

Minutes of the Meeting of Marloes & St. Brides Community Council held on  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Marloes Village Hall

Present:- Cllr. P. Smithies (Chairman), together with Cllrs. Jessop,  
and Richards

- Mrs. Y. C. Evans - Clerk to the Council
- County Cllr. Reg Owens
- Mr. Malcolm Cullen and Mr. Richard Wells
- Mr. Dave Astins – Community Resident & County Council Officer

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Johnson & Beal. (Cllr. Kimpton apologised after the meeting for his absence.)

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Dave Astins to the meeting.

Howies Spud Run/Triathlons - Mr. Astins advised the meeting that he has 19 years experience as an Events Manager. The events locally include the Broad Haven Triathlon and the Dale Half Marathon and 10K run. He had then been asked by Howies, a clothing company in Carmarthen to assist with this Trail Race on the 30th June which starts and finishes near the Marloes Sands car park. Howies' staff holiday in the Community area. To date some 100 people had registered for the Trail Race, with 250 being the maximum. Arrangements had been made for an overspill car park, health and safety issues, and they aim to be as environmentally friendly as practical. There will only be a short road section which should not interfere with the Skomer traffic. The Race should finish by midday with the presentation afterwards. Cllr. Smithies advised he was donating the bags of potatoes which were the prizes for the first three home. All runners will receive a Howies t-shirt. Members agreed that the event should highlight the Marloes area, and that there should be minimal disruption to the local community.

PCC – Community Champion Coordinator – Community Assets. Mr. Astins then outlined his employment with the County Council, and what that role involved. The Council had received a general e-mail at the last meeting. Mr. Astins had sent the Clerk a breakdown of what assets are presently supported by the County Council. He noted the Play-park/Recreation Area is owned by the Community Council and run locally. He also noted that his “records do not show any spaces within the Marloes & St. Brides C. C. area that fall within scope” of the policy. He advised that there are three toilets presently maintained by the County Council:-

St. Brides – This toilet is owned by the County Council, and there is a covenant not to use the land for anything other than a toilet and & cesspit. After a query from Mr.

Cullen he said he would check who owns the land concerned, as National Park own all the surrounding land.

Martins Haven toilets – Built and owned by the National Trust, and the operational lease with the County Council expired in 2013. A meeting will be held with the National Trust to discuss handing back the running of the toilets to the National Trust. Noted that the need to empty the cess-pit almost daily in the summer months will be an added expense for the Trust.

Marloes Toilet – No deeds available for this Toilet. Members advised that this toilet is for visitors not community residents. The Puffin buses swap over clients at this location, so the toilets are used by bus customers who may be visiting the area. Mr. Astins was advised that it is not envisaged that this Council would take on this asset. They consider that the provision of toilets is part of the services offered by the County Council as part of their Tourism Strategy. Noted that the County Council may have to consider closure if the asset could not be taken over.

The issue of the Council tax being levied on the toilets was raised, as this greatly added to the expense of running the toilets. Mr. Astins advised that the Welsh Govt. has been asked to change this rule.

Council members and the Clerk advised Mr. Astins that the pressures/regulations being put on small community councils may mean that they cannot continue to operate as they do presently. Mr. Astins was thanked for attending, and he then withdrew at 8.05pm.

- 1) Minutes - The minutes of the May meeting had been circulated to members, but the Clerk had not been able to access her file to amend as required, and print off. Draft Minutes to be held over to the July meeting.
- 2) Matters Arising
  - a) Police Matters – Clerk advised the PCCO will be forwarding posters reference raves.
  - b) County Council – Highways etc. New signs at Mullock Junction are in place, but playing field sign needs to be replaced on new lamp post. Cllr. Owens advised that the PCCO Fund is now closed. Clerk to ask the County Council if two Automatic Speed Detection Warning signs can be provided, as the 20mph is being contravened by some local residents, and by visitors passing through. Clerk to provide Cllr. Owens with an update on outstanding matters, including St. Brides toilet lights and overnight parking issues.

Hedge Cutting – Cllr. Owens advised that from the 1<sup>st</sup> July the County Council will be using contractors. Up to now, their own staff have been cutting hedges. He confirmed the early cut which has received criticism from some local residents was done to accommodate the Broad Haven Triathlon users. The Clerk gave details of the date local hedges were cut last year. Mr. Cullen advised he had told Cllr. Owens of a vehicle driving very close to the

Winterton stream recently – warning posts are almost out of sight. Agreed that the hedges to Stembridge, Marloes now needs cutting in the interests of road safety.

Speeding Problems – Cllr. Owens advised that the Council should contact the local PCSO to arrange for the Speed Monitoring Van to visit.

Street Light 803 905 – The County Council has switched off the light - to review in January 2020.

- c) St. Brides Pay Phone – Phone is now working, but needs a card for payment except for emergency calls.
- d) Lockley Lodge/Parking, Martins Haven – No response from the Wildlife Trust.
- e) National Park Ranger/Footpath issues – Frankie’s Lane & Clock Tower Lane. Mr. Cullen advised that Mr. Lees, PCNPA Officer has visited the site, and has agreed the action to be taken. In September, work will be undertaken to blade and then remove surplus, to use  $\frac{3}{4}$  down if necessary, and to remove the sumps put in last year. Mr. Lees will speak to Mr. Pomfrey about him undertaking a contract to trim/cut back as necessary on these paths. Noted there has been rubbish problems on Frankies Lane, and also deliberate dropping of dog litter – this has now ceased.

Frog/Gull Path – Project ongoing.

Gull/Mouse Path – Cllr. Jessop has spoken to St. Ishmaels C. C. members, and they are interested in a proposed link path avoiding the use of roads as much as possible. Agreed that Cllr. Jessop pursue this proposal.

- f) Rural Wisdom Project – Clerk advised that a summary of the meeting held on May 16<sup>th</sup> in St. Ishmaels has been written. Ms Rachel Evans is planning to visit all communities to talk to residents about what they may wish to see happening. A questionnaire has been included in the June Peninsula Papers asking for responses on a series of questions.
- g) HPB (St. Brides Castle) Website – Cllr. Richards advised that he had looked at the various HPB websites and considered that the one for St. Brides was in line with others, and did refer to some local services. Noted.
- h) IRPW – to be issued to Councillors next month.
- i) Village Notice boards – Erected and in use.
- j) Saturday Bus Service – This matter was raised at the St. Ishmaels meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> May. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk write to Cllr. Owens proposing that for next year that the County Council after consultations with operators consider dropping the Monday service instead of the Saturday service. Buses would then be available on change-over day for visitors walking the Coastal path, for Skomer visitors (there are no landings on Mondays), and also for local residents including older children who may not have transport otherwise – thus minimising rural isolation.

Puffin Bus – Richards contract – Noted that on two occasions recently concern has been expressed about the bus being driven at speed through the village. Agreed that the PCC officer is advised of dates and times if possible.

- k) Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant – Cllr. Owens & the County Council have provided details of the grants awarded last year, and also the grant available this year for each community area. There is over £14,000 available in this area. Details provided in the Peninsula Papers report encouraging local groups to consider applying for assistance for projects. Noted that the Village Hall may explore whether solar panels would be a feasible venture.
- l) Skokholm Back – Cllr. Jessop and Mr. Cullen advised that over recent weeks some 24 man hours and 6 machine hours has been spent by themselves and Mr. Kevin Krelle clearing and grading the area either side of the village pump. Members thanked the individuals concerned -the area looks better already. There are plans to plant wild flowers on the area – further planning is needed.

### 3) Community Issues

#### a) National Trust Matters

Marloes Visitor Experience Project – Mr. Underhill had apologised for not attending this evening. Today the contract for the Project has been awarded to Pembrokeshire County Council. It is proposed that a Stakeholder meeting will be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July in Marloes Hall – invitations will be sent out to the Council and others.

Runwayskiln Dog Litter Bin – National Trust will be purchasing a suitable bin, and when it is installed, the Clerk will notify the County Council to arrange for their contractor to empty. Noted.

#### b) Rubbish Collections & Dog Fouling –

Dog Fouling - Mr. McCarthy, PCC has provided the Clerk with stickers (very small) to put on the general bins reference dog litter. Noted.

Household Rubbish – Minor problems at present. Some rubbish left by rubbish bins – possibly from a second home. Mr. Wells advised that he has found black bags on the Camp access road.

### 4) Correspondence/E-Mail -

Clerks & Councils Direct – May 2019, Issue 123 received.

#### E-Mails for attention:-

14/05/19 – Sue Burton (SAC) – Advised why there has been a delay with regard to bye-laws to govern bait digging on the Gann mudflats. Monitoring to continue. Noted.

20/05/19 – OVW – Model Informal Resolution Protocol - Clerk had advised the Protocol had not been adopted.

- 21/05/19 – PCC – Off street Parking Places Variation Order – Included the installation of electric charging points in some Car Parks - Noted.
- 24/05/19 – J. Walmsley – forwarding e-mail From Bruno Peek, Pageant Master reference the Wales & VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 8<sup>th</sup> 2020. Noted.
- 30/05/19 – Paul Davies, AM - Newsletter.
- 04/06/19 – PCC – Review of Polling Districts & Polling Places – proposed to add Walwyn’s Castle into this County Council area. Comments to be sent by 26/07/19.
- 04/06/19 – OVW – Basic On-line training modules provided for Councillors – Clerk to forward link.
- 06/06/19 – Cllr. Jessop had reported a string of lobster pots across Musselwick Sands Beach – catch had been freed. He had been advised that 28 days had to elapse to before action to remove them can occur. Owner has been notified. County Council has now been asked to erect a warning sign for beach users.
- 06/06/19 – Bethan Smith, Wales Audit office – Internal Audit Arrangements – Webinair to be held.
- 08/06/19 – Clockhouse Team - Kirk Trimby had advised that they are having trouble with their signs being removed and/or damaged. He requested the name of a contact to discuss having tourist signage. The Clerk reported she had provided contact details. Cllr. Owen advised that Mark Owen is the Street Care officer. Council members expressed their regret that signs are being damaged and removed.

E-Mails received – Clerk holds a separate list for e-mails noted, and these are not then included in the minutes.

## 5) Planning Matters

- (a) NP/18/0666/FUL – Ty Gwyn, Marloes – Section 73A, Sub Division of host dwelling. Information from National Park awaited.
- (b) PCNP - LDP – Cllr. Jessop to attend on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July. He has been advised what information the Council can provide, if any, in addition to that provided by letter. It was agreed, that Cllr. Jessop submit a proposal to PCNP and the Inspector, that a request is made to include in the LDP document the recent announcement by Welsh government of a state of “Climate Emergency”. This proposal to be copied to the Community Council Chairman and Clerk.
- (c) Np/19/0303 – Glebe Cottage, Glebe Lane, Marloes – Side Extension to replace the existing conservatory. Cllr. Jessop commented that this may be covered by the “Permitted Development Regulations”. It was agreed that the Clerk write advising that the change was in keeping with the vernacular style in the village,

and there is no impact on neighbours. Clerk to also ask why this development was not covered by the Regulations, to enable members to have a better understanding of them in the future.

## 6) Financial Matters

- a) Council Audit – Mrs. Evans, Clerk had copied pages of the Annual Return for all members. Cllr. Smithies (Chairman) read through the Governance Statement Parts 1 and 2, and the Council then confirmed that the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved. The Chairman and Clerk/Financial officer then signed their respective sections.  
The Clerk will now complete the documents to be returned to the auditor before the end of June. The notice for electors will be displayed later this week.
- b) St. Brides Aid in Sickness Fund – Cllr. Richards has met the County Council officer to discuss the Fund. Mr. Randall will now review the procedures for grant applications, and also confirm how much is available to award under the criteria. Cllr. Richards is hopeful that in September, the Council will be able to advertise the Fund, and invite applications.
- c) Ebico – A letter dated 23/05/19 advised that the direct debit payment has been changed to £3 from the 9<sup>th</sup> June following a review. A reading will be required in July which should bring the account up to date.

7) Clock Tower - No matters to raise.

## 8) Standing Orders/Policy Documents

The current Standing Orders were reviewed by the Council, and re-adopted – proposed by Cllr. Richards and seconded by Cllr. Jessop. It was noted that when the council membership dropped to 6, the quorum dropped to 3 from 4. It may be necessary to consider updating the Orders later this year.

## 9) Urgent Matters

- a) Marloes Sands – Noted there was a trawl net to be removed shortly.
- b) Nuisance Issues. - Mr. Wells advised the Council that he has concerns with dogs straying off the adjoining land, and also with the use of

buildings on the site. Cllr. Owens offered to meet Mr. Wells to discuss these issues.

- c) Mr. Bobby Morgan –The Council extended their best wishes to the former Councillor on hearing he was in hospital recovering from illness.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting is to be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 when the draft minutes of the May and June 2019 business meetings will be submitted for approval.