



Solva Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Solfach

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 16th May 2022 at 6p.m.
in
Solva Memorial Hall.

Attended by:

Community Councillor's Ifor Thomas (Vice Chair), Colin Reynolds, Joe Griffin
Rob Richards, Richy Davies

Clerk & RFO: Bruce Payne

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1. **Welcome and Introduction.** Community Councillor Ifor Thomas explained the EOM had been called to ensure members were aware of the incident in lower Solva involving an elected member of the community council. The EOM would not discuss the incident but ensure members were aware of how a breach of the Code of Conduct would be addressed by the Ombudsman for Wales.
 2. **Apologies.** Community Councillors Bethany Hutson and Sam Ellison.
 3. **Declarations of interest - Personal or Personal and Prejudicial.**
 - a. Community Councillor Ifor Thomas declared a personal interest. The community councillor concerned was a family member
 4. **Code of Conduct Breach.** Four complaints had been received by the Clerk regarding an incident in lower Solva on Thursday 12th May 2022 involving an elected member of SCC. The Ombudsman for Wales had formally been notified of the incident by one of the complainants.
 - a. **PCC Monitoring Officer.** The Clerk notified the Monitoring Officer on Friday 13th May about the incident and to discuss the complaint process.
 - b. **Ombudsman for Wales.** The Ombudsman would formally contact the SCC Clerk and complainant. The Ombudsman would also notify the community councillor concerned that a complaint had been received. The complaint, and any supporting information, would then be examined against a two-stage test. At the first stage, the Ombudsman would consider whether there was direct evidence that a breach of the Code of Conduct had occurred (this could take up to 6 weeks). At the second stage the Ombudsman would consider whether an



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investigation or a referral to a standards committee or the Adjudication Panel for Wales was required in the public interest. (Any investigation or referral could take 12 months).

Post Minute Note

5. **Resignation.** The Community Councillor named in the complaint resigned on Tuesday 17th May 2022.
6. **Ombudsman for Wales.** The Ombudsman notified the Clerk on Wednesday 18th May 2022 that the code of conduct complaint made against the community councillor has been withdrawn and no further action would be taken.
7. **Second SCC EOM.** SCC would convene a second EOM on Tuesday 24th May 2022 to address the election of chair, vice chair and the process to fill the casual vacancy.

Compiled by:

Bruce Payne (Clerk) 24th May 2022

Signed by: (Chair)