

NEW MOAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **COUNCIL MEETING** held of Wednesday, the 25th day of Oct 2023 at 20:00 in, Bletheston Church.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr H Warlow (Chair) ,Cllr D Howells (Vice Chair), Cllr R Williams; Cllr M Himsworth and Sue Harding (Clerk). Also present Cllr D Howlett (Pembrokeshire County Council)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr J Bushell, Cllr E Davies,
2. **DECLARATION OF KNOWN INTERESTS - None**
3. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES dated 30th Aug 2023– Decision Approved**
4. **Update on Broadband** - Cllr Howlett reported that Broadway Broadband had gone into administration and that Voneus had taken over the business. Cllr Howlett was aware of a meeting w/c/ 30/10/23 with Pembrokeshire County Council IT team and representatives from Voneus. Cllr Howlett had requested that the New Moat project area to be progressed as quickly as possible at that meeting.. **Decision - Noted and Cllr Howlett to request feedback information following the meeting between PCC and Voneus.**
5. **Update on Boundary Commission changes** . Cllr Howlett had attended a meeting in which a proposal to increase the member/voter ratio (Size Policy) was to be increased therefore requiring the merger of some smaller councils. Cllr Howlett had put forward an amendment to reduced the planned 'registered voter numbers to Cllr' which was approved. The Clerk had attended a meeting with the Boundary Commission on the 23rd October and reported back that the Boundary Commission had confirmed that there would be no forced amalgamations of smaller Community Councils but did encourage discussion between areas to sort out any 'anomalies' of existing boundaries. The Clerk had requested a copy of the official boundary map for New Moat to consider- **Decision Members were again unanimously against amalgamation but would consider any anomalies.**
6. **Community Events** - The Clerk has completed a grant request to South Hook LNG for sponsorship of the annual Community Meal held in January. The closing date is the 5th November, so we would not know the outcome of the application for a few weeks. A discussion took place about the cost of tickets should we not be able to find a sponsor and the effect it may have on attendance. It was suggested that 'Voneus' should also be contacted to explore their support. **Decision - Clerk to contact Venous and when outcome of application to South Hook known arrange a meeting to discuss further.**
7. **Planning Matters**
 - a. **23/0529/PA - Roof Alterations, Blaen y Cam, New Moat - noted**
8. **Defibrillator at Llys-Y-Fran** - the Clerk had contacted the YFC and informed them that the members had wanted to support their request but needed more information in relation to costs. The Clerk also informed YFC about existing grant options which gave free defibrillators to Communities. The YFC was going to explore the grant options and report back if they still needed funding. **Decision - the members are still keen to support this request if grant funding not available**

9. Correspondence received since last meeting -

- a. Road Closures - at New Moat on the 16th October and Bletheston on the 21st September - Noted
- b. Hywal Dda Consultation meetings were held on the 5th September - Noted
- c. P.C.C. Electoral Registration Team - reminding Town and Community Councils of the process to be undertaken if a Councillor position became available between elections. - Noted
- d. Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service had announced the opening of consultation in relation to their 2040 Service Plan - Noted
- e. Reminder to complete the online survey in relation to 'Democratic Health in the Community' which closes on the 27 Nov 2023. The group is focused on increasing engagement in local government e.g increased voting, nomination of electors etc. A Task and finish group is set up and at the end of the survey participants are asked if they would join a focus group - Noted
- f. Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant Changes- The Clerk had contacted the PCC Enhancing Pembrokeshire Team to enquire if the community event in January might be appropriate for an application. They had informed her that it was on hold until the Council had made a decision on changes to the terms. - Noted
- g. The Bevan Commission are undertaking engagements events to discuss Health and Social Care in Wales. An invite to join a Zoom meeting on the 7th November 2023 at 18:00 had been received - Noted
- h. Pembrokeshire County Council wrote to inform that a review of district polling stations was to take place between the 9th Oct - 1st December 2023. - Noted
- i. The Wales Air Ambulance made an appeal for donations - Noted
- j. Maencloghlog School are looking to recruit members to their board of governors. It was noted that New Moat Community Council had two existing board members to the school - Cllr Williams and Cllr Howells. - Members asked the Clerk to send a message of support for Dr Bethan Lloyd from LLandissilio on behalf of the members.
- k. Meeting Venue Fees - Bletherston Church had asked for a higher donation towards the use of the Church for meetings due to increased costs. - Decision members agreed to. Increase the payment from £15 to £20.

11. Notification of any other business for discussion at future meetings:-

- a. None

12. Next Meeting Date - TBC

Meeting Closed at 21:00