

Minutes of the Meeting of Marloes & St. Brides Community Council held on
Monday 12th January 2015 at Moriah Chapel, Marloes

Present:- Cllr. L. Beal (Chairman), together with Cllrs. C. Jessop, P. Smithies, S. Twidale, W. Richards and S. Burnett

- Mrs. Y. C. Evans - Clerk to the Council
- County Cllr. R. Owens

- 1) Minutes - The minutes of the December meeting having been circulated to members was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Twidale.
- 2) Matters Arising
 - a) Police Matters – Clerk had spoken to PCSO Leanne Nicholls about the Clock Tower incident. She will provide details of which officer to write to on this matter. No incidents have been recorded for some time.
 - b) County Council – Highways.

Clock Tower Footpath (62/11)– Clerk to contact Mr. Codd(PCC) to have the tree stump removed. Letters to be written on other matters raised last month.

Speed Limit - Cllr. Owens gave the Clerk an e-mail from Ben Blake to Ian Westley about the speed limit request – dated August 2014. There was an assessment that 20mph with signs only was supported by the technical data. Cllr. Owens to follow up the present position.

Road Improvements – Cllr. Owens to be provided with an update on work to be included in a proposed programme. He will be visiting the area with the officer later this month, or early February.
 - c) Recreation Area – No matters to report.
 - d) Street Lights – Cllr. Owens advised he had requested that the light by the Marloes toilets be left on all night above the defibrillator unit. He will follow this up again. Cllr. Richards advised that the light by 1, Kensington Place, St. Brides was not working tonight.
 - e) National Trust - Cllr. Beal will check the venue is still available, and the date is still suitable for the National Trust, and will circulate members to confirm.
 - f) Local Postman – noted there is a different postman every day recently.
 - g) Library Day – Next visit on the 30th January, and then four weeks later.
 - h) Draft Welsh Language – Clerk yet to check details.
 - i) Children's' Notice Board – to be taken down after the Hall reopens.
 - j) Carol Singing – Held on the 21st, and the small group were well received. Date and time needs to go in Peninsula Papers next December.
 - k) Beach cleaning – this took place on the 28th December – see photograph on the Website. Approx. 32 sacks collected and cleared as usual by the young

members of the Smithies family: their assistance much appreciated.

- 1) Induction Service – Rev. Johnson – Clerk read out a letter from Hilary Anderson, secretary of the Church Council inviting members to the ceremony on the 1st February at 2pm. Members to advise Clerk if they are attending.

3. Community Issues

a) Vandalism/Disturbance - Clerk will write again to Jane Robinson of Pembrokeshire Housing to clarify how to report incidents effectively.

b) Branch Temporary Closure – Marloes Post Office. The Clerk had been advised by Mrs. Smith that there is someone interested in buying the building, and they would continue with the shop. Noted that Mr. Smith is in hospital at present. Clerk read out a letter from Mr. Neil Jenkins, Post Office apologising about the long delay in restoring a service locally. The Council agreed that no action is taken on meeting the Plunkett Foundation at present. Clerk to provide Mrs. Smith with a copy of the letter from Mr. Jenkins.

c) Village Action Plan – Village Hall. Cllr. Twidale advised that work is ongoing to complete the work by the 24th January. Invitations are being sent out from today, and plans for the opening event are ongoing.

4) Correspondence

a) E-Mail Letters–

10/12/14 – Welsh Govt. - e-mails reference the designation of the Skomer Marine Conservation Zone. Noted.

11/12/14 – Skomer Marine Reserve Staff – Annual Newsletter. Next Advisory Committee meeting to be held on the 21st April. Noted.

16/12/14 – OVW – Draft National Transport Plan – Responses to Welsh Govt. by the 11th March. Noted.

16/12/14 – Cllr. R. Owens – County Council Structure Chart circulated.

16/12/14 – OVW – Amended chapters of the Governance & Accountability Guide circulated. Clerk to read through and report to Council next month.

17/12/14 – PCC – Review of policy for Rate Relief – Consultation. Existing registered properties have received a form to complete.

17/12/14 – Dyfed-Powys – CCTV Review – Noted.

17/12/14 – PCC/PCNPA – Natural Buzz – circulated to Kate Lock. Also to circulate to Mark Burton for the Recreation Area.

19/12/14 – Milford Haven Port Authority (MHPA) – Consultation on the Recreation Plan for Milford Haven Waterway. – Noted.

- 22/12/14 – PCNPA – Collective Energy Switching (Cyd Cymru/Wales Together) – 3rd Round. Noted.
- 29/12/14 – PCC/Cllr. R. Owens – Local Connections – Housing Allocations Policy. Agreed that the Clerk include this information in Peninsula Papers.
- 12/01/15 – Welsh Govt. - Marine Planning – Clerk to check with MNR staff if they will be attending the workshop in Aberystwyth next month.

Other Correspondence:-

- a) Christmas Card from Ian Westley, Acting Head of Paid Service, PCC. Clerk advised that an e-mail card had been received from PCNPA, but she had not printed off a copy.
- b) Paul Davies, AM – Posters detailing Advice Surgeries for 2015.
- c) NHS Wales – Hywel Dda University Health Board – Details of two meetings in Pembrokeshire later this month “to provide information and to listen so we can improve services.” Noted.
- d) Clerks & Councils Direct – January 2015, Issue 97 received.
- e) Adverts - Glasdon Street Furniture & Playground Equipment firms.

5) Planning Matters

- a) NP/05/062 – Land by Anchor Cottage – outstanding planning condition for passing bays. Clerk yet to contact Karen Boulden, PCNPA
- b) Slate Mill – Letter reference the camp site to be sent this month.
- c) Exception Site - NP/14/0461 – Town Meadow, Marloes. The Clerk read out the response from Jane Gibson, which has been circulated. No response received from Mr. T. Jones, the Executive Officer of the Park, nor from the Monitoring Officer. Cllr. Owens felt that the Community Council had been overly sensitive on this issue. The application had been recommended for approval, and had only been considered by the committee at his request taking into account local objections. Members felt justified in bringing this matter to the attention of Jane Gibson, as the failure to include their letter may have been important if one or more residents had attended the meeting to object to the application, and especially if they had been professionally represented. The Clerk advised that the Form D consent dated the 11th December has been received. There is no condition relating to a need to improve the junction opposite St. Peter's Churchyard. Members will pursue this at a later date, when it is clear that the project will proceed.
- d) Community Consultation – Cllr. Jessop reminded that he has the Supplementary Planning (SPG) on Enabling Sustainable Development in Welsh National Parks – any comments to be made by midday on the 30th January. The Clerk reviewed the Annual Monitoring Report for 2013/14.

It is intended to have a formal review of the LDP in 2015, in particular with reference to Affordable Housing where targets have not been met. The Exception Site will not be referred to until this year's report. There is a reference at 2.4 to "Accessibility" to communities, and Marloes is one detailed. Noted that a new SPG on Affordable Housing was issued in July 2014, and at Appendix 2 under the St. Brides Bay sub area the revised rates and percentage of dwellings are detailed. Agreed that no response is necessary by the 30th January.

- e) NP/14/0651 – Installation of 5 roof lights at 1, Green Meadow Close, Glebe Lane, Marloes. The Clerk detailed the action taken on this application in-between meetings, and read out the letter sent to PCNPA by e-mail on the 22nd December. Action approved.

6) Financial Matters

- a) Clock Tower - Swalec – Cllr. Smithies advised that after talking to Swalec today the monthly standing order had been reduced to £7 rather than £12. However, it still means that most of the yearly expense is spent on the standing charge rather than the electricity consumed. Agreed that Cllr. Smithies with the Clerk pursue the option of a provider who charges only for units consumed.
- b) PCC – 03/12/14 – Council Tax Base – Financial Year 2015/16. Members had previously been circulated with the Budget summaries for the last five years, and the Clerk had provided notes to aid discussion for the coming year. Section 137 Expenditure limit by Welsh Government notified at £7.36 per elector.
Clock Tower – The money held on deposit has gradually been eroded since the Project in 2004/5. The annual expenses apart from the electric is for the Insurance and the yearly servicing – this amounts to about £450. The damage to the windows will incur an extra unplanned expense of £190. It is intended to paint all the woodwork this year which will mean that almost all the reserve will be utilised. £250 extra per annum is therefore to be precepted for Clock Tower expenses.
Clerk's Salary – Council advised that the recent rate published by NALC put the lowest rate for a part time Clerk started at £8.82 per hour from the 1st January 2015. Mrs Evans advised that on average she spends a minimum of 10 hours a month on Council business. After discussion it was agreed that in 2015/16 that the Clerk's payment is increased by £50 to £500 per annum.
Village Hall – Cllr. Twidale advised that following the re-opening of the Hall after refurbishment, it is intended that the Committee will devote their energies this year to increasing the usage of the Hall. This should increase income, and meet the stated needs of local residents expressed

in the Action Plan. The Hall Committee is very grateful for the annual donation (£440 in 2014/15) which largely covers the Insurance costs. It is noted that the Council is not charged for their monthly meetings. After discussion, Council members agreed that this payment does mean that all eligible households in the Community area contribute to this donation by way of their Council Tax, rather than depend on fund-raising to meet all the revenue expenses. Agreed that the donation for next year is as this year.

Moriah Chapel donation – It was noted that because of the Hall being closed for refurbishment the Council has utilised the Chapel for meetings for eight months. It was agreed that £60 is paid as a donation towards their running costs, and a letter of thanks is sent to Chapel members for their provision of a meeting area. Proposed by Cllr. Richards, seconded by Cllr. Burnett.

Other Budget Headings – It may prove necessary to negotiate the Insurance premiums in due course, and some inflation costs may apply to other expenses. However there is a small contingency element in the budget to offset any increases.

Precept 2015/16 – in conclusion the meeting agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Smithies that the Clerk advise the County Council that the precept for 2015/16 will be £2050.

c) Risk Assessment 2015/16 – Members reviewed the current risks and agreed that no alterations are made at present. Assessment to be looked at again if the County Council request that the costs of any services are to be transferred to the Community Council. It was noted that the cleaning of the three toilets are now being done by Danflo rather than the Village Warden. Mr. Pomfrey does not know yet what will happen to the grass cutting and rubbish/beach cleaning contracts which he has undertaken on a self employed basis.

d) Pembrokeshire Young Farmers – Financial appeal 2015/16 noted.

e) Lloyds Bank statements received.

7) Urgent Matters/Any other Business

a) Telephone Connections – Cllr. Jessop asked if problems with reconnection had been noted by members, as a new neighbour of his had been waiting for three months. Cllr. Twidale advised she had not experienced problems herself in applying for a new number following a move within the community.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 9th February 2015 at Marloes Village Hall.