

MINUTES OF NOLTON AND ROCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NOLTON READING ROOMS, NOLTON

2 October 2017

Members Present

D. Smith (Chair), M. Canton, R. Thomson, A. Peach, M. Harries, A. Ricketts, Cllr. J. Adams

Clerk - A. Jones

1307 Apologies

J. Hancock and J. Gale.

1308 Minutes of the previous meeting

Approved; proposed M. Canton, seconded A. Peach.

1308 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **New bench progress** - M. Harries confirmed that he had ordered the bench which would be delivered by the end of the week. The cost was in the region of £195 +VAT and delivery. The cost and arrangements were agreed by all.
 - Action: Clerk to pay invoice when it arrives.
- **Old bench removal** - There was some discussion between the Councillors about how best to remove the old bench. Cllr. J. Adams suggested that a small digger may be required and the new one could be bolted into the remaining concrete base. However, if the base cracked or came away with the old bench a new concrete plinth would be required which may cost around £100.
 - Action: Cllr. J. Adams to arrange the removal.
- **4 Hilton Crest** - Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that a notice has now been served on the registered tenant.
- **Yellow lines at Nolton** - Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that this is all in hand and the lines will be in place in the near future.
- **PALC / One Voice** - Clerk reported that she had unfortunately been unable to meet with Ms. Richards as planned and would hope to be able to report back with more information at the next meeting.
- **Code of Conduct Training** - Clerk reminded the Councillors of the training on 4 October at 6.30pm in Solva Memorial Hall; D. Smith and R. Thomson confirmed that they would be in attendance.
- **Creation of a new footpath by Old Post Office in Church Road, Roch** - D. Smith provided details of the site meeting he arranged with Mr. Gavin Pritchard, Mr. Rob Evans and Ms. Sue Berry, where the area was inspected and the options discussed. D. Smith felt that R. Evans was sympathetic and would be willing to support the cause if he could. Although he made it known that there was no money available, on a positive note he offered to have a levels survey carried out. The present plan is not to change the road as such, but put a path alongside it which will be fenced. It is not possible to raise the path up; there are safety concerns with people falling off and the privacy concern of being able to see over the fence. Therefore, trees will need to be felled, a retaining wall constructed and considerable excavation work carried out. During the visit, D. Smith asked R. Evans for an idea of the cost involved, which R. Evans estimated at £8k for a path of about 100 meters. M. Harries and Cllr. J. Adams both considered that figure to be rather low given the

considerable work involved. D. Smith is also hoping to meet with Ms. Paula Ellis from the Retreats Group and Roch Castle in a couple of weeks time.

D. Smith also discussed funding / grant options. Unfortunately the lottery will not fund anything that is considered statutory, i.e. something that the state / government should provide, therefore this funding route was no longer a possibility. D. Smith also looked into the Aggregates Levy; a grant available for many years to communities living near a working quarry to fund useful community projects. Unfortunately, this grant effectively closed last March. Similarly, the Landfill Communities Trust, who had provided a grant for the playground, are ceasing their grant from March 2018 and there is not enough time to put a bid together before then. D. Smith had also looked at PLANED options, however this is unlikely to be an option as this project lacks the employment criteria required. It was discussed how the Council may have to look into raising the money itself and / or perhaps a donation from local companies. Safe Routes in the Community was also discussed as a funding option and it was agreed to look into this further.

- Action: D. Smith to follow up with R. Evans to arrange a levels survey and meet with P. Ellis.
- **Solar speed signs and traffic calming** - Clerk reported on behalf of J. Hancock who had emailed over his apology and an update. He is still trying to locate the information he collected from The Pembrokeshire County Show regarding the speed signs and will pass these on to D. Smith when located.

M. Harries mentioned that an image of a PCSO with a speed camera in a lay-by in Roch had been used in an article on speed awareness in the local press which he had shared on the village Facebook page. It was noted by D. Smith that this press coverage could be useful if the council would like to request funding for traffic calming measures and improving gateways into Roch.

Cllr. J. Adams reported that he had spoken to the Highways section regarding the 40 mph limit in Roch and the possibility of introducing measures to enhance the thought processes of drivers as they pass through; he has seen a design draft on the issue.

Funding was again discussed, especially with regards to whether traffic calming measures might be classed as a statutory function which might possibly preclude a lottery fund bid. M. Harries thought this unlikely as we are only advising people to slow down. D. Smith agreed to look into the issue. The possibility of raising the precept to cover a specific purchase, such as traffic calming, was also discussed. Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that a number of councils do increase their precept for specific projects, for instance, some double it for one year and then bring it back down, however you would need to test the water as it were. It was however agreed that there is likely to be lots of community support for speed awareness and traffic calming efforts.

- Action: J. Hancock to pass on the information when located. D. Smith to look into whether solar speed signs / traffic calming are effectively covered by lottery funding. Clerk to investigate whether we can increase the current precept and by how much.
- **Nolton Defibrillator** - R. Thomson and M. Canton have drafted a flyer to give to local residents explaining that they are raising money for a defibrillator and will be round in a couple of weeks to collect any donations. R. Thomson spoke to Cariad about setting up online donations direct to the charity; the charity effectively receive more money this way and businesses get tax deductible receipts. The possibility of holding an organised promotion day was also discussed, where Cariad would also attend and provide demonstrations. M. Canton raised the concern that although the local community are very keen on it, they would like it sooner rather than later, so if a fundraising day is to be held it would more likely be in Victoria Hall rather than waiting for the spring for a beach

event for instance. M. Harries mentioned that Christmas bingo is always popular and to let him know if they would be interested and he can always help set something up.

R. Thomson enquired as to whether he might be able to deposit any money raised, especially cash from going door to door, in the Council's bank account or whether we might need an additional account. Clerk is to look into the issue.

- Action: R. Thomson to start fundraising and Clerk to look at account options for any money raised.

1309 Declaration of interest

A. Peach declared an interest in respect of the new footpath by the Old Post Office as the proposed route goes through land which belongs to A. Peach's mother-in-law, Sue Berry.

1310 Planning

The Clerk reported on the refusal of planning decision for NP/17/0453/HRN concerning the removal of hedgerows at Simpson North Farm.

1311 Finance

D. Smith and R. Thomson signed the form to remove the old signatories from the Council's bank account.

1312 Correspondence

Request for donation received from Nolton Haven Chapel. It was agreed by all to donate £100 to the chapel; proposed by A. Peach and seconded by M. Canton.

1313 Other items

- **Reappoint the Planning Subcommittee** - D. Smith gave a brief overview of the function of the Planning Subcommittee. If a planning application comes in between meetings with a deadline for comment prior to the next meeting, rather than emailing all Councillors, only the Planning Subcommittee would be contacted. If there is any dissent then an extension may need to be requested and a full discussion undertaken at the next meeting. The Subcommittee may also be called upon for site visits.

All Councillors were in agreement and resolved to re-elect the Planning Subcommittee which would comprise of the Chair, Vice-chair and 2 other Councillors, previously this had been M. Canton and J. Hancock. M. Canton agreed to take up the position once again and would substitute for R. Thomson if needed. It was also agreed that J. Hancock was likely to agree to take on the position once again and the Clerk would follow up with him in this regard.

- Action: Clerk to follow up with J. Hancock to confirm he is happy to be on the Planning Subcommittee.
- **Clerk's report re 'Rural Wales - Time to meet the challenge 2015' presentation evening 28 September 2017** - Clerk gave a brief overview of the key points taken away from the event held by PLANED and Eluned Morgan (AM Mid & West Wales) including the wider issues affecting rural Wales, such as Brexit, renewable energy, and internet concerns, and how these might impact and filter down into the actions of community councils, with a closer look at issues more specific to our county, such as supporting education and our young community with careers advice, planting more trees and forests, looking at all the tourism options (such as hosting Chinese students who want to learn English and experience this stunning coastline) and supporting preventative health and mental

health care by combating loneliness, especially in the elderly, and putting on arts and music community events.

- Action: Clerk to email Councillors the link to the report.

1314 PCC report

Cllr. J. Adams had nothing further to add.

1315 AOB

- **Fly tipping** - A. Ricketts enquired about installing a 'No Tipping' sign by the recycling bins at the entry to Ocean Drive following more recent tipping. M. Harries confirmed that this would not be possible. Cllr. J. Adams did remind the Councillors that the PCC are bringing in enforcement officers and on the spot fines, so if this is found to be a problem area then it can be targeted.
- **Roch Gate Motel** - A Ricketts also raised her concern with regards to the Roch Gate Motel as she has seen children entering the site and playing on the roof, which is currently extremely unsafe and unsecure. Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that he has raised the issue with the PCNPA recently and will press it further. He also mentioned that PCC building control have raised the issue with the owner; it is hoped that an order to tidy up and an indemnity against the land may be a follow up action. It was agreed by all that a letter sent from the Council to the Head of Planning at the PCNPA would be a useful exercise, setting out the fact that the building is not only an eyesore, but also a serious danger to the community and that urgent action is required.
 - Action: Clerk to draft and send letter re Roch Gate Motel to the Head of Planning at the PCNPA.

1316 Items for the next agenda

None.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Next meeting: 7.30pm on 6 November 2017 at Victoria Hall, Roch

Signed

Chairman