

MINUTES OF NOLTON AND ROCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ONLINE - DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

4 May 2021

Members Present

A. Peach, R. Thomson, M. Canton, D. Smith, D. Weale,
Clerk - A. Jones

Guest speaker

Mark Underhill, the National Trust (NT) Countryside Manager for Pembrokeshire, gave a talk to the Councillors about the future of Southwood.

The NT have long held aspirations to develop the estate at Southwood to become the hub for NT activities in North Pembrokeshire. Ultimately, the NT would like to move their North Pembrokeshire base to one of the farms and develop a suite of eco-tourism and community activities within the listed farm-buildings. The NT also wants to be bold with their land management, focusing on regenerative agriculture, biodiversity, carbon storage and a place for everyone to have access and enjoy.

Mark however stressed that these are long-term aspirations (and planning permission and funding are of course needed). Importantly, before the NT go any further they want to involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in developing a vision for Southwood.

To help kick-start work on imagining “what the future could look like”, the NT have secured a small Welsh Government Grant, and have just started working with facilitation experts Dialogue Matters, to set up two online workshops with the local community and other stakeholders. The NT are scoping the attendees right now and plan to have approximately 50 individuals representing the following areas of interest: public bodies; community; recreation; business and enterprise; farming; heritage and culture.

Mark thanked the Councillors for their time and asked if he could circulate the areas of interest via the Clerk and where there are any gaps it would be great to have help from Councillors to find local representatives. All thanked Mark for his presentation and looked forward to hearing more soon.

Action: Clerk to forward round Mark's contact details and liaise with Mark and Councillors to identify representatives from the community to attend the workshops.

1689 Apologies

J. Gale, M. Harries, J. Hancock, Cllr. J. Adams

1690 Declaration of interest

J. Hancock declared an interest with respect to the CLT and the potential land involved

1691 Minutes of the previous meeting dated 12 April 2021

Proposer D. Smith, seconder A. Peach.

1692 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant** - A. Peach confirmed we are now in a position to meet a member of the community who has offered her help with design and planning in order to take the idea a step further before going out to the community for feedback.
- **Nolton and Roch Community Land Trust** - D. Smith confirmed that there has been some progress since the last meeting. He had a very encouraging meeting with PCC cabinet member for housing. They were very enthusiastic about affordable housing in Pembrokeshire. As the need for affordable housing is growing far faster than houses can be built, they are looking for alternative methods to build, with the CLT now worthy of extra consideration. D. Smith also confirmed that PCC are starting a housing working group this month to look at a range of options and actions. This group will then make recommendations that presumably come back to PCC. Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that he is a member of the WG and D. Smith has asked for CLT input at least into the WG as well. There are still funding concerns - in England there is a funding pot that CLT's can apply to but there is no such thing in Wales, which may explain why there are only a few CLTs in Wales. The landowner who owns the plot which is of interest has spoken to Ateb and they are currently talking about a price for the land, so there are positive steps.
- **Roch Motel junction - missing 'slow' on road** - no update. J. Adams thought that the markings through the village had been remarked. He'll double check to see if the 'slow' is back.
 - Action: Cllr. J. Adams to follow-up.
- **Community garden** - Clerk hopes to weed and strim over the next month.
- **Updates from the Victoria Hall / Nolton Village Hall and Reading Room** - M. Harries confirmed that there is still very little interest at the moment, but some dance classes have now resumed.
- **Speeding traffic coming down from Newgale into Nolton Haven** - Cllr. Adams has passed this information to PCC but no further update as yet. He will also follow up on parking concerns with Highways now that the car park is charging, it was noted by Councillors that cars have been parking on yellow lines and obstructing the road.
- **No parkings signs in passing places on the Welsh Road** - Cllr. Adams has passed this information to PCC but no further update as yet. The signs should make it clear that these spaces are passing spaces and not for parking.
- **Japanese knotweed in the green lake, Nolton** - no update, seasonal treatment often starts in June. If the knotweed is on private land they can pass the details on. Possible National Trust or National Park land.
 - Action: confirm the exact spot and landowner with M. Canton and pass on details to M. Harries.
- **Newgale road developments** - no update.
- **Digital Pembrokeshire - Broadband Programme: Broad Haven Project Area** - no update.
- **Removal of recycling bins and re-siting general bin in Pilgrim's Way** - Clerk confirmed that M. Harries did speak to PCC about the recycling site options and moving the general waste bin. All the bins have now been removed except one wheelie bin and the general waste which needs to be re-sited.
- **Catering units sited on Newgale campsite and a new 'slush and desserts' unit on Newgale (Pebbles end)** - Clerk sent the letter to PCNPA setting out NRCC's concerns; PCNPA replied and stated that in accordance with Welsh Government Indicators the Authority aims to carry out its initial investigation within 12 weeks. We will be advised in due course, either by telephone, email or letter of the outcome and what, if any, further action will be taken.

- **Returning defib equipment** - R. Thomson confirmed that the defib and its bag have now been labelled with a contact name and number and the Clerk wrote to Coastguard headquarters offering thanks and informing them that it would be worthwhile letting other communities know who have defib equipment to label theirs with location and telephone number to aid the smooth return after any incidents.

1693 Planning

- None.

1694 Finance

- **Insurance renewal due** - Zurich £308.82 - all resolved to renew
- **Account balances and budget** - all agreed to defer to next meeting
- **OVW Membership 2021/2022 renewed** - £175 payment made online
- **Requests for donations** - Friends of Roch received

NB if any organisation would like to be considered for a donation please encourage them to email the Clerk.

1695 Correspondence

- **Mini meadows project** - the Clerk received an email from Eco Dewi about a project called Mini Meadows, which is simply about encouraging people to let grass areas/lawns grow long over the rest of Spring and early part of Summer rather than mowing to help provide a little bit of space for more wildflowers and pollinators and more habitats and food for wildlife. The area is then marked with a blue heart. The Councillors discussed how they might be able to help with the project, all agreed that there would be a patch that could be left near the play area (the bank particularly would be easier if left) or at the school.
 - Action: Clerk to follow up with M. Harries to find an appropriate plot and share about the project on social media.

1696 Meetings attended by Councillors / forthcoming meetings

1697 Other items

1698 PCC report

1699 AOB

1700 Items for the next agenda

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Next meeting: 7 June 2021

Signed

Chairman