

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 9th September 2015 at the Village Hall, Merlins Bridge

Present: Cllrs P Davies (Chairman), S Hartley, Mrs A Hartley, H Studley, Mrs A Palmer, M Thomas, Mrs M Baron, Mrs M Jakeway, Duncan Hart (Merlins Bridge Juniors), Mrs Rachel Johnson (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllrs Mrs S Hughes & Mrs Q Thomas.
2. **Additional Agenda Items:** There were no additional agenda items.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as an accurate record bar one item in accounts payable. The computers purchased for St Mark's School amounted to £2400.00 not £240.00 as printed. This was amended and the minutes were then signed by the chairman.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - i. **Mini Roundabout** – all the works in relation to the roundabout have now been completed.
 - ii. **Merlins Bridge Juniors** – there had been some issues raised following the last meeting regarding the submission of plans. These had now been resolved. Financial issues were still a concern however, with not enough money in the kitty at present to cover all the costs. The plans that had been submitted had now been passed by the county council. Concerns were also raised over the amount of time being taken to progress the matter. Duncan Hart attended the meeting on behalf of the football club. He was advised that in order for the matter to progress, the football club needed to provide 3 separate Schedule of Works. Mr Hart made a request for a copy of the lease. It was also suggested that it would be advantageous to set up a regular meeting with members from all parties in attendance including from the football club and the community council to keep matters moving in the right direction.
 - iii. **Hywel Dda Meeting** – Cllr Brown advised that he had attended a meeting in relation to health services. He reported that there were due to be more consultations carried out in the near future in order to try and justify the decisions made thus far.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - i. **PCC – Licencing Act** – Consultation on the forthcoming review of the licencing policy.
 - ii. **Shelter Cymru** – Fliers sent giving information on a new project based in Pembrokeshire.
 - iii. **One Voice Wales** – Agenda for meeting on 29th September at County Hall.

- iv. **PCC email re: Charter with Town and Community Councils:** This is due to be discussed at Cabinet meeting on 14th September. If it proceeds, there will be a number of consultation events arranged.
- v. **Audit Y/E 31st March 2015:** The audit had now been returned fully completed. There were no issues besides the recommendation to make a list of assets. Current assets held by the community council amount to bus shelters and office equipment.

6. **Donations:** There were no donations for consideration this month.

7. **Planning:**

Permissions:

- 15/0295/PA – Boxing Club
- 15/0386/PA – Upper Haroldston Farm

Applications:

- 15/0457/PA – Upper Dredgemans Hill Farm
- 15/0466/PA – Rose Cottage, Dredgemans Hill
- 15/0517/PA – Longleat, Merlins Bridge

There were no issues with any of the above.

8. **County Councillor's Report**

The County Councillor provided an update on the local connection issue. Currently it stands at 1:10 in urban areas, which is up from 0:10, so things are moving in the right direction. The policy will be reviewed in March 2016 when the issue will be pushed further to increase figures. She advised that one house last week was a local connection only.

9. **Financial Accounts**

HMRC – Income Tax/NI	£70.40
R Johnson – Salary (June/Jul/Aug +Expenses	£380.96
BDO Auditor – audit fee	£246.00
Paul Davies – reimbursement for chain of office update	£28.00
Alison Palmer – reimbursement for flowers/card	£16.50
(The last item was reimbursed over the summer period)	

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

10. **Any Other Business**

- Cllr M Thomas reported that he had received comments about loud music coming from the village hall. He agreed to clarify dates/times.
- Cllr S Brown congratulated Mrs Jakeway and Mrs Baron on gaining their recent qualification in Quality Assurance.

- Cllr Mrs Hartley had received several complaints about the smells in the village. It wasn't clear where exactly they were emitting from. Clerk to contact sewage plant and the cheese factory to see if this can be clarified.
- Cllr S Hartley asked if he could receive his minutes via the post.
- Cllr S Hartley reported that he had noticed that a post had been pulled out to enable vehicles to drive on to the grass.
- Cllr Mrs Jakeway advised members that the tea dance held at De Clere Court had been a success, but she did voice disappointment at the lack of attendance by council members.
- Cllr S Hartley advised members that a concrete path had now been installed near the play area.
- Cllr Mrs Baron asked if notifications of any events in the village could be sent to De Clare Court for their information as they often missed out after finding out too late.
- St Mark's School presentation – the chairman reported back on the presentations made at the school for best boy and best girl back in July. The chairman, clerk and Cllr Mrs Hughes had attended and thoroughly enjoyed the event.
- Christmas Trees – October agenda item. In meantime clerk to contact the school to see about a potential date for carols around the tree.
- Armistice Day – October agenda item – in meantime, clerk to contact Rev Welsby about the day to get things in motion.
- Cllr P Davies commented on the poor state of the grass cutting this time and asked Cllr S Hartley to investigate issue.

11. Date of the next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th October 2015 at 7.30pm in the village hall, Merlins Bridge.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....