**St. ISHMAELS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the council meeting of 13th October, 2021 in the Sports Club

PRESENT: Cllrs. Moira Hawkins (Chair) Barbara Harston, Lynda Thomas, Ken Hackett, Colin Jenkins,

P.C.C. Councillor Reg Owens, Mike Cottam (Clerk). APOLOGIES: Cllr John Everett

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of 18th August had been received by email. They were perused.

MATTERS ARISING:

***Brook Lake:*** It was noted that this waterway was now completely choked with watercress and, with winter upon us, it presents a hazard to road drainage and probable flooding. It was felt that contrary to assertion by the highway authority, the blocking of the watercourse did impede residents in the event of flooding and there was a precedent for the county council carrying out maintenance of the ditch, it having previously been cleared for many years by PCC.

***Noticeboards*:** The noticeboards in the village being in a bad state, it was suggested that an approach to the Pembrokeshire Enhancement Fund be made to replace them with modern weatherproof boards. A few designs were shown to councillors.

***War Memorial*:** It is incumbent on the council to put out to tender work for the building of a new memorial to be erected on Burgage Green. However, in this case, the feeling was that local builders should have priority. Several different designs for a new memorial were presented by the clerk and discussed by those present. The clerk to continue to further investigate designs, costings, quotes and planning stipulations.

***Sound and Lighting for the Sports Hall*:** Cllr. Lynda Thomas will contact the sports club committee to advise on applying for an Enhancement Grant or any other project they have in mind.

PLANNING:

The plans for the housing development in the Manse Field were shown, together with the planning application for a dwelling at Monkhill Farm. During a discussion with the clerk by a resident in Trewarren Road, concerns were expressed that surface water from the Manse Field development should be diverted behind the houses and down to the Furzy, rather than being connected to the existing drain down Trewarren Road, which was already running at capacity. Comments on all these applications were forwarded to the planning authority.

FINANCE: A budget for the next twelve months, which had been prepared by the clerk, was approved by the council. The bank account remains inflated by the disbursements from the Memorial Hall and, after the priority of a new memorial is met, any surplus capital will be discussed as to its best use for further community projects. The clerk reported that, after further contact and submissions that had been made to the Wales Auditors, he anticipated the closure of the 2020 – 21 accounts.

BILL ROBERTS:  Councillors expressed their sadness at the news of the death of Bill Roberts, a former and well-respected head teacher of the Coastlands School and conveyed their sincere condolences to his family.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

\*It is feared that the continual problem of flooding on the Monkhaven Road by Long Lane is going to be repeated this winter, due to the continued blockage of the soakaway on the side of the highway.

\*There still remains a faulty street light in Grove Road.

\*Some street lights in Lindsway Road are becoming obscured by tree growth.

\* The new location on the Brookside Green for the defibrillator taken from the hall, should be relayed to Peninsular Papers.

*ADDENDUM: Following the council meeting and after further representation by the clerk to the rating authority, he was informed that, due to a new regulation from the Welsh Office, rates will no longer be applied to the public conveniences by the cricket pitch and that the rates already paid by the council from 2020 will be refunded.*

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 15th at 7.00 p.m. in the lounge of the sports club.