**Amroth Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Llanrhath**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 17th September 2020 online via Zoom.

**Councillors present:**  T Baron; A Cormack; P Davies; A Evans; F Evans; R Harries; M Harvey; J James; S Phillips (Chair); R Tippett- Maudsley.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk); Robert Lake.

**Apologies**: R Lewis; Martin Morris

**Declaration of Interest. Alec Cormack declared a personal and prejudicial interest and Alan Evans declared a prejudicial interest to Planning item 20/0462/PA as both are members of Stepaside and Pleasant Valley Residents Group and Cllr. Cormack lives close to the site.**

**Chair’s Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all Councillors to the meeting.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 23rd July 2020 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. Roger Harries

Seconded by Cllr. Alec Cormack

Cllr. Phillips printed off a copy of the July Minutes and signed them on completion of the meeting.

1. **Matter Arising**

* The damaged bin removed from by Bertie belonged to ACC and so it is up to ACC to replace. **Agreed;** Clerk to contact Insurers about a replacement and investigate purchasing an additional one for by the Dog Poo Bag dispenser at New Inn end of the village. Someone is using the dispenser as a bin!
* Another hole has been filled in by PCC along the stretch of road towards the New Inn and a new depression reported.
* The 351 Bus Service from Tenby to Pendine has a new timetable from September 1st 2020
* Welsh Hearts Cymru have sent through details of how they can support ACC to acquire another Defibrillator for Stepaside. This was discussed and the need for electricity queried. **Agreed**; the Clerk will contact Saundersfoot and Tenby First responders who helped with the last two Defibs that were installed for their advice. The Clerk will also contact a resident of Amroth who it is thought also has experience of the provision of Defibs.
* Neil McCarthy (PCC) has confirmed that the fence surrounding the play area in Summerhill is the responsibility of ACC under the lease agreement. Cllrs. Harvey and Harries updated councillors on the meeting that took placed between ACC, representatives of ADCA and PCC. Some of the play equipment needs replacing and it was agreed with ADCA that Cllr Harvey would help with this project. A temporary repair could be carried out on the fence in the meantime**. Agreed;** Clerk to contact ADCA as to progress.
* The Clerk has emailed the Road Safety Partnership asking for advice on how to limit speed on four roads in the Community Council area but has yet to receive a reply. Councillors queried the remit of RSP and asked the Clerk to investigate.
* Solar light on A477 junction to Amroth, opposite Pen Y Bont. The Trunk Road Agency again denied this request but stated that new signs would be installed on the junction with better reflecting surface so will be more visible at night.
* ACC has sent a request to PCC for paths in Stepaside and Pleasant Valley thatqualify under S31 of the highways act 1980, be recognised as public rights of way. There is some additional paperwork to be completed. The Landowner (PCC) and Lessee (Heritage Parks Ltd) have both been informed of this request.
* Llanteg Hall Committee have reported that the plants and equipment from the Keep Wales Tidy award have been planted and installed. There are raised beds and plants at the Mountain Chapel and fruit bushes and three apple trees in the Old School Garden, along with a bird and insect box and bird table. Councillors expressed their gratitude for all the work that has been carried out.
* The Grow Share scheme set up in Summerhill Bus shelter has finished for this growing season. The organisers have reported that it has gone very well and are keen to repeat the scheme next year.
* PCSO Jim Moffatt has moved to take up a position in Staffordshire. A letter of thanks was sent to him by ACC. He responded, thanking Councillors for their support and friendship over the past few years

1. **County Councillors Report**

**The New Normal**

Pembrokeshire County Council is slowly and carefully re-opening its leisure and library services. As in the rest of Wales, schools have re-opened thanks to a major effort by teaching and other school staff to make the schools as Covid-19 safe as possible.

Although Pembrokeshire has been relatively fortunate compared to the rest of the country, in terms of the number of Covid-19 cases, the need for vigilance and social distancing remains acute. The Covid-19 virus must now be seen as endemic and a second wave of large-scale cases must be guarded against. The priority must be to keep our schools open so that the long-term prospects of the young are not permanently impaired. At the same time adequate protection must be given to the elderly, particularly those in care and residential homes. In addition, the needs of those requiring adult residential care or home assistance should be remembered in these difficult times

Council meetings are continuing to be held remotely. Such remote meetings are likely to continue until at least the end of 2020 but the possibility of hybrid meetings with some present in County Hall and the rest connecting remotely is being explored.

**Heritage Park**

As you are aware the Planning Committee meeting on 8 September heard the application to vary the conditions set in the 2016 delegated decision to permit caravans on the north car park in Heritage Park. The Committee decided that there should be a site visit, but officers have not yet consented to or arranged a socially-distanced site visit citing Covid-19. This is strange in that PCNP are conducting site visits with councillors and planning officials travelling in their own vehicles and conducting the visit while remaining 2 metres apart.

Heritage Park was supposed to be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on 14 September. However, this Agenda Item was pulled. The reason given was *“Officers are investigating the recent commencement of development at Heritage Park and the Council may be left with no alternative but to give consideration to instigating legal proceedings.  In such circumstances it would not be appropriate for this report to be considered further at this time and the report is therefore withdrawn."*

I have been drawing PCC’s attention to the fact that the terms of the 2007 Heritage Park lease were not being adhered to for several years without effective action being taken. I have no doubt that the activities of the Stepaside/Pleasant Valley Residents Group helped prompt PCC action.

**3.Planning**

**20/0269/PA JOLLY HAVEN, Starre Gorse, PLEASANT VALLEY, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LR Proposal:** Proposed single storey rear extension and roof alterations to creat a part first floor. **Conditionally approved.**

**20/0121/PA. Great Merrixton Bungalow, Stepaside**. **Proposal;** First floor extension to existing bungalow. **Conditionally approved**

**20/0271/PA Cherry Grove, PLEASANT VALLEY, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8NY Proposal**: New detached garage / workshop building with storage / home office space above. **No Objection submitted/ Conditionally approved**

**20/0348/PA Land at Clos Yr Ysgol, Stepaside, Narberth, SA67 8NZ Proposal:** Residential development (Outline with all matters reserved for future consideration). **ACC were unable to identify material points on which to base an objection so submitted comments highlighting areas of concern communicated by Stepaside residents.**

**19/1286/PA Pleasant Valley House, Pleasant Valley. Proposal;** Change of use of guest house to two dwellings along with alterations and erection of car ports and a workshop. **Conditionally approved**

**NP/20/0321/FUL. 3 Brookside Villas, Amroth. Proposal;** Creation of off-road parking for 2vehicles to the rear**. No objection submitted.**

**NP/20/0351/FUL. Summerhill Caravan Park. Proposal.** Workshop and Caravan MaintenanceBuilding. **No objection submitted**

**NP/20/0409/FUL 6 Brookside Villas, Amroth, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8NQ. Proposal;** New vehicular access & associated creation of a raised platform for parking. **Comments by 29th September 2020. Agreed; No Objection**

**20/0462/PA Heritage Park, STEPASIDE, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LN. Proposal:** Installation of bases for the siting of holiday lodges (which fall under the definition of a caravan), spa facility, holiday apartments, café and cycle hire, an equestrian stables, manège and associated office, main park office, car and cycle parking, residential garages, landscaping, access, retaining walls, foul and surface water drainage, related infrastructure and engineering work. **Comments by 7th October 2020**

**Agreed;** The application was received 24hours before the Council meeting and so the clerk will ask for an extension to allow Councillors to read through all documents relating to the application and then discuss the application again at the meeting in October. Comments will then be drafted for submission. Comments will be circulated to Begelly/Kilgetty CC and Saundersfoot CC as Heritage Park lies across all three wards.

**Notes;**

ACC submitted a response to the Pre application consultation from Planning Consultants, Lichfield’s, issued on behalf of Heritage Park. The comments sent were similar to the previous response to the first pre application consultation, as there was little change in the proposal.

ACC Chairman spoke in objection to 19/1340/PA. Heritage Park, Stepaside. Proposal; Variation of Condition 2 (relating to twin unit caravans) & 7 (relating to car park) of Planning Consent 11/0585/PA at the Planning and Rights of Way Committee on the 8th September.

**4.Correspondence**

* One Voice Wales have written to say they are producing a series of Best Practise Guides. The first has been published in August and is on Community Engagement.
* Pembrokeshire CAB are holding their AGM on 30th September via Zoom. Too book a zoom place **R.S.V.P** by**23rd September 2020 to** [admin@pembscab.org](mailto:admin@pembscab.org)
* The application process is currently open for the Appointment of Community Council Member of the Standards Committee. Please note that applications are required by the 19 October 2020 with interviews due to take place on 3 November 2020. Clerk has all the info.
* **Interested in befriending in Pembrokeshire? Age Cymru Dyfed needs you!**

 Befriending Life Links is a new project that looks to match volunteers with older people who are in need of friendly support. The aim of the project is to support people throughout the three counties of Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, and Carmarthenshire to do the things they enjoy doing.

Volunteers are needed to support people in a variety of ways – from a regular telephone call to (once Covid 19 restrictions are relaxed) a home visit or providing company on trips out or social activities. If you are interested in getting involved or want more information contact Befriending Life Links admin officer Emma Bingham at [emma.bingham@agecymrudyfed.org.uk](mailto:emma.bingham@agecymrudyfed.org.uk) Tel: 07415 721205

* A resident has written regarding the nuisance and potential health issues created by garden bonfires. They can cause quite major distress to people with breathing difficulties or Asthma. Garden bonfires are becoming more of an issue with people burning household rubbish since the recycling scheme was introduced. The resident would like the council to be made aware of the problem.
* Volunteering matters are launching be a fairly short-term pilot project looking forvolunteers to become Responders for older people who need a pendant alarm, but who may have no social or family connections and therefore cannot name anyone as their Responder.Volunteer Responders will be fully recruited by Volunteering Matters, with references taken up and DBS checks carried out. They will then be insured and trained prior to starting their role and volunteers will have the back-up of a local Volunteering Matters staff member. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact [Debbie.williams@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:Debbie.williams@volunteeringmatters.org.uk) or ACC Clerk for more information.
* A resident has written requesting a grit bin for Kilgetty Lane, Stepaside. A lot of water comes down the hill in winter which gets very icy in cold weather. She also reported an overgrown path. Cllr Cormack has been in touch and walked the path in question. He is looking into the situation and will report back to the October meeting.
* Lewis Lewis and Co. (Solicitors) have written on behalf of the owner of Sea Breeze, Llanteg regarding ‘Village Green’ land behind the property. This will be dealt with under a separate heading later in the meeting.

**5.Finance as of August 28th 2020**

Account 70121649 – £7666.44

Account 40736856 – £15,190 66

David Rees £792.90

**Payments;**

**Clerks Wages £304.25 + expenses £120** (for Planning Response Training Places for Councillors x 4 and travel)

Payments of £100 to Llanteg Hall and ADCA towards garden maintenance. The Clerk will check with parties that they are willing to continue the maintenance agreements

**Payments were agreed**

**Income**

**Precept £4333.00**

**Bench £700 –**

**The Electors Notice of Rights for the audit is displayed on the Pembrokeshire Town and Community Council website**

**9.Discuss the current Bus Service through the villages**

Cllr. Harvey reported that the new timetable offers a shorter route and restricted service. There is a limited and poorly timed service to Pendine and back and no onward travel to Carmarthen. The service to Tenby runs three times a day but the last service back from Tenby is at 3.30 pm so unsuitable for those with jobs in the town. What was a temporary reduced service now seems to be the standard service. This reduced service will lead to lower usage and so the service becomes unsustainable and is then cut.

Cllr. Harvey went on to say that there is a half hourly service from Tenby to Kilgetty some of which could be diverted via Amroth. Users could then connect with the Tenby service if needed. He felt, with a little thought, a small diversion could increase connectivity.

Residents are being asked to reduce car use, and planning applications have be refused as the site is not within an acceptable distance from a bus route and so the reduction or loss of a bus service impacts areas not just transport. It also adds to rural isolation, with a knock-on effect to wellbeing.

**Agreed;** Cllr Baron will bring this to the attention to Cabinet Member for Infrastructure Cllr. Baker for his comments.

**10.Discuss how to improve awareness of Dog restrictions on Amroth Beach**

The Clerk has received a lot of communications and complaints regarding dogs being on the restricted section of the beach and people disregarding the signs. One sign was lost during a storm and this is being replaced by Beach officer Myrddin Dennis.

Cllr Davies reported that St David’s Town Council had set up a Beach Guardian scheme with volunteers wearing Hi Vis jackets, pointing out dog restrictions on their beaches. She offered to find out more on how the scheme worked. In Saundersfoot Lifeguards put out flags indicating the restricted sections although this is not their job.

A query was raised asking if beaches with dog restrictions were markedly cleaner than those without, assuming owners picked up after their dogs. The Clerk will contact NRW who test water quality to find out if there are any statistics on this.

Councillors and the Clerk will report back to the next meeting.

**11.Discuss land claim by resident in Llanteg**

Following a communication from Solicitors Lewis Lewis & Co regarding ownership of land behind Sea Breeze, Llanteg, research has been carried out. The land is legally registered as Town and Village Green on PCC’s Common Land register. Ownership will not affect its designation as land held for public recreation and encumbered by a right of public access. The land is currently vested in the ownership of Crunwere Community Council, now incorporated into Amroth Community Council, pursuant to Section 8 (3) of the Commons Registration Act 1965.

The Community Council were not in a position to give permission for the workshop which is currently built on the land as the land must be retained for common/ public access.

**Agreed;** The Chairman proposed writing to Lewis Lewis & Co to set out the land status and ownership. Seconded; Cllr Cormack

**12. Report By Amroth and District Community Association**

The hall is still closed at this time. The Committee has met outdoors, and the Sewing Club are keen to restart. This will depend on Welsh Government regulations about numbers meeting inside.

**13. Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee**

The hall has undergone a deep clean and distancing and hygiene posters have been put up. Welsh Government rules as to numbers meeting inside will mean that the hall will remain closed until this is lifted.

**14. Project Updates**

* **Amroth Good Neighbours** – Still active
* **Exercise Jantzen –** The Imperial War Museum has opened so Cllr. Harvey has resubmitted a request to use photographs of Exercise Jantzen on the information board. He is also looking at progressing the QR codes.
* **Road Names –** Application for funding support has been drafted for the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant Fund
* **Amroth free WIFI –** Cllr Cormack has heard back from DANFO who manage the toilets in Amroth. They have agreed to allow the use of the toilet building for a WIFI antennae. They have also agreed use of the electric supply and access to the service cupboard for WIFI equipment assuming a contribution can be agreed. Cllr Cormack will contact the WIFI company about installation and will look at drafting a proposal for the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Fund.

Cllr Davies reported that DANFO do an excellent job in looking after and cleaning the toilets and proposed a letter of thanks be sent to the Head Office. **Agreed.**

**15. Matters to be added to the agenda for next meeting**

* Dog restrictions on the Beach
* Bus service
* Land Claim of Town and Village Green Land in Llanteg

**16. Urgent Business not on the Agenda**

* The Dog restriction sign on the gate at the top of the slip way was lost in the last storm. The Clerk has informed PCC.
* The Meeting on Amroth and Wisemans Bridge Sea Defences will take place with officers of PCC on Friday 25th September at 9.00 am via zoom.
* Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant applications must be submitted by December 2020 to ensure submission to the final panel in February 2021.
* Pembrokeshire has been chosen as one of the pilot areas for the government broadband upgrade funding for rural areas. Addresses can be checked to ensure they meet the criteria.

Funding to the value of £1500 per residential house, £3500 per business will be given to suppliers to install high capacity cables, but only once there is enough interest registered from an area - so the race is on to get all interested homes and businesses who want better broadband to register their interest. There is no cost to register.

<https://broadband-upgrade-fund.campaign.gov.uk/>

* Request for a litter bin on the path from Colby to Amroth – This is National Trust land. A request has been sent to them.
* The Memorial Garden in Amroth needs tidying. Cllr. Davies offered to weedkiller encroaching weeds. Councillors accepted this offer. The benches in the garden were also discussed. It had previously been agreed to move these benches to other locations in the ward and replace them with new benches. **Agreed;** The Clerk will request prices for new benches. Their position means they do not need to be Marine grade.
* Cllr. F. Evans reported that there are two deep potholes on the junction to Pleasant Valley from Wisemans Bridge that needed attention. **Agreed;** The Clerk will report these
* Stepaside Play Park was cleared and brushed out by Cllr. A. Evans and power washed by PCC.
* The Grit Bin has still not been installed at Staggers Hill, Stepaside. **Agreed;** Clerk will write to Robert Evans at PCC asking for it to be installed before Winter.

**Date of next Meeting is Thursday 22nd October 2020 at 7 pm.**

This will be via Zoom unless informed otherwise.

Anyone wishing to observe online, please send your email address to [amrothclerk@outlook.com](mailto:amrothclerk@outlook.com)

**The meeting closed at 21.09 pm**