St. Ishmaels Community Council

Minutes of the business meeting held on 16th August, 2023 in the Sports Club

16:8:23/0. PRESENT: Cllrs Moira Hawkins (Chair) Barbara Harston, Lynda Thomas

 Revd. Mike Cottam (Clerk)

16:8:23/1. APOLOGIES: CC Cllr Reg Owens. Ken Hackett, Stuart Carpenter and Graham Ninnis

16:8:23/ 2 Before the start of the meeting, Mr. Stoddart attended to offer his services as community councillor.  Mr. Stoddart was advised the positions had already been filled by co-option and was politely thanked for his interest. Mr. Stoddart then left.

N.B. Unlike County councillors, Community councillors are voluntary and do not claim expenses.

*John Everett.* Also, before the meeting started, the clerk led a few words of remembrance and prayers for Cllr. John Everett, whose unexpected death had occurred recently. He was a wise and valued colleague, a friend and servant of St Ishmaels for over forty years as a community councillor and his loss is felt deeply in the village and beyond. Our thoughts and prayers are with Janet, Katy and the family.

16:8:23/3 MINUTES: The minutes of June 2023 meeting (previously circulated) were signed.

16:8:23/4 MATTERS ARISING: ***Brook Lake*.** The clerk reported that, despite several calls to P.C.C. re: cleaning of Brook Lake stream, the work had not yet been done. The council will be asked again and C Cllr. Reg Owen will be contacted about the failure of the P.C.C. to act.

***Finance.*** The clerk revealed that, finally, the change of cheque signatories was now in force.

16:8:23/5 NEW COUNCILLORS.: The local council elections were in 2022, when no new candidates had offered themselves for election. Subsequently, on the retirement of Cllr. Colin Jenkins, and after a period of three month’s advertising to replace him, there had been no formal response. Due also to the unexpected recent death of Cllr John Everett after a period of illness, two residents from the village were then approached, both of whom agreed to be co-opted. Mr. Stuart Carpenter and Mr. Graham Ninnis have been accepted for the vacant posts. It is noted that next public local elections will be in 2027.

16:8:23/6 WAR MEMORIAL: Members of the war memorial sub-committee reported that the quote for extracting the present plaque from the wall of the Memorial Hall was £17, 500 and that the builders were not prepared to accept responsibility for the plaque being damaged or broken in the process. The council discussed this and decided that such funds be better spent towards the engraving of a new plaque on the proposed new memorial, as previously discussed. Also, after detailed analysis of the engineering problems that would occur by building the memorial on the Brookside Green site, with a stream and a main sewer running beneath, the original site on the Burgage Green was agreed and confirmed. Burgage Green is Common Land and also would present no foundation problems.

16:8:23/6. PLAY PARK: The clerk had been requested by the Chair of the Play Park Committee that the council sanction the repair of the rotted part of the arch on the park. As the community council had no connection with the running of the park, apart from taking responsibility for the insurance, it was agreed to reassure the Play Park Committee there would be no objection as far as it was concerned.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 11th, 2023, in the sports club.