



Minutes

Meeting of Council held at Pen y bont Chapel Vestry on 18th July 2023 @ 8.00pm

Present: Cllr. Gerwyn Williams (Chairman)[GW], Cllr. Peter James (Vice Chairman) [PJ], Cllr. Gerallt Miles [GM], Cllr. Brynmor Harries [BH], Cllr. Barrie Griffiths [BG], Cllr. Suzanne Jenkins [SJ].

In Attendance: Cllr. Michelle Bateman (PCC) [MB]

Clerk: Miss Natalie Williams (NW)

Apologies

None

Welcome

The Chairman Gerwyn Williams welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Natalie Williams [NW] as the new Clerk & RFO. GW also thanked Paul and Eric for their work on the village green.

Approval of Minutes 13th June 2023

- NW to amend minutes and agenda names. (A)
- GM raised the sewage problem at Newport Pembs beach which is an ongoing issue – suggested continuing to submit complaints. (A – NW to submit complaint via PCC dashboard.)
- BH and GW approved minutes with these changes completed.

Matters arising

- Appointment of Clerk & RFO (NW)
- Councillor vacancy – GW explained that two applications had been received – Brian John and Nia Bateman. MB left the meeting due to conflict of interest as Nia Bateman is her daughter. The committee discussed the two applicants, and it was decided to conduct a secret ballot. Results of ballot were announced and Brian John was elected. GW wished to thank the other candidate and wished them luck for the future. (A - NW/GW to respond to Nia Bateman to thank her for her interest. GW to contact Brian John to inform him that he had been successful and elected as new Council member.) (A - NW to add Cllr. Brian John to new correspondence and invite to September meeting.)
- MB returned to the meeting.

Clerk's update

- NW requested by Carol Williams to send up-to-date bank statement to Eric Williams. (A - NW to download statement and send to EW – Online banking issue – NW has emailed Lloyds.)

Planning

Finance Report

Pembrokeshire County Council report (MB)

- MB informed committee of the Boundary Commission's consideration of current community council sizes and catchments. There will be a consultancy regarding the sizes, population, unfilled spaces and potential democracy deficit for community councils will be held on 4th September (PCC Councillors), and 5th September for community councillors. In view of the draft policy, Wolfscastle and Hayscastle would be deemed too small and could be combined. Rough timeline – September consultancy, October meeting with a draft proposal set for May/June 24 and final consultation/publication in January/February 25.
- GM voiced his concern re smaller community councils who often care more for their local community. MB explained that the size policy is just a guide and will be judged on a case by case basis.
- MB – consultation on second homes council tax premium – ongoing consultation.

Councillor's Reports (All)

- **Noticeboards** – considering how recent the noticeboards had been installed by Norman Construction it was observed that the condition was very poor. Rev Geoff Eynon had informed committee he would complain. Request for key for noticeboard – suggested NW print sign for noticeboard with BH's details as keyholder. *(A - NW print sign with BH's details as keyholder to go inside noticeboard.)*
- **Defibrillator** battery – GW informed that they had reached end of life and needed replacing. Due to interim time where no clerk and between meetings, GW had paid invoice from Paul Rumbelow for new battery – Reimbursement needed – CC agreed. SJ queried the lifespan of the battery and whether it be an idea to contact person who originally installed and provided the training – Tony Wall to query the battery replacement. *(A - NW to write cheque to GW for reimbursement.) (A - NW to contact Tony Wall re defibrillator battery replacement.)*
- **Christmas Tree** – BH informed the committee that he had not received a response from Tom Bevan. GM / GW suggested contacting Matthew Williams PCC who could contact Mel Stephens which was a name that had been given to discuss installation of a feeder pillar in the lamppost to power the Christmas tree safely. MB suggested contacting Mark Owen – Street Care PCC. NW to contact Mel Stephens. *(A - MB to contact MO) (A - NW to contact Mel Stephens (cc MB in) re xmas lights – electrical source – legally fitted query.)*
- **Parish records** – GW contacted Archives re records. BH would ask if they could be stored in the cupboard in the Vestry. *(A - BH to ask if records can be stored in Vestry cupboard.)*

AOB

- BH – pot holes near Allt yr afon junction – MB explained these can be reported online.
- Rock View issue was raised – MB explained that the building was handed back from social care. GM expressed concern that first refusal should go to existing farmers in the community. Similar issue with St Dogwells and Llannon. NW to email estates expressing CC's views that first refusal should be offered locally. *(A – NW email estates)*
- SJ – private property in disrepair and structure appeared dangerous. MB send details to NW to forward to enquiries@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
- SJ – Wolfshead fountain – no water – water rates being paid. NW to look for water charge details. BH will also investigate. *(A – NW look for water rates details.) (A – BH investigate.)*
- PJ informed committee that the hedge cutting had been completed. GM raised issue that the foliage surrounding Temple Springs encroached onto the road and the occupant was responsible for trimming back. NW to email PCC Enquiries to contact occupant. *(A – NW to email re Temple Springs)*
- GW suggested committee write a letter to Charles George congratulating him on his award at the Royal Welsh Show. – Agreed *(A - GW to draft a letter for NW to send.)*

Meeting closed 21:30 – next meeting to take place 12th September 23 (Treffgarne)

(A – Action to be taken)