**Cyngor Cymuned Amroth Community Council**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 7.00pm in Llanteg Village Hall, Llanteg.

**Councillors present:**  A Cormack; A Evans, F Evans; M Harvey; R Lake, S Phillips, R Tippet -Maudsley; W Wood; E Wyn Morgan.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk),

**Declaration of Interest. Cllr Cormack re planning application 23/0945/PA. Cllr Harvey on planning application 23/ 0929/PA.**

**Chair’s Welcome**

Vice Chairman Cllr. Phillips welcomed all Councillors to the meeting, and asked for any apologies.

**Apologies**: M Morris, J James, T Baron.

**1. To deem the minutes of previous meetings as correct documents**

The **Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 18th January 2023 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. A Cormack Seconded by Cllr. W Woods Vote – unanimous.

Cllr. Phillips signed the January 2024 Minutes.

**2..Matters Arising**

* The Sustainable Coastal Community working group meeting will take place in March.
* An email has been sent to Pembrokeshire Road Safety partnership regarding a meeting on speed limit anomalies in the wards. (Chapel Lane)

 **3.County Councillors Report**

**Council Budget**. It is a busy time with the budget. Cabinet will discuss it on March 7th. A 16.3% increase is to be recommended which works out at £4.20 per week for a band D house. See the website - budget options.pembrokeshire.gov.uk. If this increase is agreed, Pembrokeshire will be the 18th lowest costing Local Authority in Wales.

**Superfast Broadband**- Broadway partners and some of their work has been taken over by Voneous. It is planned that the work to connect Stepaside will continue. This will include Pleasant Valley and Summerhill but not Amroth itself. Cllr Cormack is pressing for them to include Amroth Village, but it looks like many rural areas will not be covered.

**Saundersfoot Surgery**. -A date has been set for the next Surgery meeting so Cllr. Cormack will provide an update at the meeting next month.

 **4 .Planning**

**23/0754/PA. Fynnon Hafod, Tavernspite. SA67 0AZ. Proposal**, Change of use of barn from agriculture to business to facilitate small, part-time bookings only archery and axe throwing instruction venue.

Councillors were consulted by email to comply with the 21 day response time. Amroth Community Council has No Objection to this application and comments were submitted accordingly.

**23/0945/PA. Glynavon, Pleasant Valley. SA67 8NY. Proposal**, Demolition of rear shed & replace with single storey rear extension. **Comments by 6th March 2024.**

Cllr Cormack declared a personal interest and did not take part in the discussion or vote.

**Following discussion, Councillors has no objections to this application.**

**23/0937/PA. the Borderers, Stepaside. SA67 8JN. Proposal**, Dormer roof extension, rear extension and enclosed porch. **Comment by 12th March 2024**

**Following discussion , Councillors had no objections to this application.**

**23/0929/PA. land Between 9 & 11 Church View, Summerhill. SA67 8LZ. Proposal** Expansion of Oakland Caravan Park with mobile holiday lodge together with parking, amenity space and landscaping. **Comments by 13th March 2024**

Two objections had been received from residents. Cllr Harvey declared a personal interest and took no part is the discussion and vote.

*The cabin seems out of place in relation to the surrounding properties. There has been public access from Church View across the land from over 30 +years to the lane, the path being visible on google maps. This was raised with the rights of way officer in January 2023. The planning report states wrongly that the lane is soley used for access to Island View House. There are 4 other properties on the lane that use the track, plus two tenant farmers and the National Trust.*

Following discussion, Councillors able to vote objected unanimously.

**23/0882/PA Pinecroft, PLEASANT VALLEY, SA67 8NY. Proposal:** Demolition of existing extension, new replacement rear extension with overflow annex for a family member + associated alterations**. Comments by 14th March 2024**

**This application had arrived late so Councillors had little chance to review the documents relation to the application. Councillors agreed to email comments to the Clerk.**

**23/0955/PA Ordon Grene, 6, Wesley Close, PLEASANT VALLEY, SA67 8NT. Proposal:** Proposed alterations and extensions. **Comments by 14th March 2024.**

**Following discussion Councillors had no objection to this application.**

**Decking.** Following a query from a resident, the Clerk has written to PCNPA regarding decking and if there is any material reasons to object if it is thought to be excessive. Awaiting a reply. The officer is out of office.

**5.Correspondence**.

* **Access denied** **https://olderpeople.wales/resource/access-denied-older-peoples-experiences-of-digital-exclusion-in-wales/**is a reportwhich highlights older people’s experiences of digital exclusion and the impact this has on people’s lives. It shows that it is increasingly difficult to undertake day to day activities if you are not online and that digital exclusion is now resulting in social exclusion.
* **Final Engagement Phase of Wales Air Ambulance Service Takes Place in February**

The third and final engagement phase of the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) Review, about how to further improve the air ambulance service in Wales, takes place between 01 and 29 February 2024. The Commissioner’s Report, all engagement documents, and details of how to give feedback are on the EASC website: https://easc.nhs.wales/engagement/sdp/.

**How to respond:**

We want everyone in Wales to have their say about this important critical care service and have provided a range of ways to give your feedback.  You can:

Complete an **online questionnaire** ; contact the Clerk for the link.

**Download** the response form **here**, complete, and return by attaching to an e-mail to: eascservicereviewqueries@wales.nhs.uk ; or

Download the response form **here**, print, complete, and return by post (or simply write) to: EMRTS Service Review Feedback, Emergency Ambulance Services Committee, Unit 1, Charnwood Court, Billingsley Road, Nantgarw Park, Cardiff, CF15 7Q. tel. 01443 471520

* The National trust have written to ask if Amroth Community Council would write a letter of support for a National Trust (NT) application to “The Woodland Investment Grant” to support our work on the Colby Estate?

There are many potential benefits for the Amroth community, in having access to the woodlands on their doorsteps.  There will be better paths and access to the woodlands around Colby, as well as better footpath links from Colby Woodland Gardens to Summerhill, through the newly created woodlands on Cwmrath Farm. There will also be new volunteer opportunities to help with planting over 1,000 trees in a newly created woodland adjacent to Craig y Borion woods.

We have also just heard from the funders that the grant will be able to fund the planting a community orchard in the field adjacent to the new allotments at Cwmrath.  Something we would definitely want to work with the Community Council and allotment holders about.

Other parts of the project such as natural flood-plain management and Himalayan Balsam control, will also benefit the wider community as it will reduce the risk of flash floods and contamination from balsam on land adjacent to Colby Woodland Gardens.

**Agreed**. ACC are happy to support the National Trust in their work. While there was no objection to the idea of a community Orchard behind the allotments, Councillors did query access. The Clerk to write to Alec Rees Wigmore re access and also will ask for a map of the areas to be planted. The Clerk will invite the National Trust to talk to Councillors about the planting programme.

* **From LARC**. ACC has been sent a copy of the *New Inn Stream Water Quality Monitoring Project* report conducted by members of the Llanteg and Amroth Renaturing Community (LARC) as part of our Keep the Streams Clean initiative between 2022 and 2023.  It can be cited as: Bailey, T.B., K.J. Caley, A. Dawe & T. Cormack (2024). *New Inn Stream Water Quality Monitoring Project, or ‘Keep the Streams Clean’*. Llanteg & Amroth Renaturing Community, 64 pp.
* The National Forest for Wales has shared information on a new round of funding, which is opening on 21 February, closing on 8 May.  The scheme will be offering grants of between £10k and £40K for each forest site (up to £250k for multiple sites).  It is suitable for organisations, communities and individuals who want to create new small woodlands managed in collaboration with the local community. The planting, ground works and training are funded then an organisation/community group need to maintain and monitor their Coetir Bach on an on-going basis. The scheme will be administered on their behalf by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.  More information on the Coetiroedd Bach scheme can be found at: Coetiroedd Bach (Tiny Forests) | GOV.WALES
* **Anonymous Letter. –** ACC does not usually respond to letters submitted anonymously but it raised some interesting points, including roadside verges being destroyed by tyre marks and mud on the road. ACC is aware of the high rainfall over the winter and understands the challenge this presents to farmers. However, mud on the road has been raised to the CC on several occasions. If roads are not cleaned promptly following the work finishing this should be reported to PCC highways as a safety issue and accompanied by photographic evidence.

**6.To discuss and resolve asset and ward maintenance issues and transport**

* Speed limits in the ward- Open issue to be resolved.
* Meeting with Owen Roberts at PCC re Bus services in the Wards. A positive discussion was held on the 351 service and the Ffleci zone. Following the meeting further questions were submitted re small changes that could improve the service.

Owen has written to the service providers and Carmarthenshire CC re the suggestions. Service providers stated that residents would find different timetables difficult to understand and submitted one timetable that they were prepared to operate. Alec Cormack agreed to follow up with Owen regarding the discussion points and a possible cross border service to allow residents and visitors to get to Carmarthen.

**7. To Discuss and Resolve the contract with PCC for Amroth East Toilets** –

Councillors studies the contract and proposed amendments. ACC are happy to sign the contract based on the costs until end of August 24. Costs beyond this are subject to further negotiations.

**8. To discuss and resolve a new website for ACC**

The current website used by ACC is hosted FOC by PCC due to accessibility requirements. PCC have informed all Councils using the site that they will need to make alternative arrangements no later than 1st April 2025 as this site will be switched off on 31st March 2025.

PAVS and PLANED are working with PCC to assess options for Councils and will be looking at no cost / low cost options as well as ‘off the shelf’ solutions.

ACC set up a website to host the Good Neighbours Scheme and to enable residents to sign up to the online newsletter. It may be possible to expand this. Cllr Cormack will speak to IT at PCC for guidance.

**9. Follow up from the Bathing Water meeting on 20th February 2024**

ACC were very grateful to NRW, WW and PCC Public Health for attending the meeting and giving informative presentations. It was agreed to support PCC in lobbying the WG for additional funding to support more and better quality testing by NRW -assuming the tests will be recognised by the quality awarding organisation. Cllr Cormack will speak to PCC Public Health on increased testing, how many tests are *required* annually to improve the four year rolling average. A query was raised as to how Amroth Castle caravan park waste is handled.

**10.Finance as of 31st January 2024**

**a. Statement of accounts**

 Account 649 –16,767.30 (£5697 is allocated to Film Club)

 Account 856 – £4,833.90

 **b. Income Jan 24**

 Banking of Film Club donations - £55.50

 **c. Payments**

 Clerk wages & expenses ( Annual rent payment of £70 for Play area)

 Free Wi-Fi- £67.20

 Filmbank Distribution Feb payment 2 x £164.40 for evening and Matinee performances.

 Amroth Hall Hire for Feb Film club 2 x £25.00= £50

 Llanteg Hall Hire £10.00

 Cllr. Phillips annual expenses £64.88

 Cllr. Harvey expenses – Film Club £21.98

 Annual Membership of SLCC – £148.00

**d. Donation requests** – Marie Curie, Pembrokeshire Coast Charitable Trust.(PCNPA) Unfortunately ACC are unable to contribute currently due to budget restrictions.

**e. Approve Payments**

 **All Payments were agreed.**

**Proposed** Cllr. Rosemary Tippet Maudsley **Seconded**, Cllr. Alec Cormack **Cllrs voted unanimously.**

The Reserve account is a savings account with an interest rate of 1.5%. This is the only savings account accessible to ACC through Barclays.

**11.Report By Amroth and District Community Association**

For latest information on activities, groups and clubs please refer to the ADCA website

**New Activity**

* Parent and toddlers group have been very successful. A new generation using the hall.
* Matinee Film Club screening on Sunday 25th Feb.
* Parent and Childrens Craft Day on 26th March at the hall. All welcome.
* Exhibition by the craft group and coffee morning on the 9th April 2024.
* 19th April quiz -teams of 6, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. All welcome
* Ukelele evening and an evening of Swing will be held later in the year- dates to be advised.

**12. Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee**

**AGM**

Our AGM took place yesterday, 21st February 2024. There were reports from the Treasurer and Chairman on the previous year’s activities. The following resolutions were approved –

1. That our financial year end should move to 31st December each year. This will result in a 14 month year from November 2023 to December 2024 inclusive.
2. That the existing independent assessor of our accounts should be re-appointed.
3. That our annual charities should be RNLI and CRY (others may be proposed for one off events during the year).
4. That a new recommended Constitution should be adopted to replace the existing Trust Deed.
5. That the existing Members and Officers of the Management Committee should be reappointed.

**Committee -** following the AGM the first Management Committee meeting of the year took place.

**Events -** The last Coffee Morning took place on Friday 26th January 2024. A further games evening took place and this event has now been fixed as the second Wednesday evening of each month. We also held a quiz night on Saturday 3rd February when we had 25 attendees including 8 new faces.

The various Community Groups, Art, Garden, Craft, Book, etc all held their regular sessions and the two short mat bowls teams continued with their league and practice sessions. The local PCSO is holding community engagement sessions on the 3rd Wednesday of each month although attendance has been low.

There were no commercial bookings in the period.

Grants

**Supporting Communities Action Fund Round 7 from PCC** – this is being used from October to March 2024. As well as supporting existing groups, plans include 3 additional themed quiz evenings, 2 Saturday breakfast mornings and the new monthly indoor table games evening. Given that the funding relates in part to the cost of living crisis we have replaced raffles with free draws for staple food items as well as holding collections for the Narberth Food Bank.

The upcoming events include a Saturday coffee morning with breakfast on 26th February and a St Davids Day quiz. The funding must be spent by the end of March and we are on track to achieve this.

**Localgiving/National Grid** – The appointed contractor has insulated and rendered the north gable, which was the original plan, but we have also insulated and rendered approximately 10m2 of the east wall adjacent to our oil tank. We have achieved this by agreeing a better rate with the contractor and focusing all the funding on the external walls instead of loft insulation which is already at a reasonable depth. There remains a small amount of painting which is weather dependent and a final site clear up, all of which should be completed by the end of this month.

**13.Project ideas and Updates**

**Film Club update.** Grant Funding is through. The next films will be

March 8th – Typist Artist Pirate King

April 12th -Wonka

The club is being advertised to neighbouring communities and community events are promoted at the screenings.

**14.Community matters –**

* Dangerous drops from the highway to the verge at the bottom of Factory Lane. Warning Cones have been put out. The land is owned by Amroth Castle. Clerk to write to Amroth Castle and to PCC Highways. Cars are being damaged attempting to park.
* The Clerk will set up a spread sheet of points raised by Councillors/residents- an open action register.
* The branch is still hanging across the road between junction at Kilanow and the A477. The Clerk will report this again.
* PCC have attended to footpaths that had been blocked by fallen trees.

**15.Determine matters Councillors wish to be added for discussion at the next meeting**

* Please send through matters for discussion to the Clerk by Thursday March 14th 2024.

**16. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 21st March 2024 in Amroth Parish Hall.**

Anyone wishing to observe please contact the Clerk amrothclerk@outlook.com . Virtual attendance will also be possible via zoom, if required. **The meeting closed at 9.03 pm.**

If you would like to be kept informed as to information regarding matters affecting the parish, road closures, public consultations, sea defences etc please email the clerk and you will be put on our secure mailing list (GDPR compliant).