

SAUNDERSFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot on 7th March 2013

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman John reported:-

- On 16th February there was a meeting with the Sports & Social Club regarding additional parking spaces alongside the double tennis courts.
- On 17th February he attended the Civic Service for the 60th anniversary of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park at St David's Cathedral. It was a lovely service that was well attended.
- On 18th February he along with many members of the council attended a meeting about the closure of the Tenby MIU, here they had a presentation by Mr Lyn Cadwallander from One Voice Wales who said that similar concerns were being raised by Llanelli area council with regard to Hywel Dda restructuring services there. It was agreed that Tenby and Llanelli should liaise closely to save repetition of work and to share knowledge. Councillor Baker agreed to liaise with Llanelli.
- On 21st February he along with many Community Councillors attended a presentation of long service awards to the Royal British Legion volunteers who sell Remembrance Day poppies on their behalf. He was pleased to present in person the awards to two individuals for 5 years of service and one of 35 years to a local shop. He also thanked Mr Jeff Pearson for coordinating all of the people and their routes and in collecting over £5000 during last October/November.

2. Minutes of the 10th January 2013

a) Minute 9(a) Signage for Fan Road & Bevelin Lane

In Councillor Baker's absence, the Clerk reported that following a discussion with Mr Mel Stephens, Pembrokeshire County Council, an additional sign had been ordered for Bevelin Lane, and includes a 'No Through Road' symbol. Unfortunately, Pembrokeshire County Council can only provide signs for official postal addresses and Fan Road is not used as a postal address and as such Pembrokeshire County Council would not provide a sign. There are two choices, either Saundersfoot Community Council seeks permission to erect a sign themselves or seek the agreement of the residents to investigate using Fan Road in their address and then discussing the matter with the Post Office.

Chairman John said that probably the best way forward would be to canvass the residents of Fan Road to sign a document to include Fan Road on their address.

Members decided to find out the correct procedure to follow prior to progressing on the matter.

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b) Minute 4(c) MUGA, Saundersfoot

Councillor Boughton Thomas said that she had been informed by PLANED that the contract work on all the MUGAS funded by them had been carried out under the umbrella of Pembrokeshire County Council, and that the Regeneration Unit

at Pembrokeshire County Council were unable to give us any information about which contractors to contact. It would seem to suggest that the works had been carried out by them, but Councillor Hayes suggested getting this information from the Freedom of Information Act. Councillor Boughton-Thomas then informed members that the Regeneration Unit would be closing down in the next 12 months.

Councillor Poole informed members that, following a meeting with a contractor, a quote was awaited.

Chairman John said that PAVS were organising 'Safeguarding Children' workshops and suggested that members should attend.

c) Minute 4(d) Cambrian Hotel, Saundersfoot

Councillor McDermott informed members that he had spoken to Mr Will Lloyd Davies of Actoris and confirmed that the above project will now be in three sections:-

- 1) The Cambrian Hotel itself
- 2) Town Houses, Milford Terrace
- 3) Flats

Mr Lloyd Davies said that he expects the S106 in respect of affordable housing to be signed off next week and they have applied to National Parks for two small changes in the Planning Application with regard to the new restaurant and for some demolition at the rear of the Argosy Chip Shop. Councillor McDermott continued to say that it seems likely that the first phase, the Cambrian Hotel, would start in May/June as the new Regency Hall is completed when the team working on the hall project would transfer to the Cambrian Hotel. Councillor McDermott said that Mr Lloyd Davies apologised for the continuing delay but said that he was doing all he could and would give a monthly progress report on the development.

Chairman John expressed his concern at the delay and said that the first date given for starting the project was September 2012 and now six months later nothing has been done.

d) Minute 4(f) Salt Bins, Saundersfoot

Councillor Hayes asked why the two bins earmarked for Pennant Avenue were not included in the list of new bins. Members decided to request that these two bins be included for next winter.

e) Minute 4(h) Bus Shelter, North Close, Saundersfoot

Chairman John informed members that he had spoken to the contractor but had not received a quote as yet and perhaps it would be advisable to obtain a second quote for the work.

f) Minute 4(i) MIU Closure, Tenby

The Clerk reminded members that a meeting on the update on the above matter would be held on Tuesday 26th March 2013 at 2.00pm in the New Hedges

Village Hall.

g) Minute 6(b) CCTV System in Saundersfoot

Chairman John explained that the Dyfed Powys Police had been reminded about our discussions on moving the CCTV off the expensive BT line and onto the all Wales Public Services one that serves both Pembrokeshire County Council and DPP. The response was one of no real progress, problems with defining the connections and who inside DPP/Pembrokeshire County Council would be responsible or could even advise on suitable options.

He responded agreeing that lots of options had been discussed and that we had not arrived at a defined solution, but that surely it was DPP and/or Pembrokeshire County Council who should already have such options already defined and people responsible to offer assistance and not the merry-go-round of “not my problem”.

Separately BT had approached the Clerk about helping to save money on CCTV line rental, this was forwarded to Chairman John and he has been in correspondence with BT regarding getting someone to talk to, but despite many assurances of a return call, by the meeting nothing had materialised.

h) Minute 8(b) Saundersfoot Sports Club meeting re extra parking

The Clerk informed members that a meeting was held on 16th February 2013 with the Sports Club to discuss the above matter. Mr Chris Parker asked if the Community Council would agree for the Club to create a parking area to run parallel with the double tennis courts by creating a wall, fill in the area, which would create parking for approximately 20 cars. He said the Club would finance the project. The Clerk informed members that the Council owned the area of land concerned.

Councillor Cleevely said that at the meeting with the Club a decision could not be made, and this decision would have to be made by the whole Council. He also said that a lot of issues need to be sorted out prior to making a decision such as, access through our car park, to get to the area concerned, details of the lease between the Council and the Club and also what Agreement should be drawn up for allowing this work to be carried out.

Members decided that Councillor Cleevely and the Clerk visits Price & Kelway, Solicitors to obtain advice and to place the matter on the agenda for April 2013 and also write to the Sports Club informing them of this decision.

i) Minute 8(e) Broadband Speeds, Saundersfoot

Chairman John said that he had emailed a response to Mr Weston informing him that the exchange in Saundersfoot had been upgraded, but areas outside the village could still experience poor broadband speeds.

j) Minute 10(d) Replacement litter bins, Saundersfoot School

In the absence of Councillor Baker, the Clerk reported that Councillor Baker had contacted Mr Glen Codd, Pembrokeshire County Council and was told that new

recycling bins are being installed throughout the County and a number will be installed in Saundersfoot starting at Saundersfoot School.

- k)** Minute 10(f) Low Bridge Signs, Fan Road, War Memorial
In the absence of Councillor Baker, the Clerk informed members that Councillor Baker, along with Chairman John, had forwarded a drawing to Ben Blake, Pembrokeshire County Council highlighting the possible relocation of the existing low bridge signs.

3. AGENDA

a) Sensory Gardens (Councillor T Pearson)

Councillor Pearson informed members that she, along with Councillor Morris, Alwyn Lewis and John Griffiths had spent some time tidying up the gardens and was pleased with the outcome. She said the grass had been cut, all dead plants had been removed and the paths tidied up. Councillor Pearson said that Mr Duncan Hilling would draw up a schedule of work to be carried out in the gardens and she would be happy to continue to carry out work in the gardens.

Councillor Boughton-Thomas said that Mr Terry Lewis had offered his services to enhance the borders outside the ticket office and it was proposed by Councillor Poole and seconded by Councillor Cavell that the Council agrees to Mr Lewis enhancing this area. All members agreed.

Councillor Cleevely thanked all those who had worked in the gardens and Chairman John thanked Councillor Pearson for taking a lead role in enhancing the gardens.

b) Moreton Lane (Correspondence received from Angela Woods)

The Clerk informed members that he had received two emails from Angela Woods, Moreton Farm expressing her concern at the poor condition of Moreton Lane leading from Bonvilles Court Coach Park. She said that she and another visitor had damaged their cars whilst proceeding along this road due to large potholes.

Councillor Hayes understood that the responsibility for looking after this piece of road lay with the owner of the nearby property, and also said that there is a sign erected there stating that the road was "Unsuitable for Motor Vehicles".

The Clerk was instructed to contact National Parks to establish if the repairs to this road was included in the sale of the Coach Park.

c) Clearance of plots in St Issell's Cemetery

Chairman John said this item was carried forward from the February meeting and the date for the clearance of plots was the 28th February 2013.

The Clerk informed members that following letters to the offenders no clearance had taken place.

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Councillors Poole, John, Alwyn Lewis and the Clerk said that they would commence the clearance as soon as possible and store the shrubs etc in the soil situated in the cemetery and all other items in the store shed.

It was also decided to place a notice on the entrance gates of the cemetery informing plot owners of these actions.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

NP/13/0085 - Balcony, 3 Plantation Cottages, Saundersfoot

Members raised no objections to the above application.

Chairman John reminded members that the application for the Civic Amenty site at New Hedges had been received and was in the process of being examined by members prior to the public meeting to be held on 11th March 2013 at 7.00pm in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot.

Chairman John continued to say that as this was an open meeting, he would give a brief introduction and then ask any interested parties to address the meeting. Councillor Boughton-Thomas asked if we could go back to Pembrokeshire County Council to question them about the alternative sites considered.

Chairman John said that there were mainly access problems with the alternative sites considered.

5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a) The Clerk informed members that he had received an email from Mick Lightwood expressing his concern at the amount of litter collecting around the village and especially around the school near the Whitlow where he lives. He asked if he could acquire a litter picking device from the Council as he was willing to volunteer to clear up this litter.

Members suggested asking Councillor Pearson (who had left the meeting) who was associated with Keep Wales Tidy for advice.

- b) A letter was received from BT informing the Council that the charges for the CCTV rental would increase by 2.5% with effect from 01/04/13.
- c) A letter of thanks was received from Phil Odley, Chairman, Saundersfoot Chamber for Tourism thanking the Council for their two donations of £2400 and £500 towards the Christmas lights and the New Years Eve Fireworks.
- d) Applications for tree works were received from National Works for Penydre Cottage, Milford Terrace, Saundersfoot, 9 Ocean Point, Saundersfoot and 11 Ocean Point, Saundersfoot. Members raised no objections for these works to be carried out.

- e) A reduction in the subsidised Pembrokeshire Coastal Bus Service was to be introduced by Pembrokeshire County Council due to a drop in funding from the Welsh Government with effect from September 2013.

The following Services would be affected:-

Poppit Rocket
Strumble Shuttle
Puffin Shuttle
Coastal Cruiser

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

- a) In the absence of Councillor Baker, Chairman John gave his report:-
- The planning application for the Civic Amenity Site near New Hedges was lodged by Pembrokeshire County Council on 28th February and is now with PCNPA.
 - At the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee today there are two items of note – proposal to reduce black bin bag collection to once every two weeks (in a holiday resort such as Saundersfoot this would have a dramatic effect and he will be speaking against this proposal). The second item is the Pembrokeshire County Council proposal to dispose of 28 public toilets; none of these are in Saundersfoot. The proposal will look for a third party to operate the toilets (Town or Community Councils or other groups). Saundersfoot has already carried out a similar exercise with the Harbour Toilet being operated by The Harbour Commission following the refurbishment and Coppet Hall toilets being incorporated into the new Visitor and Restaurant centre operated by The Hean Castle Estate.
 - Following a successful campaign by the Friends of Saundersfoot there will be a proposal for a 40mph speed limit along Sandy Hill Road.
 - The new Traffic Orders came into force on 1st March 2013 at Sandyhill Road, The Ridgeway, Saundersfoot School and adjacent to the Pelican Crossing, he invited Geoff Sutton, one of the Pembrokeshire County Council Traffic Wardens and our two PCSO Jim and Hannah to a meeting on the first day to observe the effect and to give his support for the new measures emphasising the safety concerns at of all four locations.
 - Pembrokeshire County Council carried out a litter pick along Sandy Hill Road up to the Nursery, this stretch of road seems to attract a great deal of litter thrown from moving vehicles.
 - Following a mammoth County Council meeting on 29th February the Budget and Local Development Plan were adopted, there was a great deal of discussion regarding the Pembrokeshire County Council Pay and Grading Exercise with the financial threat to employees on signing the new agreement by 29th February 2013 was removed. The Notice of Motion of No Confidence in the Hywel Dda Health Board was modified Pembrokeshire County Council to continue to oppose the proposals of Hywel Dda Health Board in relation to the SCBU and the two MIU.
 - A revised list of outstanding maintenance items was discussed with Mr Glen Codd and included the proposed drainage at Westfield Road Flats,

the leaking water outside the Arcade, the remedial work to the pavements around the Spar and the need for resurfacing at the entrance to Swallowdale Estate.

- The drop kerbs at the entrance to Swallowdale Estate has been installed.

Councillor Poole asked whether the Coppit Hall toilets would be open during the Summer months due to the work being carried out there and also queried the number of car parking spaces outside the School. Members said they would seek answers from Councillor Baker on both issues.

b) Councillor Hayes reported to members as follows:-

Friends of Saundersfoot 14th February 2013

- The members were pleased to see the sign directing the public to the toilets in the Regency Hall Car Park is now in place on the traffic Island.
- Members suggested that a sign be installed “Dogs to be kept on leads” be erected near the tunnels towards Wiseman’s Bridge.
- The lights in the long tunnel have not worked for about three weeks. Comments have been made about the report of compensation being paid to the public who have had accidents there, between 1996 and 2012 £53,000 was paid out and asked would it be more practical to have adequate lighting to avoid these accidents occurring.
- Drainage works on Sandyhill Road have been carried out and the debris dug from the road has been left on the verge.
- Speed checks have been carried out at the top end of Sandyhill Road and it was confirmed that traffic was speeding there. John Price, Pembrokeshire County Council will liaise with the police to install a 40mph restriction there.
- A new drain has been installed at the bottom of St Brides Lane, but has not been filled in with cement properly.

c) Councillor Cavell reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot School

- Councillor Cavell attended the St David’s Day celebrations at the school and the hall was a blaze of colour with costumes worn by all staff and pupils for the special assembly accompanied by wonderful singing and music. During the morning pupils representing their houses were awarded house points which proved to be very close.
- Hard working members of FOSS were busy making Welsh cakes which raised £250.
- Congratulations to the children who had been creating art work inspired by the Welsh.
- Pictures of the pupils were on display at the Saundersfoot Food & Craft Festival.

d) Councillor McDermott reported to members as follows:-

Regency Hall meeting 6th March 2013

- The meeting was opened by the Chairman Neville Boughton Thomas.
- The meal in support of Regency Hall Funds in the Merlewood Hotel on 27th February 2013 proved to be a huge success.

- The new building is progressing well and there is a great deal of interest being shown by the public at large.
- Our treasurer continues to do startling work in applying for further grants whilst maintaining close control over the projects costings.
- A special thank you should go to the Sandyhill Park Residents Association for a wonderful donation of £147.94.
- Councillor McDermott reported that the New Year's Day Swim had raised in excess of £700 and special thanks should go to those who took part.
- A discussion took place with regard to the possible appointment of booking clerk/receptionist.
- A sub/committee was formed to discuss plans for the proposed new kitchen.
- Mr Colin Newberry is making enquiries in respect of using the maple floor from the old building in the new hall.
- A Rod Stewart tribute concert in aid of hall funds will be held in the RAOB Club, Kilgetty on Friday 14th June 2013 at 8.00pm.
- Next meeting Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm.

e) One Voice Wales Area meeting 22nd February 2013

An interesting presentation took place with regard to Post Offices by Mr Stewart Taylor from Post Office Ltd.

Many statistics were given by Mr Taylor as follows:-

- There are 11,500 post offices in the UK with 957 in Wales.
- 93% of the population live within one mile and 99% live within three miles of a post office.
- 20,000 people visit a post office each week.
- There would be no more post office closures and the number of post offices in Wales has increased from 950 to 957, the first increase for 40 years.
- 6000 of the 11,500 post offices will be open much longer in line with major retailers such as SPAR and they will fall into two categories local and main. Local post offices will move their counters to the front and the main post offices would be more open plan.
- A pilot scheme of 10 post offices in Wales would become internet cafes.
- There had been a complete re think with regard to the post office future with investment of £1.34 billion towards the marketing of the post office services.

f) Chairman John reported to members as follows:-

Neighbourhood Police Forum 4th March 2013

- PCSO Jim Moffat welcomed everyone to the meeting on his birthday, he then gave an update on last month's priorities. There have been no new cases of cold callers, but people advised to remain on guard.
- They were advised on the rise of new emerging drugs that are about, some drugs are so new that they are not classed as illegal yet. PCSO Moffat had been on a training day where a video had been shown of a girl suffering a total loss of awareness and control within seconds of taking a new drug. The end result of some of these drugs are frightening, and the emergence of new cocktails present the police with an every changing problem.

- We now have a new Inspector, maybe the 10th in five years! The new incumbent has not been named yet. Also we now have a new Chief Constable, recently appointed by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- The crime figures involving the person: no violence, but one causing fear or distress. Burglary, 3 from “other buildings”. 1 Theft from vehicle, 5 other thefts, 2 criminal damage. 1 perverting the course of justice. The theft from other buildings is mainly oil from storage tanks, people are asked to watch for suspicious activity. The theft of gas bottles has been quiet for the winter period, but can expect to change once caravans reopen at Easter.
- Next meeting 8th April 2013.

g) Saundersfoot Forum 28th February 2013

Several representatives met with members of Amroth Forum in Summerhill to continue the discussions about working together to produce a joined up plan for the production and display of information for locals and visitors alike, showing the areas industrial heritage. The concept of a “hub” was endorsed by those present and many ideas were discussed with future historic dates being used as a focus; the next obvious one being 100 years since the start of the First World War in 2014. These ideas will be researched further and discussed at the next meeting which will be on 19th March 2013.

h) Saundersfoot Harbour Advisory Committee on 5th March 2013

The meeting discussed the continued lack of communication from the Commissioners especially over the changes to the Car Park Season Ticket arrangements which is now having an impact on local accommodation providers.

On a more positive note, the committee welcomed the dredging arrangements albeit a bit late as this will be after Easter and so impact the larger commercial vessels Easter income as they are restricted by the current sandbanks on certain tides. Also a warm welcome will be extended to the new Harbour Manager when they are appointed shortly, apparently 70 applicants for the manager and assistant posts, one from the Shetlands.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a)** Councillor Cleevely (on behalf of Councillor Brabon) reported that he had been approached by Mr John Joseph, The Ridgeway, Saundersfoot requesting that a stretch of pavement near his house needed to be tarmaced as the surface there was breaking up.

The Clerk was instructed to write to Pembrokeshire County Council requesting that the area is inspected for repair work to be carried out.

- b)** Councillor Morris reported that overhanging branches had been cut back near the Incline Cottage on Westfield Road, but further cut backs should have been carried out as it has become dangerous for walkers and motorists. Members decided to contact Councillor Baker on the matter.

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- c)** Councillor Cavell asked if a letter be sent to the Harbour Commissioners expressing the Council's disappointment at the lack of communication with regard to numerous issues in the village. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Commissioners with these concerns.
- d)** Councillor Hayes said that the Sardis Community Association were now in a position to convert the kiosk there into a Tourist Information Unit which would be an advantage to the area.

Councillor McDermott said that he would inspect the kiosk for safety prior to the conversion taking place.

- e)** Chairman John expressed his concern at constant dog fouling taking place on the Ridgeway which was becoming worse. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Pembrokeshire County Council dog warden to request the area is monitored more regularly.
- f)** Chairman John reported that a roller had appeared in the stream by the children's play area and also a broken up caravan was an eyesore in one of the gardens in the same area.

Members all agreed to ask Councillor Baker to investigate these issues.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Methodist Church, Saundersfoot on Thursday 4th April 2013 at 6.00pm.