BRAWDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting (February 2024) of Brawdy Community Council held on Monday 26/2/24.

2024/36.

1. Present. Cllr J Tierney, Cllr Mrs A Loch, Cllr M Carter, Cllr D E Jones, Cllr W. Lawrence, Cllr P Keeling and Sean O'Connor Clerk.

2. Apologies. None.

3. The clerk confirmed that, after a minor amendment, the minutes of the January 2024 meeting had been properly proposed and seconded and added to the BCC website.

4. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr D E Jones declared a possible personal interest in item 5b.

Cllr W Lawrence declared a possible personal interest in item 5b.

Cllr J Tierney declared a possible personal interest in item 8, and also a prejudicial interest as a neighbouring land owner.

Cllr Carter declared a possible personal interest in item 5j as a local business owner in the area.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the January 2024 meeting.

5a. Community councillor vacancy.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and offered a warm welcome to new community councillor Mr Peter Keeling. The clerk confirmed that the recent interviews to fulfill the vacancy had taken place and Mr Keeling had proved successful, and had been offered the position. The unsuccessful candidate had been advised accordingly, and whilst disappointed, she thanked the community councillors for their time, and wished to be considered for any future vacancies.

5b. Footpaths and bridleways. Since the last meeting Cllr Carter advised that he had set up a meeting at County Hall involving all parties regarding the alteration of the footpath at Troed Y Rhiw Farm. Hopefully an agreement could be reached to suit all.

Cllr Loch advised that she had submitted a list of our priorities to Sean Tilling at County Hall. They were in the process of being surveyed and then sign posted, with all land owners kept updated. She confirmed that the Roman road was included on this list. It was advised that most of the paths within the National Park were well signed, with others not so, at present. Cllr Loch would monitor the situation and keep providing updates

5c. At present there was no more news regarding the repairs to the boundary wall at Llandeloy Churchyard.

5d. The outstanding road repair matters was again discussed, including Castell Cwcw, Holly Bush, Llanreithan and Crashgate corner.  With the recent weather being so wet, it was agreed that councillors keep monitoring the situation, and report any serious issues to Cllr Carter.

5e. Cllr Tierney confirmed that the repairs to the seating at the bus shelter at Trefgarn Owen had been completed. He advised that there was also a problem with the window, and he would attend to that shortly.

5f. Cllr Carter confirmed that the repairs to the sign and plant box at Trefgarn Owen would be completed when the weather improves. This would also apply to the treating of the village benches. Councillors agreed to check on the condition of the benches in their locality and report back to the next meeting.

5g. The clerk confirmed that he had received a reply from Julian Harries regarding the windows at Trefgarn Owen Schoolroom. Mr Harries confirmed that they had been repaired, and also that they had confirmed to County Hall that the schoolroom was available for use as a polling station at the Police & Crime commissioner election on May 2nd.

5h. Cllr Tierney advised that some of the free trees on the original list from PCNP were not available. Alternatives were offered and they would be available shortly. He confirmed that he would arrange distribution once received.

5i. BCC Letterhead.

It was suggested that we approach former community councillor Mr Alan Pike to design a logo for the letterhead. Cllr Keeling offered to work on this also, and he was encouraged to go ahead.

5j. Sea Defences at Newgale.

The clerk confirmed that we had received confirmation from PCNP and PCC that we would be included and consulted on any future planning application. A general discussion took place about the options available, and that our local MP and AM had recently attended a meeting regarding the options. It was unanimously agreed that the preferred option was to keep the road open as it is,

at present.

Correspondence.

Pembs County Council.

6. Confirmation of approval of Planning decision. Ref No 23/0777/PA. Demolition of single storey side extension, replacement with proposed two storey extension at Swn Y Mor Llanreithan Mathry Haverfordwest. Received and filed.

7. Planning Application Consultation. Ref No. 23/0958/PA. Retrospective application for change of use, from agricultural storage buildings to agricultural equipment sales business at Hendre Lodge Llandeloy Haverfordwest. The drawings and plans were viewed on the shared screen and the case discussed and considered by councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Carter that we reply in support of the application, with the comment advising that "we would like to see additional screening to the roadside if possible".This was unanimously agreed, and the clerk would reply to PCC accordingly.

8. Pre-application consultation regarding proposed base station installation at Castle Farm Villa Hayscastle Haverfordwest. As Cllr Tierney had declared an interest, he took no part in the discussion, and Cllr Loch took over as Chair. It was discussed by councillors, and was a pre-application advice from Clarke Telecom Ltd, regarding the proposed height and preferred site of the mobile phone mast. As this was just advice and information at the moment it was agreed that we just receive, note and file it at present, until an actual application is received.

Cllr Tierney rejoined the meeting and continued as Chair.

9. County Councillors' monthly update.

Cllr Carter advised that the PCC cabinet had met the previous week to discuss the annual budget. The situation was serious with a 16.31% increase in Council Tax being the suggested option. This would also include a cut in services, including highway maintenance cuts, switch from 3 to 4-week black refuse collections, and closure of some day centres. A matter more relevant to our area was also the closure of the civic amenity site at St Davids. Cllr Carter confirmed that he had been contacted by many local residents who were opposed to this. He confirmed that he was also not in favour of the closure of this amenity site. The vote was to take place at County Hall in March, and the choice for community councillors was a yes or no vote in favour of this increase. A 50% decision was needed to carry the vote, or if not, an emergency meeting would be called. During the discussion our community councillors generally that an increase was inevitable, but that PCC were not making the public aware of their plans, and to what actions that they were taking on many matters.

Cllr Carter also advised that the BCC community vests were available to volunteers who were completing matters on behalf of BCC.

Other Correspondence.

10. Posters received from our AM Paul Davies advising of his surgeries for the year were distributed for insertion in the local notice boards.

11. The subjects and dates for training for March had been sent to councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the clerk send a copy to Cllr Keeling so that he can choose some training programmes and suitable dates.

Report of Responsible Finance Officer.

12. The clerk reported up to date bank account balances as at 26/2/24 as: Current Account £ 146.09, Deposit Account £ 2265.91 and Election Account £ 4096.91.

13. The monthly bank statement had been sent to councillors prior to the meeting. There were no transactions for February so far, and the statement confirmed the above balances.

14. The clerks' salary for the month of February was for the standard 16 hours only. This and the income tax payment would be made in 28/2/24.

15. An invoice was received for the hire of Solva Memorial Hall amounting to £15. It was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Carter that this be paid.

16. There were no other payments due, therefore no need to transfer funds at this meeting.

17. The clerk had received details of reminders to the public that they will need to provide ID at the forthcoming election. This would be sent to all councillors. The Chairman would include it on our community information page.

18. The provisional date of Monday 25/2/24, remotely at 7.30pm, was set for the next community council meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.