

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Penrice Community Council held
on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 remotely via Zoom video conference commenced at 7.30pm**

Members Present:

Cllr A Glass (Chairman)
Cllr J Tarrant
Cllr K Grove
Cllr R Newman
Cllr A Barraclough
Cllr L Grove
Cllr T Methuen-Campbell
Cllr H Trick

133/20 Apologies for Absence

None

134/20 Declarations of interest

None.

135/20 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 19th February 2020

The minutes were a true and accurate record of events, proposed Cllr A Barraclough seconded Cllr T Methuen-Campbell, carried unanimously.

136/20 Matters arising from the minutes

Item 107/20 Sub item 97/19

A poster to engage local people in plans for biodiversity in the community - in progress. Held in abeyance. JT

Item 100/19

Work on policy documents ongoing.

JE/SC

Item 112/20

Reported: A meeting would be held when the weather improves for relevant parties to discuss the improvement of drainage in Oxwich. Due to the current pandemic - deferred.

Item 125/20 No 3

Reported: For many years CCS has been requested to cut the verges in this area, including those on the Marsh, as late as possible. Cllr Methuen-Campbell has written to CCS to help ensure this and so preserve the diverse and important wildflowers. Through this approach the verges and banks around Penrice have the most untouched natural flowers and biodiversity in Gower. CCS have not cut the tree verges on the Marsh this year as it is too early with orchids still in flower.

Item 112/20

Reported: The map of PCC council and ward boundaries are posted on the website.

Item 127/19

Macmillan walk postponed due to current situation in the country.

137/20 Community Councils

None

138/20 Correspondence

None

139/20 Financial

1. Oxwich and Penrice Community Hall hire for 2019/20 £ 100
 2. Horton Village Hall hire for 2019/20 £ 100
 3. Came and Company Annual insurance for 2020/21 £ 356.53
 4. Clerk Salary and Expenses June £ 433.13
- Payments as presented - Proposed to pay Cllr A Barraclough, seconded Cllr K Grove, carried unanimously.

Payments that had been passed in principle and were due for payment in the March meeting:

5. Indica website provision & maintenance for 2019/20 £ 200
6. Councillor Allowance - Cllr J Ellis for 2019/20 £ 150

Payments as presented that were due in March- proposed Cllr A Barraclough, seconded Cllr L Grove, carried unanimously.

The Internal Auditor had confirmed that she was happy to complete the audit as agreed remotely. Information had been received from The Wales Audit Office stating that extension on the completion of the Audit was permitted due to the current situation and the Covid 19 pandemic. A statement on the website to advise members of the public of this would be posted. SC/JE

140/19 Planning

- A Application no: 2020/0841 field 0005 Bank Farm, Horton, Swansea
Use of land for camping and caravan rally for a maximum of 30 units from 4th to 18th July 2021.

Council resolved to submit that there was no objection providing the CCS were monitoring the number of caravans in the area at any one time and that the number was not detrimental to the area and the residents and visitors who are there.

141/19 Request for a memorial bench to be placed on the Horton Village Green.

A request had been made by a family for a memorial bench to be placed on Horton Green for a resident who had lived in the area for many years. Due to the fact that the meeting was being held without the public Cllr K Grove to find out more information, possibly provide photos and where the bench would be located etc so that full details could be made public prior to a decision. The family would purchase and maintain the bench. The bench would be made of stone and plastic slats the same as the benches already located on the green. Agenda next meeting with more information. SC/KG/JE

142/19 Extensive Tree Removal from Oxwich Hill.

A member of the public raised a query regarding the extensive tree removal on the various hills around Oxwich. It was highlighted that trees provide vital flood defenses and prevent land erosion, as well as being an important part of helping the country meet its carbon neutral targets. Another email from a different member of the public also raised a query about the removal of trees from the Oxwich Chalet Park. A letter of explanation had been sent by the owners of the Chalet Park explaining the reasons for the felling of the trees which included Ash Die Back and safety reasons. Also the Chairman had met with the owner of the Chalet Park prior to the meeting in order to find out further information.

Reported: Chairman expressed concern to Chalet Park owners raised by some local residents about the prospect of increased run-off from the hill exacerbating the problem of an overflowing sewer in part of the village, caused by tree removal at the Chalet Park and other nearby sites.

The owners of the park advised that they had taken professional advice to the effect that some of the trees (8 No.) immediately above an occupied building and parking complex were dangerous due to age, or Ash Die-back, and needed swift felling, for which a planning application was submitted and granted. One of the trees fell before any action could be started, fortunately on an empty parking area. They intend to replant with smaller trees such as Hawthorn. They contend that everything they have done has been properly specified and approved.

Resolved: The Chair to speak with the resident who raised the original complaint in the first instance to explain the Council's findings so far. AG

Reported: There had been concern regarding a pre-planning application for Heatherslade Oxwich, to extend from a 2 bedroom to a 5 bedroom. CCS had given it a negative response.

Reported: With the view that the CCS had now opened all of the beach car parks, the Council was asked for feedback regarding re-opening Oxwich Car Park. A local resident had reported that Swansea police were not opposed to the car park re-opening.

Councillors reported that cars had been parking in other areas because the car parks were closed and that this had caused problems in some areas with the emergency services unable to pass.

Penrice Estate had received abusive letters about the Car Park being open before lockdown was introduced. This was unpleasant and not something that the estate wished to repeat. The Car Park remained closed during lockdown and the Estate now planned to re-open it on the 20th June 2020.

Resolved the Chairman to advise everyone that Oxwich Car Park would re-open 20th June 2020. AG

Reported: The Bench on Horton Hill would need looking at prior to the next meeting. LG

Reported: The Oxwich 'Whats App' group had been working well in keeping the community speaking and staying in contact during the lockdown. People had been supporting each other with shopping etc.

Reported: Fly tipping had been a problem due to the closure of the recycling centres and lockdown. Rubbish had been left on the 'Penny Hitch' and also on a building plot in Oxwich. The owners of the plot had removed this.

15th July 2020.

Date _____ Chairman _____