received from Mr Dave Morris. The cost to replace the time clock is £216 + VAT and to replace the lamps is £210 + VAT. Members **APPROVED** that this work needed to be undertaken and therefore recommended the expenditure of £426 + VAT to the Finance Committee.

15. Any other competent business

The TSO referred to the allotments in Pembrey and the fact that previously, it had been agreed that Pembrey Community Growing Association could utilise water butts for water

supply, although they had actually installed three large water tanks at the rear of the property. Due to the cost of obtaining a water connection through Welsh Water, the association now wishes to remove the existing tanks and to replace them with a 4,000 litre water tank behind the shed. There would be no cost to the Council in this work being carried out. Members therefore **APPROVED** this.

The TSO also referred to the collapsed drain in the grounds of Pembrey Memorial Hall. Previously, Matt Morden had referred this issue to the Property Services Department, although nothing had been done about it. The TSO is fearful that it poses a health risk and he confirmed that County Councillor Hugh Shepardson is currently looking into the situation further.