**Wolfscastle Community Council**

A meeting of the Wolfscastle Community Council was held at Penybont Chapel Vestry, on Tuesday, 6th November 2018 at 8:00p.m.

**Members present:** Cllrs. BJ Harries, M Barrie Griffiths (Chairman) Peter James, Michelle Bateman PCC and Gerallt Miles.

**Apologies:** Cllr TC Griffiths.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 9th October 2018 were read, accepted and signed by the Chairman as correct.

**Matters arising:** The following response was received regards to issues raised by Cllr BJ Harries:-

Mr Darren Thomas reports that the overhanging branches on to the A40(T), could be a trunk road matter, he will pass on the message to them. In the meantime, it is believed that the offending branches have been cut back.

An acknowledgement has been received regarding the blocked drains at Sealyham.

Mr Emrys Llewelyn reports that although patching work had been done to the pot hole on Meadow Park, but acknowledges that it is not to a satisfactory standard. It is hoped that the patching gang will be in the area before the end of the year.

With regards to the overhanging hedge at the Jays Meadow Park, Treffgarne, although work has been done to cut back the hedge, it still has not solved the problem. Mr Darren Thomas has passed this issue on to the Street Care Team, who can look into enforcing this matter.

**County Council Matters:** In her monthly report to the meeting, Cllr Michelle Bateman reported that there would be tough times in the coming year. She mentioned that as a result of the shortfall of almost £20million that we can expect a rise in the Council Tax for 2019 / 2020. It would be inevitable that there will be cuts in services in the coming year. It was mentioned that there would be a standstill budget in School and Social Care. But teaching staff pension contributions are expected to increase significantly, and this could lead to redundancies within the teaching staff.

**Finances:** There have been no changes in the Bank Account since the last meeting.

It was agreed to pay Mr Tim Brookes the sum of £88:00 (**Eighty-Eight Pounds**) which is the sum due for the final cutting of the grass around the amenity area for this season.

**Britain in Bloom 2018:** The Clerk was proud to announce that the Village had received a Gold Award in the 2018 Britain in Bloom Competition. Although the village was not the category winners but has come a close second to the overall winners in the village category. The judges report was read out by the Clerk, which highlighted certain aspects of their visit.

“The work of the Bloom group has not only improved what nature has provided, but has empowered everyone in the village to feel part of a caring society. Their work has led to considerable success at both regional and national levels, but that pales into insignificance compared with the greater feeling of wellbeing that you get when visiting.

The judges’ visit was a humbling experience to witness such community spirit, and to share in your success is an absolute privilege.

The judges enjoyed meeting the schoolchildren, both past and present, and to see the various projects they are working on, in particular conservation and resource management.

The tour finale at Ysgol Casblaidd was something to be treasured – to get one or two children in to meet the judges out of term is an achievement, but to get most of the school in was unbelievable, congratulations to all involved especially Wendy Raymond.

The issue that let the entry down was the Village Green which had not been cut, and was a little unkempt. This is an areawhere improvement could be made.

The Chairman congratulated the Village once again on their achievement and for putting Wolfscastle on the map nationally.

**Remembrance Services:** The Clerk reminded Councillors of the invitation to attend the Remembrance Services at Letterston on November 11th and in the School on the following morning at 11:00a.m. As previously reported, the Chairman, Cllr Barrie Griffiths agreed to represent this Council and lay wreaths in both services.

**Correspondence:** Various correspondence had been received from OVW inviting Councillors to training sessions etc.

**AOB:** The following issues were brought to the attention of the meeting and need addressing as soon as it is practicable:-

[a] Cllr BJ Harries reported a blocked drain near to St Dogwells Church, which could prove to be dangerous if the road freezes over in severe weather.

[b] Cllr M Barrie Griffiths reported a similar issue on Treffgarne Hill and requested that drain jetter to clear the drain near to the Salt Bin of debris. Cllr Griffiths also reported that as a result of repairs to a collapsed drain opposite the entrance to Meadow Park, Treffgarne, the spoil was dumped at the base of the hedge. Cllr Gerallt Miles said that he would clear it in due course.

[c] Cllr BJ Harries reported the vacancy on the Community Council as a result of the passing of Cllr John Price. It was agreed to leave this matter until the next meeting.

[d] The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting the issue of the tree that came down on the Village Green during the recent storms, and that he had written to PCC to see who was responsible for cutting it back and clearing the site. Mr Darren Thomas replied that after some investigation, it appears that the tree concerned is within the area covered by common land, and that Jim Dunkley Common Land Officer has been emailed to look into the matter. But in the meantime, the tree has now been cut back, as well as another tree in the same vicinity, and that the site has been cleared of all branches.

As there were no other matters to discuss, the meeting was declared closed, with the next meeting arranged for Tuesday, 4th December 2018 at 8:00p.m.

 **Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**