

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

8 October 2018

Members Present

D. Smith (Chair), R. Thomson (Vice-chair), M. Canton, J. Gale, J. Hancock, M. Harries, A. Peach, Cllr. J. Adams

Clerk - A. Jones

GUEST SPEAKER - Emyr Williams to discuss the Newgale road developments

E. Williams produced a number of maps and gave an overview of the preferred route J, which cuts up through the valley. The report which sets out the preferred route is going to cabinet on 5 November 2018. However, E. Williams made it clear that the other option, route 3 (an elevated road bridge behind the Duke of Edinburgh), was still under review and not completely discounted, with the possibility of having an embankment at either (which may reduce the cost involved) being looked at by consultants later this week.

There was a great deal of detailed discussion - from where exactly route J should start from, to costings and funding issues, to concerns over how exactly route 3 would look - all of which are still somewhat unknown, however what was quite clear was that the 'final' route has not been decided and indeed both the preferred route and route 3 were still open for further discussion. A number of Councillors emphasised their surprise at this and how the current consultation process itself had been unclear and somewhat disappointing. Councillors stressed that the public should still be consulted if this is indeed the case and it should be made clear to them that you can still have a say.

The Councillors were also disappointed to hear that a rather limited amount of research has hitherto been conducted with respect to the impact on the valley, as E. Williams was unaware that the land in question was farmed all year round, therefore how can any supposed impact assessment be an accurate measure.

J. Gale was particularly concerned about the impact of route J on light, noise, and the ecology and wildlife of the valley and thoroughly questioned whether this was indeed the option most favoured by the community as this had not been the response she had heard, with a number of Councillors also in agreement.

The vote was split, but Councillors voted by majority in favour of route 3.

Action: Clerk to write to E. Williams to let him know the majority vote outcome. Cllr. J. Adams to clarify whether the public can still have a say and how they can contribute to the ongoing plans.

1430 Apologies
A. Ricketts

1431 Declaration of interest
J. Gale declared an interest with respect to the Newgale road.

1432 Minutes of the previous meeting 3 September 2018

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

1433 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **Solar speed signs and traffic calming** - D. Smith has challenged the decision of the Lottery to not allow the bid but he has not had a response yet. As discussed at the last meeting, in the meantime Councillors thought it would be a good idea to look into adding flowers and fence work by the village signs in Nolton, Newgale and Roch in the hope that this may help slow drivers down and will be relatively easy and inexpensive to achieve.
 - Action: Clerk and D. Smith to meet with P. Ellis to discuss possible help with planters etc.
- **Arrange a meeting to discuss the Nolton and Roch Community Action Plan 2018** - Clerk will email Councillors and arrange a separate meeting to discuss the projects prioritised, how they can be progressed and think about where the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant should be spent.
- **Nolton salt box** - R. Thomson confirmed that the new box should hopefully be installed next week and the invoice will follow.
- **Nolton Reading Room** - R. Thomson received a letter from Nolton Reading Room - which now has a new committee to take it forward. They are requesting payment for use of the hall as there seems to have been an oversight with regards to payment. Councillors agreed that payment should also be made to Victoria Hall to make sure both are treated fairly.
 - Action: Clerk to write to Nolton Reading Room asking for them to send us an invoice.
 - M. Harries to check when Victoria Hall were last paid.
- **Children playing signs either end of Hilton Crest, Nolton** - R. Thomson has spoken to PCC who can provide replacement children hazard signs for £140. All Councillors agreed that they would support the purchase, however R. Thomson also wants to explore some other options, including perhaps chevrons to reduce the speed.
 - Action: R. Thomson to contact Highways and arrange a face to face meeting to discuss the options in more detail.
- **Sponsored benches** - two £100 cheques for name plaques as donations for the Nolton benches were received.
- **Newgale bin** - M. Harries confirmed that he had followed up on the email from the Duke re the missing bin and it is still a mystery. The relevant people are still looking into it and working on getting it reinstated.

1434 Planning

- Clerk reported on the planning applications approved:
 - PCC Decision: single storey extension to south elevation to create sunroom. Application: 18/0381/PA. Site Address: Nolton Cross Farm, Nolton Haven, SA62 3NP. Conditionally approved.
 - PCNPA Decision: demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new dwellinghouse. Application: 18/0399/FUL. Site Address: Takora, Nolton Haven, SA62 3NN. Conditionally approved.
 - PCNPA Decision: proposed single storey extension and alterations and improvements to the existing dwelling. Application: 18/0434/FUL. Site Address: Longhill, Roch, SA62 6AW. Conditionally approved.
- Clerk reported on the planning application withdrawn: proposed single storey side extension at Brandy Cottage, Newgale, SA62 6AR. Application: 18/0368/FUL.

1435 Finance

- **Grant Thornton audit returned** - Clerk reported on the qualified audit report and the notice of appointment date for the exercise of elector's rights. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit can now be displayed. Invoice of £182.75 plus VAT will be sent out shortly.
- **Nolton Reading Room** - invoice due as above
- **Nolton benches** - as above, two £100 cheques for name plaques as donations for the Nolton benches were received.
- **Budget** - Clerk reported on the budget. With payments accounted for to the usual donees at £100 each and £1500 saved for a possible election there would be £2113.94 in the bank at the end of the financial year. Clerk did raise the fact that the usual organisations that seek donations have not yet made a request. All agreed that it made sense to wait until the March meeting at the end of the financial year to make decisions re donations and that this fact should be communicated to anyone who may apply.

1436 Correspondence

- **Independent Review Panel - report on town and community councils** - Clerk gave an overview of the findings, most notably the importance of the role of the Clerk was emphasised as well as the possible requirement of mandatory councillor training and the greater sense of responsibility that may follow. The suggestions raised in the report with regards to changing boundaries, elections, engagement and placed based services were also discussed. The report will now go to Welsh Government for review.
- **Charter between Community and Town Councils and PCC** - Clerk will report on this once more information has been received. The purpose of the document and the parties involved in the drafting etc is not clear and other councils have communicated this fact to PCC seeking clarification.
- **PCC Toilet Strategy** - Clerk read through the strategy consultation document with the Councillors who all agreed that it was in fact drafted from a personal point of view and not something that could be filled in from NRCC's perspective.

1437 Meetings attended by Councillors / forthcoming meetings

- One Voice Wales Pembrokeshire Area meeting - September (Clerk attended) - Clerk reported that it was useful to attend. The discussion with regards to the Independent Review Panel report was interesting and the area meeting might be a good source of support if required.
- PLANED Action with Rural Communities - 11 September 10-12.30 Bloomfield Centre (Clerk attended) - Clerk reported on the event which saw PLANED celebrate 30 years of working with communities across Pembrokeshire, Nolton and Roch being one of them.
- National Parks Community Council Seminar - 11 September 7pm Letterson Memorial Hall (A. Peach attended) - A. Peach reported on an enjoyable evening which was both informative and thought provoking; we should also be mindful as a Community Council with regards to light pollution and preserving our dark skies.

1438 Other items

- None

1439 PCC report

- Cllr. J. Adams asked Councillors to try to phone PCC and let him know how long it took to get through as he had received reports that it was currently taking a very long time. D. Smith confirmed that he was able to get through very quickly over the last couple of months and did not have any complaints.

1440 AOB

- M. Canton enquired as to whether a second bin could be installed in Nolton Haven and / or have the current one emptied more regularly.
 - Action: M. Harries will look at the current schedule and report back.

1441 Items for the next agenda

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Next meeting: 7.30pm on Monday 5 November 2018 at Victoria Hall, Roch

Signed

Chairman