

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 9th November 2016 at the Village Hall, Merlin's Bridge

Present: Cllrs P Davies, H Studley, Mrs Q Thomas S Brown, J Cole, Mrs M Jakeway, Mrs A Palmer, N Stamp, Mrs R Johnson (Clerk), PCSO Miles

1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllr Mrs S Hughes and M Thomas

2. Additional Agenda Items: The following items were added to the agenda for discussion:

i. Sewage smells.

3. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the chairman. Proposed by S Brown and seconded by J Cole.

4. Matters Arising:

- Haroldston Ruins – the ruins had been bought by a local person.
- St Mark's School – the chairman had spoken with the head teacher and she agreed to come to a meeting in the New Year.
- Halloween Disco – Cllr Brown advised that the disco had gone ahead and had been a success with lots of children attending. There had been no charge for the evening. Cllrs Brown and Cole had both attended on the evening and helped out. All expenses for the night had been covered so there was no need for a donation on this occasion from the Community Council. It was noted that for future years, should a party be organised, to get things in motion in good time and through proper channels.
- Parking at St Issells/St Margarets – Cllr Cole advised that early in the morning, these areas are clear, however it was noted that in the evenings vehicles were back and causing problems. PCSO Miles advised members that this problem comes under the jurisdiction of the County Council not the police. In relation to the matter of safety, PCSO Miles confirmed that he would speak to Ben Blake (Transportation Dept, PCC) to see if this could be looked at. Clerk to contact the county councillor to see if this can be reported to correct department.

5. Correspondence:

- St Mark's School – letter of thanks for the donation made of £2500 towards the touchscreen which would be arriving this week. They were hoping to arrange for a photograph with the community council in the near future.
- Merlin's Bridge Treatment Works – Invitation to Open Day on 19th November from 10am -3pm.
- Code of Conduct Advert – email from PCC advising that the advert for the Code of Conduct adoption would be going in the local newspaper this week with a cost of £30.00 which will be billed to MBCC in due course.
- Welfare Committee – a request had been received from the Welfare Committee to move the meeting to 7.30pm. After discussion, it was agreed that the meetings would continue on at 7.00pm.
- Down Memory Lane – notification about a new group in Haverfordwest – noted.
- PAVS – AGM – noted.
- OVW – Annual Report – noted.
- OVW – Review of National Standards for community Health Councils – noted.
- Merlin's Bridge Welfare Committee – letter of thanks for the donation received for £50.00 towards their Macmillan Coffee Morning.

6. Sewage Smells:

Cllr Studley voiced his concern over the smells from the sewage works. The chairman encouraged all to attend the open day on 19th November in order to voice these concerns in person.

7. Donations

There was a query whether the usual rent for the hall could be paid as a donation. After discussion, it was agreed to keep the arrangement on a rental agreement basis. Welfare Committee to send a bill to the Community Council.

8. Planning

Application – 16/0750/PA – Change of Use – hairdressing salon to dog grooming parlour – no objections.

Permissions:
16/0501/PA – First Milk
16/0507/PA - Jewsons

9. County Councillor's Report

The County Councillor gave an update on the manholes. She also advised that PCC had been ranked 2nd out of 22 Local Authorities in Wales. She advised that she is also fully supporting having a Welsh Medium school in Haverfordwest. The 16 new bungalows at Fir Tree Close have now all been occupied.

10. Financial Accounts

R Johnson – Clerk's salary	£140.80
HMRC – income tax and NI	£35.20
Poppy Appeal - £17.00 for wreath plus donation of £33.00	£50.00

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

11. Code of Conduct

Following the October meeting and in relation to a request made from a Ms Buckland for a donation towards a Halloween Party, Cllr Cole posted a comment on Facebook voicing his disgust at the decision made by councillors. The clerk contacted him asking him to remove the comment and she also contacted the Monitoring Officer for advice and guidance. The MO responded that she didn't think it would be classed as breaking the Code of Conduct but did feel that it was detrimental and unhelpful to post such comments. The Chair strongly emphasised the need for caution when posting remarks on social media. Comments such as had been made were not helpful or constructive and as such all social media should be used very carefully.

12. Remembrance Sunday

All the arrangements were now in place. The cenotaph had been cleaned. John Welsby and Rev Cale had agreed to carry out the service. The school was going to send children to read poems etc. The 14th Signal Regiment had responded to their invitation to attend sending their apologies as they have a lot of commitments at present. The trumpeter had been organised as had the wreath and flowers. A reminder to all that this year's service would be at 9.30am on Sunday 13th November. Cllr Mrs Jakeway kindly invited all to come back to De Clare Court for refreshments following the service.

13. Christmas Trees/Carols

The trees were in hand with Cllr Cole. To reiterate that the carols will be held at 6.00pm on Monday 5th December followed by more singing and refreshments at the village hall.

14. Newsletter

All submissions for the newsletter to be sent to the clerk by mid November. Hopefully these would go out 1st weekend of December.

15. Councillor Vacancies

There had been no response to date to the adverts.

16. AOB

No issues raised.

17. Date of the next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm.

Signed:.....Chair

Dated:.....