

# SAUNDERSFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Prior to the meeting commencing, Chairman John presented a cheque for £250 to the Saundersfoot 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Group which was agreed at their November meeting.

### 1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman John reported:-

- On 19<sup>th</sup> January we had the Council Christmas dinner and he thanked everyone for making it a very pleasant evening and he also thanked for the guests who came along.
- On 21<sup>st</sup> January Chairman John along with Councillors Baker and Cleevely attended a meeting Tenby, where most of the local Community Council's sent representatives with the aim of organising some action against the closure of the Tenby Minor Injuries Unit and the potential downgrading of the Withybush Special Car Baby Unit. It was a packed meeting with a lot of discussion about strategies on how to protest against these decisions.
- On 26<sup>th</sup> January in the morning Chairman John along with Councillors Baker and Cleevely from Saundersfoot and with many other local councillors, along with many residents from surrounding areas staged a protest outside the Tenby MIU. With a turnout of around 200 people, he felt that this showed the strength of feeling that there is on the matter.
- On 26<sup>th</sup> January in the afternoon he attended the retirement presentation to Canon Butler in St Issell's Church in celebration of his 32 years serving the parish. He said a few words and presented him with a commemorative plate from the Council..

### 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2013 (Precept)

#### a) Minute 6(c) Sensory Gardens, Saundersfoot

Councillor Hayes said that she had not been asked to attend any meetings in the gardens and said that she wished to resign from the sub/committee.

Councillor Cavell also wished to resign from this committee due to personal commitments.

Councillor Morris, Brabon and McDermott agreed to assist Mr Alwyn Lewis and Mr Duncan Hilling with the work to be carried out in the gardens along with Councillor Pearson.

#### b) Minute 6(d) Wreaths, Cenotaph, Saundersfoot

Councillor Brabon asked when would the poppy wreaths be removed from the Cenotaph and members agreed to remove them with immediate effect.

#### c) Minute 6(f) MUGA, Saundersfoot

Councillor Boughton Thomas said that the MUGA erected in Newport was funded by Pembrokeshire County Council and had asked Alex Allison, Pembrokeshire County Council for details, but had not received a response.

Councillor Boughton Thomas had also asked PLANED for a list of contractors to

carry out the work for the MUGA but had not received this information to date.

- d)** Minute 4(a) Cambrian Hotel, Saundersfoot (ordinary meeting)  
Councillor McDermott had spoken to Mr Will Lloyd Davies and was informed that amendments had to be made to the S106 notice, but work would commence on the project during the middle of March 2013.

- e)** Minute 4(b) Footpath in Long Tunnel  
The Clerk read out a letter from Pembrokeshire County Council stating an earlier incident in this tunnel involving a cyclist resulted in a claim against Pembrokeshire County Council, and despite not complying with the statutory signs requiring cyclists to dismount the cyclist's claim was successful and therefore no form of disclaimer would be successful, so no signs would be installed there.

Councillor Baker said that he had made enquiries with Pembrokeshire County Council for a cable to be laid from the new Coppet Hall development to the tunnel, but unfortunately there were no funds available.

- f)** Minute 4(d) Salt Bins  
Councillor Cavell said that she was unable to unlock the salt bin by North Close and had to break the lock to access the bin.

Councillor Baker reported to members that three of the five bins had been installed (Incline Way, Swallowdale and Hean Close), Sardis and Hopshell Lane are still to be installed.

- g)** Minute 4(e) War Memorial, Saundersfoot  
Councillor Baker produced drawings to members of the new road layout and signage proposed for the above area.

- h)** Minute 9(b) Bus Shelter, North Close, Saundersfoot  
Councillor McDermott informed members that he had spoken to a local contractor who said that he would repair the broken perspex in the bus shelter. Members agreed that Chairman John and Councillor McDermott would obtain a quote from the contractor prior to the work being carried out.

- i)** Meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013 (MIU Closure)  
Chairman John read out to members the wording of the two petitions to be completed (one for the public and one for the Community Council).

The Clerk informed members that he had spoken to the Saundersfoot Doctors Practice requesting that a doctor attends a meeting of the Council, but was told that no meetings have been held between the practice and the Hywel Dda Trust and could see no point in a doctor attending.

The Clerk added that the practice would meet shortly with the Trust and perhaps a meeting could then take place with the Council.

Councillor Cleevely said that the Hywel Dda Trust have maintained that

meetings have taken place with the practice but this is obviously untrue.

Councillor Baker said that he would draft letters to be sent to Lesley Griffiths, Health Minister, Welsh Government and to the CHC.

### 3. AGENDA

- a) Draft Boundary Changes proposed by Pembrokeshire County Council  
Councillor Baker informed members that Pembrokeshire County Council had proposed draft boundary changes for the Community of Saundersfoot splitting it into two wards North and South. He said the North Ward would include Pentlepoir and the South Ward New Hedges. The changes would reduce the number of County Councillor's from the current 60 to 55. Councillor Baker distributed to members the revised boundaries. The Clerk said that he had received similar information from Councillor Jacob Williams County Councillor for East Williamston

Councillor Baker said that the proposed changes would be implemented in time for the 2017 elections.

- b) Footway – Rhodewood to Cwm Gwennol  
Councillor Baker said that the correspondence from Mr Hurlow had now been received and also the reply to Mr Hurlow from Mr Darren Thomas, Pembrokeshire County Council. Councillor Baker said that he had always been a keen advocate for this scheme and has urged a review of the prioritisation of this scheme with the hope of seeing it emerge higher up the programme, but despite the merits of this scheme it has not been possible, to date, to commit the scheme to construction.

Councillor Brabon said that he, along with other Councillors, had met with Pembrokeshire County Council many years ago and suggested creating a footway on the right hand side of this road from Saundersfoot rather than on the left hand side which would prove to more costly.

#### c) Chairman's Allowance

Councillor Poole said that the Chairman's Allowance had remained at £500 for many years and the duties of the Chairman had increased greatly over recent years. All members agreed and it was proposed by Councillor Hayes to increase the allowance to £750.00 per annum from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 and this was seconded by Chairman John. All members agreed.

### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- NP/13/0007 - Change of use, Admirals House, Saundersfoot  
NP/13/0018 - Replace conservatory, 27 Bevelin Hall, Saundersfoot

Members raised no issues regarding the above applications.

Councillor Baker, Hayes, McDermott and John declared an interest in NP/13/0007 and took no part in this debate.

### 5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

**Saundersfoot Community Council – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

- a) A letter was received from National Parks informing the Council that urgent tree works had been carried out on an oak tree on land to the rear of the toilet block on Saundersfoot Harbour.
- b) A letter was received from Saundersfoot Sports & Social Club expressing their concern at the lack of car parking spaces near the club which is having a detrimental effect on their business. The letter asks if a retaining wall could be erected close to the tennis court fence leading towards the changing rooms, in order to increase parking spaces.

Prior to making a decision, members decided that the Grounds Committee meets with the Sport Club to discuss the request in more detail on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 10.00am.

- c) An email was received from Christopher Salmon, the new Police & Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys Police inviting comments from members with regard to the proposed precept and police budget.

Members expressed their concern at the increase in the precept due to the fact police stations were closing and there was a lack of police presence in the area.

Chairman John said that he would respond to Mr Salmon.

- d) The Clerk asked if a date be arranged to make long service presentations to various volunteers who collect money for the Poppy Appeal. It was decided to hold the ceremony in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013 at 7.00pm so that Mr Pearson could inform the recipients to attend.
- e) A email was received from Mr Roy Weston expressing his concern at the poor broadband speeds in the area. He said that there are no plans to upgrade the Saundersfoot Exchange and Saundersfoot has major opportunities to improve its economy through both tourism and enticing local business development, but sadly neither of these will happen in this burgeoning digital age if our communication infrastructure lags so far behind our competitors and asked for the Council's support.

Chairman John said that he would respond to Mr Weston accordingly.

- f) A road traffic order was received from Pembrokeshire County Council informing the public that resurfacing work would take place on St Brides Hill resulting in the closure of the St Brides Hill from its junction with Sandyhill Road. The work would last for five days and would commence on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2013.
- g) Newsletters were received from PLANED for members perusal.
- h) A letter was received from Pembrokeshire Coast National Park enclosing a list of conservation Area Grants that have been awarded to improve

buildings in the National Parks Area from 2008-2010, and the total expenditure of £9.7 million was spent on 402 buildings.

6. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEE'S INCLUDING THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

a) Councillor Cavell reported to members as follows:-

**Saundersfoot School**

- Councillor Cavell said that tremendous progress had been made with Welsh throughout the school.
- The School Ambassadors and Head Boy and Girl recently attended a meeting in County Hall and were given a guided tour of the building, visited the Council Chamber and met Councillor Huw George. They also prepared questions to ask as part of the visit.
- Year 5 pupils have also been appointed as 'Playgroup Buddies' and a group were present at the Governing Body meeting last month to explain their role.
- Councillor Cavell said that a team would be running on behalf of Saundersfoot School (FOSS) and entry is via the school. They would be taking part in the Tenby 10k run on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2013. This event is to raise money for outdoor equipment for the school grounds.
- Councillor Cavell reported on information regarding Mangahigh, which is an online maths challenge project where children are set a series of timed maths challenges and medals can be won. Over 1800 schools are involved and at this point Saundersfoot is leading the National Table by 600 points. This has proved to be very popular and pupils are flocking to the computer site at lunchtimes and working on challenges at every opportunity.

b) Councillor McDermott reported to members as follows:-

**Regency Hall meeting 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

Councillor McDermott said that he was unable to attend the meeting, but Councillor Boughton Thomas had prepared this report:-

- At the meeting the Chairman welcomed the committee members and Roger Standford, who has joined the Committee this month representing the Sports & Social Club. It has been an extremely busy month, with meetings with a variety of suppliers, to ensure the hall gets the best but most cost-effective internal fittings, such as the theatre sound and lighting system and solar panels. Councillor Boughton Thomas has applied for five grants since Christmas, to cover those costs, and will hopefully have responses soon, and both Mr & Mrs Boughton Thomas had discussions with Pembrokeshire Coast National Park on 6<sup>th</sup> February with a view to applying to them for funding from their Sustainable Development Grant.
- The sub-committee had a successful site meeting last week with the contractors and design team, and everything is now moving forward, albeit slowly, with regards the problems of the incoming services. The good news is that there have been few delays on the build, so far. The two weeks delay already incurred, means that the hall should be completed sometime in late summer, if all goes to plan, as the steel frame is going up as we speak, and is creating a lot of local interest and appreciation.

- Discussions took place about rental charges for the new hall, and it was decided that all the information needed to finalise costs etc would be available for the April meeting, and all existing users would be contacted during the month of April, with a view to future use requirements.
- Various discussions took place about our re-opening week celebrations and these will be discussed again at the next meeting.
- Fund-raising efforts are on-going, and the fund-raising lunch at the Merlewood on 27<sup>th</sup> February will be followed by a Tribute Night to Rod Steward at the RAOB in Kilgetty on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
- The New Years Day Swim had raised £551 to date with more sponsorship to come.

c) Councillor Morris reported to members as follows:-

**Hywel Dda Stakeholder Reference Group 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

The meeting was held in the Boardroom of the Ystwyth Corporate Offices, Carmarthen. The main point on the agenda was the closure of facilities in various locations within the area covered by Hywel Dda Health Board. The topics discussed fell into the following Categories:-

- **Closure of Mynydd Mawr Hospital**  
This hospital currently cares for the elderly and many of its patients have dementia. Such patients might be moved to Prince Phillip Hospital, Llanelli, though many will now be cared for at home. Concerns were raised that the elderly are vulnerable to change and that the support services would need to be greatly enhanced in order to cope with such change. The loss of beds would bring about the need for further investment in the community itself.
- **Closure of Tenby and South Pembrokeshire Minor Injuries Units**  
These facilities were deemed to be scarcely used in the winter months. It was stated that closing would allow better use of specialised skills. Nurses would be redeployed at Withybush. It was admitted that no alternative use has been found for the buildings at Tenby and South Pembrokeshire. It was felt that local GP's in these areas would be excessively stretched in having to cope with the extra number of people coming to them with minor injuries. Ambulance crews might also be further equipped to deal with minor injuries. On the brighter side, there is likely to be a commissioned summer minor injuries service at Tenby during the eight weeks of the summer holidays.
- **Orthopaedics**  
Operations on hips and knees will still be performed at current General Hospitals, e.g. Withybush in Pembrokeshire.
- **Services for Women and Children**  
Currently, there is not a Paediatric High Dependency Unit in the area covered by Hywel Dda. However, it is intended to improve training in this area. Services will be further developed at Glangwili, Bronglais and Withybush Hospitals. The Special Care Level 2 Unit is likely to remain at Withybush.
- **Emergency Services**  
The recruitment of qualified staff is generally a problem throughout the whole of Wales. However, attempts will be made to retain these services

in all of the authority's hospitals.

d) Councillor Baker reported to members as follows:-

**County Councillors Report**

- War memorial – Mr Ben Blake from PCC has provided a proposal for additional and relocated signage around the memorial alongside a repainting of the existing road markings
- Saundersfoot Community Council suggested alternative power supply to the lighting in the long tunnel – following my discussions with Daniel Davies he confirms that there is no budget to provide a cable from the new Coppet Hall Development to the lighting system. Over and above the cost implications there would need to be further discussions with the landowner as well as way-leave permissions, listed building consent, further bat licences and discussions with SUSTRANS.
- Footpath – Rhodewood to Cwm Gwennol – following a copy letter from Mr Hurlow regarding his letter to PCC and a response from Mr Darren Thomas he met with Mr Thomas and explained that copies of the response had not been received by Saundersfoot Community Council or by himself. Mr Thomas apologised and provided two copies. He then contacted Mr Hurlow to discuss the content, the main point of concern related to the Pembrokeshire County Council note that this footway had been added to the programme of potential work in 2004, Mr Hurlow was unhappy as he has been raising this as an issue for many years before this. He explained that following his further intervention Mr Thomas was now reviewing how schemes were prioritised, he has also had a meeting with Councillor Jon Preston and they will both work to ensure this footway is provided as promptly as possible.
- Draft proposals for County Council Boundary review – Pembrokeshire County Council are proposing changes to the County Council Ward Boundaries in readiness for the 2017 County Elections. Overall the number of County Council seats will be reduced from 60 to 55, the optimum number of electors per County Councillor being between 1700 and 1800. Saundersfoot currently has just fewer than 2010 voters and as such is one of the larger wards in the County, Pembrokeshire County Council officers are suggesting that Saundersfoot is split into two Wards (North and South) the division boundary has not yet been suggested, but it is likely that the Northern Ward will be linked with Pentlepoir whilst the Southern Ward will be linked with Hew Hedges, it is stressed that these are just a draft proposal at the moment and all alternatives will be considered by The Boundary Commission. Community Councils will remain unaffected; therefore Saundersfoot would potentially have two County Councillors representing its interests at County Hall.
- The Traffic Orders have all gone through due process and will be implemented when the weather permits

- The Civic Amenity Site Planning Application is still with Pembrokeshire County Council Officers and is nearing its final checking phase, there is currently no date for submission to PCNPA
- County Council Budget – Council Tax 2.9% rise for 2013/14
- From 2014/15 the Capital expenditure will be substantially reduced to ensure funding for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools project, £75million will be provided by Pembrokeshire County Council to match the same amount provided by Welsh Government.
- Safeguarding – The ministerial Board are in place until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 with the Leader of the Council and Senior Officers continuing to develop the Action Plan for submission to the Minister.
- Councillor Ken Rowlands is now Cabinet Member for Education swapping positions with Councillor Huw George who moves to Environment.

e) Chairman John reported to members as follows:-

**Police Forum Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

• **Neighbourhood Policing Forum**

An update on the priorities from last month, revealed the skate boarding on the harbour had now ceased, of the three youths involved, two had their parents informed of the situation.

The Sensory Garden still has beer cans and other litter being left in the shrubbery by uncaring individuals, but late night patrols had not caught anyone.

The youths congregating outside Tesco and disturbing inside, seven of them have now been referred to the Anti-Social Behaviour coordinator while three others have had letters hand delivered to their homes.

In a separate incident one of the youths was given a Youth Restorative Disposal (YRD) which if they re-offend will be followed by a caution which will go on their record.

**Other Police activity**

- PC Alex Jones has seized two vehicles for motoring offences after some persistent monitoring.
- A man was filmed allowing his dog to foul in the village centre, the recording was handed to police and hopefully a prosecution will follow.
- The request to extend the speed limit further along Sandyhill Road – Pembrokeshire County Council are not sure if this is necessary or if it would be enforced, but they will undertake a traffic speed survey.
- A quad bike was stolen from a local farm, five people have been arrested.
- There was a fight in Tenby two weeks ago and three people have now been locked up.
- There are reports of cold callers pretending to be council workers, please warn neighbours about this.
- The Neighbourhood policing team are being reorganised again.

**The Crime figures**

- Involving the person: violence 1, with injury 2 – all 3 have been successfully dealt with.
- Burglar: 2 from dwellings and 1 from 'other buildings'. Auto theft: 1 car stolen, 4 taking without permission. 1 occurrence of fraud. Criminal damage: 1 to a dwelling, 1 to a vehicle and 1 other. Drugs: 2 possession of cannabis.
- The current detection rate is 52%
  
- Next month's priorities; Loud cars and cold callers.
- Next meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Councillor Brabon asked when the double yellow lines would be painted on the stretch of road near the entrance to Guys Maisonettes. Councillor Baker informed Councillor Brabon that this was part of the current Traffic Order and Pembrokeshire County Council was waiting for some good weather before installing the lines.
- b) Councillor Morris expressed his concern at the worsening problem of dog mess on the Saundersfoot beach and also on the footpath towards Wiseman's Bridge and said that the signage was not good enough. He went on to say that on the 'Keep Britain Tidy' website free signs were issued, but they would not supply these signs in Wales and 'Keep Wales Tidy' do not offer this facility.

Chairman John informed Councillor Morris that at the Police Forum meeting it was reported that an offender was caught on camera and this was given to the police and the person prosecuted.

Councillor Morris added that on the footpath to the Heritage Park in Stepside, bins are provided especially for dog mess and asked if more of these could be provided.

Councillor Cleevely said that extra bins could be provided but the County Council would not take responsibility for emptying them.

Councillor Baker said that he would ask the Dog Wardens to target these hot spots on a more regular basis.

- c) Councillor McDermott informed members that Mr Lyn Cadwallander, One Voice Wales, would be happy to come to Saundersfoot to meet Community Council with regard to the MIU closures. It was agreed that Mr Cadwallander meets with members in the Saundersfoot Sports Club on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 7.00pm. Councillor Baker agreed to inform interested parties of the meeting.
- d) Councillor Boughton Thomas asked if the litter bins outside Saundersfoot School be replaced with more modern ones. Councillor Baker said that he would contact Pembrokeshire County Council requesting that they be changed.

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- e) Councillor Boughton Thomas reminded members of a fund raising lunch for the Regency Hall would be held in the Merlewood Hotel on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 12.30 for 1.00, the cost being £12 per head.
  
- f) Councillor Cavell asked if additional warning signs be erected on Station Road for large lorries negotiating the railway bridge there. She reported an incident recently of a lorry actually being stuck under the bridge. Councillor Baker said that he would contact Mr John Price, Pembrokeshire County Council on the matter.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 6.30pm.