

Minutes of the Meeting of Marloes & St. Brides Community Council held on
Monday 14th January 2013 at Marloes Village Hall.

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

- Community Residents – R. Black
- Clerk to the Council - Mrs. Y. Evans
- County Cllr. R. Owen
- Chris Taylor – Warden, Skomer Island

- 1) The minutes of the December meeting were read, approved, and then signed by the Chairman, Cllr. Richards, proposed by Cllr. Jessop, seconded by Cllr. Burnett.

The Chairman welcomed Chris Taylor to the meeting. Chris confirmed that he would be leaving the Island in March, and expressed his thanks to the communities of Marloes, St. Brides and Dale for the support he had received as Skomer Warden over the last three years. A general discussion followed on the use of Twitter by the Warden last year to advise visitors on weather conditions and boat journeys. Chris advised that Twitter is not widely used by visitors, and he had responded to local comments that advance information had led to cancellations of bookings. He will discuss this with the incoming Wardens, and suggest that they restrict information to the next day only if practical. It was proposed that within the restriction of the 140 characters he could refer to the midday cruises which may not be cancelled, and the facilities available in the Marloes area. It was agreed that the use of Twitter cannot be too prescriptive, and that an element of common sense should prevail.

The website coverage of the Island was also discussed, and the need to convey the same messages particularly on the main Island section, and that for Lockley Lodge. Chris agreed to look at this in the coming weeks. Comments were made about the retail provision at Lockley Lodge, and that there was no encouragement for local crafts people to sell goods. Chris agreed to pass these comments onto Diane Sparey who is based at the Cardigan Reserve. It was also suggested that there needed to be better communication between the Trust and the local community. Chris thought that it might be helpful if Sash Tusa attended another Council meeting as he was a local resident, and also a Trust Board member. Good relations needed to be maintained with St. Brides Castle, a Holiday Property Bond site, as their guests often visited the Island. It was also suggested that more information should be provided at the Marloes Sands Car park and possible at the nearby Youth Hostel. Chris agreed to

follow up these matters up in his last few weeks, and would keep an eye on the information put out on Twitter in his new employment in Northern Ireland. The Chairman thanked him for attending the meeting, and wished him well in his career.

2) Matters Arising

a) National Park Issues – Noted that Mr. Kevan Krelle had advised that he will be working on a property alongside Frankie's Lane shortly, and that he had spoken to Philip Lees (NP) about the work, and that the Lane will be reinstated after the work. Clerk to check with the Warden about parking at St. Brides, and about the telephone provision near the toilets. Cllr. Richards advised that it is now possible to access the 999 service via any mobile provider even if some services do not show a signal in the area.

b) Police Matters – Noted that there had been an attempted fuel theft from Musselwick Farm, and also some minor thefts at Mullock Bridge where the Council had been restoring the Bridge walls. Sergeant Vaughan had been contacted by Cllr. Jessop, and he had arranged extra patrols, and had also suggested making another visit to the Council before the 2013 tourist season as agreed last year. Clerk to provide meeting dates.

c) Recreation Area – Some planting undertaken, but the field is very wet.

d) County Council Matters – Clerk gave an update on the outstanding matters. Problems ongoing at Winterton, Mullock Bridge junction and at Jubilee Villas, and a new problem near the Lobster Pot had been reported by Cllr. Jessop and others. The surface water problem in the Glebe Lane is linked to the sewerage system which needs upgrading – problem to be discussed with Welsh Water. Cllr. Smithies thought that drainage issues in the Stembridge area had become confused, as a new drain had been placed by the bridge where no problem had been obvious.

Dog Fouling – Clerk referred to a letter from PCC dated the 4th January with regard to Dog Control Orders and other legislation which can be used by local communities. Clerk to discuss with Mark Burton whether there was a problem in the Recreation Area which may warrant this action. Suggested that more dog litter bins may be required.

Traffic Order – The closing date for this Order is the 18th January which will apply to the Marloes Sands roadway (part). Notices had been displayed in that area. Noted.

Unsung Heroes Award – Clerk was asked to check on the results of this Award. Cllr. Owens had no information to pass on to the Council.

e) Consultations – No further information on the Local Democracy Bill and the Single Integrated Plan.

f) Carol Singing – Noted that this had taken place on the Sunday before Christmas.

3) Community Issues

- a) Village Action Plan - No matters to report
- b) Puffin Buses/Local Service – The County Council is consulting on proposed changes to the services. Agreed that the Clerk complete a questionnaire on behalf of the community. Agreed that there should be cuts in parts of the under-utilised winter service rather than lose the Sunday service in the summer months. Individual users are also asked to respond.
- c) Marine Conservation Zones – National Park had not been able to assist with information on the Stakeholder Group. Clerk has now e-mailed Paul Davies AM to see if he has information on the Town/Community representatives.

4) Correspondence

- a) E-Mail Letters – Clerk had circulated some of the e-mails received. Others of general information to be brought to the next meeting.
- b) Paul Davies AM – 12/12/12 – Poster of Advice Surgeries received.
- c) Climate Change Adoption Survey – Members are asked to complete this survey as soon as possible.
- d) South Hook – Proposed Combined Heat & Power Plant – Correspondence received dated the 11th January. Clerk advised that it is now proposed to build this plant on the Herbrandston side of the complex. Noted that it is not possible to connect to the Milford Haven electricity sub-station because it does not have sufficient capacity to transmit the output from the CHP Plant. Agreed that members will attend the local consultation meetings being held shortly, and then discuss the topic at a future meeting.
- e) PCC – Definitive Map & Statement of Public rights of Way Consolidated. - 08/01/13. Clerk advised that regrettably the copies had been torn on receipt although not the map sections. After inspection it was noted that some of the permissive paths had been omitted. Clerk to speak to Matt Cloud for clarification.
- f) One Voice Wales – Next Area Meeting to be held on the 22nd January. Papers passed to Cllrs. Twidale and Burnett who will attend. Copies of the Winter 2012/13 edition of The Voice circulated.
- g) Clerks & Council Direct – January 2013, Issue 85 received.

5) Planning Matters

- a) Slate Mill – No further information received.
- b) Presentation – Jane Gibson. Clerk has requested both a hard copy of the Power-point presentation, and one by e-mail so that members can receive the information for reference. Also requested if Ms Gibson is

willing to assist with a Community SPG – response waited. Members agreed that the presentation had not been so helpful. Ms. Gibson was advised that different planning officers in the same area can be a problem in achieving consistency. Clerk advised that she had taken note of the comments on making observations rather than objecting, and would be suggesting to members that they be more formal in their responses in future.

- c) NP/12/0399 – Convert Buildings, Musselwick Farm. The Clerk advised that she has now been informed by National Park that these conversions will not be subject to Section 106 agreements.
- d) Refusal of planning permission has been received in respect of NP/12/0553 – Two Plots, Musselwick Farm, Marloes. Noted.
- e) Exception Site – No further information received.
- f) NP/12/0610 – New Car Park Hut to replace one destroyed by arson – Martins Haven, Marloes. Councillors noted that no drawing had been supplied for the previous building so it was not possible to make an accurate size comparison. They considered that the proposed building is larger than required to house the usual National Trust literature display, and to provide a shelter for the car park attendant. It was agreed that the Council objects to the application, and requests that further consideration is given to the design of the replacement building.

6) Financial Matters

- a) PCC – 05/12/12 – Council Tax Base 2013/14.

The Clerk had provided members with a printout of previous main account annual expenditure for four years, and the likely expenditure for the year 2012/13. Members reviewed the expenditure likely for 2013/14, and the money held in reserve. After discussion, it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Smithies, seconded by Cllr. Jessop that £1750 be requested by precept. It was noted that as usual this payment is received in three instalments during the year, and the extra amount this year allows for increases in planned expenditure, and facilitates the cash flow during the year. New members were advised that the regular payments from the Clock Tower accounts will eventually run down that surplus, and mean that the precept will have to be gradually increased to cover the annual payments.

- b) It was also agreed that the Clerk pay the Marloes Recreation Committee £200 as agreed previously. This money had been a reserved amount for some years.
- c) Financial Appeal from the Pembrokeshire Young Farmers Club was noted.
- d) PCC – BACS transfer of the third precept payment of £500 was noted.

7) Urgent Matters/Any other Business

- a) Marloes Beach Clean – Noted that this had been very successful, with visitors also helping on the day. The Village Warden had also removed more bags of rubbish a few days later.
- b) Emergency Phone, Marloes Car Park - This had been reported out of order by the Clerk on New Years Day. Cllr. Smithies advised that BT had been there today, and hopefully it was now repaired.
- c) Foxes – Cllr. Jessop advise that two foxes had been sighted scavenging around the village recently.
- d) Housing Estate Issue – Cllr. Burnett was advised that the matter had been referred to County Cllr. Owen who will take any necessary action.
- e) Posters, Linda Norris – Cllr. Smithies advised that these had recently been displayed at Martins Haven. He will contact the artist directly.
- f) National Park Ranger – Noted that Ms Barrett was looking for accommodation in the local area.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 11th February 2013, at Marloes Village Hall.