

Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 17th June 2015

Councillor Mrs Jean Hire (Mayor)

Councillors Graham Davies, John James, Stephen James, Robert John, Mrs Pat Jones, Mrs Susan Northam, David Owens, Andrew Phillips, Mrs Moira Thomas and Mrs Mary Wenman.

In attendance: Melanie Carroll-Cliffe (Town Clerk), Alan Howells (Responsible Finance Officer).

(Former OAP Hall, 7.00pm – 9.45pm)

23. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was given by Cllr Graham Davies.

24. Personal Matters

Apologies were received from Cllrs Malcolm Davies, Ken Edwards, John Hedley Jones, Michael Theodoulou, Mrs Shirley Matthews and Hefin Williams.

25. 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 **RESOLVED** that item number 15 on the agenda be discussed following the presentation of the police report, given the attendance by two representatives from Welsh Water.

26. Police Business

PCSO Stephanie Maiello was in attendance and was accompanied by the new PCSO, Wayne McNally. PCSO Maiello presented the police report, as set out below.

During the month of June 18 Crimes have been reported in the Burry Port Section down from last year. All the crimes have been detected.

Within the month of June officers have attended 101 calls, 25 of which were an immediate response, 26 had to be answered within the hour, 36 were scheduled simply needing attendance and 14 did not need a response.

Crimes of note are:

Criminal Damage

There have been 2 cases of criminal damage- one being electric gates damaged by a vehicle.

Burglary

There has been 1 burglary recorded in the area of Burry Port – being a shed broken into.

Anti Social Behaviour

There were 7 anti social behaviour calls in May - one being vehicles speeding down Factory Road, Pembrey.

Road Traffic Accidents

There have been 0 recorded accidents in Burry Port area.

Cllr Stephen James referred to the 25 immediate response calls and there having been a similar number for the previous month. He therefore commented that there would be an impact upon these should Burry Port Police Station close.

Cllr Mrs Mary Wenman referred to more teenagers being present at Burry Port Park during the lighter summer evenings. The bowls players are complaining about balls coming over onto their green and she therefore requested that there be more patrolling of this area. PCSO Maiello confirmed that she patrols in the evenings, together with PCSO Trudi Scandone. PCSO Maiello advised that PCSO Phil Davies has now left Burry Port Police Station but a replacement is expected. It was discussed that an assurance had been provided during the recent meeting with the Chief Constable that manning levels would be increased to the correct level and PCSO Maiello confirmed that this was being looked at. It was however acknowledged that the reduction in numbers is reflective across the Dyfed Powys Force and throughout the UK, although certain units have been strengthened, such as child protection.

Lastly, Cllr Graham Davies congratulated the PCSOs on their Twitter account for being informative and entertaining.

27. To confirm the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 20th May 2015

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 20th May 2015 were accepted as a true record.

28. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2015

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 20th May 2015 were accepted as a true record.

29. Information from the aforesaid minutes

P2 (6) Information from the minutes – report of the RFO

Following a query raised by a member in relation to the current position on the youth club donation, the Clerk clarified that a considerable number of additional items had now been ordered and received and therefore, the expenditure to date was approximately £6,000. Furthermore, an indication had been given that costings were being obtained in relation to trips which they hope to organise, as they had been informed that consideration would be

given to some funds being utilised in this manner. It was also indicated by a member of the Finance Committee that there had been some discussion upon the issue at the recent Finance Committee meeting regarding the necessity to identify expenditure for future large donations.

P4 (7) Report of the TSO

Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas confirmed that Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is now able to open for the judging of the Britain in Bloom competition.

Following a query, the Clerk confirmed that the work in relation to the installation of the mood lighting at the Memorial Hall had commenced on 16th June.

A member queried if additional lamp post banners could be obtained, to create a great impact. It was suggested that if it was intended to do so, then more generic banners could be obtained. It was therefore **APPROVED** that the issue of additional lamp post banners and an alternative design be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Regeneration and Leisure Committee.

It was discussed that the banners had been budgeted for. It was also emphasised that the Town Council does not have a great deal of reserves, having just over 5 months' at present, which is at the lower end of the recommended range. It was clarified that the Town Council had approximately 9 months' reserves at the start of this current council and therefore, these have been reduced.

P10 (11) Planning applications

The Clerk updated members that she had liaised with Mr Ian Jones of Carmarthenshire County Council, who had agreed to meet with Councillors on the evening of 15th July, immediately prior to the Town Council meeting. There was discussion as to whether it is preferable for meetings of this nature to take place on a different evening. Following this, it was proposed and **APPROVED** that each case be considered separately and that there be delegated powers to the Clerk and Mayor to make this decision.

P11 (14) To consider the Town Council's options in relation to the former Pembrey School building

Cllr David Owens indicated that he remained of the opinion that a meeting should be re-convened with Jonathan Fearn and Matt Morden. He therefore proposed that the County Council members request this meeting, which was unanimously **RESOLVED**.

P14 (19) Communications – 7

Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas advised that there had been an interesting meeting with Hywel Dda University Health Board and Hywel Dda Community Council held at Burry Port Memorial Hall on 2nd June.

P16 (21) Report of the Clerk – 2

Cllr Mrs Mary Wenman advised that she continues to be concerned about the rubbish in the park and expressed a wish that it be cleaned more regularly. However, it was discussed that even when the bins are empty, rubbish still gets thrown on the floor. Cllr Graham Davies

referred to the fact that PCSOs now have authority to issue fines for littering and this could be raised with them. It was discussed that the Town Council has representatives who attend the PACT meetings and it was therefore proposed and **RESOLVED** that the Town Council's views about fining be raised by the representatives at the next PACT meeting.

30. Report of the Technical Services Officer (TSO)

The TSO was absent from the meeting but members had the opportunity of considering his report, which was circulated with the agenda.

Cemetery

Burials

During the month of May 2015 there have been 1 burial, 4 scattering of ashes.

Wales in Bloom /Britain in Bloom 2015

1 Planting has commenced on the Glan-y-Mor designed garden on Stepney Road.

2 The RNLI garden south of the Clwb Bach Roundabout is ready for planting.

3 Bowling Club garden is ready for planting.

4 Parc-y-Tywyn School are now able to open the school for Britain in Bloom and the children will plant the flowers.

5 John McEvoy and Mike Jacob of CCC are now dealing with the Wales In Bloom road signs.

6 Work is in progress planting the Amelia Earhart Gardens.

7 Planting has been completed at Pembrey Church.

8 Planting is in progress in Memorial Gardens.

9 Flower containers have been installed along Station Road.

10 Pembrey School children have planted flowers in the beds at the entrance to Maenor Helyg Road.

11 Members of Burry Port and Pembrey Gardening Club have planted a garden in the Memorial Gardens to commemorate World Wars 1 and 2.

12 The roundabouts at Clwb Bach and Moreb have been planted but some plants might need to be replaced because of storm damage.

There was a discussion in relation to the Welsh Dragons placed on the Moreb roundabout and Clwb Bach Harbour roundabout and members were of the view that these would be better placed elsewhere. It was therefore proposed and **RESOLVED** that further thought be given to their positioning at different locations.

Memorial Hall

Work is in progress on the refurbishment of the concert room floor and will be completed by 15th June, the mood lighting will be installed 16th and 17th June.

A member commended the work carried out on the Memorial Hall floor.

Lamp Post Banners

Banners have been erected.

Institute

Miscellaneous roof repairs have been carried out and the gutters cleaned.

Copperworks –Planning

David Darkin has commissioned an Ecologist to carry out a survey on the building, he has also forwarded the proposed project to the CCC Technical Services Department (Highways) for their comments.

31. To consider the report of the Regeneration and Leisure Committee meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Regeneration and Leisure Committee meeting held on the 7th May be signed and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

P3 (12) Further consideration of alternative access entrance to the Burry Port Memorial Hall car park/signage to the car park

Following a query, it was indicated that as yet, no costings had been received in relation to an alternative access entrance.

32. Report of the Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)

The RFO, Alan Howells, presented his report, as set out below:

1. Bank

The following cash balances are held with Lloyds at 31st May 2015 :-

	Balance at bank	Unpresented cheques	Council cash book balance
	£	£	£
Business Instant Access account	199,543.43		199,543.43
Community Account	69,777.52	18,501.29	51,276.23
Imprest account	246.97		246.97
	£269,567.92	£18,501.29	£251,066.63

2. Schedule of accounts paid

The following accounts have been paid from 1st to 30th April 2015 :-

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Cost ex</u> <u>Vat</u> <u>£</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>cost</u>
Plusnet	Admin - internet provider	3	15.00	3.00	18.00
Biffa	Cemetery	4	107.40	21.48	128.88
Biffa	Hall	1	118.63	23.73	142.36
Travis Perkins	Cemetery - materials	4	50.40	10.09	60.49
Travis Perkins	Cemetery - materials	4	8.06	1.61	9.67
Travis Perkins	Cemetery - materials	4	207.37	41.47	248.84
Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water	Hall	1	97.71		97.71
Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water	Hall	1	770.51		770.51
Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water	Cemetery	4	394.81		394.81
Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water	Pembrey Memorial Hall	1	490.56		490.56
BT	Telephone charges	3	20.00	4.00	24.00
Tradepoint	Cemetery - materials	4	44.53	8.91	53.44
Amroc	Memorial Hall	1	90.00	18.00	108.00
Dyfed Alarms	Memorial Hall	1	2355.00	471.00	2826.00
Atech	Hall - Signage	1	550.00	110.00	660.00
British Gas	Hall - Heating	1	474.06	94.81	568.87
Parker Plant Hire	Memorial Hall - storage	1	61.60	12.32	73.92
Parker Plant Hire	Memorial Hall - storage	1	61.60	12.32	73.92
British Gas	Copperworks - Electricity	1	14.45	0.72	15.17
British Gas	Institute - Electricity	1	275.04	55.00	330.04
British Gas	Pembrey school - Electricity	1	255.14	51.02	306.16
British Gas	Memorial Hall - Electricity	1	334.96	66.99	401.95
British Gas	Cemetery - Electricity	4	112.81	5.64	118.45
British Gas	OAP Hall - Electricity	1	29.03	1.45	30.48
Communicorp	Admin - subscription	3	12.00		12.00
Chivers Corner Garage	Cemetery - vehicles costs	4	136.12	27.23	163.35
Moira Thomas	Travelling	3	78.00		78.00
Parker Plant Hire	Cemetery - materials	4	52.50	10.50	63.00
Parker Plant Hire	Cemetery - materials	4	67.50	13.50	81.00
IWEC	Hall - Refurbishments	1	425.00	85.00	510.00
IWEC	OAP Hall - maintenance	1	56.50	11.30	67.80
IWEC	Pembrey Memorial Hall - maintenance	1	565.00	113.00	678.00
Furniture @ Work	Admin - equipment	3	225.00	45.00	270.00
Emyr Rees	Memorial Hall Refurbishments	1	200.00		200.00
Davies Craddock	Cemetery - van insurance	4	273.32		273.32
Carms Tourism Association	Admin - marketing and promotion	9	91.00		91.00
Consortium	Admin supplies	3	4.49	0.90	5.39
Joanne Chilvers	Admin - website	3	49.50		49.50
Parker Plant Hire	Cemetery - maintenance	4	5.50	1.10	6.60
Consortium	Hall - cleaning materials	1	20.79	4.16	24.95

Zurich Municipal DB Property Maintenance	Annual Insurances	1	11262.26	675.72	11937.98
Magnum DB Property Maintenance	Institute - maintenance	1	170.00		170.00
Magnum DB Property Maintenance	Memorial Hall Refurbishments	1	2496.00	499.20	2995.20
Magnum DB Property Maintenance	Institute - maintenance	1	390.00		390.00
Wales in Bloom	Floral Displays application	9	140.00		140.00
			<u>23659.15</u>	<u>2500.17</u>	<u>26159.32</u>

In relation to the schedule of payments, the RFO advised that some are accruals. He also highlighted a number of payments to Dwr Cymru. The annual insurance had also been paid, although there had been a significant saving of over £6,500, as with the previous insurer, the premium had been nearly £18,000. The Clerk and RFO were complimented in relation to this saving.

3. Petty Cash

Payments made from 1st to 31st May 2015

Post Office	7.56		7.56
Llanelli Star	0.75		0.75
Postage (2nd Class)	54.00		54.00
Co-op VE day	15.97		15.97
Llanelli Star	0.75		0.75
Llanelli Star	0.75		0.75
Trailer board	18.00	3.60	21.60
Llanelli Star	0.75		0.75
Total payments made from petty cash			
			<u>£98.53 £3.60 £102.13</u>

4. Budget Monitoring Report

The Budget monitoring report for the period 1st April to 30th April 2015 has been circulated to Members.

Income and expenditure should be around 8%.

Income is below budget for year to date, which is mainly attributable to the footpath grant, the SLAs and the Pembrey Memorial Hall subsidy being received later in the year. Also, the invoices for annual rentals by various local organisations were sent out in May, following a review of fees and charges.

In relation to expenditure, employees' costs are within budget. Administration costs are also within budget, although some annual payments had been made in April, including the subscription to One Voice Wales.

In relation to expenditure on marketing and promotion, the RFO advised that it had been agreed at the recent Finance Committee meeting that a more detailed analysis would be provided.

There has been no civic expenditure to date.

Expenditure on the cemetery/footpaths is over budget with the main item of over spend relating to the annual payment of rates.

Expenditure on the Hall and Institute is also over budget. Under this heading, there have been a number of items of expenditure but the most noticeable one is the annual payment of rates. A query was raised in relation to expenditure on materials and why this percentage appeared high. The RFO clarified that it is not a very large budget but also there may be some accruals. He confirmed that this budget is managed by the TSO.

Expenditure on the Copperworks is over budget. This is attributable to the fact that a rates rebate was being obtained when the premises was being rented out to charitable organisations, which is no longer the case.

Expenditure on the former Pembrey School is over budget, and again this is mainly attributable to the payment of annual rates.

Expenditure on Pembrey Memorial Hall is over budget and once again, this is mainly attributable to the payment of annual rates. The RFO also advised that an oil bill had been paid.

In relation to special projects, there has been very little expenditure for year to date.

The RFO advised that the net operational expenditure is slightly over budget at 11.05%. However, this is not truly reflective of the position, due to income currently being down due to money awaited and also the number of annual payments which have already been made.

The RFO circulated the Annual Return to members, for their consideration and approval. He took members through this, explaining that the summary figures are on the front page, with the second page containing a number of governance statements.

The RFO referred to the various items on the income and expenditure account, which provided details of actual figures for 2013/14, projected figures for 2014/15, actual figures for 2014/15 and the variance to budget.

In relation to income, additional income had been received by way of the grant for Burry Port Memorial Hall and the subsidy for Pembrey Memorial Hall. Also, in excess of £17,000 rental income had been received for the two Halls in Burry Port and Pembrey. Fees for Burry Port Memorial Hall have been boosted through an increase in the charges and more usage of the Hall.

In relation to expenditure, employees' costs were within budget. Administration costs were under budget, with no election costs having been spent.

Civic expenditure was within budget and the RFO referred to the fact that for this year, the Civic Ceremony and the general civic expenditure have been merged together.

Expenditure on the cemetery/footpaths was within budget.

Expenditure on the Hall and Institute was slightly over budget, with this being mainly attributable to increased energy costs and also water costs being higher than budgeted.

Following a query from a member in relation to the position on the Council's electricity and gas contracts, the RFO advised that the electricity was renewable at the end of the month.

Expenditure on the Copperworks was nearly £3,000 under budget, due to a reduction in maintenance and repairs.

Expenditure on the former Pembrey School was slightly over budget, mainly due to electricity costs.

The RFO referred to expenditure on the Pembrey Memorial Hall showing as a £9,000 over spend. He clarified that this was not in fact the position, as £10,000 had been received from the County Council to undertake some refurbishment works.

Expenditure on special projects was overall under budget. An additional budget had been given for the major replacement fund/PBPTC events/development budget but not all of this had been spent. The RFO clarified that the money for the youth club donation is in earmarked reserves. Also, a sum for the provision of potential transfer of services has been placed in earmarked reserves. The total earmarked reserves are £43,651.36.

The RFO also referred to the full breakdown of donations made during the year, which were set out on the Annual Return.

Following the consideration of the Annual Return, members unanimously **APPROVED** it, for submission to the external auditor.

33. To consider the report of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 11th May 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 11th May be signed and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

P4 (10) Consideration of applications for financial donations

Following a query by a member, the RFO confirmed that the cheques had been signed in relation to the various financial donations and were just awaiting to be signed before being sent out.

P6 (13.1) Heritage Trail Bid

Cllr Graham Davies advised that the proposed constitution for the Heritage Trail Group would be considered at the next meeting on 25th June. He also queried if he should include the maintenance of the boards within the bid or could the Town Council's support be relied upon for this. Members were of the view that the maintenance should be included in the bid at this stage.

34. To consider any planning applications

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Description of Application</u>
S/32033	Scott Ashford 7 Church Road Burry Port	Partly retrospective application for outbuilding
S/32055	Christopher Cray 9 The Crescent Burry Port	Proposed double storey side extension to existing dwelling, with detached garage and reconstructed boundary wall
S/32083	Mr Andrew Scott Sandhurst The Harbour Burry Port	Variation of conditions 4, 5, 6 and 12 on S21492 (landscaping, boundary treatment measures, bin storage and car parking layout).

Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas advised members that two out of the three applications had been recommended for approval at the meeting of the Planning Committee, namely application numbers S/32055 and S32083. However, in relation to application number S/32033, it was felt that additional information was required. One member was able to provide some limited additional information, although he was not a consultee. He advised that he was of the understanding that there had been a problem with the final size of the building, compared to the plan which had been approved.

Following the discussions, members **APPROVED** application numbers S/32055 and S/32083 but due to insufficient information, they objected to application number S/32033.

35. To consider any County Councillors' reports

County Councillor Mrs Pat Jones advised that there had been a lot of internal emails in relation to the Grillo Site and it is now hoped that the various planning applications will be approved. County Councillor John James added that previously, there had been two issues preventing the planning applications being dealt with, namely a request for a "calling in" and also, an embargo had not been lifted, although this technicality had now been addressed by the Welsh Government. This now meant that the Local Authority is able to make a decision and County Cllr John James advised that it is "minded to accept" all six applications.

County Councillor Mrs Pat Jones referred to the visit to Burry Port by the Chief Constable of Dyfed Powys Police on Friday 12th June. During the visit, he had been taken to the Grillo Site, the Harbour and Glan y Mor School. The Clerk added that there had been assurance from the Chief Constable that Burry Port Police Station would not be closed unless a better facility was provided. County Councillor John James additionally advised that it would go out to consultation to the public. Cllr Robert John, who had also been present on the visit, advised that he believes that the ideal scenario for the Police and Crime Commissioner would be for the Town Council to offer accommodation to the Police on its own premises.

36. To consider the Mayor's report

The Mayor advised members that she had attended a few civic services. Also, earlier that

day, she had presented a plaque from the Council in the former OAP Hall to a lady who was 100 years old.

37. Consideration of a request from Welsh Water to undertake work on the site of the Memorial Hall as part of the RainScape Scheme

The representatives from Welsh Water outlined that at present, there is a combined drains system for sewerage and surface water at the site of Burry Port Memorial Hall. Accordingly, Welsh Water would like to undertake work as part of the RainScape scheme to separate the roof water from entering the current combined system. This would entail installing a series of new pipes which would carry the roof/surface water to discharge into highway drainage. This would necessitate part of the car park being dug up. All work would be undertaken by Welsh Water, although following its completion, the surface water pipes would be the responsibility and ownership of the Town Council. As there will be some disruption, the duration of the work was queried. It was indicated that Welsh Water would be looking to commence the work in October, although it is not known precisely how long it would take. As this is a busy time of the year for usage of the Memorial Hall, it was confirmed that the commencement of the work could be negotiated upon.

Following the discussions, it was proposed and **RESOLVED** that the work in the grounds of the Memorial Hall be undertaken, provided that Welsh Water liaises with the Clerk and the TSO regarding the most suitable timing.

38. Consideration of proposed new traffic measures in Burry Port

Cllr John James advised that it had originally been intended that County Council officers attend the meeting with maps. However, the situation had been superseded by developments in relation to the Grillo Site regarding the planning applications. He referred to emails with John McEvoy of Carmarthenshire County Council. In a very recent email sent on 16th June 2015, Mr McEvoy confirmed that he had discussed the request to consider the introduction of a one way system in Burry Port with an officer from the Council's Highways Planning Liaison section. This officer had advised that any proposal to introduce a one way system would need to be formally considered in the preparation of planning submissions for the various regeneration proposals to the south of Burry Port. The email further indicated that the traffic impact assessments associated with the regeneration proposals would need to include the scenario of new one way systems being introduced in or close to the town centre.

Cllr John James further indicated that residents in New Street are reasonably happy with the information provided.

However, Cllr Graham Davies expressed a view that this is another excuse to delay. He also disputed that residents of New Street were content with the situation, and he advised that he had been speaking with one such resident only earlier that day. Cllr Graham Davies also referred to the fact that assurances had been given some time ago that there would be a consultation on a one way system. He further advised that it had taken four weeks for John McEvoy to respond to a letter sent by him. Mr McEvoy had indicated that there were no plans to remove the speed bumps and that he was glad that the Town Council were considering the issue.

Cllr Stephen James declared his interest, being a local resident. He commented that he was staggered that Cllr Graham Davies could state that the situation was being used by the County

Council to delay matters. He further advised that not everyone is in favour of a one way system in New Street. He emphasised that the Grillo Site is a crucial development and it was not the Town Council's, the County Council's or residents' wishes that its proposed development had been delayed.

Cllr John James added that he would again contact the office of Keith Davies AM the following day regarding the speed bumps.

39. To consider the possible demolition of the building on the Copperworks site as part of the proposed planning application (recommendation from the Regeneration and Leisure Committee)

The Clerk advised that there had been discussion regarding this issue at the recent Regeneration and Leisure Committee meeting. Following this, the recommendation was that the building should be demolished as soon as practicable, subject to quotations being obtained. Cllr David Owens also added that the Finance Committee was also supportive of this, conditional on the price.

It was therefore proposed and unanimously **RESOLVED** that in principle, steps be taken to demolish the unoccupied building on the Copperworks site as soon as practicable, subject to the cost not being prohibitive.

40. To consider Communications received

1. Letter from the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Christopher Salmon dated 20th May 2015, in response to a letter sent by the Clerk, putting forward the Town Council's proposal in relation to Burry Port Police Station. Mr Salmon thanks the Council for its imaginative and constructive proposal. He also advises that currently, the force is conducting a survey across all of its estate to obtain more accurate financial and management information. As this will be taking place over the summer months, Mr Salmon indicates that he will be unlikely to be in a position to discuss proposals in detail before September, although he would be delighted to do so at that stage, when decisions can be made in light of the full facts. Mr Salmon confirms that no final decisions have been taken in relation to Pembrey and Burry Port and that for the time being, it is not proposed to change anything about Burry Port Police Station.

Noted

2. Email from One Voice Wales on 22nd May 2015, forwarding information from the Inclusion Team at the Welsh Government. This advises that a consultation was launched on 21st May 2015 by the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty on "Protecting Community Assets". Any responses are to be submitted by 11th September and the link details are <http://gov.wales/consultations/people-and-communities/protecting-community-assets-consultation/?lang=en>.

Noted

3. Letter from Mr Mark James, Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council dated 21st May 2015. This letter is in response to the letter sent by the Clerk, raising the Town Council's concerns about Burry Port Harbour. Mr James advises that similar concerns have been raised via members at the Community Scrutiny Committee and a report is due to be presented to that Committee in the coming months by the Head of Leisure, Mr Ian

Jones. Although a request was made for Mr James to meet with Town Councillors, the letter states that Mr Ian Jones would be happy to meet with members in order to discuss the concerns in more detail. The Clerk is presently making appropriate arrangements for this.

Cllr John James advised that Mr Ian Jones is responsible for the Harbour. He also indicated that due to the intervention of Mr Mark James, the report would not be going to the Community Scrutiny Committee, as intended. Instead, Mr James requires officers to consider it once more. Cllr John James felt that this was favourable to the Town Council's position. He further indicated that if members remain unhappy following the meeting with Mr Ian Jones, then Mr Mark James was willing to attend.

4. Letter from the Staff Officer to the Chief Constable of Dyfed-Powys Police dated 3rd June 2015. This letter is in response to the letter sent by the Clerk, raising the Town Council's concerns about Sergeant Ceri Howells' absence from Burry Port Police Station for two months, as well as changes which have been made in recent years to staffing of the Police Station. This letter confirms that the correspondence has been passed to the Public Service Bureau, who will respond further in due course.

Noted

5. Letter from the PCC Secretary of Pembrey Parish Church dated 4th June 2015. This advises that on 2nd July 2015, the Bishop of St David's will be undertaking a day long visit to the Parish of Pembrey with Llandry. As part of this visit, a service of Holy Eucharist will be held at St Illtyd's Church, Pembrey at 11am. The Secretary indicates that she has been requested to write on behalf of the Vicar, Church Wardens and PCC to invite the Mayor, together with the elected members of the Pembrey Ward to this special service. It is requested that confirmation of intended attendance be provided in advance.

Cllr David Owens confirmed that he would be attending and it was APPROVED that the Mayor should attend, together with any other Pembrey Ward Councillors, if possible. Despite the letter specifically extending an invitation to Pembrey Ward Councillors, Cllr David Owens indicated that he believed Burry Port Councillors would also be welcome to attend.

6. Email from Welsh Government on 11th June 2015. This advises that the Public Health (Wales) Bill has been introduced to the National Assembly for Wales by the Minister for Health and Social Services. The Bill seeks to bring together a series of practical actions in specific areas, in order to have a positive impact on health and well-being and follows last year's Public Health White Paper Consultation.

Amongst other proposals, the Bill will place a duty on each Local Authority in Wales to prepare and publish a local toilets strategy on the provision of toilets available for use by the public in its area. This strategy must include an assessment of the community's need for toilets including changing facilities for babies and facilities for disabled persons, as well as details of how the Local Authority proposes to meet that need. The email has been sent to all Community Councils in Wales, as it is stated that the content of the Bill will be of interest to those Councils who provide and/or maintain a public toilet facility.

The Bill and Explanatory Memorandum are available on the National Assembly for Wales website at www.assembly.wales/en/bus-home/bus-legislation/bus-legislation-

Noted

41. To receive reports by elected members, if any

Cllr Stephen James referred to the proposals published earlier that day by the Public Service Minister Leighton Andrews for the future configuration of Local Authorities in Wales. These included that Carmarthenshire be joined with Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire as a Local Authority, as part of the proposed reorganisation. He expressed the view that the Council should object to the proposal and this should be communicated to the Minister, the local AM and MP. Following a brief discussion, members felt that more information was required, to enable an educated decision to be taken. It was therefore **RESOLVED** that the issue should be placed on the agenda for the September Town Council meeting, for full consideration.

Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas advised that Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is in green banding. At a recent Governors' meeting information had been provided about how the school had been tested and it had done exceptionally well.

42. Report of the Clerk on matters of administration

1.

Following a visit by students and two lecturers from Coleg Sir Gar to the Memorial Hall on 2nd June 2015, the Clerk has been advised that the students are preparing power point presentations and promotional display materials. Accordingly, the Clerk and members have been invited to attend at the College on Thursday 25th June at 10.30am to listen to the student feedback. The visit will last approximately an hour.

Cllrs Andrew Phillips and Robert John indicated an intention to attend.

2. The Clerk requires to update the Register of Members' interests. Accordingly, new forms have been prepared and each member is requested to obtain a form, complete and return it to the Clerk by the 30th June.

Noted.

3. Correspondence has been received from the Access & Engagement Coordinator for Carmarthenshire County Council, advising that the consultation on "Promoting Independence for Older People in Carmarthenshire – Getting People's Views" commenced on 1st June 2015 and will run until 31st July 2015. It is stated that as Town and Community Councils could play a key role in developing services for older people within local communities, and as its members are well placed to understand the needs of local people, all Councillors are being encouraged to complete a questionnaire. The Clerk has been supplied with a number of questionnaires, for those who are interested and the consultation documents are also available to complete online on the County Council's website, details of which are :-local.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/consultations/olderpeople.

Noted

4. Information has been forwarded by One Voice Wales on behalf of the Head of Community Energy of Resource Efficient Wales (REW). This advises that REW offers information and help to the community on saving energy and water and

reducing waste. Support is offered to communities and groups of domestic customers in the form of a site visit from a Regional Client Manager. Through this, they will be able to provide a report outlining the options available to the community and an action plan of how to proceed with the recommendations, which can include a community building survey, community owned renewables, community resource efficiency measures and community led individual action. There is also follow up work, including agreeing an action plan, the commissioning of specialist reports, identifying barriers and funding options and also referrals to other agencies.

REW is a new service funded through Welsh Government to provide advice and support to the domestic, community, business and public sectors. Severn Wye Energy Agency, along with a consortium of partners are providing the domestic and community support for this service. More detailed information is available on the website <http://resourceefficient.gov.wales>.

Noted

5. Natural Resources Wales has produced a briefing note for One Voice Wales on 'Shale Gas and Hydraulic Fracturing in Wales' (**copy attached**).

Noted

6. Advance notification is provided of the Mayor's Civic Service, which is to be held on Sunday 12th July at 2.30pm. Formal invitations will be sent out shortly.

*A query was raised in relation to the format of the Civic Service and whether this should be standardised to a certain extent. The Clerk updated that the Civic Governance and Personnel Committee had already invited Cllr Stephen James to revert with some ideas, although this had not occurred to date. It was therefore **APPROVED** that the issue be placed upon the agenda for a Civic Governance and Personnel Committee meeting and that consideration be given to it by Cllrs Stephen James, David Owens and John James.*