**Cyngor Cymuned Spittal/Spittal Community Council**

**Clerk & Treasurer**

Christine Williams

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020**

**Minutes No 366**

1. **Present:**

Community Councillors: D Williams, D Rees, R Elston, W Oriel, E Whitby.

Clerk & Treasurer: C Williams

County Councillor: D Howlett

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from A Jones.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

* The minutes of the meeting (No 365) held on 4th February 2020 were read, approved and agreed by the meeting. They were signed by D Williams, Chairperson.

1. **Matters Arising**

* Planting of flowers – Spittal Gardening Group had accepted the suggestion to use the triangle for planting.
* Grant work on the Village Green – The Clerk had been in touch with the builder and due to pressure of work they will not be able to start until current work is complete. The builder will be in touch in April with a date for the commencement of work.

1. **Correspondence**

**Emails –**

* Wales Audit Office – Press Release. Clerk to forward.
* PCC Local Development Plan (2) –extension to the consultation period has been announced.
* Wales Audit Office – consultation on future audit arrangements for the period 2020-21. A 3-year audit programme which is designed to met statutory responsibilities while providing a sufficient level of audit assurance at a reasonable cost to be considered. Clerk to forward.
* Sandy Bear Children’s Bereavement Charity Fundraiser – a concert has been arranged for June 20th featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir. Clerk to forward the information.
* Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Annual Report has been published and representations have to be made by 9th April 2020. Clerk to forward.
* Allotments Survey – a request to participate in this survey has been past to the secretary of Spittal Community Forum. For information only.
* PCC – My Account – support service publicity. Chloe Horn (PCC) will accompany the mobile library to Spittal on 20th March 2020 offering help with any digital service support. The information is on the Spittal facebook page and a notice will be place in the noticeboard. Clerk to arrange.
* Dyfed Powys Police Commissioner – an invitation to a conference on 6th March 2020 to consider ‘Policing in Rural Areas’. No one able to attend at this time.
* Play Wales – Events 2020 and e-bulletin. Clerk to forward.

**Hardcopy** –

* Wales Audit Office invoice – see Finance.
* Lloyds Bank Statement – see Finance.
* Cruse Bereavement Care – see Appeals.
* Children’s Air Ambulance – see Appeals.
* Clerk & Councils Magazine received.

1. **Finance**

* Wales Audit Office – the invoice for the audit received - £354.75. Cheque issued.

This is a big increase on previous years. The clerk reminded the meeting of a letter received in March 2019 which stated - ‘The Wales Audit Office is satisfied that audit fees that have not been charged are proper charges for audit work undertaken. As the error lies with the auditor, we have decided that the Wales Audit Office will not pass on the additional costs to councils for 2015-16, 2016-17 or 2017-18. Therefore, the 2017-18 invoices will reflect the audit fee originally quoted by Grant Thornton. However, the error has now been corrected and the fees for the 2018-19 audits will be for the full cost of the audit. This means that councils may see an increase in the audit fee for 2018-19 compared to previous years’. It was agreed to write to Mr Paul Davies AM to complain about these costs which amount to 15% of our total income. Copies to be sent to Welsh Audit Office. Comment has already been made to Grant Thornton. Clerk to arrange.

* Lloyds Bank Statement to 13th February 2020 received. Balance of £13,550.38.
* Income & Expenditure Account – attached.
* Budget update – attached. The revised budget shows a predicted final balance of £210.71.
* PCC Council Tax Base for the financial year 2020-21 has been confirmed showing a precept of £2,720.
* Clerk salary claim for the period from 1st October 2019 to end of March 2020 - £436.80 cheque issued. Tax - £109.20 cheque issued.

1. **Planning**

Nothing to date.

1. **Appeals**

* Cruse Bereavement Care – not at this time, clerk to inform.
* Children’s Air Ambulance – not at this time, clerk to inform.

1. **Any Other Business**

* Lights not working – outside the Vicarage and on the school sign at the same point. The light at Spittal Cross also not working. W Oriel to report.
* Dog mess – it was reported that there had been some improvement in Southgate Part however between Middle Town and the Church Hall the road was littered. The pavement leading to Spittal School is also still badly affected. Clerk to report again.
* Trees in two places obscuring lights – Water Street (clerk to contact homeowner) and Crosslyn (clerk to contact Western Power).
* Royal Mail – the collection times on the post box are unreadable. Clerk to report.
* Scolton Crossroads – all drains are blocked. Cllr Howlett to report.
* Westgate – trees overhanging pavement. Clerk to contact.

1. **Date of next meeting – 7th April 2020**

Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Date……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….