

MINUTES UZMASTON, BOULSTON AND SLEBECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

held in The Rhos Hall

On Thursday 14th July, 2016

Present:

Councillors Miss B Thomas, Mrs S Evans, Mr Hywel Thomas, S Green,, Mr R Hancock, Mrs M Williams, Cllr Rob Lewis

Also in attendance: Clerk

1. Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

Miss B Thomas welcomed all to the meeting

2. Apologies for Absence:

Mr Percy, Mrs G Campbell

3. Declarations of Members Interests

None

4. The Minutes of the meeting of 9th June were checked for accuracy and agreed.

5. Matters arising

a) Uzmaston Village Green

Cllr Lewis brought meeting up to date - works are completed but still there remains the requirement to confirm village green status and exchange of land. PCC ownership of sliver of land that is not village green status for Community Council to take forward this into our ownership and county council will conduct land transfer. Maintenance would remain PCC. Ownership of Green is not known - Helen McLeod (legal property officer) will deal with the transfer as bringing the whole under the protection of of the Community Council makes sense

Vote in favour of proceeding with legal /land transfer - Resolved

Council was invited to meet with Helen McLeod & Lynne Curio at 11.30am on Tues 26th July (subject to availability). Members asked if ownership information is needed? L. Curcio to advise. PCC Head of Legal can organise transfer and will organise this. Mrs Green advised Cllr Lewis of requisition of land in 1948. Mrs Green brought maps from her family record.

c) Highways, Ditches and Roads

- i) Responses from the County Council have not been received in relation to outstanding problems - Clerk to contact Darren Thomas about structural works. Mrs Green's farm has flood water regularly outside her property. Cllr Lewis to check onsite and also near Picton Point.
- ii) Mrs Evans raised that between Millin Farm and Millin Cottage a large pothole also needs repair
- iii) Miss Thomas has communicated with Cotts Farm about bale wrap problems.

d) Planning Enforcement

Clerk to ask PCNPA for update on Blue shed.

Signed:

Date:

Page 1

e) Broadband Letter

Jeremy has all contact information and letter now - Marie to ask Jeremy on progress

6) **Planning** - none

7) **Reports & Items for Decision or Comment**

701 Feedback from the Community & Town Councils Joint Charter event from Clerk. The event being well attended and raising joint issues to feed into the Charter. The Clerk attended and facilitated part of the event.

702 To approve publication of a NIL return to be sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and published on the T&CC website (as required) reflecting that no remuneration payments were made to Members during 2015/16
Approved and to agree a Remuneration process for 2016/17 Member reimbursement of expenses - Approved

703 Consultations & Notices currently open

8) Other Reports & Correspondence to Note

a) Surgeries are no longer published following risk assessments so constituents wishing to meet with their MP/AM - must now ring in advance

9) Accounts & Audit

901 Members noted the audited accounts, Annual Return and audit information was signed by Mr Percy & sent to Grant Thornton for external Audit

902 A gift of flowers is to be sent to the internal auditor (Members approved the sum of £15) and the Clerk was instructed to begin the process to identify a new internal auditor for Council to appoint at a future meeting.

903 The Clerk had written to the Chair responding to internal audit recommendations that the Clerk set out her tax responsibilities (these being independent of the the council). Noted

904 Members noted receipt of the May/June Bank Statement with a balance of £5199.59 and confirmed that this matches the Council's budget monitoring/management expectations at this time.

10) Accounts for payment

Clerk's salary (April May June) £450
Stationery - Printer ink £26.35 to reimburse the Clerk for this purchase
Agreed and cheques signed

11) Any other business

Schools

Concern raised by residents to Mrs Green that both senior schools are in Special Measures this having an impact on feeder schools. Numbers of children attending St David's has grown. Mr Thomas reported that leadership problems within Picton Schools new (interim) HT has begun with teachers to make huge efforts to improve. Cllr Lewis reported that difficulties in appropriate recruitment were hard to solve. Mr Thomas asked if there was anything the Council could do to support current children facing problems accessing University when both state schools are in special measures - whether Universities could allow more dispensation to admit students who have no alternative choice of education apart from failing schools. Mrs Green shared news of the culture of low expectation in local schools and how different this is elsewhere. Cllr Lewis reported on how numbers had reduced and this impacted on finance available for whole school budgets.

Consultation process will come. Mr Thomas expressed concern that the current cohort of children are being failed - and this was impacting on their capacity to take their education forward into university.

Members raised a question on 6th Form staffing proposals and how quality for specialist areas at higher level could be maintained? Cllr Lewis noted the questions and concerns.

Rubbish Collection

Mr Thomas reported on mess on the New Road following bin collection days, broken bins and detritus, thin bags, broken bins and left in middle of road. Clerk to write to Richard Brown raising concerns richard.brown@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Horticulture Show at The Rhos - 6th August. Family competition to design self-propelled car using elastic bands. Clerk to circulate information

Noticeboard at Uzmaston needs tidying

Replacement of existing noticeboard at New Road location is needed. Uzmaston Developments location - Cllr Lewis to check with Mark Owen that this is ok. Clerk to look at prices.

Trunk road improvements requested. Cllr Lewis had written to them previously but the request had been refused. Cllr Lewis to chase on speed monitoring.

Meeting Closed at 8.45 pm

Date of Next Meeting - 15th Sept @ The Rhos Hall