

**FINAL MINUTES FROM THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF PENNARD
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON THE 22nd Jan 2025 AT 7.00 PM**

Present: Cllr Rachel Carter REC (Chair), Cllr Susan Rodaway SER, Cllr Steve Sheriff SS, Cllr Cari Jones CJ, Cllr Lynda James LJ, Cllr Will Smith WS, Cllr Richard Beynon RB, Clerk, Community and Grants Officer and 2 members of the Public

Apologies for absence: Cllr Mark Parkinson, Cllr Cai Carter and Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway due to sickness and other commitments

Apologies for Lateness: Cllr S Rodaway and Cllr Sheriff and the Community and Grants Officer.

Declarations of interest: None

All votes will be named votes

Questions from the Public relating to items on this agenda (limited to 10 minutes)

1. To receive an update on the Community garden.

The Clerk and Cllr Carter gave an update, Cllr Carter reported that the Garden Co-ordinator would be attending the inaugural meeting of a local ALN (Additional Learning Needs) Connect group in Mumbles on the 30th Jan, the group had been in contact and were keen to be involved with the Garden project.

Cllr Jones explained she had brought up the subject of the Garden up at a recent Outdoors Practitioners Meeting and there had been lots of interest along with a volunteer of help.

2. To discuss and agree action on the planting scheme for Kittle planters.

Cllr Carter suggested there should be a different planting scheme for the Planters in line with our Biodiversity Plan and showed some examples of local planters stocked with native plants. It was suggested that She and the Clerk get some options and prices from Celtic Wildflowers who specialise in local native species ready for planting.

Proposed by SS seconded by CJ agreed by all

3. To discuss and agree action on how we can increase biodiversity in our Pennard Facilities.

Various options were discussed including planting trees in the park and Burial Ground. Wildflower planting was also discussed for the Burial Ground and its car park, it was agreed that Rachel and the Clerk would look at options and bring the details back to the next meeting.

4. To discuss and agree any action needed regarding the installation of the new footpath gates, path and damage to vegetation (Pennard Dr to Pennard Rd).

Cllr James explained that she still hadn't had an update but had spoken with Mike Scott who was going to look into matters. A discussion regarding the hedgerow then ensued, Cllr Carter asked Cllr James to check whether the planning conditions stipulated that the developer should have replanted with the original species present in the hedgerow and also confirm whom is responsible for restoring that remaining hedgerow.

Cllr James suggested that if more remedial planting is done that it should not include holly. Cllr Jones asked to be part of any meeting with Mike as she wanted the accessibility issues to also be included.

5. To agree action regarding the Catering van being sited at Linkside stores.

Cllr Carter gave an update on the situation regarding the recent unauthorised/illegal trading outside Linkside stores. Trading standards previously confirmed that the business was operating without the required Street Trader's license and Planning permission. Trading standards contacted the business owner again to advise them to cease trading and advertising and to apply for a Street Trader's license and the relevant planning permission. A discussion took place regarding the potential issues with damage to the pavement and obstruction of the view at the T junction. Cllr Carter suggested that as the planning permission is for a specific site it may be a good idea to suggest alternative locations in the village which may be more appropriate and that they should be suggested before any planning application is made to save the owner time and money.

The Clerk said she would speak to the business owner and suggest he speaks to the School Head regarding a spot in the school car park which could be of benefit to both parties.

Cllr Sherrif ask it to be noted that he did not think it was an issue for the Council.

6. To agree to payment for Adder awareness signs

Cllr Carter explained the background regarding the signs and showed what they would look like. After a short discussion it was agreed that vinyl stickers would be purchased for sticking on to Di-bond aluminium boards with Cllr Sheriff had offered to provide.

Before any purchase, it would be necessary to contact the Golf Club as it was believed that the Community Liaison Officer who had agreed for the signs to be installed had changed.

The purchased was proposed in principle pending the Golf Club still being in agreement.

Proposed by SER seconded by SS agreed by all

7. To discuss idea of working with various stakeholders on visual improvements to Pennard pill pumping station.

Again, this had been something discussed and supported by the Golf Club Liaison Officer, Cllr Carter explained the background and a discussion took place around what could be done by painting or cladding the building which was a bit of an eyesore in its current state. It was proposed that Community interest could be generated by way of an article in the next newsletter.

**Proposed by CJ seconded by LJ agreed by REC against SS abstained WS and SER.
Motion carried**

8. To discuss and agree to update our Biodiversity Action Plan in preparation for completing the Section 6 report due at the end of 2025.

Cllr Carter explained that the plan needs to be revisited prior to being updated and published by End of 2025. She was happy to work with the Clerk on this and bring the draft to Full Council for agreement at a future meeting.

Proposed by REC seconded by LJ agreed by all

9. To discuss and agree actions to update website to populate the Environment and community pages.

Cllr Carter suggested that contributions be brought to a Working Group for discussion and inclusion on the Web site.

Proposed by CJ seconded by LJ agreed by all

10. To discuss newsletter and agree who is going to be involved with what task.

A discussion regarding the content of the next newsletter took place, the content will need to be ready by the end of March ready for printing and distribution in April. Cllr Carter agreed to assist the Clerk with proofreading and formatting of the newsletter. Those present were asked to volunteer to contribute to specific parts of the newsletter and the Clerk was asked

to distribute this list of tasks assigned to each member to share the workload of producing the newsletter.

11. To discuss Big Climate Leap Project and agree action.

The Clerk explained the conversations with the Environment Centre team who had funding to help identify where we could reduce our Carbon Footprint. It was agreed to take part and that the agreement form should be returned to them with the information they had asked for.

Proposed by REC seconded by CJ agreed by all

Meeting closed at 8.46pm