

Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council
Regeneration and Community Services Committee Meeting
Thursday 4th February 2016

Present: - Chair Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews, Cllrs Geraint Davies, John James, Andrew Phillips, Michael Theodoulou and Mrs Moira Thomas.

In attendance: Melanie Carroll-Cliffe (Town Clerk)

(Meeting Room, Memorial Hall, Burry Port 9.30am – 10.20am)

1. Personal Matters.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Mary Wenman, Hefin Williams and Stephen James.

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

Members confirmed their usual declarations of interest. No new declarations were made in relation to the business to be transacted.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Regeneration and Leisure Committee meeting held on 7th January 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2016 were approved as a true record.

4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes

P2 (4) Matters arising – Update on the planting of “Anne Frank” trees by local schools

The Clerk updated that she had spoken with the supplier of the trees. The supplier had explained that horse chestnut trees were not advisable due to their height and the difficulty in sourcing them. Therefore, he would look into alternatives and supply four trees of the same variety.

5. Update on entry to Wales in Bloom 2016 and its sponsorship

Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews informed members that due to personal reasons, she had not had the opportunity to meet with local businesses but she is hoping to arrange this within the next fortnight. However, she advised that the Carnival Committee is prepared to give a substantial donation towards the flowers for Wales in Bloom 2016. The Wales in Bloom Sub Committee has met and certain areas have been identified for sustainable planting, namely the Moreb roundabout, area at the bottom of New Street and Pembrey Square. Using more sustainable planting will significantly reduce man hours in terms of watering and the cost. Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews emphasised how the flower displays have enhanced the Pembrey and Burry Port areas. She advised that a photograph of the main harbour roundabout in Burry Port was used in a presentation at the Britain in Bloom awards. Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews has approached Rory Dickinson of Carmarthenshire County Council regarding wild flowers

being planted around the harbour area. Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas reminded members of the commitment made by the Town Council to host Wales in Bloom 2017.

6. Update on Christmas lighting for 2016

Due to the problems with the Christmas lighting in 2015, Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews and the Clerk have investigated alternatives. Examples of lamp post lights were circulated. The prices of these vary, depending on the design from between £200 and £500, excluding the bracket. The Clerk informed members that she had identified a company which is prepared to undertake a site visit and make recommendations and will then prepare a computer generated image. Members agreed that this was worthwhile to explore further. Cllr Michael Theodoulou suggested asking the company for two alternatives, one to include our current lights and one totally new design. Cllr Shirley Matthews commented that it is important to have lights where they can be seen and that Station Road is the main thoroughfare.

7. Update on organised community events

Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews stated that the Carnival Committee had been in negotiation with the Yacht Club regarding future events, including the fireworks display and the possibility of running a music festival alongside the fishing festival.

The Carnival Committee already runs a three day event which comprises a music evening, the carnival and songs of praise and this will be continuing.

Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews highlighted the fact that other organisations put on events to fund raise for themselves, whereas the Carnival Committee raises funds for the community.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou emphasised the need for clarity in relation to the responsibility for organising events. There are two ways in which the Town Council can be involved, either through a financial donation and / or practical assistance or alternatively, by taking on the responsibility for organising the event, even if this is in partnership with other organisations.

Cllr John James commented that he is hoping to run a number of community events later in 2016/17 and has already approached some organisations.

Cllr Michael Theodoulou referred to the fact that a budget had been approved by the Finance Committee for the running of two events. Clarity is needed for all events regarding who is organising the event, who is funding it and the costings involved. It was therefore agreed that once Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews has more information, Cllr Mrs Moira Thomas should also be involved in attending meetings, a Vice Chair of the Regeneration and Community Services Committee.

Cllr Mrs Shirley Matthews reminded members that the Cawl Cennin, which is a Council run event, will take place on Wednesday 2nd March 2016 commencing at 1pm. It was agreed that set up for this event would take place at 12.30pm on Tuesday 1st March and raffle prizes from Councillors would be requested. Cllr John James suggested that if Councillors are donating raffle prizes, there should be recognition of those who have donated.