

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of Martletwy Community Council
Monday 8th January 2024 - 7.30pm online

Notes: With the agreement of all parties involved these proceedings were recorded

Present: Victoria Evans (Chair); Jason Crowther, Phil Davies, Phil Eynon, (Councillors): Cty Councillor Clements: Lizzie Lesnianski (Clerk)
Apologies: Liz Williams, David Cole (Councillors)

23/094: Minutes of previous meeting: Cllr Eynon noted Cllr Davies had been omitted from attendees. Clerk updated minutes. After changes it was agreed minutes were an accurate record of meeting. Chair to sign.

23/095: Matters arising:

a. PCC - Ironman Wales: Clerk confirmed PCC have offered either Friday 26 Jan, or Friday 2nd Feb at 1pm. Cllr Davies confirmed either were acceptable. Cty Cllr Clements to check availability. Venue was agreed as County Hall. Cllr Davies requested a car parking space.

b. Pembrokeshire Community Review: Clerk confirmed the response had been sent in on time and confirmation of receipt had been received. Nothing further on this currently.

c. Newsletter with County Councillor: Cty Cllr Clements confirmed the newsletter is in production. Requested items for inclusion by end of the week. Would like to include a photo of all councillors together if poss. Will update councillors when it is ready for distribution.

d. Community Events: In Cllr William's absence, the Clerk reported on the Christmas Carol Service. It was well received. It raised £100 to be split equally between Patch and the church.

23/096: Planning:

a. Applications Received:

i. PNCP: NP/23/0631/FUL: Parkview, Lawrenny, SA68 0PW. No comments and no objections.

b. Application Notices Received: None received.

c. Other Planning Matters:

i. Monitoring and Enforcement: The local planning authorities continue to monitor and where necessary enforce planning conditions and policy. There are several cases ongoing.

ii. County Cllr Clements reported she is meeting with the PCC Planning Team in a few weeks to discuss ongoing enforcement and monitoring in the area.

23/097: Highway Matters

a. Clerk: Clerk confirmed correspondence had been received from PCC reiterating the procedure by which salt bins can be ordered from the local authority. They must be ordered by Town and Community Councils, who must also pay for them. Cllr Eynon confirmed all 4 salt bins have salt in them. Burnetts Hill is quarter full; Martletwy three quarters full and Pencoed also three quarters full. They are no longer locked.

Clerk also reported the ice across the road just below Whitlow had been reported to PCC Highways and gritting requested.

b. Councillor Reports:

Cllr Evans reported a pothole between Clare House in Landshipping, and Stanley Villa. Clerk confirmed this has already been reported to PCC sometime ago. Clerk to remind PCC.

Cllr Crowther reported a large pothole by Blackpool Mill.

Cllr Davies confirmed a large pothole at Crosshands. Probably caused by burst water main.

Cllr Eynon re-reported issues between Jerusalem/Mountain Park, 10 yds to Southern Pitts and outside the entrance.

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23/098: Finances:

a. Budget 2024/2025 – Precept for 2024/25: Clerk presented the Precept Budget, sharing it to her screen, running through each cost presented. There was a lengthy discussion with regard to the challenges facing Martletwy Community Council in the coming financial year. The defibrillators were discussed. It was agreed pads would be required in October and there maybe maintenance in addition. There is still considerable concern regarding the mandatory payments for costs to Councillors as set out by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. This adds a considerable sum to the budget. The matter of fencing at the Lawrenny Play Area was considered. It will need to be replaced in the financial year. Costs have been sought and this figure needs to be included. The inclusion of a larger budget for training was discussed. There is frustration at the need to make the Precept bigger in order for Councillors to attend training as laid down by the Welsh Government. With insurance costs increasing at a rapid rate consideration also had to be given to the possible rise in insurance premiums. After further discussion Cllr Davies proposed £2000 of reserves be used towards the Precept for the 2024/25 year. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Evans. All voted in favour of the proposal. After further extensive discussion Cllr Evans proposed the precept be set at £11,250 (Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds exactly) for the financial year 2024/25. Cllr Crowther seconded the proposal, and all voted in favour.

b. Quarterly Balance Report: Clerk presented the Quarterly Balance Report for the period to 31st December 2023.

c. Invoices and Remittances: Clerk presented the PCC Remittance Advice for the Precept December payment.

d. Clerk Salary: Clerk presented salary report as previously emailed. All in favour.

e. IRPW: Clerk confirmed five out of six of the councillors had now been paid. Awaiting bank details of the last councillor.

f. Audit Wales: Clerk has not received any correspondence from the Audit office. Will chase.

23/099: Community Council Policies:

a. Training Policy: Cllr Evans confirmed she will update individual training plans within the policy following recent booking onto training for two councillors. When updates have been completed the policy will be published.

23/091: Councillor/Clerk Training: Clerk reiterated emails sent to councillors with training opportunities from One Voice Wales and Planning Aid Wales. Clerk confirmed there is some availability for bursaries with One Voice Wales. Cllr Evans confirmed she had signed up for digital training. Cllr Williams is booked on to One Voice Wales training sessions.

23/092: Meetings Attended by Community Councillors/Clerk: None reported.

23/093: Correspondence Received:

a. One Voice Wales: Clerk presented invitation to attend Community speed Watch online session to learn more about GoSafe/Community Speed Watch.

Martletwy Community Council
Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Lesnianski
Email: martletwycommcouncil@gmail.com

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b. PCC – Working Better Together: Clerk presented invitation to attend the Working Better Together online session in January. This covers the Boundary Commission Community Review. Clerk to forward email to all councillors.

23/094: Communication: None reported.

23/095: Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12th February at 7:30pm at Lawrenny Village Hall

Meeting closed: 20:48

Signed:  Date: 12/2/24

Position: CHAIR