

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2015 at The Village Hall, Merlins Bridge

Present: Cllr P Davies (Chairman), Cllr Mrs A Palmer, Cllr H Studley, Cllr J Cole, Cllr S Hartley, Cllr Mrs A Hartley, Cllr Mrs M Jakeway, Cllr Mrs S Hughes, Cllr M Thomas, Cllr S Brown, Mrs R Johnson (Clerk), Mr S Price (Merlins Bridge Juniors)

1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllrs Mrs Q Thomas & Mrs M Baron

2. Additional Agenda Items – Merlins Bridge Juniors

3. Minutes of the last meeting – The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the chairman. Proposed by Cllr S Brown and seconded by Cllr J Cole.

4. Matters Arising

- i. Hywel Dewi Sign – this has been reported to the county councillor for progression.
- ii. Tree Lights – the councillor had responded that the tree lights for the trees do need a certificate from PCC and to be installed by a qualified electrician. This certificate should be applied for around September/October each year. It was noted that the lights were a simple plug in affair.
- iii. School Governor – Cllr Brown queried who decides which person serves as a school governor. Cllr Mrs Hughes advised that the school made a request to the community council and that they did take on whoever was recommended at the time by the councillors. Cllr Mrs Hughes agreed to check when the next selection was due.
- iv. Swings - The Chairman advised that he had visited the playground with a representative from PCC and had been informed that the swings had been removed approximately 1 year ago as they were unsafe. PCC was going to look into whether they could provide a replacement and if necessary, MBCC would contribute monies towards new swings.
- v. Drains – the county councillor advised that the drains near St Marks School had now been cleared. Also the drains on the Pembroke Road had been attended to and the problem sorted. Thee drain covers near the Post Office had been looked at over the previous weekend and they would be made good this following weekend (18th January).
- vi. Christmas Trees – councillors thanked Cllr Cole for all his efforts in getting the trees put up and taken down – they looked fantastic.
- vii. Withybush Hospital – no further news had been received on any developments at the hospital. A meeting had been scheduled for 22nd January in Pembroke Dock for public to attend.

5. Merlins Bridge Juniors

Mr Stephen Price had attended the meeting in relation to the provision of new shower/change facilities for the football club. The councillors were advised that a new shower block had been located at a cost of £4500, plus £750 carriage and connection/conversion costs of £1250 – total £6500 + VAT, £1300 – total cost £7800. After discussion, it was agreed in principle that the council would pay the £7800 in full. This was conditional upon planning issues being clarified. Also, the community council would not pay any monies until proper receipts/invoices were received/produced. It was also agreed that a letter be drafted up outlining that whilst the money would be provided primarily for the use of the Merlins Bridge Juniors, it would also serve as a facility for the whole community of Merlins Bridge. No installation costs for the facility would be borne by the community council. After this clarification it was proposed by Cllr S Brown and seconded by Cllr J Cole and the motion was carried.

Cllr Cole left the meeting following this discussion due to prior commitments.

Post meeting note – following discussion, the clerk advised the chairman that it would be a safeguard to all concerned if the Community Council paid directly for all the agreed items (i.e shower block/carriage/conversion). All invoices to be sent directly to the clerk or chairman for payment.

6. Correspondence

i. Hywel Dda – notification of workshops to be held at Pater Court, Pembroke Dock on 22nd January 2015.

7. Donations

Merlins Bridge Juniors - £7800.00

8. County Councillor’s Report

Along with the previously mentioned emails in relation to drains etc, the county councillor advised members that the current traffic lights system would not go to part-time as the system did not allow for such changes.

9. Planning

Permission – 14/0703/PA – Installation of three kiosks.

Applications:

14/0865/PA – FRAME – new storage facility – no objections.

14/0911/PA – H M Building Services – new workshop – no objections.

10. Accounts for Payment

HMRC – Clerk’s income tax	£35.20
Mrs R Johnson – Clerk’s salary plus postage costs	£140.80
Merlins Bridge Juniors – donation towards change facility	£7800.00

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

11. Any other Business

- Cllr Studley advised that many of the villages in Pembrokeshire had provided or contributed towards pensioners Christmas lunches and he felt strongly that the community council should do something similar in the village. After discussion, councillors had no objection to the idea and the matter would be looked into once numbers/names etc of those living in the parish. It was suggested that it would be useful if someone would organise the event and Cllr Studley offered to do this with some help from others.

- Cllr S Hartley advised members that the bowls club has now left the hall. He wanted it noted that he did wish to explain the circumstance fully in relation to a recent situation, but was advised that the matter was not the business of MBCC.

- Cllr Mrs Hughes advised members that St Marks had recently held an assembly about World War I and the children had written poems and prose themselves. These had been sent to the author of a book that had been read out and he had arranged for the children’s work to be printed and sent to all the children and attendees.

11. Date of the next meeting

The clerk made a request to alter the date of the February meeting as she was due to go into hospital and would not be able to drive the week of the normal date. It was agreed that the February meeting would take place one week earlier than usual and would be held on **Wednesday 4th February 2014** at 7.30pm..

The meeting ended at 8.50pm

Chairman:.....

Date:.....