

Minutes of the Meeting of Marloes & St. Brides Community Council held on
Monday 10th February 2014 at Marloes Village Hall.

Present:- Cllr. W. Richards together with Cllrs. C. Jessop, S. Burnett, and P. Smithies

- Mrs. Y. C. Evans - Clerk to the Council
- County Cllr. Reg Owens
- Community Residents – Mr. R. Titley

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Beal and Twidale

The Chairman welcomed Birgitta Buche (Bee), Joint Warden of Skomer Island and Hayley Barrett, South West Ranger of PCNPA to the meeting.

1) The minutes of the January Business meeting were read, approved, and then signed by the Chairman, Cllr. Richards, proposed by Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Smithies.

2) Matters Arising

- a) St. Brides -Telephone box – Clerk advised that she had contacted BT again as no action had been taken. She had been advised that David Hughes, a local engineer would be repairing the phone. However the box itself also requires repairs.
- b) Police Matters – No matters of concern at present.
- c) County Council – Highways.

Winterton Junction -Confirmed by County Cllr. Owens and by e-mail that action is proposed to replace the culvert at Winterton Junction in the winter months. Nearby landowner had been advised by Cllr. Smithies. The road way will be closed for two weeks and a licence obtained for the work. Members agreed that the County Council is requested to use traffic lights for the Philbeach road diversion. Noted that it may be practical for the Council and landowners to undertake stream clearance and tree/hedge trimming in the fortnight.

Other Issues - Cllr. Richards advised that road improvements had been undertaken on the carriageway to St. Brides beach in recent weeks. Noted that further work had been undertaken on the road outside Jubilee Villas to reduce the surface water problem. Noted that the Clerk had reported various problems both locally and on the main roads as she had received details from Council members.

Weekend Work – Cllr. Owens confirmed that it was now routine for Council staff to be utilised for weekend work as necessary. He also advised that the County Councils' Direct Labour Team now numbered only twenty staff, and

contractors were used at times of pressure.

Clock Tower Footpath – Cllr. Owens was reminded that one tree needed to be taken down as this was reducing the width of the footpath.

- d) Recreation Area – The Chairman thanked Ms. Barrett for the work undertaken by herself and the volunteers in the Recreation Area. Hayley confirmed that she would be arranging for the cut material to be cleared from the site shortly.
- e) National Park Matters – As local Ranger she then outlined the damage the storm had caused across the County, and particularly in the local area. Hayley advised what action had been taken to remedy problems, and the further work that would be undertaken in the coming weeks. Cllr. Jessop was thanked for the coordinating work he had undertaken in conjunction with Mari Williams of Keep Wales Tidy on the beach cleans. Another beach clean is planned on Marloes Sands. Ms Barrett would welcome suggestions of community projects that she could provide assistance with in the area. Ms. Barrett was thanked for all the work she is undertaking in the Community area.
- f) Village Warden – Clerk advised that she will nominate the Village Warden for the National Park Award as part of Radio Pembrokeshire's Local Heroes Awards. Noted.
- g) South Hook -Proposed Combined Heat & Power – Further letter received – see below.
- h) Website Meeting – Clerk and Cllr. Burnett to undertake training later this month.
- i) Standing Orders – Clerk proposed that she will discuss this document with the neighbouring Council clerk before deciding if the proposed document can be adopted as it stands, or with amendments. Noted.
- j) Dog Signs – Signs have been requested from the County Council dog section via the enquiries e-mail service.
- k) Cyclists – Clerk had spoken to Paul Smith (PCC officer) who had advised that the Highway Code determines what action is required with regard to cyclists on main roads, and cars should give way, and not attempt to split a group. The Countryside Code advises that “by law, cyclists must give way to walkers and horse riders on bridleways.” Information noted.
- l) Marloes Beacon – signs now in place
- m) Gibby's Cottage – Further work undertaken this month, and warning cones are still in place outside the premises.
- n) Beach Clean – See details in local press.
- o) Church Services – Services are being covered as last month.
- p) PCC Meeting on the 5th February – not attended.
- q) PALC Meeting – 01/02/14 – apologies given – report waited.
- r) National Trust Shed – Cllr. Jessop had been in touch with Matt Thompson (National Trust) about the damaged shed near the Youth Hostel. Noted.

3. Community Issues

- a) Recreation Area – See note above.
- b) Car Parks/National Trust Matters – The Clerk advised that following a further e-mail from Andrew Tuddenham she had obtained a copy of the Electoral Register to check the number of properties permanently occupied. Members agreed that the National Trust is advised that there are approximately 120 permanently occupied properties. Post code details are not so exact as they cover a much wider area. Clerk to ask the National Trust to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.
- c) Rubbish Collection – Information had been received from the County Council following action by Cllr. Owens. However members were disappointed that neither the responsible Cabinet Member nor an officer had attended this meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk respond asking who will arrange for rubbish put out on the wrong day to be removed. County Council to be also advised that although names of properties will be known, the Community Council will not know the names and addresses of the owners of holiday lets who live away. It was agreed that all these properties need to have private arrangements in place for refuse collection, with clear information provided either by the letting agencies and/or in the property to avoid nuisance to neighbours.
- d) Storm Damage/Electric Cuts – Noted that Mullock Bridge had been flooded on Monday 3rd February – much more than previously. Vehicles had been able to pass through with care. Electric cuts had occurred on the 4th February with some 30 plus interruptions of supply over two hours, with the fault eventually being found in the St. Ishmaels area. Later that evening a lightning storm had caused a further interruption, and one property suffered damage. The electric cut on the 8th February had mainly affected Dale and St. Ishmaels, but outlying properties in Marloes did lose supply. Noted there had been water supply issues when a valve was closed at Tavernputt by mistake. Cllr. Smithies advised that a BT pole near Philbeach required attention -Clerk to report.
- e) Skomer Island Report – The Chairman invited Bee Buche to address the Council on Skomer/ Wildlife Trust matters. Ms. Buche apologised that the other joint Warden, Ed Stubbings was not present as he was giving a talk elsewhere that evening. Ms Buche outlined their experiences during the 2013 season, the highlights of the bird breeding season with the kittiwakes experiencing the poorest breeding rate. She is not expecting any changes to the ticketing system this year. Poor internet connection at Lockley Lodge makes

the prospect of advance booking unlikely. Two nights stay are being promoted this year. A new marketing strategy is proposed. Council members stressed that people staying locally have less problems than those travelling long distances to the Island. It was agreed that information about the local community has improved on the Wildlife Trust/Dale Sailing websites. Ms Buche agreed to follow up the proposal for tickets for local residents who had not yet visited the Island. She was thanked for attending, and best wishes were extended for the coming season.

f) Sewage Problems, Glebe Lane – Cllr. Burnett reported on this problem and the actions undertaken to resolve the issues. She now had a direct contact number to report problems. Agreed that she put a piece in Peninsula Papers to advise residents how complaints should be registered. Cllr. Owens had involved the Public Protection department of the County Council which will be helpful if the problems reoccur. Surface water is entering the foul water drain system, and causing overload during heavy rain. This may become a planning matter if the system is/becomes overloaded.

4) Correspondence

a) E-Mail Letter– Clerk referred to some of the e-mails received.

16/01/14 - OVW – Wales in Bloom Questionnaire – Clerk responded.

16/01/14 – PCC – Welsh in Education Strategic Plan – Noted.

16/01/14 – OVW – The Voice – available on-line if required.

16/01/14 – OVW – Planning System consultation – refer to Cllr. C. Jessop.

20/01/14 – OVW – Burial Survey – not applicable to this Council.

20/01/14 – PCC – Mobile Library Consultation – Clerk advised that questionnaires had been made available for users, but these did not seem appropriate for Community Councils. Members noted that there were many local users, and it was a good service to avoid social isolation.

21/01/14 – PAVS – Community Resilience – For response by Councillors.

03/02/14 – Marine Planning for Wales – Public participation in the Planning process – respond by 28/03/14 – Forward to Cllr. P. Smithies.

05/02/14 – OVW – Audit & Inspection Fees – Clerk advised that there will be an increase. Noted with regret.

05/02/14 – Homes for Wales bulletin noted.

06/02/14 – OVW – Planning & the Welsh Language – an event on Anglesey noted.

07/02/14 – PCC – Public Services in Pembrokeshire Day – 17/03/14 – at Bridge Innovation Centre from 9.15am to 1pm. Consider at March meeting.

07/02/14 – OVW – Welsh War Memorial Heritage Conference at Builth Wells on the 27th March 2014. Clerk to check with PLANED if they will

be attending.

10/02/14 – Police & Crime Commissioner. - Quarterly Newsletter noted.

Other correspondence :-

- a) Endurancelife – Clerk advised that she had received a phone call to remind the Council of the annual races taking place on the 3rd May 2014.
- b) One Voice Wales – Notice of the Pembrokeshire Area Committee to be held on the 18th February at County Hall. Also a copy of the Winter Newsletter - The Voice, Issue 24.
- c) The Planning Inspectorate – 27/01/14 – Specific Hearings on the 5th & 6th March – Noted.
- d) Glasdon Products - leaflet received.

5) Planning Matters

- a) NP/14/0011 – Slate Mill, St. Brides – To form pitched roof with bedroom over existing flat roof & additional solar panels. Members were agreed that this proposal was more attractive than the original flat roof. Members had previously commented on the picket fence which had been placed on the flat roof. It was noted that the proposed roof over the bedroom in this design will be higher than the adjoining roof. However it was considered that the overall design would minimise the visual impact from the B4327 roadway which passes close to this property. The Council therefore support the planning application, and ask the Clerk to advise the National Park accordingly.
- b) NP/05/062 – Land by Anchor Cottage – outstanding planning condition for passing bays. Clerk reported that Ms Bolton and Mr. Bengner had been out on site, but will need to visit again to properly consider the need for a passing bay. Clerk had offered to meet them to explain that the main need was for a passing bay between the site entrance and Ashdale House.
- c) Form D consent received dated 07/01/14 in respect of NP/13/0570 – Shed, School House
- d) PCNPA – 27/01/14 – Letter advising that comments on the 2012 LDP Annual Monitoring Report will be used to redraft the 2013 report. Also to thank Council for their comments, and to advise that various Supplementary Planning guidance has been adopted. Noted.
- e) PCNPA – 27/01/14 – Letter advising that the 2013 Annual Monitoring report is out for consultation. Also that there are Technical Updates to the Management Plan. Clerk to request hard copies for consideration.

f) NP/14/0031 – Pearson Farm, St. Brides – Extension to existing livestock building. Members noted that the proposed extension will be linked to the main farm complex. There are no near neighbours, and the building will therefore have limited impact. Clerk to advise National Park accordingly.

g) NP/14/0051 – Smithy Cottage, Marloes – erection of 1.5 storey extension to rear of dwelling, associated hard landscaping & interior remodelling.

The Council noted that the pre-application advice mirrored the comments made by this Council on similar applications over a number of years. They welcome the proposal to preserve the integrity of the existing dwelling, and that the height of the extension to the rear will not compromise the existing ridge height. It is considered that the extension will have limited visual impact on near neighbours, or from the roadway in front of the dwelling. The Council consider it is important that the “cottages” in the community are recognised as a distinctive feature of the area.

The Council would be grateful if National Park will clarify what arrangements will be in place for off-road parking of vehicles for the dwelling.

6) Financial Matter

- a) VAT Refund – Clerk advised that £61.21p and £163.80p had been transferred into the relevant accounts recently.
- b) Lloyds Bank – monthly statement received, also a letter advising that online banking was available if required.
- c) Financial requests were received from the Teenage Cancer Trust, Cruse Bereavement Care, also details of the Walk for Life on behalf of the Kidney Wales Foundation. Noted.
- d) Clerk advised that next month she will be submitting a request for her annual payment, and that the NFU insurance will be due for the Clock Tower.

7) Urgent Matters/Any other Business

- a) Heritage Matters – Clerk advised that the Coastlands Local History Group were willing to act as a sponsor for grant applications in respect of the Village Leaflet action point in the Marloes Village Action Plan. Members agreed to consider this at their next meeting.
- b) Welsh Agricultural Minister – St. Brides Hotel. Meeting hosted by PBI ?
- c) Mud on Milford Road – Mr. Titley was advised that issues had been

reported to Highways and action had been taken by the landowner.

d) Archaeological Aerial Survey – Members noted that an article in Pembrokeshire Life (February issue) by Toby Driver of the Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Wales had advised that an aerial survey last July had identified a previously unknown site of an Iron Age Promontory Fort and a nearby defended enclosure on Philbeach Farm land above the irrigation reservoir on the Mullock Bridge to Marloes roadway.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 10th March 2014 at Marloes Village Hall.