|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **St Mary Out Liberty Community Council** | | |
| **Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2023**  **New Hedges Village Hall – 6.30pm-7.45pm** | | |
| **Those present**: Rachel Ruff (Clerk), Cllr David Nash, County Cllr Rhys Jordan, Melissa Scarfe, Willy Scarfe, Cllr Des Brace  **1.Apologies :** Cllr Emily Nash, Cllr Simon Brace, Vicky Lee  **In attendance**: Rachel Ruff (Clerk and minute taker).  **Public Participation:** None | | |
| **No.** | **Detail** | **Action** |
| **2** | **Declarations of Interest**  None |  |
| **3** | **Signing of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**  Minutes for May 2023 Meeting were presented and signed off by Cllr Des Brace | none |
| **4** | **Matters Arising:**  **4.1 Grass behind village shop needs cutting –** Cllr Jordan has manged to find out the owner of the small piece of land behind the shop, it belongs to Ateb (formally Pembrokeshire Housing). He made contact with them and explained about the grass, action was taken straight away, the grass has now been cut and will be scheduled to cut on a regular basis with the rest of the grass verges that are still their responsibility.  **4.2 De-Fib Training** – The training for use of the de-fib will take place at the Village Hall on July 14th 6pm-8pm. The training is free of charge, but a kind donation has been made by the Village Hall Association of £50. The Community Council has matched that donation and given £50 also. A cheque was given to member Melissa Scarfe to forward to the First responders.  **4.3 Audit 22/23 Accountancy Statement and Governance Statement** was signed off by the chair previous to this meeting, all members were informed of this. |  |
| **5** | **New Matters Arising:**  **5.1 360/361 bus service change of provision to Fflecsi Bus Service –** Main service bus provision on this route will be taken away and it will be replaced with a flexi bus option, residents needing the bus service will have a number to ring, where they can call the bus, small mini bus or taxi will pick them up at an agreed time. There is a cost for this service except for bus pass holders.  **5.2 Shared Website –** The Village Hall Association have made enquiries into having a website built and maintained, it was discussed whether the Community Council would like to share this website (page each). It was felt beneficial but the cost did concern some members. This matter will be deferred until the next meeting, Clerk will liaise with Melissa to finalise costs to both.  **5.3 Any Other Business -**  1 – Second Home Enhancement Fund – Cllr Brace expressed that we needed to make sure that we claimed from this fund next year. Cllr Jordan went onto explain a change in the provision of this fund as follows: each ward historically had its own allocated funds from the additional 100% council tax charged to second home owners. Going forward, this will change; instead of individual allocations, there will be one large fund for the whole county. Community organisations can now apply for smaller grants up to £15,000 or larger grants up to £100,000. While I anticipate that the application process will remain largely unchanged, there will be some differences in administration and allocation. It's crucial that bids are made early, as there will no longer be funds ring-fenced for individual wards. We should receive full correspondence detailing these changes soon.  2 – Melissa Scarfe gave the following information to the council regarding their kind donation towards events at the village hall:  Spent to date £775 - £624 left – lots of events planned for the rest of this year. Also a National Lottery Licence will be purchased with the money to allow them to hold raffles etc. All events planned are currently on Facebook. | Clerk |
| **6** | **Local Planning in New Hedges (St Mary out Liberty ward):**   * Knightston Lodge, SA70 8TL – variation to condition, additional time ask for to commencement of project – PP 18/1073/PA * Sunnyside, Rushylake, Saundersfoot – Various alternations/renovations and addition of garden room – No objections were put forward by the council members. |  |
| **7** | **Accounts & Finances:**  **7.1** Bank Reconciliation as at 3rd July 2023 was presented and signed off by non-signatory member.  **7.2** Invoices were passed for payment |  |
| **8** | **County Councillors Monthly Report:**  Cllr Jordan reported on:   * **Long Course Weekend** was a great succuss – much better planning than last year, no negative comments received from residents. Only one small point about road closure times – road closures were given and in some areas the time went over, perhaps the time parameters were to tight. There is a wrap up session soon which Cllr Jordan will attend. * **Pembrokeshire County Council Budget** The County Council ended the   year approximately £3 million under budget. It is disappointing that the full budgets were not used, particularly when we have witnessed service reductions, public toilet closures, and a council tax increase of 7.5%. Together with 28 other councillors, I voted to use this underspend during the March budget setting to keep the council tax increase to 5.5% for the this financial year, given the current cost of living crisis. We believed it was only fair to support our residents in this way.  **Meeting closed at 7.45 pm, next meeting Tuesday 12th September 2023 @ 6.30pm New Hedges Village Hall** |  |