

MINUTES UZMASTON, BOULSTON AND SLEBECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held in Uzmaston Church Hall
On Thursday 28th January, 2016

1. Present:

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

Also in attendance:

2. Apologies for Absence:

J Percy, Cllr Rob Lewis

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

Mrs Williams opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members asked if the Clerk would check the rules applying to Members in relation to their regular attendance at meetings.

4. Minutes of the meetings on 26th November were checked for accuracy and agreed.

4a) Matters arising - Skate park

A Skate Park special event had taken place and Marie and Dean attended. The barbecue equipment purchased with the grant provided by the council was used and the event was well attended and positive.

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

Councillors noted that most of the works were now completed and it appeared that the road had been adopted. However, works have proceeded without further communications with the Community Council on the agreed Exchange of Land. Contractors on site had discussed the bench works with Mrs Green. Members of the public had reported back that they liked kerb but the front of the Green has not yet been kerbed and is being eroded by cars. The top half has not yet been finished and re-seeded. Members felt that the legal exchange of land should have been completed before works recommenced. It was agreed that the Clerk telephone the Village Green officer to find out where the land exchange progress was? But also to request details of when the remaining reinstatement works would be completed. Mrs Green suggested that she might ask personally at County Hall to find out what is happening.

Clerk to contact PCC

4c) Matters Arising - Fortunes Frolic

The Clerk reported back details of her conversation with Mr Sean Tilling who explained that the gates were now ready having been especially made to allow access whilst being stock-proof - but also to allow them to be unbolted and removed for machinery entry. The design had been checked by Alan Holt from Access for the Disabled. The contractor was checking site arrangements the week commencing the 25th January. Mr Tilling also mentioned the potential for additional works of coppicing and erecting bird and bat boxes. Members noted that land where the hazel grows is owned by Mrs Green and not the Community Council; so any proposals should be made to Mrs Green directly and not implemented without her agreement. The Clerk

would write to Mr Tilling confirming this and ask if the date for works on site was now set?
Clerk

4d) Matters Arising - Highways Ditches and Roads

>Road closure proposed - Millin to Manse for resurfacing works from 15th February. Members noted that many of the other roads are also bad e.g near Picton Point and a programme of resurfacing works is needed. Members asked the Clerk to write to o Rob Evans at Highways asking when rest of roads will be done?
Clerk

>Road closure at Conkland Hill 24th February for one day for repairs.

>Members also noted that the speed monitoring had not happened and the Clerk would write to Ben Blake at the County Council to request this
Clerk

>Flooding had occurred outside Mrs Green's house, at the top junction at The Rhos and at the bottom of The Belts at the Rhos near Red Houses. These had been reported to the County Council.

>Mrs Evans noted that the bank near Doctor Barton's was also in disrepair and falling into the water. He had been in touch with the Council but there was no action yet so he has put cones out. She also raised issues with the right of way to Boulton from this point. Mrs Evans and Miss Thomas were monitoring.

4e) Enforcement Issues

Following complaints about lack of enforcement at The Rhos, a letter had been sent to PCNPA on 18th December. A holding response was received on the 15th Jan. from the Temporary Head of Development Management Alan Southerby stating that he would look into the matter but no further news had arrived yet. Mr Percy had sent comments via the Clerk raising a number of concerns that had been brought to him regarding the shed, the drive, trees and the holding near Ladies Cross. The Council noted that Slebech Park had also erected an illuminated sign on a new wall/entrance to the estate. Members felt no doubt that this would have been permitted as people were regularly getting lost looking for the Park but were concerned that again no application had been submitted. Mr Hancock noted that in the past works without consent that were done on large trees (even without TPO's) would be raised at full planning committee. Members asked that Simon Hart MP be invited to take-up this matter with the PCNPA on behalf of the Community Council (especially as over a month had already passed without an appropriate response or actions regarding the detailed concerns about the entrance and shed).
Clerk

5. Planning

Approvals

Noted for 3 applications

15/0975/PA Application at Green Bower.

Members noted the intention to change use of habitat land/woodland described as dense woodland to hard surface for storage of some 160 car parking spaces.

Members questioned the environmental impacts of the proposal particularly as they note the availability of plots immediately adjacent the site including hardstanding areas which are for sale. But the main issue Members raised was regarding the safety of access from the A40 which has already been flagged as a concern and the site of

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Date:

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a fatal accident previously. The proposal does not include any access changes even though the volume of cars/traffic would undoubtedly increase with the development. Members noted that the Welsh Government's Trunk Road Safety review had been very recently completed and that no proposals were planned to improve safety at this point either.

Taking account of these issues:

The Council Objects to the current plans proposed due to the trunk road safety concerns at the access point onto the A40. **Clerk to write to PCC**

6. Reports and Consultations for Decision or Comment

601 - Budget & Precept

Members noted that the purpose of the precept is to enable the correct functions of the Community Council and also to look after community interests. They noted their powers and the legal constraints as advised in the Budget Setting Report 2016/17. The Community Council agreed that they should set the budget to adequately cover the projected core costs set out in the report whilst also taking account of the unavoidable and likely changes with regard to Audit Fees, the Clerk's time, membership of SLCC and member remuneration of expenses (particularly where extraordinary expenditure occurs as a result of changing duties on local councils). Members noted the risk assessment requirements to maintain an adequate precept and to manage reserves so that an appropriate amount is retained for contingencies.

Members agreed that the precept should be restored to the level set in 2013/14 and 2014/15 at £3650 which is equivalent to an average of £10.29 on a band D property.

602 - Requests for Governor Nominations

Mrs Morgan had received a letter appointing her as a Governor of Wiston school since November 2015 (but she had only been notified in January 2016) She will not be taking this role due to moving out of the catchment area. No nominations were forthcoming for Mary Immaculate School

603 - PCC Council Tax Base & request for Precept.

Members requested that the Clerk respond to PCC providing details of the level of precept required **Clerk to report to PCC**

604 - Letter from Peter Stock - noted

605 - Consultations currently open - noted

7. Other Reports & Correspondence

- a) Positive Planning Implementation Plan - noted
- b) Trunk Road Safety Review Findings - link with Green Bower application noted
- c) Update on Local Development Plan Land Allocations - noted
- d) Local Government Finance Division - Discretionary Spending - noted

Signed:

Date:

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e) MP Surgeries - noted

8. Accounts:

11. Accounts for payment:

To: Clerk - Printer for UBSCC £69.73 Stationery £6 = £75.73

To: The Rhos & District Association - for meeting rooms = £30

12: Any Other Business:

>Broadband - Members fed back on progress towards the roll out of Broadband across the locality both at The Rhos (via a report from Mr Percy) and at Uzmaston vial Mrs Green and Miss Thomas

>Cllr Tydfil Morgan is leaving the Community Council confirmed due to moving house to Johnston. This was her last meeting. The Chairman noted our thanks and gratitude for her work for the Community Council and everyone was sad to see her go

Members asked that the vacancy be advertised on the noticeboard - Uzmaston Boulston area

Tree works throughout the locality were discussed

Meeting Closed at 9.50 pm