**Cyngor Cymuned Amroth Community Council**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 23rd March 2023.

**Councillors present:**  T Baron; A Cormack; A Evans; F Evans; R Harris; M Harvey; R Lake; S Phillips (Vice Chair). R Tippet Maudsley; E Wyn Morgan.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk), Reece Simmons, West Wales Manager, Broadway Partners, William Brooks re 18 Summerhill, Mr K Thomas, resident. Several residents

**Apologies**: Martin Morris, John James

**Declaration of interest.** None

Reece Simmons, from Broadway Partners addressed Councillors on the progress of the Superfast Broadband in the area. The project will be delivered to the Amroth area this year. Other areas in Pembrokeshire are already connected and are working well. Planning to start the build in Amroth in July and will do all they can to minimise disruption during installation. The build will take approx. 5 months to get 95% of interested properties connected. Some outlying properties may take a bit longer. Pembrokeshire is an area of outstanding Natural Beauty so will use underground cables as much as possible to minimise pylons.

Councillors asked several questions and these were the answers.

1. property owners who have expressed interest will be asked again if they still wish to be connected, when cables are at boundary of property.
2. Those who have stuck with an open contract in anticipation of connection may be able to claim compensation as a credit on their Broadway bill.
3. Those who have taken on a new contract may also be able to claim in the same way to cover early departure from current contract.
4. Short road closures may be necessary during the build
5. Current contract costs are £19.99 for 150 meg service. Boosters are available at low cost for older houses with thick stone walls that interfere with signal.

 **1.Chair’s Welcome**

Chairman Tony Baron welcomed all Councillors to the meeting. The **Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 16th February 2023 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr Roger Harries

Seconded by Cllr Rob Lake

Vote - unanimous

Cllr. Baron signed the February Minutes.

**2 .Matters Arising**

**Car Parking charges in Amroth**. Following a letter protesting the increase in charges the National Park sent the following points as part of their reply.

* There had been no increase in the cost of Season Tickets since 2017;
* Over the past decade around £2m has been spent on upgrading National Park Car parks;
* The cost, even after the increase, was significantly lower than car parks run by other Authorities and organisations in Pembrokeshire;
* Tickets can be transferred between vehicles, unlike a number of other organisations where a season ticket is charged per vehicle;
* The Authority provides 30 minutes of parking for free at all its sites;
* All our car parks are free for six months of the year.

**3.County Councillors Report**

**PCC Budget 2023-24**

On March 2nd a meeting of the Full Council 2nd approved the recommended 7.5% increase in Council Tax for 2023-24.  This would be supplemented by use of 75% of Second Homes Premium to reduce other budget pressures including Homelessness, Housing Standards, Youth Service, Beaches, Parks & Open Spaces, Street Cleansing and Public Conveniences.

This limited the budget savings measures needed to around £8m, and removed the need for the most severe of the cuts to services that would potentially have been needed to balance the budget.

Pembrokeshire will still have the lowest Council Tax in Wales.

**Meadow House Caravan Park Planning Application**

I spoke on behalf of the Community Council for a second time at the PCNPA planning committee on February 1st.  A local resident also spoke against the application.  The application was granted despite our objections; however it was a split decision with, I think 4 or 5 Members voting against the development.

**Celtic Freeport Announced**

It was announced today that Milford Haven in conjunction with Talbot has been awarded Freeport status for the Celtic Freeport.  This has the potential to be an important boost for the local economy.

**Saundersfoot Surgery**

Earlier today, along with Cllr Chris Williams, I did attend a follow-up meeting with Saundersfoot Surgery regarding ongoing difficulties in making appointments - especially over the telephone.  Issues still ongoing, but changes have been made and improvements starting to take effect, I will continue to monitor the situation.

**Full-fibre Broadband Rollout**

Following enquiries, I made with the PCC Officers responsible for the rollout of full-fibre broadband in Amroth I was informed that Broadway Partners, the chosen partner will soon be able to publish their rollout plans.

**4. Allotment update and lease signing**

* Sign the lease with the National Trust. **Agreed.** Clerk to Query Error on Page 13. The lease will be signed at a meeting on 28th March, once Error has been corrected.
* Costs -Water Connection, Fence, Water troughs. Cllr. Phillips has sent out to 6 fencing companies for quotes. 3 have been received and fall between £750 - £1860. The Water connection costs will be between £1600 - £6000.
* Social Farms and Gardens Grant application – £4,999 has been awarded. The Clerk was thanked for organising the grant.

* A list of prospective tenants is being compiled. Contact the Clerk for more information/ to reserve an allotment.
* Llanteg Gardening Club involvement – To meet at later date.

**5.Planning**

**22/0348/PA Oaklands Caravan Park. Proposal,** Change of use of land for the relocation for 7 Static Caravans, associated infrastructure and ecological & landscaping enhancements. **This application has been conditionally approved**

**NP/23/0127/FUL. East Lake Farm, Amroth, SA67 8TP. Proposal**, Construction of anearth bank nutrient store**. Comments by 6th April. Councillors have No objection to this application.**

**22/0921/PA Garden of 18 Summerhill, Stepaside, Narberth. SA67 8LX Proposal**, Proposed new dwelling adjacent to 18 Summerhill, Stepaside, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LX**. AMENDED PLANS** -**Comments by 12th April 2023**

**Several concerns have been raised to ACC regarding this application, mainly about vehicle access, and parking on the estate as a whole.**

Mr Brooks, (applicant) addressed Councillors on the proposal. The applicant has contacted PCC and requested to purchase a parcel of land from the garden of No 17 Summerhill of approx 3m (Owned by PCC). He presented a drawing of the current parking issue and his proposal to improve it by adding 3 additional private parking spaces and a dedicated space for No.17. Propose to move new build back on the plot by 2.2m which will allow an additional 3 private parking spaces to be created.

The Chair opened the meeting to questions from Councillors and others present. A full discussion took place. The following planning points were raised.

1. Traffic, parking and access is an issue on the whole estate and currently causes major safety concerns, especially with the new children’s play area close by. Residents are concerned that additional traffic will exacerbate the situation.
2. First floor windows will overlook no.17 and invade privacy.
3. The Velux windows on the second floor will overlook other neighbouring houses.
4. Land should not be sold from No.17 without informing the tenant and local Councillors.

**Conclusion**

ACC needs to take up the parking issue with PCC in the strongest terms. ACC will enquire about an asset transfer on land nearby that could be used to increase parking spaces on the estate. The Clerk was asked to query why neighbours were not informed of the amended plans.

Cllr Phillips proposed that the application is taken from delegated decision to Planning Committee. Seconded, Cllr. Harries. Vote Unanimous.

**Decision.** No decision was taken by Councillors as it was decided that a further meeting will be held to hear resident comments. This will take place in Amroth Parish Hall on 4th April at 7.00 pm. All welcome.

22/1096/PA **12 Waters Edge, Amroth, SA67 8NP.Proposal:** Proposed Rear Extension with associated Balcony Extension and New Porch to Existing Dwelling. **Comments by 12th April 2023. Councillors have No objection to this application.**

**6.Correspondence**

* **Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan 2 Annual Monitoring Report Consultation.**

 The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority is consulting on the Annual Monitoring Report 2021- 2022. The consultation period will run until 12 midday on Friday, 2 June 2023. Comments should be returned either in writing to The Park Direction Team, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire, SA72 6DY or by email to devplans@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk

* In accordance with the requirements of Section 147 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, I attach a link to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales’s Annual Report, February 2023.

 [Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - Annual Report - February 2023](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.wales%2Findependent-remuneration-panel-wales-annual-report-2023-2024&data=05%7C01%7C%7C746d0e67e3b44c7e544e08db18b9f31f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638130959194890424%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yR9CJamLLw8UH0OKuP0Wznk7Oj1A5E7Z2GRXVR50bTQ%3D&reserved=0)

* PCC have written to inform ACC that the cost of Parking will be increasing across the County from April 1st.
* A letter was received from Philip Knight from Carmarthen. A team have been exploring the limestone in South Wales for several years with active projects near Marros. A stretch of limestone runs through the village of Llanteg. The limestone starts at Pendine and forms a karst region all the way past Templeton. I understand that a sink hole opened up in the llanteg area in the 70s and I wonder if another is doing so in the car park.

The theory is that a cave system runs for miles from Templeton to morfa bychan where the water is extracted by Welsh water.

If you wish to know more or discuss the matter further with some geologists, then please do let me know**. Agreed**; A meeting will be set up to explore this further.

* **VegOut West Festival**. ACC was contacted by residents of Llanteg with concerns regarding noise, waste disposal, litter, traffic, parking, and enforcement**. Agreed**. The Clerk will contact PCC Licensing as it is expected that ACC be consulted before any licenses granted.

**7.Finance as of 28th February 2023**

**a. Statement of accounts**

 Account 649 – £3045.97

 Account 856 – £10,606.61 -10619.77

 David Rees - £1106.54 – 1131.53

 **b. Income**

 Grant Income £142.39 from Film Club project

 **c. Payments**

Clerk wages

 Wifi monthly payment to West Wales Systems £54 inc vat

 Payment to Filmbank Distribution for £164.40 x 2

 Hall hire for film club £25

 Hall Hire Amroth for meeting £10

 Application for water connection for Allotments £96.20

 M Harvey Film Club expenses £10.00 Railway Children

 Expenses- SP for Purchase of magnets for new community noticeboards £46.

 Payment to Llanteg Hall of £30 for months when no invoice received.

 Training -S Phillips £35 OVW

 Membership of One Voice Wales £276.00

 Microsoft 365 annual fee £59.99

 Balance of Notice Boad Invoice

 **d. Donation**

* Regional Committee of Urdd Gobaith Cymru in Pembrokeshire, I am writing to kindly ask you to consider a financial contribution towards the costs of arranging and holding the annual Urdd Eisteddfods here in Pembrokeshire.
* Pembrokeshire Coast Charitable Trust
* International Music Eisteddfod Llangollen
* YFC

It was agreed to decline all requests due to policy and project commitments.

 **All Payments were agreed.**

**Proposed Cllr. R Harries Seconded, Cllr. T Baron Cllrs voted unanimously.**

**8.To discuss and resolve asset and ward maintenance issues and transport**

* Cllr Lake met with PCC Highways Officers recently to discuss drainage through Llanteglos. The outcome of the meeting is that the following action will be taken by PCC.
1. The cleaning, jetting and mapping of the highway surface water drains in this area will be discussed with PCC Highway Maintenance team. The ditch to the South of Awel-y-Mor is to be piped into the nearby road gully which hopefully will reduce the volume of ponding stagnant water. In addition, a new road gully is to be installed near the entrance to the property known as Long Acre. This work will be added to the minor works schedules.
2. If feasible the alignment of the pipework near the entrances to Hydref / Llanteglos House will be altered to try to eliminate any acute changes in direction. The unauthorised infilling of roadside ditches will be discussed with PCC StreetCare team as this work is likely to have adversely impacted on the localised surface water drainage.
3. It appears that the surface water drainage from the farmland to the North of the properties should all discharge towards Trelessy Road via a ditch and culvert to the West of Ruelwall farm lane.

**Agreed.** The Clerk to liaise with Rob Evans at PCC re clearing of Ditches. Cllr Phillips proposed a Vote of Thanks to Cllr Lake for dealing with this matter. Cllr. Harries seconded.

* **Amroth Memorial Garden sale**– Set up an extraordinary meeting to sign transfer agreement. Tuesday 28th Amroth Parish Hall 7.00pm was agreed with the following Councillors in attendance – Cllrs Tippet-Maudsley, Harries, Cormack, Phillips, Baron and Harvey.
* **Traffic Lights Wisemans to Summerhill**. Councillors commented that traffic flow was much better and safer due to the temporary traffic lights. It was suggested that ACC speak to PCC about using lights as either a permanent safety solution or a temporary one over the busy summer months. A trial period was suggested followed by consultation with residents. **Agreed,** write to Darren at PCC to ask for a temporary pilot over summer.
* **Footpath safety**. A resident has written reporting issues with footpaths in the ward between Stepaside and Summerhill. The issues have been reported to the footpaths officer in PCC who will send contractors to survey the damage and if it is considered a priority based on usage, it will be added to the job list -if funds are available.
* **Road Closure** of the C3014 Amroth to Pendine Road for 8 weeks from 24-4-23 for realignment of highway due to cliff erosion.

**9. Bus Service – tender update**

Unfortunately, Taf Valley Coaches has given notice on their contracts for 2 bus routes that they operate in the ward. PCC are still in the process of finalising tenders. The route specifications and contracts have been produced and they hope to put the tender live on the DPS shortly.

The 351 and 352 have been cancelled with the Traffic Commissioner and Traveline Cymru informed.

**10.Amroth East Toilets**

PCC have written again following the decision by Cabinet to close all toilets in group 2 in November 2023 unless the Community Council takes over under an asset transfer. This decision includes Amroth East. PCC also agreed that if a closure would impact disproportionally on a CC that an appeal can be made. Also toilets which are *“ serving, predominantly, the visitor economy will be temporarily retained until the outcome of any future decision on Welsh Government’s proposal for introducing a Visitor Levy is known.”* This clearly applies to Amroth East which is only open during the visitor season, so they will be retained in the interim.

**Agreed.** It was agreed that in the first instance that ACC will write to PCC querying the closure due to the proximity of parking places at the New Inn end of the promenade.Also, it is unreasonable to expect tourists to walk 1100m from the Eastern end of the blue flag beach to go to the toilets at the Western end and for the RNLI to walk 640m and leave the beach only attended by 1 lifeguard when Amroth East toilets are only 300m away.

**11.Report By Amroth and District Community Association**

New floor has been installed which will enable new exercise classes to start – suitable for all.

The Craft afternoon on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month between 2-4pm is well attended.

Vision Arts are requesting a show in the hall, committee are still to decide. Looking to EP grant fund to help with decorating the hall.

Preparations for the coronation celebration are underway.

**12. Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee**

A tree planting ceremony took place recently at Goitre Farm in memory of Malachi Bailey. It was a very moving occasion.

We have had a revised grant offer from Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority for the solar lighting for the car park, to cover the increased costs. We have also received confirmation of the grant offer for the insulation to the west side of the hall and the new windows and doors.

The Pudding Evening on 1st March, funded by PCC and PAVS Food Poverty Grant, went very well, with over 50 attendees. £217 was raised in donations, which has been forwarded to the DEC Fund for Turkey and Syria. Preparations for the Coffee and Breakfast Morning on Saturday 25th March are well underway. We are hoping we will be able to attract some new attendees.

An Art Workshop took place with Guy Manning from Tenby. This was funded by a previous grant from the Co-op. We are also hoping to hold a craft workshop, using the same funding.

We are still waiting for the results of the survey carried out on the collapsed manhole cover in the car park. This problem will delay the installation of the solar lighting.

We are having some remedial electrical works carried out on 22nd March, including some upgrades to the fire alarm system.

The hall continues to be well used by the community. We also attract several external bookings per month.

**13 .Report by Summerhill Play Area Representatives**

* The EP grant application for phase 3 has been approved to complete the last bit of fencing around the play area. Work should start in April. Clerk to contact neighbours to inform them that fence will be replaced.
* Annual and Quarterly inspection have been carried out.
* Ongoing issues with picnic tables being moved close to the equipment and this has been flagged up in the safety report. The tables will have to be removed if this continues until they can be fixed permanently.

**14.Project ideas and Updates**

* **Notice Boards –** Have been installed. Cllr. Philips proposed a Vote of Thanks to Cllr. Harvey for all the work he has done on this project.

**15.Community matters –**

* **Long Course Weekend – Meeting with organisers**. A meeting was held on March 2nd 2023, in Amroth Parish Hall. Detailed Course Maps will be supplied, and efforts made to open the roads as soon as most bikes have passed through.
* **Dog Poo bag monitors needed –** Cllrs Harvey, Harries and the Clerk will take over. Grateful thanks were expressed to Mrs Pauline Davies for carrying out this duty for the council.
* **Litter picking –** Council will arrange to pick up the waste bags. **Agreed. The Clerk will contact Keep Wales Tidy.**
* **No Parking signs, Amroth Castle**. Cllr Lake removed the broken no parking sign in Amroth. Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Lake for carry out this action.
* **Wall by Sea View**, Wisemans Bridge. The wall has moved again. There are no foundations to this house. **Agreed.** **Clerk to write to Highways asking for inspection.**

**16.Determine matters Councillors wish to be added for discussion at the next meeting**

* Please send through matters for discussion to the Clerk by Thursday April 13th2023.

**15. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 20th April 2023 in Llanteg Hall.**

Anyone wishing to observe please contact the Clerk amrothclerk@outlook.com . Virtual attendance will also be possible via zoom, if required.

**The meeting closed at 22.14 pm**

**If you would like to be kept informed as to information regarding matters affecting the parish, road closures, public consultations, sea defences etc please email the clerk and you will be put on our secure mailing list (GDPR compliant).**