

SAUNDERSFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Regency Hall, Saundersfoot on the 6th November 2014

Chairman Cleevely welcomed Mr Mike Cavanagh – Head of Cultural Services, Pembrokeshire County Council to the meeting who was present to address members regarding the Library and TIC facilities in Saundersfoot.

Mr Cavanagh explained to members the impact of the huge savings the County Council has to make for the next few years, including the Cultural Services budget. He said the budget for Library and TIC Services is £2.5 million and savings of £430,000 have to be made from this budget and added that there are very challenging times ahead. Mr Cavanagh said that he hoped no facilities would be closed but savings would have to be made by reducing opening hours, possible redundancies, increasing charges and combining locations for Library and TIC facilities would reduce utility costs.

He went on to say that today the majority of bookings are done on line resulting in bed bookings taken at TIC's reducing dramatically. Mr Cavanagh said that visitor numbers in Tenby and Saundersfoot were similar but more bed bookings were made in Tenby, he did say that more visitors visited the TIC when it was in the Barbecue, due to its location. He added that most library and TIC's are combined in one building, but Tenby TIC is a standalone facility. He said the trend of visitors in the library services varies, but the majority visit in the mornings tailing off in the afternoon, but children tend to visit after school finishes, and the same applies to the TIC facility.

Mr Cavanagh said that the proposal is to reduce the opening hours of part time libraries and TIC's in the summer by 6% closing at 5.00pm instead of 6.00pm for two days, and this reduction is less compared with other areas of Pembrokeshire. He said the opening hours in Tenby in winter would be 41½ compared with 31½ in Saundersfoot.

Councillor Brabon said that since the TIC had moved to the Regency Hall, the main complaints were lack of signage. Mr Cavanagh said that new signage had been put in place and possibly businesses could assist in placing posters in their shops.

Councillor Brabon said that the Chamber for tourism are in the process of compiling a village board and possibly the library and TIC could be included on this board.

Councillor John expressed his concern that the TIC does not supply waste bags anymore like they used to do in the Barbecue building. Mr Cavanagh said that he would investigate this, but added that this would be an added burden on the staff.

Councillor Poole asked if the staff could take a staggered lunch hour so that the facility remains open and Councillor Boughton Thomas agreed and added that lunchtime is the busiest part of the day. Mr Cavanagh said that he could adjust the times in the review taking place.

Councillor Brabon asked if exact visitor numbers could be produce for the TIC in Saundersfoot and Mr Cavanagh said that he would provide these figures.

Chairman Cleevely thanked Mr Cavanagh for attending the meeting and hoped feedback would be received in due course on the issues raised.

The meeting proper then started.

1) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No report

2) DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Baker declared a Prejudicial Interest in any debate on the Regeneration of the Harbour area and would leave the room when this was discussed and Councillor McDermott declared a personal interest in the same debate, but would remain in the room.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minutes of the 2nd October 2014

a) Mr Morris's Resignation

The Clerk informed members that the election date for the vacancy would be held on 4th December 2014 in the Sports Club, Saundersfoot. Members decided to hold the December meeting of the Council on 11th December 2014 so that the new member could attend.

b) Minute 4(a) Emergency Plan Meeting

The Clerk said that he had emailed Mr Steve Jones, but had not received a response. Councillor Baker said that he would seek progress on the matter.

c) Minute 4(b) Proposed Work in St Issell's Cemetery

The Clerk informed members that he had received a quote for the clearance of the laurel tree in the cemetery amounting to £580 and it was proposed by Councillor Poole and seconded by Councillor Baker that the quote be accepted. All members agreed.

d) Minute 4(c) Sensory Gardens Saundersfoot

Councillor Pearson reported that Mr Brian Harris along with members of Saundersfoot in Bloom had worked in the gardens planting bulbs and generally tidying the gardens and said that he was doing a great job.

e) Minute 4(d) Meeting with Mr Christopher Salmon

Mr Jim Moffatt – PCSO, informed members that the Police Station would not close until an alternative building was found and suggested obtaining costings for the Harbour Ticket Office, which would be an ideal location and much better than a mobile service. Councillor McDermott would seek information from Mr Michael Davies – CEO, Harbour Commission.

f) Minute 4(e) Skateboard Park, Saundersfoot

Councillor Baker said that Sinead, Henegan Pembrokeshire County Council would produce a list of contractors who have built other parks in Pembrokeshire. Members decided to place this item on December's agenda.

g) Minute 4(g) Harbour Regeneration Scheme

At this point, Councillor Baker left the meeting.

The Clerk read out a letter from Mr Martin White, Head of Regeneration, Pembrokeshire County Council as follows:-

"You will be aware that the County Council has appointed advisors to update a regeneration framework for the Saundersfoot harbour area. The study area extends

from the former Jones & Teague premises at the western end of the harbour to the former Coal Office building and surrounding land to the east. The objective of the study is to provide a strategic and integrated regeneration context to guide the regeneration of the harbour area. Such a framework will assist the County Council and stakeholders in bidding for external funding to, for example, the Welsh Government or the EU. The County council is working with the Harbour Commissioners to secure a coastal centre of excellence in Saundersfoot to generate economic activity.

The process of updating the regeneration framework has been guided by a number of meetings with key stakeholders and community groups. Meetings with community groups have been held at the Regency Hall, and other briefings have been provided to your C C, local chamber and history group.

The regeneration framework outlines a number of options for the eastern part of the study area which includes the former Coal Office building. The options include the removal of car parking spaces from land at the water's edge and replacing them with buildings at the water front which will benefit from the sea front location. This option would require the removal of the former Coal Office, as there would be a like for like replacement of car parking spaces from the waterfront area to the land currently occupied by the former Coal Office building. At the stakeholder meetings, which the C C have attended, there is some agreement regarding the option to remove the former Coal Office building, as long as there are alternative means to reflect the history and development of the harbour area and Saundersfoot. However, various community groups have not supported the proposal to remove the picnic area to the west of the Coal Office building and the sensory garden.

The regeneration framework will help inform and guide future development options for the harbour area of Saundersfoot. The views of the local community will be reflected in this process and should a planning application be forthcoming, the C C would be consulted. The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority is the planning authority for the study area.

The County Council will need to consider the future of the Coal Office building in the context of the wider regeneration aims for the harbour area of Saundersfoot."

The Clerk added that further meetings would be held shortly with the Urbanists and the stakeholders and until these meetings are held there is no point in holding a public meeting without Mr White and the Urbanists attending to answer questions.

The Clerk reported that he had received seven letters from the public, all stating that the building should be restored as a heritage centre/museum and that a public meeting should be held as soon as possible.

Members were not happy with the content of the letter and queried the paragraph "at the stakeholder meetings there is some agreement regarding the option to remove the Coal Office building", and added that all members of the Community Council were against his happening and Councillor Hayes asked "who is in favour of the Coal Office being removed?"

Councillor Boughton Thomas said that the letter highlights one option only and asked what has happened to option B.

Chairman Cleevely asked if the public could attend the meeting to be held with the Stakeholders Group.

The Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr White highlighting the following points:-

- Stress that Saundersfoot Community Council is against demolishing the Coal Office and which stakeholders are in favour.
- What are the other options put forward for the scheme?
- Request that the next meeting with the Stakeholders is open to the public.

h) Minute 4(h) Senior Citizens Dinner 14/12/2014

Councillor Boughton Thomas reported to members that 100 people had registered to attend and the caterer could cater for 20 more people, resulting in an extra expenditure of £120. Members agreed to extend the number to £120 people. Chairman Cleevely asked if some entertainment should be laid on towards the end of the evening. Councillor Hayes said that she would contact the organist for St Issell's Church and Councillor Cavell would obtain song sheets.

i) Minute 4(i) Bethany Flats, Saundersfoot

Councillor John reported that a window was missing from one of the flats. Councillor Baker said that he would investigate.

j) Minute 4(j) Purchase of Cones

Councillor Baker said that he would obtain the six cones needed.

k) Minute 5(c) Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2014

Councillor Poole said that he along with Councillors John and McDermott and Alwyn Lewis, had spent time power washing the cenotaph and testing the new sound system. He said that all should assemble at 10.30 sharp and the Deputy Lieutenant for Pembrokeshire would be present.

Councillor Baker said that Pembrokeshire County Council would attend prior to Sunday to clear leaves etc from around the Cenotaph.

l) Minute 8(b) National Park Meeting 20th October 2014

Councillor Brabon reported to members that he had attended the above meeting and he was the only Community Councillor present. Tegryn Jones – Chief Executive, PCNP and Councillor Michael Williams Tenby was also in attendance.

Councillor Brabon said that Mr Tegryn Jones gave a presentation which outlined the need for PCNP to reduce its costs by £400,000 from a budget of £4.3 million. He outlined the costs for particular services such as the Coast Path (£215,000) and Tenby Visitor Centre (£77,000).

Councillor Brabon highlighted the importance of ensuring health and safety on the Coast Path and the need to ensure that the landscape was protected in order to attract visitors and also PCNP should look at a scheme to improve the car park in Saundersfoot, however, in view of cuts this may be difficult.

m) Minute 8(f) Meeting with Pembrokeshire County Council i.e. Cutbacks

Councillor Baker reported that he, along, with Councillor McDermott, had attended a meeting with the Leader of Pembrokeshire County Council Councillor Jamie Adams to discuss budget cuts. Councillor Baker said massive savings of £35 million by

March 2016 have to be made to budgets and suggestions were made that Community Councils raise their precepts to take on some of the work done by the County Council.

n) Minute 9(a) Bench, Wesleyan Chapel

Chairman Cleevely asked when would the above bench be replaced? Councillor Baker replied and said no benches would be purchased but he would relocate a bench from another location.

Councillor Poole asked what had happened to the seats opposite the Arcade and perhaps one of these could be relocated there.

o) Minute 9(c) Fashion Show, Saundersfoot C P School

Councillor John reported that the above Fashion Show was a resounding success and £5,000 was raised for the School.

p) Minute 10(b) Beer Festival, Micro Brewery

The Clerk informed members that he had spoken to Mr Liam Jones PCNP and was told that the owner had applied for a TEN Licence for the event and that the event would be monitored very closely and if conditions were breached a notice would be served on the owner. He had also spoken to Pembrokeshire County Council Licencing and they were also aware of the event taking place and music is allowed under a TEN Licence they would also monitor the event very closely and welcomed feedback from residents.

Councillor Brabon added that no adverse comments were made by nearby residents.

q) Minute 10(c) Potholes, Valley Road, Saundersfoot

Councillor John reported that the above potholes were getting worse. Councillor Baker said that he would investigate.

Councillor Brabon, again, raised the issue of the sunken drains on the Fan Road and Councillor Baker said that they are checked annually by the Area Maintenance Team and found to be within the tolerance range.

r) Minute 10(g) Litter Bins, Footway to Wiseman's Bridge

Councillor Baker said the bin which was removed near the long tunnel will be replaced and the one by the slipway will remain and the addicts on the footpath will be cleared of litter.

4)

AGENDA

a) Cutting back of trees in Sensory

Gardens

The Clerk said that Mr Hugh Davies had contacted him with regard to the above matter, and the Clerk suggested carrying out this work when the cherry picker is available to erect the Christmas lights in the village. Members agreed to carry out the work when the Christmas tree lights are erected.

b) Christmas Lights

Councillor McDermott reported to members that last year 16 lamp posts were available for lights but this year it will increase to 24, the extra 8 lights being installed as follows:-
3 in Milford Terrace

1 in Milford Street
2 in High Street
1 in Brewery Terrace
1 in High Street/Cambrian Terrace

Councillor McDermott went on to say 17 lights were working and three needed repair. He went on to say that new brackets will be installed and would remain on the lamp posts permanently. He said that all lamp posts and light fittings would be numbered so in future it would be known which fittings go where. The tree would be approximately 30 foot high and be illuminated by 300 bulbs.

The Clerk said that the tree would arrive on the 11th November 2014 at 11.00am and again, kindly, supplied by Hean Castle Estate.

Chairman Cleevely thanked Councillor McDermott for all his hard work he had carried out with regard to the Christmas lights.

c) **Saundersfoot C P School Community**

Links

Councillor Cavell suggested that the members of the Community Council form a closer link with the school and asked if the Chairman and members would be prepared to visit the school to explain to the pupils of exactly what the functions of the Community Council are. Members thought this would be a good idea and Councillor Cavell would arrange a suitable date to visit the school.

d) **World War I Donation**

Councillors Cleevely, Hayes, Cavell and Pearson declared an interest in this debate and left the room and Councillor Baker took the Chair.

The Clerk said that he had received a statement of Income & Expenditure relating to the very successful World War I exhibition. The statement revealed a deficit of £320 and the Council did say that a contribution would be made to the event.

It was proposed by Councillor Allsop and seconded by Councillor Poole that the Council refunds the amount of the deficit £320 to the Historical Society. All members agreed.

5) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Special meeting held on the 13th November 2014 to discuss the above.

Present: Councillors W Cleevely (Chairman), M Allsop, R Brabon, R Hayes MBE, D McDermott, T Pearson and D Poole.

NP/14/0616 - Alterations, Hean Castle, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0603 - Decking etc, 3 Bevelin Ha., Saundersfoot
NP/14/0586 - Broadband Cabinet, The Strand, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0607 - Demolition of extension, Moorcroft, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0584 - Demolition, Jones & Teague, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0553 - Dwelling, Crow Meadow, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0542 - Extension, St Brides Hotel, Saundersfoot
NP/14/0587 - Extensions, St Brides Hotel, Saundersfoot

Councillor McDermott declared an interest in NP/14/0587, 542 and 584 and Councillor Brabon in NP/14/607 and took no part in these debates.

Members raised no objections to the above applications.

6) CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a) An application for Tree Works to be carried out at Westfield Road, The Incline was received from PCNPA.
- b) An email was received from National Parks stating that the Wales Audit Office are hosting a Planning Audit on Wednesday 26th November 2014 between 10.15am and 11.15am at Llanion and asked if a Councillor would like to attend. Councillor Baker said that he could possibly attend.
- c) A letter was received from Pembrokeshire County Council indicating their operational plans for the winter including gritting procedures, out of hours requests, and a Winter Services Facts & Questions leaflet.

7) REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES INCLUDING THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

- a) Chairman Cleevely reported to members as follows:-

One Voice Wales AGM 4th October 2014

- The first speaker was Mr Nick Bennett, Public Services Ombudsman, Wales who spoke about the Scottish Referendum including further constitutional changes, the Barnett Formula, Public Services austerity, the Williams Commission, Public Services reform and County merges.
- There are 735 Community/Town Councils in Wales with 67% of seats uncontested.
- The second speaker was Dr Simone Lowthe-Thomas, who is Head of Community energy at Severn Wye Energy Agency and is responsible for the delivery of Severn Wye's Community energy projects. She tackles poverty through using local resources and is developing new ways of working with the Welsh Government.
- The third speaker was Mr Robin Andrew, Assistant Service Head for Location and Devolution at Cornwall Council. The County and Community Council formed a partnership which is working well and an interesting fact is that Penzance increased their precept by 88%! Their Parish Clerk is now the Parish Manager.
- The fourth speaker was Professor Meritus from South Wales University. He is at the centre for Regeneration Excellence, Wales. He spoke about policy challenges and Poverty Eradication (1/3 of children in Wales live in poverty). He finished by discussing what type of economy and society do we need to live in.
- This was followed by the AGM of One Voice Wales.

- b) Councillor Baker reported to members as follows:-

County Council matters

Chief Executive Officer

- Following further negotiations the CEO left his position on 31.10.14, the original £330,000 severance payment being reduced by some £50,000 following the intervention of the Wales Audit Office. The disciplinary Committee did not resume its investigations and further changes to the settlement were not referred to Full Council.
- Councillor Baker noted that a recent letter had questioned his position on future arrangements at PCC, Councillor Baker informed Saundersfoot Community Council that he would support the current model where there is in effect a Managing Director, this role currently being fulfilled by Mr Ian Westley, there is a

Chairman, Monitoring Officer and Legal Department which would all have a role in the administration.

- Following a presentation by the Leader and Director of Finance at County Hall the future reductions in finance over the next years was highlighted, it was apparent that PCC would not be able to deliver all its services in the same way and Community Councils were being asked to consider how they might be able to assist in delivering services either individually or in clusters.
- PCC have agreed to establish a working group to investigate the possibilities of merging with Ceredigion County Council.

Ward Matters

- Currently Library services are being reviewed and Councillor Baker thanked Mr Mike Cavanagh Head of Cultural Services for accepting his invitation and attending the meeting, the current survey of provision is underway and it is important that users of Saundersfoot Library take part in the discussion.
- Councillor Baker confirmed that the recent Week in Week Out had highlighted elements of the Shoreline Management Plan and its possible effect on Saundersfoot, Councillor Baker has spoken to Councillor Huw George Cabinet Member for the Environment and the Coastal Protection Officer at PCC and can confirm that there will be a County Councillor meeting followed by a public meeting in Saundersfoot.
- The two new bins on the Coastal path between Coppet Hall and Wisemans Bridge had been a success, one had now been removed at the end of September the second near the slipway will be located there permanently.
- The cleaning of the two addits has been added to the maintenance programme.
- The two trench depressions on the Ridgeway had been temporarily filled whilst discussions are ongoing with Welsh Water.
- Following the meeting with the PCC Maintenance team last month all the items raised had been completed.
- The traffic calming cushions removed a number of years ago on Church Terrace and Francis Lane are being reviewed due to Traffic Audit requirements, additional traffic calming on Sandyhill Road is also being investigated.
- Councillor Baker has been contacted again by Welsh Government regarding the newly published report covering cockle beds and he awaits a meeting date confirmation.

c) Councillor Cavell reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot CP School

- Bishop Wyn attended the morning assembly at the school and a question and answer session took place, which proved most interesting

d) Councillor John reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot Bay Heritage & Regeneration Trust – 15th November 2014

- Summerhill Hall
The pledge forms that were first issued at the Saundersfoot Forum meeting should be distributed via other meetings, including the local historical societies and this should then be followed by with a meeting of all those that have pledged to show them the concept of what is being developed on the harbour.
- The Swansea Bay City Region is now the source for some Welsh Government funding programmes and it was agreed that we should have some “off the shelf” proposals ready to put forward to influence any discussions/plans and for any grants that we may qualify for.

- It was agreed to form a sub-committee to do the formal planning for the development of the harbour coal boat display area; the members will be Michael Davies, Michael Slade, Sue Boughton-Thomas, Pauline Davies, Joyce Lewis, Mary Cavell and Rowland Williams.

- Date of next meeting 5pm, 16th December 2014 at Summerhill.

Police Forum Meeting 6th October & 3rd November 2014

- Present were Jim, Graham, the Sergeant and 19 members of the public.
- The problem with the cocklers – Councillor Phil Baker is arranging for someone from the fisheries department to come to speak with the group.
- The speed checks on Sandyhill Road are complete and there is discussion on speed calming measures, Mary Cavell asked if there could be some speed checks done at the entrance to the village along The Ridgeway.
- Recent parking notices issued:- 4 for staying too long, 2 for wrong class of vehicle, 2 for misuse of a disabled bay, 2 for parking on yellow lines and 1 for parking 50cm off the carriageway.
- There were reports of intruders at Carew Castle, possible ghost-hunters over Halloween.
- Crime figures not available.
- Jim reported that there was no reported anti-social behaviour over Halloween and hoped that 5th November would be the same.
- The Youth Club is going really well and the recent car washes raised over £200 for the funds, there will be tea and coffee in the Regency Hall Saturday morning, again for club funds. Jim has arranged for a dog handler to come to the club on 14th November 2014.
- Priorities – Carew Castle.
- Date of next meeting 1st December 2014 at Carew Airfield (Panto).

Regency Hall Committee 5th November 2014

- The AGM started with the reading of the previous AGM minutes and matters arising and was then followed by the appointment of a minute secretary to assist the secretary.
- The Chairman reviewed the last years progress as we got the new building up and running and this was reiterated by the treasurers report where it was declared that although a small loss was shown, the allowance for an expected bill was larger than needed and so the hall broke even during its first year.
- We then had a presentation by Ms Anne Isaac from PAVS about how the hall moves from a charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and what remained to be done.
- Steve read out a list over 30 local groups who would be approached to nominate a representative to sit on the new Regency Hall membership group, from which a new smaller board of trustees would be elected. This group will meet in late February prior to the CIO being operational on the 1st March 2015.
- The nominations and elections followed with the nominated members remaining the same and with three newly elected members to replace those that resigned during the year, they were – Mrs Jackie Barnet, Ms Sharon Rees and Mr Paul Cleevely.

The ordinary meeting followed

- Under matters arising the group was told that the First Aid course with Rotary would take place once they had an agreed date, the storage area to the sides of the stage still needed to have some mechanism to secure the items and the tall steps in the hall needs to be secured too.

- The treasurer reported that the funds were doing well for the month with slightly more income than expenditure but that negotiations with the Library had failed and that there will be no increase in their £10 a week heating/lighting payment.

Any Other Business

- There was a long discussion on a Christmas tree for the hall, it was finally decided to obtain a real one again this year.
- The snagging list is ongoing, with a light in the Sun Lounge still failing 14 months on. There will be an outside light fitted by the front door on Thursday.
- The Chamber for Tourism is seeking a membership fee this year, they are invited to send a representative to the next meeting to explain the benefits of such a fee.
- Steve listed the possible new classes starting in January and reminded everyone about the Film Club which has growing membership, with Mrs Browns Boys on 27th November and Tim Burtons' Nightmare before Christmas on Wednesday 17th December.
- George Cavell suggested we put better signage up on market days to entice the coach parties into the hall.
- Next meeting 10th December 2014.

e) Councillor Brabon reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot Chamber for Tourism 24th October 2014

- Councillor Brabon reported that the Saundersfoot Chamber Tourism is continuing to organise the established range of successful events including the St Nicholas Market, St David's Food Festival, New Year's Eve Fireworks and the Big Bang Weekend.
- Website improvements are being carried out to refresh the site and make it more accessible.
- The village events/articles will now be accessible via the website.
- A village map is currently begin developed. All members will be provided with pads of this map to make available to visitors.
- It is hoped that the map may also be used for large 'Welcome Noticeboards' in prominent positions in the village.

Sensory gardens

- Councillor Brabon said that thanks should go to Mr Bryan Harris for the work he has done in the gardens along with other members of the Council and Saundersfoot in Bloom members.

Christmas Lights

- Councillor Brabon extended a big thank you to Councillor McDermott for all the time he had spent checking and testing the lights ready for Christmas. Despite not being well. I am sure we all appreciate the effort he has put in to ensuring the lights are in working order.

8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Councillor John informed members that the gentleman looking after the 'Welcome to Saundersfoot' sign on Sandyhill Road had passed away and asked if Mr Alwyn Lewis would cut the grass around the sign and keep the sign clean and tidy. Councillor Brabon said he would instruct Mr Lewis to carry out this work.

- b) Councillor John asked if the Council still required stones from the Cambrian development to extend the gate post leading into the car park to accommodate the 'No Parking' sign. Councillor Brabon was instructed to arrange for Mr Alwyn Lewis to collect a supply of stones from the site as soon as possible.
- c) Councillor Pearson reminded members that the counting of the poppy boxes would take place in the Regency Hall on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th November 2015 from 10.00am onwards.
- d) Councillor Cavell expressed her concern at large amounts of water collecting in the area outside the telephone exchange by the School. Councillor Baker said that he would investigate the matter.
- e) Councillor Cavell said that the handrail on the steps leading down to the beach at the end of the long tunnel had become very loose and dangerous. Again, Councillor Baker said that he would investigate.
- f) Councillor Poole said that the Bonvilles Court Coach Park had been cordoned off and thought that it should be accessible for vehicles at all times. The Clerk was instructed to write to National Parks on the matter.
- g) Councillor Allsop reminded members that the Trick & Treat event for Halloween night was a resounding success and 260 children took part ending with a party in the Sands Nightclub.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Regency Hall, Saundersfoot on Thursday 11th December 2014.