

MINUTES UZMASTON, BOULSTON AND SLEBECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

held in Uzmaston Church Hall

On Thursday 26th November, 2015

1. Present:

Councillors Mrs M Williams, Mrs S Evans, Mr R Hancock, Mrs T Morgan., Mrs G Campbell, Miss B Thomas

Also in attendance:

Geraint Williams, Nick Turner, Chris Senior (Haverfordwest Skate Park)

2. Apologies for Absence:

J Percy, S Green, Cllr Rob Lewis

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

Mrs Williams opened and welcomed all to the meeting.

Skate Park presentation from representatives of H'west Skate Park.

The skate park committee thanked the Community Council for the £2500 funding and help provided. This is very welcome as everything generated comes from fundraising as they have no grants from local authorities. The money is being used for a barbecue and gazebo to enable future fundraising events and help the financial sustainability of the skate park. The skate park members outlined how the skate park began after Police raised with a few parents concerns about young lads on bikes in town. Parents contacted the police and it was agreed that there was no-where for young people to go. Following this a group came together and formally identified the need for a skate park and this was also agreed by the local authority but it became immediately clear the community needed to fund and build this independently setting up a charity to secure funding and manage the facility. Big Lottery funding was sought with a 50,000 word application plus a detailed proposal resulting in £427,000 approved. The members outlined how they overcame a wide range of problems that arose throughout the delivery phase resulting in a redesign being needed and planning permission being sought a second time. The on-site works started 1st July 2013 and finished that December with the official opening in May 2014. In total the project took 8 years from outset to achieve. Members said there was still much work to do to maintain support and funding.

Councillors said that the skate park is a huge achievement and great resource for the town and young people locally which is a credit to everyone involved.

It was noted that the Skate jam was attracting over 500 participants at any one moment. Now the Park is on the 3rd generation of skaters. People are also coming in to Haverfordwest from out of county for the Skate Park facilities as the Park quality is considered one of the top 5 in Wales and within the top 10 in the UK being technically very well designed.

Problems include that toilets are not allowed on site and young people must use toilets at the Station, bus station or Shakey Shak (milkshake bar). Requests for a cafe also regularly come forward but are not permitted. 20K was provided by Picton Trust upon the successful Lottery bid/planning approvals and the Round table have supported events consistently. There is a Skate Jam requested by the town council for

Signed:

Date:

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Civic week in July but the Skate Park Association cannot charge entry onto the field for spectators so fundraising is mainly from donations.

The Community Council noted the culture of safety and care, support and encouragement and the Chairman congratulated the Committee on the care taken and lack of problems overall thanking the Skate Park Association for giving the Community Council such comprehensive news of what they are doing.

4. **The Minutes** of the meetings on 10th September were checked for accuracy and agreed.

4a) Matters arising - PCC works at Uzmaston Village Green

Concerns still exist for local people as works have gone forwards without the confirmation in writing to the CC of what was agreed.

A letter had already been sent by the Chairman in September to Darren Thomas (Head of Highways and Construction) to raise the importance of this matter and encourage more proactive communications.

A further letter is to be sent to PCC with minutes of the previous meeting reminding PCC about the memorial bench and outstanding Actions, copying Rob Lewis in.

Action - Clerk

Action points to be listed for future meetings to keep abreast of outstanding activities.

4b) Matters Arising - Fortunes Frolic

A letter was sent to Mr Sean Tilling and a response received outlining PCC proposals outstanding. It was agreed the response be forwarded to Mrs Green and to write again to Mr Tilling about a date for outstanding works to be completed. Last meeting was May - now November and gate still not repaired.

Action - Clerk

4c) Matters Arising - Maintenance of Ditches and Roads

Speeding issues are still outstanding

No repair actions taken on most of roads. Some patching has occurred at The Rhos but nothing elsewhere. No ditch clearance or re-surfacing has happened and Members noted that other council areas are getting resurfaced but not within the locality. The road between Millen Chapel and the Crossroads on Creamston Road is especially bad and Millen Chapel to Picton Ferry and Picton Castle to Picton Ferry need attention. Logging lorries are now causing problems too and no road sweeping of leaves or mud done. Write to Rob Evans Highways Maintenance cc to Rob Lewis.

Action - Clerk

4g) Blue Shed

No planning application received. The Rhos & District Association are making a formal complaint. This adds to concern by Community Council Members about the effectiveness of enforcement. Members noted that the Community Council role is to represent community and raise issues. Councillors want enforcement officer to be written to with a copy to CEO about the general enforcement actions e.g. shed and piers.

Action - Clerk

5. Planning

Clover Park Single storey extension to rear. Members queried whether the design is compatible with wheelchair turning space (360 degree turning circle) especially in bathroom area. No objections.

6. Reports and Consultations for Decision or Comment

601 - Consultation on Councillor remuneration - noted

602 - Consultation Local Democracy and Boundary Commission - noted

603 - Consultation on Charter. Members discussed the potential merger of upper and lower tier councils and the potential impact of this on Community and Town Councils and development of the Charter. Members felt it was difficult to respond to a consultation at this point whilst the shape of councils is so unclear and requested that the Clerk respond identifying the need for more time, details on the proposals and implications of the Charter and how the measures would be implemented .

Action - Clerk

604 - Consultations currently open. Members noted the amalgamation of consultations into one document and agreed that any council member with an interest or experience in specific areas was empowered by the Community Council to respond individually whilst also alerting the Council of this.

7. Other Reports & Correspondence

No postal correspondence received.

8. Accounts:

The external audit for 2014/15 has now been completed by BDO. There were a few minor points to note including that capital items must not be shown to include depreciation within the accounts. The audit was adopted by members and the Community Council authorised that the accounts are now made available for public inspection.

New auditors Grant Thornton have been appointed by Wales Audit Office for 2015/16 - 2018/19. The clerk was asked to write to the new auditors to ascertain the audit fee for next year prior to setting the precept.

11. Accounts for payment:

BDO - Audit Fee £174

Clerks salary Sept-December £400

12: Any Other Business:

Tree works are needed along the Belts at The Rhos to ensure safety of trees approaching the village, Picton Trust and Picton Castle. Clerk to liaise with Picton Grandchild's Trust about works

Action - Clerk

Safety has been raised about the turning off the A40 near Deep Lake. Concern raised previously and falls under the remit of - highways Carmarthenshire - trunk roads.

Cllr Tydfil Morgan is moving at the end of December and so new position on Community Council available

Meeting Closed at 10 pm