**Wolfscastle Community Council**

A meeting of the Wolfscastle Community Council was held at Treffgarne Village Hall, on Tuesday, 14th September 2021 at 8:00p.m.

**Members present:** Cllrs. BJ Harries, (Chairman), Barrie Griffiths, Gerallt Miles, Gerwyn Williams and Michelle Bateman, PCC

**Apologies:** Cllr Peter James. It was agreed that due to ongoing health issues to accept the apologies tendered by Cllr. TC Griffiths.

**Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 10th August 2021 were read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**Matters reported:** The Clerk reported that he had received a quotation from the Norman Industries for 3 in number Notice Boards, which work out at £420.00 each including VAT. Other quotations had been looked at, but it was agreed that being that the Norman Industries are Pembrokeshire based and employ people with disabilities, to accept the quotation.

Cllr Michelle Bateman reported that the Coffee and Chat with your Councillor session held recently in the Vestry was successful, and that a number of positive comments were received.

With regards to the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, the Clerk reported that he had searched the internet for suitable gifts to present to the children, and had received a leaflet with commemorative mugs, to be inscribed with the Council’s name. It was agreed to purchase the number needed at a cost of £745.68, which includes VAT and Postage and Package.

**County Council Matters:** In her monthly report, Cllr Michelle Bateman mentioned that the new Chief Executive – Mr Will Bramble has now started in office, and will have the support of the interim Ex-Chief Executive.

It was noted that PCC has been notified by the Welsh Government of the outcome of the Review of Electoral Arrangements for Pembrokeshire, and that there are no changes to the Letterston Ward. The Boundary Commission report has been published, containing initial proposals for changes to Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales. Cllr Bateman reported on the Welsh Government Consultation on local taxes for second homes, this would enable local authorities manage the impact of second homes within the County. Cllr. also reported that she and Draupadi Stewart, completion Broadband Engagement Officer PCC had been around the Village promoting the Ultrafast Fibre Broadband Project, and that they had received many positive remarks, in the hope that the community would be successful in the bid to encourage a company to bring the project to completion.

**Coffee and Chat:** Cllr Bateman reported that in light of the recent Coffee and Chat morning that she had organised, one of the suggestions was to meet more regular, similar to the Treffgarne Residents. It was agreed by the Councillors that this would be a good idea, and to meet as a trial on the last Friday of each month until the end of November, and if successful to continue in the new year. It was also agreed to invite volunteers from the village, to be responsible for each session, and to ask the Welfare Committee to pay for the use of the Vestry for the first 3 months.

**Annual Audit:** The Clerk reported that he had received correspondence from Audit Wales, requesting the following: [a] A binding contract of employment between the Clerk and the Council. [b] An agreement of salary (can be within minutes or contract of employment). [c] Third-Party document (HMRC payslip or bank statement) to confirm Clerk’s payments.

The Clerk reported that he had responded and had sent the relevant documents as requested.

**Finances:** The Clerk reported that the balance in the Bank Account dated 1st September 2021 is ££8413.53 (**Eight Thousand Four Hundred and Thirteen Pounds and Fifty-Three Pence**). It was noted that the 2nd Payment for 2021 / 2022 precept of £1583:00 (**One Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-Three Pounds**) has been paid into the Bank Account.

**Clerk’s Resignation:**  A letter addressed to the Chairman was read out from the Clerk, informing the Council, that after much consideration that he is resigning from my position as Clerk / RFO of Wolfscastle Community Council, effective from December 31st 2021. In his letter he said that he was hoping to complete 40 years’ service, however, with all the changes, and what is expected from Clerks / RFO’s, he felt now is the time to relinquish the post. “It has been a pleasure to serve, represent, attend functions and meetings over the years. I have also done my very best to promote both Wolfscastle and Treffgarne Communities, and on many occasions, have brought prominence to the Villages both locally and nationally. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors that I’ve had the opportunity to serve for 39 years, for your support and dedication to the Communities / Wards that you represent.”

The Chairman, Cllr BJ Harries, thanked the Clerk for all that he has done for the Community over the years, and this was endorsed by Cllr Barrie Griffiths and others present in the meeting.

The Clerk reported that he would make enquiries as to how the Community Council should proceed and all that is expected from the new Clerk, when appointed.

**Correspondence:** The following correspondence were presented to the meeting:-

A notice had been received and forwarded to Councillors, that the Unclassified Road from Dolwerdd to its junction with the A40(T) will be closed on September 8th for 2 days for Telecom Cabling Works. It was also noted that the Swmbarch Road from Welsh Hook to the Harp Crossroads would be closed. Disappointment was expressed that the residents had not been notified about this closure.

**AOB:** The Cllrs present reported on matters that need to be addressed:

[a] Cllr BJ Harries reported that the next issue of the ‘Wolfwhistle’ will be printed and distributed in November. Cllr Harries also asked why anything hasn’t been done about the County Council owned property - Rock View?

[b] Cllr Gerwyn Williams asked the Clerk to pursue the matter regarding overhanging trees and the unevenness of the road in the Welsh Hook area.

As there were no other matters to discuss, the meeting was declared closed, with the next meeting arranged for Tuesday, 12th October 2021 at 8:00p.m. at Penybont Chapel Vestry.

 **Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**