**Cyngor Cymuned Amroth Community Council**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 18th April 2024 at 7.00pm in Llanteg Village Hall.

**Councillors present:**  A Cormack, A Evans, F Evans, M Harvey; J James; R Lake, M Morris; S Phillips, R Tippet -Maudsley, E W Morgan; W Wood.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk),

**Declaration of Interest. None**

**Speaker Ranger Hayden Garlick from the National Trust.**

An impact report is carried out on all NT farms/land prior to planting work being agreed. The aim of Trust is to promote nature on the farms. Cwmrath Farm has been let recently with reduced acreage, and 5000 hardwood deciduous trees planted across the other fields.

 Mountain Barn fields –approx 10,000 trees were planted here about 2 years ago. A Nature Conservation Survey was carried out and from that, 14 ponds dug. Footpaths are to be made through the site. Various other bits of tree planting has taken place across the Colby Estate.

Hayden’s team took over the Colby Estate about 2 years ago leaving Steve Whitehead’s team to draw back to the gardens. Haydens Team inherited about 1000 acres. The Team has applied for a Woodland Grant Scheme specifically to address the removal of invasive non-native species on the Estate – primarily Himalayan Balsam. The Team will find out in June if they have been successful.

There are no plans for any more tree planting, other than possibly behind the Allotments.

Hayden and his team are planning to consult more with the community as well as open up, via footpaths, some of the land to residents and visitors to walk through. They plan to improve the maintenance of public footpaths during growing season. The National Park have primary responsibility for path maintenance but the NT will help out if required. The NT now employ a contractor to cut the paths around Colby so access should be improved. If there is an issue with public paths, ACC can contact Hayden and his team who will try to help if they can. Contractors will be engaged every year based on cost.

Ash Dye Back has been a significant problem for the NT and they have had to remove many trees because of this, especially near properties and roads. A major woodland of Ash at Stackpole was felled and replanted with other native species. Fields not suitable for tree planting will be left as wildlife meadows.

Cllr Cormack raised the issue of the tree on the corner of Morgans Way in Summerill which is impeding visibility for residents exiting. Hayden will meet with Cllr Cormack on site to discuss.

Hayden asked for community support in the eradication of Himalayan Balsam, especially help with eradicating it outside the estate. For successful eradication an area approach is needed as it spreads so easily. The area would be surveyed and if the grant application is successful ACC could help with setting up volunteer groups. NT Officer Matt Tebutt can advise further on invasive species.

Cllr Phillips thanked Hayden for his time and a very informative talk.

**Chair’s Welcome**

Vice Chairman Cllr Phillips welcomed all Councillors to the meeting, especially Cllr. John James who returned after a long illness, and asked for any apologies.

**Apologies:** Tony Baron

**1. To deem the minutes of previous meetings as correct documents**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2024 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. M Harvey Seconded by Cllr. W Wood Vote – unanimous.

Cllr. Phillips signed the March 2024 Minutes.

**2..Matters Arising**

* Councillor photographs for new website – Cllr Cormack to investigate.

**3.County Councillors Report**

**Coastal Path Closure Coppet Hall to Wiseman’s Bridge.**

Pembrokeshire County Council has approved funding for cliff stability works, up to £600K, in the Cabinet meeting 11 March 2024. The formal outcome of a number of grant funding bids are awaited, which would mean that any grant funding would then replace the already approved Council funding.

A tender has been conducted. A scheme award to contractor “iBEX Aerial” was signed off on 11 April 2024.  The pre construction information is being worked through, and it is planned that the site work will commence on 20 May 2024 (this date is also related to the contractor’s availability based on other schemes)

It is planned to complete the work and the path reopened by 12 July 2024. The security arrangements are under constant assessment (re: people breaking through barriers, etc): a more substantial gate arrangement at the Coppet Hall end has been arranged and the installer is currently on site at the Coppet Hall end to start the installation.

**“Strong and Very Positive” Estyn Inspection Report for Greenhill School**

As a governor at Greenhill School I would like to draw the attention of councillors and residents to the [independent inspection report authored by Estyn](https://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6684035) which took place in January 2024.

The headteacher, David Haynes said:

“I am delighted and immensely proud of this report. The school has made consistent progress over recent years and I very much look forward to Ysgol Greenhill being placed amongst the best schools in Wales”.

“I must pay tribute to the outstanding staff and governors who have worked relentlessly to ensure that every pupil is valued and that their wellbeing and progress in their learning has been paramount. Ysgol Greenhill is a school that our pupils, families and wider community can be justifiably proud of.”

I have only recently joined the governing body, but I have been most impressed at the speed of improvement Mr Haynes and his team have managed to achieve over the last two years.  I am sure that he will very quickly achieve the aim of making Ysgol Greenhill one of the best schools in Wales.

 **Saundersfoot Surgery**

I have forwarded, with the authors’ permission, comments from residents and community councillors to the Practice Manager on the service provided.  This included several people who have struggled to use the [NHS Wales App](https://app.nhs.wales/login) to book appointments.  These have been reported by the surgery to the NHS IT team and I am awaiting feedback from the surgery on this.

Please let me know if there are any issues you would like me to raise on your behalf with the surgery.

I was shocked to learn about a criminal incident at Saundersfoot Medical Centre last month requiring both the police and fire services to attend.  I encourage anyone with information that may help the investigation to ring the police on 101.

*Councillors reported that there were still issues in making appointments and ordering prescriptions*.

**New Trade Waste Recycling Regulations from 6th April**

Major changes to trade waste regulations are being introduced in Wales on 6th April 2024 affecting all businesses including Holiday Lets.

From 6th April, businesses must present specified recyclable materials for collection separately from each other and separate from residual waste. It means all businesses, charities and public sector organisations will need to sort their waste for recycling in the same way most households do now.  The aim is to improve the quality and quantity of recycling in Wales.

Details of the changes are available on the [PCC website](https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/trade-waste) or for support and advice email  tradewaste@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

*Cllr. Cormack will check with PCC on what is happening to street bins regarding recycling responsibilities.*

**Voter ID at Police and Crime Commissioner Elections on May 2nd 2024**

On Thursday May 2nd the Police and Crime Commissioner elections take place.  These will be the first elections in Pembrokeshire where voters have to take photo ID with them to vote.  This will also be a requirement at the General Election that will take place later this year too.

The most commonly used and accepted forms of ID include:

* UK Passport
* Driving Licence
* Older Person's Bus Pass
* Disabled Persons Bus Pass
* Blue Badge

But a complete list is [available here](https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id).  More details are available on the [PCC website](https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/elections-and-voting/voter-id-new), including how to get a free photo id if you do not already have one.

**4 .Planning**

**23/0955/PA. Orden Grene, 6 Wesley Close, Pleasant Valley. SA67 8NT. Proposal,** Alterations and extension. **This application was again refused.**

**23.0939/PA. Land between 9 & 11 Church View, Summerhill. SA67 8LZ. Proposal** Expansion of Oakland Caravan park with mobile holiday Lodge, Parking, amenity space and landscaping. **This application has been refused.**

**Pleasant Valley Caravan Park, Pleasant Valley SA67 8NY. Ref Application 23/0040/PA.** An appeal was made to PEDW which was upheld and planning permission was granted.

**23/1109/PA. Lansdowne, Llanteg. SA67 8PU. Proposal,** Alterations and extentions**. Comments by 26th April 2024**

While ACC have No Objection to this application a couple of queries were raised. The premises is approx. 60 years old and the septic tank was constructed (to ACC’s knowledge) at the same time. Please can the officer confirm that it is still compliant with regulations and that it also has the capacity to support the increase in residents suggested by the increase in bedrooms from 2 to 4 prior to a decision on the application.

The application form states that the site/ extension cannot be seen from a public road, footpath, bridleway etc. This is incorrect as it will be seen from Ledgerland Road and the footpath through the Woodland Trust area. While this appears to be an inaccurate comment, Councillors did not see it as a major issue. There has been no objections received by the Council from residents of these areas.

**23/1131/PA. Llanteg Service Station. SA67 8QD. Proposal**: Removal of existing totem sign and erection of new totem sign. Reposition of sign on site. **Comments by 29th April 2024**

On viewing the plans Councillors raised concerns that the position of the new Totem appears to be very close to the A477 and actually on the footpath adjacent to the Service Station.

As the A477 is a trunk road, ACC have written to the Trunk Road Agency for guidance. The initial response is as follows.

*In this instance your enquiry is considered as being operational**in nature requiring a detailed response and has therefore been forwarded to South Wales Trunk Road Agent who will respond to you directly in due course. The Trunk Road Agent’s intention is to reply within* ***10 working days.***

***Amroth Community Council, are minded to Object to this application but will be guided by the response of the Trunk Road Agency and support their decision.***

**NP/24/0157/FUK. Mellieha, Amroth. SA67 8NL. Proposal,** proposed Decking and swim Spa ( Retrospectively) **Comments by 30th April 2024.**

During discussion several comments were brought to Councillors attention. A significant number of bright lights have been installed around the grounds/swim spa. These shine up the valley and have been left on at night causing a nuisance. ACC request that, if the application is to be approved, a condition be included limiting the time lights can be left on at night.

The application states that the Swim Spa is 20m from the watercourse and this has been disputed and needs to be checked. The main concern is the disposal of water from the swim spa containing polluting chemicals and the possibility of a leak affecting the nearby watercourse. Councillors request that, should the application be approved, a condition be attached that all water must be disposed of via the main sewage system and that the building of the spa be compliant so that any discharge or leak cannot reach the watercourse. The spa will hold a large body of water.

Councillors also raised the issue of noise created by the operation of the swim spa. As this has already been constructed it is suggested a noise test be carried out to acertain if there will be any noise pollution on neighbouring properties.

**ACC cannot support this application until the queries above have been addressed and shown to have no polluting or negative impact on neighbouring properties.**

**23/1093/PA. Blaencilgoed Quarry. Ludchurch. SA67 8LD. Proposal:** Variation of condition 64 (preventing the importation of materials to site for processing) of planning permissions 98/0004/MN, 98/0005/NM & 98/0006/NM. **Comments by 2nd May 2024**

**No objection.** Following discussion Amroth Community Council found it difficult to assess this application due to limited information in the public domain.

It was noted that the Transport Assessment Figure showed that a Manual Classified Count was last undertaken ten years ago on Thursday 11th September 2014. Councillors queried if this was still valid.

**5.Correspondence**

* A request has been made by Keep Wales Tidy to borrow Bertie for an event at the Senedd next week. His going depends on finance available to transport him. A contribution to his upkeep was also requested.
* Filming on Amroth Beach. A request to film on the beach for an hour on Sunday 28th April has been made. Councillors had no objection.
* A resident wrote about the apparent lack of recycling facilities at a local caravan Park. They were advised to contact the owners/managers in the first instance to query this and if none compliance with the new business recycling regulations was confirmed, to contact PCC.
* Bathing water beach inspection. At the public meeting back in February it was suggested that a couple of representatives from the local community could accompany NRW, PCC and DCWW during the Amroth bathing water pre-season beach inspection. It was agreed that Cllrs Wood, Harvey and Morgan would attend with Mr Lee Morgan and a representative from LARC to also be invited.
* PCC are currently running a digital campaign to encourage more Pembrokeshire households to switch to Paperless Council Tax billing through [My Account - our online council account](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Faccount.pembrokeshire.gov.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7C79cd5a16ad5b406e452808dc5a36451f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638484436408340039%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EuImx64QFswfYE1oWJlozFLzJuEW8e%2BbwQaLkZjYC2c%3D&reserved=0). This helps us to move towards a greener and more cost-effective future.
* A letter was received from a concerned resident about excessive vehicle speeds through Summerhill. Councillors met with a representative of Pembrokeshire Road Safety partnership to discuss vehicle speed issues across the wards. A report is awaited.
* The Trustee of Amroth Old Hall garden has formally requested support from ACC in applying for grant funding towards enhancing the Amroth Old Hall Garden. This was agreed.

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

* PCC has carried out work on the main slipway to remove the algae which made it very slippery.
* The new Amroth sign for the Summerhill junction is to be fitted week commencing 22nd April
* Beach signs for dog restrictions starting in May. Check with PCC that signs will be checked and renewed as needed.
* Photographs of dangerous areas of groyne were supplied by a residents and have been forwarded to the PCC Coastal Engineer.
* Refurb of Bus shelter in Amroth – Cllr Alan Eans obtained suitable paint and has repainted the bus shelter in Amroth. Councillors expressed their gratitude to Cllr Evans for his efforts.
* Signage for Amroth East Toilets stating that they were open courtesy of residents and the Community Council and donations could be made. Agreed.
* Painting of Amroth East Toilets. The Clerk has requested paint from PCC.
* Summerhill Playground – The grass was not cut by contractors recently due to wet ground. It should be cut on the next visit.
* Notice board – 5 Perspex panels have cracks in from weather/ temperature variations. Cllr Harvey has contacted the Supplier to have them repaired.
* A new timetable holder for the Amroth Bus shelter has been ordered.
* A resident has highlighted the poor state of the footpath from Summerhill Park down to the Caravan site and a blocked drain on Summerhill Park Road. They have reported the state of the footpath to the National Park who have been in contact with PCC.
* A rusted box with old wiring on the Pumping station in Amroth was reported to Welsh Water who have sent out an operator to review and make safe.
* Loose railings opposite Beach Haven were again reported, repaired and then damaged again during the recent storm. Another report has been sent with photographs to PCC. PCC has requested locking nuts on the handrails to make them more secure.
* Free top up garden packages are being offered by Places for Nature to constituted groups who have already benefited from this grant. The Clerk has forwarded this to Llanteg Gardening Club for the Old School Garden and Clay Pits. The Gardening Club reports that they have planted a lot of bulbs around the village last autumn, and expect to do the same again. There's been a lot of work undertaken at the OSG, along with planting. If they are successful in obtaining some wild flower turf from KWT, it will go in the Chapel grounds.

The Llanteg Gardening Club is now constituted giving them the opportunity to apply for funding in the future.

* Recycling responsibilities were highlighted. Users of the Play area will be encouraged to take all waste home for disposal.

**7. Report following meeting with Pembrokeshire Road Safety Partnership**

Councillors met with Clare Williams of PCC and visited several sites across the ward where vehicle speed had been raised as an issue. Several different solutions were discussed. Before speed reduction measures are introduced, the collection of evidence is required. Clare will write a report with her recommendations and forward to ACC. Action can be taken in areas were speeding is a regular ongoing issue. It was agreed that Llanteg 30mph sign is in the wrong place.

**8. Review PCSO drop in sessions**

PCSO Ffion Thomas has suggested changing the time of the session to make it more accessible and to trial for three months in Llanteg. The proposed new time is the second Wednesday of the month between 6.15 and 7.15pm. This was agreed. Councillors also suggested that the PCSO could drop in to community events to meet with residents such as the Llanteg Coffee Morning.

**9. To discuss and resolve New website- Cllr Harvey**

 The website currently used by ACC and hosted by PCC will cease on March 31st 2025 so ACC needs to decide on a new host. Cllr Harvey has investigated several providers.

**Agreed.** Following a presentation by Cllr Harvey on the different providers and costs, it was agreed to investigate further the free Google sites. It appears suitable for ACC’s needs and responsibilities.

**10. D Day June 6th 2024 – 80th Anniversary**

A D-Day 80 Flag of Peace has been ordered. It is suggested it be flown from 6th June, leaving it up for one week. A military service colleague of Mr. Charles Carter ( who was involved in a beach landing during military service) has agreed to raise the flag on behalf of the community. The first British soldier to land on the Beach did so at 7:25am and so it has been suggested raising the flag then. All are welcome.

**11.Finance as of 28th March 2024**

**a. Statement of accounts**

 Account 649 – £11,888.66 Minus £5,539.39 (grant money and donations allocated to Film Club)

 Account 856 – £4,851.98 (Inc 18.08 interest)

 **b. Income April 24**

 Banking of Film Club donations – for April -£87

 Interest £18.08

Precept due at end of April of £9,166

 **c. Payments**

 Clerk wages & expenses (renewal of Microsoft 365 =£59.99 & D day Flag £28.8 = £88.79)

 Free Wi-Fi- £67.20

 Filmbank Distribution April payment £164.40.

 Amroth Hall Hire for April Film club £25.00

 M Harvey, Film Club April Expenses £14.99

 A Evans- expenses for paint to refurbish Amroth bus shelter £10.99

 Llanteg Hall Hire £10.00 for April Council meeting

 New Bus timetable holder from PCC -£100

 National Trust allotment rent – awaiting invoice. Approval up to £350, less concession.

 Return payment towards solicitors fees £750.00

**d. Donation requests** – Llangollen International Eisteddfod. – The Clerk to politely decline.

**e. Approve Payments**

 **All Payments were agreed.**

**Proposed** Cllr. Tippet Maudsley **Seconded**, Cllr. Phillips **Cllrs voted unanimously.**

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

For latest information on activities, groups and clubs please refer to the ADCA website-

See [Amroth Parish Hall | AMROTH AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION](https://amrothparish.co.uk/amroth-parish-hall/)

**New Activity**

* A Craft afternoon was run for children and adults at Easter. 23 children between the ages of 4-12, plus adults, attended a really good event run by the Craft Group.
* June 9th . There will be a fun day for children and adults in Summerhill play area (or hall if its wet). People will be encouraged to dress in 1940’s dress and to bring a teddy bears picnic. Various clubs will be involved on the day.
* Film club. Runs on the 2nd Friday of the month. The May Film is One Life based on the rescue of Jewish children from Nazi Germany in the 1940’s. The June Film is Wicked Little Letters and in July it is The Lesson with Richard E Grant- a thriller.
* 25th May. There will be a ukelele band in the hall raising funds for the Paul Satori Charity
* 14th September. Tony Jacobs (swing singer) will present ‘Cocktails for two’.
* A Wedding party has booked in October.
* Also for information – on Sunday May 5th @7.30pm in Stepaside Methodist Church -Pembroke Dock Male Voice Choir will perform in Memory of Mrs Joyce Lewis who did so much for the community over many years.
* Cllr Tippet Maudsley also thanked all who sponsored her walk in aid of Bristol Childrens Hospital who have treated two very poorly resident children in recent months. She raised £1300.

**13. Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee-**

For information on Clubs, events and groups please refer to the hall website at [Llanteg Village Website (Crunwere Parish) | The Official Llanteg Website (llanteg-village.co.uk)](https://llanteg-village.co.uk/)

**14. Project ideas and Updates**

**Knight’s Way – A Survey is required. The route requires new** signage and an information publication. It is a ten mile walk and an alternative to the coast path. It is way marked on the OS maps. Look to Enhancing Pembs. Grant fund to support this project.

**15.Community matters –**

* The Clerk attended a workshop on Tuesday 16th April on recycling responsibilities for Town and Community Councils.
* a **'Hedgehog and Hedgerow Awareness Day'** that will take place on **Saturday the 11th May, in Colby Woodland Gardens (9:30am to 3:30pm).**   Updates on the event, as well as workshop bookings, can also be accessed via the LARC Facebook page.
* Open Reach are advertising the digital switch over from land line to the new Fibre Land lines. This will happen soon. Cllr Harvey will attend a session and feedback to the Community Council. Some households may require a new phone for this to work.

**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 May 16th 2024.
* Council Tax premiums for holiday lets/second homes – JUNE Meeting.

**17. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 23rd May 2024 in Amroth Parish Hall including the Annual meeting starting at 6.45pm.**

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 21.06 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).