

Minutes of the Meeting of Marloes & St. Brides Community Council held on
Monday 11th March 2013 at Marloes Village Hall.

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

- Community Residents – M. Cullen
- Clerk to the Council - Mrs. Y. Evans
- County Cllr. Owen

The Chairman, Cllr. Richards welcome Cllr. David McDermott, Saundersfoot C. C. to the meeting. Cllr. McDermott has recently been appointed by One Voice Wales to fill the Town & Community Council vacancy for South Wales on the Stakeholder Group (Marine Conservation Zone).

Cllr. McDermott advised that he had earlier met Dale C. C. There was some confusion over his appointment to the Committee, but he was hopeful that he would be permitted to attend the last meeting on the 26th March in Milford Haven. Members advised that their situation was different to that of Dale, as there was already a Marine Reserve in the Marloes & St. Brides Community Council area. It was disappointing that the Welsh Government appeared to have kept local councils at arms length, as it was necessary to the success of the Reserves that they received the active support of the local communities.

This Council had objected to the proposed Highly Protected Marine Conservation Zone (HPMCZ) replacing the current Reserve with an expanded area to include Marloes Sands. Cllr. McDermott had been sent a copy of their letter in response to the consultation. Cllr. McDermott advised that in England the British Ports Authority had felt that the approach taken by the Government needed to be changed. However, in Wales the Welsh Government determined what action was taken, and how the consultation process was delivered. Sites had been selected on a technical basis, and now the Government was consulting widely. There was concern that the Task and Finish Group would not respond positively to the further consultation undertaken by the Stakeholder Group.

Cllr. Smithies suggested that the big issues affecting the marine environment were mainly off-shore, but there was no political will to pursue these issues. The proposed HPMCZs would have a limited impact on the big issues. The inclusion of Marloes Sands had been the result of a desk top exercise, with no consultation. There had been no reference to compensation for people affected by the proposals. Cllr. McDermott referred to all the paperwork produced by the first round of consultation.

It was established later in the meeting that this Council had not seen the responses by the County Council and the National Park, and neither body had consulted Marloes & St. Brides Community Council. It was noted that the National Park are not represented on the Stakeholder Committee.

The Clerk advised Cllr. McDermott of what was in place at present with the Skomer Marine Reserve, and what they may lose with the proposed HPMCZ. The bullet points in their response summarised the potential losses. There had been no assessment of the costs of the existing Reserve, and what it would cost throughout Wales if all sites became HPMCZs. Cllr. Jessop referred to the site visits to the Reserve undertaken last year when AM's and others were briefed on the proposals. The MNR staff in attendance had advised those present that the Reserve is successful as it is run now, and that with the run off from land it could never be a pristine Reserve. There was also an inconsistency in the use of the nearby St. Brides Bay for anchorage of potentially highly polluting vessels with no controls at all, alongside a statutory Marine Reserve.

Cllr. McDermott advised what he was planning to do before the Stakeholder meeting. He was planning to see Julia Williams, Welsh government officer. He was advised that at the local meeting held in Dale, Ms. Williams had failed to answer many questions. Cllr. McDermott was also advised that there were concerns about the treatment of responses, and the relative importance of local responses vis-a vis multiple responses from pressure groups. Cllr. Richards advised the Council did not wish to see either Marloes Sands or Musselwick Beach included in the proposed Zone. Cllr. Twidale emphasised that local businesses and employers needed to be listened to by the Welsh Government. Cllr. McDermott was aware that tomorrow (12th March) Peter Davies, Chairman of the Stakeholder Group was meeting Blaise Bullimore and others with regard to the consultation process. Cllr. Richard confirmed that this Council had arranged to meet Mr. Davies at 4pm. Cllr. McDermott was thanked by the Chairman for coming over to attend the council meeting, and confirmed that he would be supplied with a resume of the meeting.

- 1) The minutes of the February meeting were read, approved, and then signed by the Chairman, Cllr. Richards, proposed by Cllr. Beal, seconded by Cllr. Twidale
- 2) Matters Arising
 - a) Skomer Warden – Cllr. Smithies suggested that the new Skomer Wardens be invited to a future meeting. Clerk advised that a Monday night may not be convenient, as the Island is closed that day, but she will speak to them on the matter. No other information received from Chris Taylor before he left.
 - b) National Park Matters – Clerk yet to speak to Hayley Barrett, Ranger about St. Brides matters.

- c) Police Matters – No response from Sgt. Vaughan. Noted that police are making regular patrols locally.
- d) Recreation Area – Noted that the daffodils are giving a good show on the road hedge.
- e) County Council – Highways. Clerk has sent a revised list of outstanding matters to Glenville Codd, and a copy was passed to Cllr. Owens. A response is waited. Noted that the extra yellow line has been painted on the Marloes Sands roadway. An e-mail had also been sent to Ben Blake about the brown sign(s) at the Church junction. Cllr. Beal thought the signs may need to be moved as the parked vehicles are obstructing the view. Discussed with Cllr. Owen the access to the disability toilet in the village which is being blocked by vehicles, and he agreed to follow this up.
- f) Clock Tower Footpath – Footpath has been inspected, but the overhanging tree was cleared by Malcolm Cullen – he was thanked for doing this. Planned cannot help with a grant. Cllr. Burnett was going to try Sustran. Suggested to Cllr. Owen that there was a need for this path to cater for use by people with disabilities as well as the able bodied.
- g) Glebe Lane – Clerk had asked Glenville Codd to advise who the Council should contact.
- h) South Hook -Proposed Combined Heat & Power Plant– E-mail had been acknowledged. After discussion it was agreed that this proposal should only be made public in the area covered by Peninsula Papers for the time being.
- i) PCC – Rights of Way. Clerk yet to pass maps to Mr. Cullen.
- j) Sustainability Wales – No meeting was held in Carmarthen, and the closing date has passed for comments.
- k) St. Brides Aid in Sickness Fund – This article will go into the April edition of Peninsula Papers.

3) Community Issues

- a) Village Action Plan
Village Hall – the next stage of the grant application process is being undertaken. Noted.
- b) Puffin Buses/Local Service – The Clerk read out the letter from the County Council dated the 22nd February. Noted that the service to St. David's will run seven days a week in the summer, but only on two days rather than three in the winter. The service to Milford Haven is considered by the authorities to be mainly a commuter route, so there will be no Sunday service. Cllr. Owen was advised that anyone wishing to catch a train or coach on Sunday will need to catch a bus from Broad Haven in the summer months, and this will need to be advertised. The Council is still waiting a response to the problem of the overlapping service in Marloes in the morning – Cllr. Owen to raise this issue with Owen Roberts (PCC).

c) Marine Conservation Zones – See item above. Dale C. C. had decided to arrange their own meetings. It was noted that Cllrs Richards, Smithies, Jessop, and Twidale and the Clerk will attend the meeting at Marloes Hall on the 12th March to meet Mr. Peter Davies, Chairman of the Stakeholder Group.

4) Correspondence

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

24/02/13 - Steve Ingram, Herbrandston had contacted the Council about a cross community group to be formed with regard to the South Hook noise issues – details also in Peninsula Papers. Clerk had advised him that the Clerk to Herbrandston C. C. had contacted her on this issue. Mr. Cullen, who was present, had been the only person to raise the issue with this Council.

21/02/13 – IWA – Inspire Wales Awards 2013 – Agreed that the Council had no nominations to make for these awards.

20/02/13 – Welsh National Mining Memorial - Noted.

20/02/13 - One Voice Wales – Details of a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner in Dyfed-Powys – Noted.

19/02/13 – One Voice Wales – Training Event noted.

13/02/13 – One Voice Wales – Welsh Language meeting noted.

b) Clock Tower silencing – Letter from Mr. & Mrs Twidale dated the 11th March asking if the Council will consider using the night silencing facility as in previous years. Cllr. Sue Twidale declared a personal and business interest, and left the room while this item was under consideration. After discussion, members agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Smithies that for this year the clock is silenced from the 15th May to the 15th September, from midnight to 5am inclusive. Cllr. Twidale then returned to the meeting

c) PACTO – Community Transport Forum, 13th March 2013 – Noted.

d) Ombudsman – March 2013 – The Council received copies of the booklets - “Want to complain about a public body?” and “How to complain that a local authority member has broken the code of conduct.” Few changes since the last print – telephone number changed to start 0300. Noted.

e) Clerks & Council Direct – March 2013, Issue 86 received.

5) Planning Matters

a) Slate Mill – Cllr. Owen advised that to date no retrospective planning application has been received reference the wooden fence above the store-room. He will discuss this again with National Park.

b) National Park Seminar - 16th March 2013. Agreed that the Council is represented by Cllrs Chris Jessop and Louise Beal. Clerk to forward details of the agenda.

d) PCNPA – 01/02/13 – Notification that Consultation on the

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) for Low Impact Development will run from 06/02/13 to 03/05/13; and the consultation on the Annual Monitoring Report will run from now until the 7th June 2013. Clerk drew attention to the matters which directly concern this community. Noted.

- e) NP/12/0610 – New Car Park Hut to replace one destroyed by arson – Martins Haven, Marloes. Clerk apologised to the Council for failing to forward the letter by e-mail to National Park recording their objection to this proposal. This came to light when the report to Committee did not include their letter. She had discussed the problem with National Park, and would put in place a procedure to ensure this did not happen again. Members accepted her apology. It was agreed that the use of the new building is monitored during the season.
- f) NP/13/0064 – Orlandon Cottage, St. Brides – Replacement of conservatory and shed with a two storey extension with roof terrace. Members noted that the proposed extension would complement the existing buildings, and be of a higher design than the existing buildings. It was also noted that there is a hedge to the front of the property, and that it does not overlook any other dwelling. National Park to be advised that the extension would have a limited impact on the area, and that the Council recommends approval of the application.
- g) PCC – 11/02/2013 – Receipt of the Inspector's Report on the LDP and consultation on supplementary Guidance to support the LDP. Also details of a training events for Town and Community Councils on the 13th & 14th March. Noted that these documents apply to the areas outside the National Park, and does not apply to this Council.

6) Financial Matters

- a) Clerk's Salary – On the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Smithies the meeting agreed to the payment of £450 to the Clerk for 2012/13. Clerk to ensure that the Council is registered for PAYE, and also to establish whether there will be need to supply AON with an Employee Reference number.
- b) Clock Tower Insurance – Members received an invoice from the NFU for insurance of the building and the clock mechanism for £197.16. In 2012 the fee was £174.44 after negotiation by Cllr. Smithies. After discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Twidale that the Council pay up to £197. 16, but that Cllr. Smithies attempts to negotiate a reduction with the NFU. Clerk to transfer £200 to cover the payment.
- c) BDO Audit Briefing 2013 – Clerk advised that in the next financial year it is likely that the “Real Time Information” requirements will apply because of her employment. The audit fees are under review by the Welsh Government, but a likely to be unchanged.

d) Internal audit – Clerk advised that Mrs. Jackie Fussell had agreed to undertake this task again this year.

d) Welsh Air Ambulance Appeal – Noted.

7) Urgent Matters/Any other Business

a) Street Lights – Noted that some had not been working in the evening, but the County Council have been through the village making changes for the overnight switch -off, so may have repaired the lights concerned.

b) St. Brides Toilets – Cllr. Richards advised Cllr. Owen that the toilet lights are on all night. He agreed to pass this information to the department concerned.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 8th April 2013, at Marloes Village Hall.