

At a meeting of Jeffreyston Community Council held online on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 at 07.30 pm

**Present:** Chairman: Mrs M Rogers, Vice Chairman: Mrs S Maccreath, Councillors: \*Mrs A Morgan, Mr P Overall, County Councillor: Mr J Williams

**In Attendance:** Clerk: Mrs M Overall

**75/21 Chairman's Welcome:** Chairman, Mrs M Rogers extended a warm welcome to all present.

**76/21 Apologies for absence:** None

**77/21 Declarations of Interest:** None received.

#### **78/21 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** *That the minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record*

\*Councillor Morgan joined the meeting at this point

#### **79/21 Receive Clerk's Update**

- **2022 Election Costs** – Clerk reported that she was yet to hear from Electoral Services
- **Casual Vacancy** – Clerk had received confirmation from Electoral Services that no request had been made to hold an election within the prescribed time period. Therefore, the Council is requested to fill the vacancy, by co-option of a person eligible for council membership.
- **Coffin Rest** – The slate top has moved and will be placed back in its original position in the new year.
- **Information Board** – It was reported that the cost of plastic posts has increased considerably in the past month, therefore members agreed that wooden replacement posts would be sourced.

**80/21 Clerk Vacancy** – Clerk advised members that the council's request for her to remain in post had been considered and she agreed to continue as Clerk/RFO, with a further review in 6 months.

**Resolved:** Members unanimously approved to increase the Clerk's hours to seventeen per month as detailed in the attached (Confidential) report, effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022.

Clerk to update the Contract of Employment for signature.

**81/21 Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – Clerk reported that contact had been made with the owners of the play area and permission had been obtained to proceed with the proposal.

**Resolved:** Clerk to revisit the Queen's Green Canopy / Woodland Trust Initiative and submit the application.

**82/21 Budget 2022/2023** – Clerk had submitted a report in relation to the additional hours to members and this was considered alongside the draft budget showing the actual and estimated costs for 2021/2022 and estimated costs for 2022/2023

**Resolved:** Members unanimously approved the 2022/2023 budget

### **83/21 Precept 2022/2023**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2021, Pembrokeshire County Council passed on full responsibility of the Play Area, including financial, to the Community Council. This includes arrangements for safety inspections, providing public liability insurance, and undertaking maintenance as, and when, required. Whilst the council budgeted for the cost of the Service Level Agreement with PCC in 2021/2022, members felt that the actual general reserves figure held for maintenance and repairs of £500 is insufficient and should be increased. And, contrary to what was previously indicated, PCC will not be undertaking any works identified prior to the transfer date of 01.04.2021. For this reason, along with the current inflation rate, and additional administrative costs for 2022/2023 members felt that, reluctantly, there has to be an increase in the precept.

**Proposed** by Councillor S Maccraith **Seconded** by Councillor M Rogers

**Resolved:** That the precept for the financial year 2022/2023 be set at £5,000. Clerk to advise PCC by the due date

### **84/21 Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2022/2023**

Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2022/2023 is a maximum of £8.82 per elector - **Noted**

### **85/21 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 & Section 47 Multi-Location Meetings**

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 makes it easier for meetings to take place through a variety of arrangements, including multi-location meetings where all individuals are attending virtually and hybrid meetings - where some individuals are attending in person at a designated location and others are attending virtually from a range of other locations.

**Resolved:** Members agreed the council would need to source a suitable venue with wi-fi and telephone signal, in order to hold a hybrid meeting.

### **86/21 Resident's Communication Relating to the Play Area**

A resident had expressed concern over the Multi-Play apparatus in the Play Area. The playground equipment is regularly checked as part of the ongoing programme of safety inspections undertaken by the county council. On the day in question the inspector attended and found nothing of concern, there are some 'low or very low risks' highlighted in his report, and they relate to surface rust, graffiti, gaps in the tiles, the paintwork requires attention and the timber in the corner of one of the platforms needs monitoring.

**Resolved:** Council resolved to address the low and very low risks identified, funded by means of a slight increase in the 2022/2023 precept and possible grant assistance.

### **87/21 Correspondence / Consultations / Surveys**

- Consultation on Audit Wales Fee Scales 2022-23
- Councillor Survey - Role and remuneration of councillors in Wales
- Consultation on local taxes for second homes and self-catering accommodation
- Lottery funding pots for the Jubilee
- The Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Wales) Rules 2021 and the Local Elections (Communities) (Wales) Rules 2021
- Consultation on inquiry into second homes
- **All Noted**

**88/21 Planning Matters:** None received when the December Agenda was posted however **Consultation Reference 21/0856/PA** received since its' publication. Details forwarded to members for their consideration prior to the meeting

**Proposal:** Extensions and Alterations

**Site Address:** The Granary, Harrolds, Jeffreyston, SA68 0RT

Date Received: 22-Nov-2021

**Resolved:** Members discussed the application and recommended 'Approval.' Clerk to respond to Planning Department by the due date

**89/21 Financial Matters:**

(a) HSBC Account Balance as at 20.11.2021 .....	<b>£2,846.67</b>
(b) November Wages .....	<u>146.90</u>
	<b><u>£2,699.97</u></b>
(c) Requests for donations	
(i) To consider a donation request from Marie Curie Wales	
(ii) To consider a donation request from the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2022	

**Resolved:** Members unanimously approved payment (b)

**Resolved:** The requests C(i) and C(ii) for assistance did not meet the council's grant criteria and therefore, not supported

**90/21 Highway Matters:** Scaffolding remains on Ford Bridge following the completion of the repair work. **Resolved:** Clerk asked to contact PCC to arrange removal of scaffolding

**For Information only** – Clerk had received enquiries from residents relating to the closure and diversion notices on the Loveston road following the fire at the Bethel Baptist Chapel in Loveston. The diversion signs had been in place for over a week. Contact was made with PCC who arranged for removal of signs.

**91/21 Other matters or items for the next Agenda**

**92/21 Approve Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held online and proposed for **Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2022 @ 7.30pm**

**The Meeting was declared closed at 21.15pm.**

**Signed: Chairman** .....

**Date** .....