**Wolfscastle Community Council**

A meeting of the Wolfscastle Community Council was held at Treffgarne Community Hall, on Tuesday, 5th February 2019 at 8:00p.m.

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

**Apologies:** Cllr TC Griffiths

At the outset of the meeting the Chairman, Cllr Barrie Griffiths welcomed fellow Councillors to Treffgarne Community Hall for the first time since July 1993. This is the first time for the Council to meet at this venue since its refurbishment. The Hall had been officially re-opened during the previous weekend when a plaque was unveiled by Mr Dennis John, whose family had originally donated the land for the hall to be built.

**Declarations of Interest:** The following declared an interest in specific matters on the agenda.

Cllr Gerallt Miles - Pre-application consultation in respect to a planning application at Land at Tan Y Garn, Treffgarne.

Cllr BJ Harries – Officer and Member of Penybont Chapel

Cllr Barrie Griffiths – Committee Member of Treffgarne Village Hall

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 8th January 2019 were read, accepted and signed by the Chairman as correct.

**Matters arising:** With regards to the cheque paid to Pembrokeshire Samaritans in March 2014, the Clerk reported that a cheque is valid for as long as the debt between the two parties exists. In other words, cheques don’t have an expiry date. However it is common practice to reject cheques that are over six months old. The only definite way to cancel a cheque is for the person who wrote it to request that a stop be placed on it. Where there is a dispute, a cheque remains legally valid for a period of six years.

It was reported that the gullies near the pumping station have been checked, and that the debris covering the gratings has been removed and the chamber has been emptied.

A response was received from Bryan Cameron, Site Manager at Withyhedge Landfill, stating that there are occasions where the landfill may let off a smell, but as this an active landfill site this can happen. Every effort is being made to minimize the problem that is being caused by the let off of these smells.

Cllr Barrie Griffiths reported that the uneven surface on Meadow Park has been dealt with soon after the last meeting.

Acknowledgements had been received to other pot hole issues raised by Cllr Brynmor Harries.

**Risk Assessment:** A revised copy of the Risk Assessment was presented to Council which was adopted and signed by the Chairman.

**County Council Matters:-** In her monthly report, Cllr Bateman reported that Cabinet will make its budget and council tax recommendations at its next meeting on February 11 before final decisions are taken on February 21 at full council.

It has been suggested within the County Council to set up an Insurance Scheme to cover elections, where every Community Council will have an opportunity to pay into the scheme. If there is no election within the Community then the Council will lose out, but this would be a better deal than if the Council would have to pay in full for an election.

Cllr Bateman has also recommended to Cabinet that £50000 funding from unallocated budget be used to support and maintain community youth clubs for a further year

**Pre-Planning Consultation:** A lengthy Pre Planning Permission Consultation Document had been received to “Change of use from Agricultural Shed to kennels, plus hybrid use of part of the adjacent field as an exercising area with linked fallen stock business and associated residential manager’s caravan accommodation.” at Tan y Garn, Treffgarne. This document had been circulated digitally to Councillors, and agreed that a response should be sent to Hayston Developments & Planning Limited, stating that there were no comments at this stage, but will be objecting very strongly when the full application will be received from PCC.

**Finances:** The Clerk presented the most recent Bank Statement (No.20), up to 31st December, and records that there is £5776:76 (**Five Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy Six Pounds and Seventy Six Pence**) in the account.

As the end of the financial year was approaching, it was agreed by Councillors that in light of the possibility of the Community Council having to pay for future CC elections that it would be advisable to reduce the number of organisations that ask for financial support. It was agreed therefore to donate the following sums of money:-

[a] Wales Air Ambulance £50:00 (**Fifty Pounds)**

[b] St Dogwells Parish Welfare £150:00 **(One Hundred and Fifty Pounds)**

[c] Penybont Chapel £150:00 **(One Hundred and Fifty Pounds)**

[d] Spirit of Youth £50:00 **(Fifty Pounds)**

[e] Urdd Gobaith Cymru £30:00 **(Thirty Pounds**

[f] Fishguard YFC £50:00 **(Fifty Pounds)**

[g] Wolfscastle in Bloom £50:00 **(Fifty Pounds**)

[h] DPJ Foundation £20:00 **(Twenty Pounds)**

[i] Treffgarne Village Hall £15:00 **(Fifteen Pounds)**

It was agreed to pay Welsh Water the sum of £16:19 (**Sixteen Pounds and Nineteen Pence**) for water used at the Fountain.

It was also agreed to pay the Clerk £1700:00 **(One Thousand Seven Hundred Pounds)** this to include his salary and expenses for the year 2018 / 2019. The Clerk left the meeting whilst this matter was being discussed. On his return, the Clerk thanked the Councillors, and reported that this money is declared in his Annual Tax Expenses Claim Form, to comply with HMRC regulations, as filled in by Mr Graham Morgan, Accountant.

The Clerk reported that no invoice has yet been received for the Annual Audit from the Wales Audit Office. It was also reported that probably an invoice will be received in due course from One Voice Wales for membership for 2019 / 2020.

**Co-option of Community Councillor:** It was confirmed that no petition had been received by the Elections Office to hold an election for a Community Councillor. Therefore it was agreed to advertise the post locally, and on the web site to see if there would be any interest to fill the vacancy.

**Defibrillator Training:** The Clerk reminded the Councillors that there would be training session in Penybont Vestry at 7:00p.m. on Monday, February 18th.

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

Cllr BJ Harries requested once again for the blocked drains below Sealyham to be cleared of silt and debris. There is also a pothole approx. 300mm deep opposite Dolwerdd on the Welsh Hook to Sealyham road. Cllr Harries also reported that slurry tankers tried passing each other adjacent to Bronwydd, Wolfscastle causing damage to hedge banks and almost colliding with Bronwydd boundary wall. It was agreed that the Community Council cannot do anything about this issue. It would be up to the owners of the property to pursue this matter if necessary. Cllr Harries also complained about the mess created on Sealyham Crossroads by the slurry tanker drivers crossing the grassed verges. Cllr Harries requested that a letter be sent to the School asking parents to ensure that they park tidily on the roadway, and not half on the grassed verge causing damage to the Village Green.

Cllr Barrie Griffiths reported a ditch that needs filling in on Treffgarne Hill opposite the Salt Bin. Cllr Griffiths also requested the sweeper through the village of Treffgarne.

As there were no other matters to discuss, the meeting was declared closed, with the next meeting arranged for Tuesday, 5th March 201 at 8:00p.m.

At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by the members representing the Treffgarne Ward.

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

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