# BRAWDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Brawdy Community Council held remotely on Monday 29th January 2024.

2024/35.

1. Present. Cllr J Tierney, Cllr Mrs A Loch, Cllr M Carter, Cllr D E Jones, Cllr W Lawrence, Sean O'Connor Clerk, plus Guests, Mr Daniel Start and Mr George Islwyn- Williams.

2. Apologies. None.

3. Declarations of Interest. Cllr D E Jones & Cllr W Lawrence declared a possible personal interest in item 5d on the agenda. Cllr Tierney declared a possible personal interest in item 22.   on the agenda.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2024, and also extended a welcome to our guests. As we had guests present, the Chairman decided to deal with the matters affecting them first.

13) Mr Daniel Start had contacted the clerk prior to the meeting to advise of his plans to complete some restoration work to the boundary wall and hedge at Llandeloy Churchyard. He had forwarded details of his groups' plan, together with photographs, and he outlined his plans, including pointing the wall on his side at the meeting. Cllr Jones suggested that the wall should be pointed on both sides. There was some confusion as to who owned the land, and it was confirmed that it is not owned by the community council, but by the church. He was given the contact details of the church, who he agreed to contact before proceeding with the repairs. It was generally. agreed that the community council would support any improvement, and he was wished good luck with the project. Mr Start left the meeting.

5d.) Mr George Islwyn-Williams was in attendance as he was concerned with one of the footpaths that was adjacent to and crossing his land. This path had not been used as a public footpath for over 20 years, and he was concerned that if it was reopened, it could cause a major health and safety issue, and a danger to the public, as this area was used by his cattle every day. After a short discussion, Cllr Loch advised that if it is, or was, a footpath previously, legally it still is a footpath. It was agreed that a compromise was needed here, and Cllr Carter offered to set up a meeting with Mr Islwyn- Williams and Mr Matthew Cloud at the legal department at County Hall to see if they could come to an agreement acceptable to all parties. Before leaving the meeting Islwyn- Williams thanked the council for their help and support.

Cllr Loch to contact Sean Tilling at PCC to hold back on any development and signage on this path until an agreement had been reached. She also gave an update with a map of the Roman road, which was just on the boundary of our area. This was following the forwarding of an ordnance survey map by Cllr Jones. Both maps were featured and compared on the shared screen. It was agreed that this was an excellent area which is perfectly suitable for walkers and ramblers, and these maps make it much clearer, what is in and out of our boundary. Both Cllr Jones and Cllr Loch were thanked for their work with this matter.

4. The clerk confirmed that the minutes of the November 2023 meeting had been properly proposed and seconded and added to the BCC website.

5. Matters arising from the November 2023 meeting.

5a). Cllr Jones advised that he had spoken to Gavin Pritchard at PCC regarding the ongoing drainage problems at Castell Cwcw. He had suggested the use of a JCB and to insert a new drain, but no date had been set for its completion. There was no further progress regarding the signage for large vehicles on the B4330. Cllr Carter advised that the repairs to the sign and plant box, at the Trefgarn Owen junction was in hand. A local resident had agreed to carry out the work, and Cllr Carter would supply the timber, with repairs to be completed shortly. Cllr Loch raised the issue of flooding at Llanreithan during the recent wet weather, and Cllr Carter included this and the potential blackspot at ‘Crashgate corner '. He would raise all these outstanding matters with the relevant people at County Hall.

5b. Cllr Tierney confirmed that he would ensure that the repairs to the bus shelter in Trefgarn Owen would be completed shortly.

5c. The clerk confirmed that the correct procedures had been followed in the search for a replacement community councillor, to replace Cllr Mrs A Morgan who had recently stepped down. This was under the guidance of the election department at County Hall. Now that the 14-working day period, in which an election to complete the vacancy, could be called, had elapsed, with no signatures received, a notification of interest form, to be co-opted was to be circulated. Cllr Carter would add this form to our community information page, and interest expressed would be considered after a further 14 days had elapsed. The clerk advised that he had received interest from two persons so far, regarding this vacancy. It was agreed that these, plus any others received would be considered, by an interview procedure. The clerk was asked to ascertain as to the availability of the Memorial Hall in Solva to

conduct the interviews face to face.

5d) As above.

5e) The clerk had received an apology from Mr Julian Harries as he was unable to attend the meeting. He did however provide an update regarding the Trefgarn Owen Chapel Roof and the schoolroom. He advised that the roof repairs had been attended to, and the dangerous ridge tiles and slates had been fixed. He confirmed that there were no adverse reports from the builder as to the general condition of the roof.

He advised that there was some remedial work needed on the rear windows at the schoolroom. The materials had been ordered and the matter would be attended to shortly. He advised that there were meetings arranged for early February with the deacons and trustees of the chapel, and he would report back to the community council as soon as something is decided.

5f) Cllr Tierney confirmed that the 'free trees' from PCNP had been ordered. There was a total of 85 trees in total, and he will arrange distribution and delivery once received.

5g) Cllr Carter advised that he had spoken to local resident and former community councillor Mr Alan Pike regarding a BCC letterhead. He confirmed that this was possible, but we needed to decide what exactly was required.

It was agreed that we place the matter on the Brawdy Community Information page for suggestions, and discuss the outcome at the next meeting. Cllr Tierney agreed to arrange this.

Correspondence.

Pembs County Council.

6. Planning Application Consultation Ref No.23/0777/PA. Demolition of single storey extension, replacement with proposed two storey extension at Swn Y Mor Llanreithan Mathry Haverfordwest.

The plans and drawings comparing the existing position and the planned position were shown on the shared screen. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the merits of the application, and it was proposed by Cllr Carter and seconded by Cllr Jones that we reply in support of the case, but stating that we feel that the window lines could be more in keeping with the original cottage design. This was unanimously agreed.

7. Notification received of acceptance of Planning application Ref no 22/1088/PA

Earth banked nutrient store at Maerdy Penycwm Haverfordwest. Received and filed.

8. County Councillors' monthly update.

Cllr Carter advised that the recent budget meeting had taken place at County Hall. Although the final figure to be received from the Welsh Office was not yet known, there was likely to be a significant gap to be made up. This was likely to see a possible double digit percentage increase in the council tax payments this year. He also advised that a decision had been made regarding the second home premium, and the premium for empty and unused properties in the county. The second home premium was to be set at 200% and the empty homes at 300%. This would hopefully see, more empty housing becoming available in the future. As soon as final figures are known Cllr Carter would advise councillors accordingly.  He advised that a new head of property had been appointed, but other than these financial discussions, there were very few other issues causing concern at this time.

Other Correspondence.

9. The clerk advised that we had received notification that the Pembs Cycle tour would take place on 27/4/24. Further details would be sent later.

10. Training dates for Feb & March from OVW had been forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting.

11. Potential St Brides Bay Development. This was a sea-based farm in St Davids and Ramsey Sound. The details had been forwarded to councillors, and we await further information.

12. Sea Defences at Newgale. Details of this project had been forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting. This matter, although not directly in our area, was discussed at the meeting. It was agreed that although not directly involved, as part of Newgale is in our area, and it would have an effect on many local residents, that we should be included in any consultations. The clerk would contact PCC and PCNP with this request.

13) As above

Report of Responsible Finance Officer.

14) The clerk reported up to date bank account balances as at 29/1/24 as Current Account £146.09, Deposit Account £ 2263.29 and Election Account £4092.39 These balances were confirmed on the shared screen.

15) The monthly bank statement had been forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting, and this was shown on the shared screen. This included the entries for December 23 and January 24, and confirmed the above balances.

16) The Clerks' salary and income tax payments for both December and January were for the standard 16 hours only, and we're featured on the bank statement.

 17) The clerk confirmed receipt of our final precept payment for the year on December 20th amounting to £1916.

 18) The clerk confirmed that our request for the precept payment for £5922, as agreed for 2024/25 had been submitted to County Hall.

  19) Since the last meeting the clerk had received invoices from the Wales Audit Office for completion of the audits for 21/22) and 22/23). He had sent details of these requests for payments to councillors and had received a proposer and a seconder to complete these payments. These figures were included on the bank statement and payment was ratified at the meeting.

 20) All the donation payments agreed at the November meeting had been made and featured on the bank statement. This was apart for the payment of £100 to Solva Surgery. Before making the agreed payment, the clerk had contacted the surgery regarding payment details. They advised that the surgery was now controlled by the Hywel DDA health board, and all donations were directed to a central fund. A short discussion took place, and it was agreed that we hold back this payment at this time, until a longer-term position regarding the future of the surgery is known.

21) The Clerks' contract of employment for 23/24 had been agreed at the November meeting. A copy including the new hourly pay rate had been forwarded to the Chairman for his signature and return to confirm agreement.

22) A pre- application consultation letter regarding a proposed base station installation at Castle Farm Villa Hayscastle had been forwarded to councillors on the day of the meeting. It was agreed to place this on the agenda for discussion at the February meeting.

23) The date and venue of the next meeting was agreed as a virtual meeting on Monday 26th February 2024 at 7.30 pm. Once the situation regarding interviewing potential new community councillors is known, a suitable date and venue for this could be set.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.37 pm.