

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2016 at the Village Hall, Merlin's Bridge.

Present: Cllrs P Davies (Chairman), H Studley, Mrs Q Thomas, Mrs A Hartley, S Hartley, S Brown, J Cole, M Thomas, Mrs A Palmer, Mrs M Jakeway, Mrs M Baron, Mrs S Hughes, Mrs R Johnson (Clerk)

1. Apologies: None.

2. Additional Agenda Items for consideration:

- McDonalds – Community Involvement

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

- a. Item 4iv should read St Marks School, not St Thomas – amended.
- b. Cllr S Hartley commented on Item 3 from the last minutes which had been amended to state that he had made threatening comments towards Cllr J Cole. Cllr Hartley felt that this wasn't a threat but rather a case of plain speaking. However, the Chairman advised Cllr Hartley that whilst it might not have been an actual threat, it could have been perceived as such.

Following this, 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. **Welfare Committee:** Cllr Hartley raised issue with being perceived as rude and ungracious in relation to communications about their poppy wreath. He did not feel that he was, however it was explained that the Welfare Committee was not aware that the wreaths were automatically ordered each year. Cllr Hartley apologised to Cllr Mrs Hughes for any offence caused. It was agreed that in future years the Welfare Committee would make its own arrangements and advise the appropriate body of this so as to avoid further duplication.
- ii. **Welfare Committee Meeting** Cllr Brown asked Cllrs Mr and Mrs Hartley when the next Welfare Committee meeting was due to be held. They responded that they did not have a date at present and did not have a date fixed for an AGM. Cllr Mrs Hughes asked if they meetings were open to the public. The response was that yes they were. The Hartleys advised that the dates of any meetings would be advertised ahead of time.
- iii. **Letter to the Welfare Committee:** The clerk had sent a comprehensive letter to the Welfare Committee outlining various concerns/issues held by the Community Council. To date there had been no acknowledgement or response to this letter. Cllr Hartley advised the community council that there would be no response to this letter until the meeting of the Welfare Committee had been held. Cllr Hartley did mention some issues: Missing Trophies/Cups – these had gone when the Bridge/Bowls clubs had gone as these belong to the Bowls Club. Various Certificates/Photos – these had gone to but he

didn't know where. Cllr Hartley stated that he would investigate what had happened to these and put them back up if they were found.

- iv. **Accounts:** These had still not been made available to the Community Council. However, until the Welfare Committee made any further financial applications for assistance, the Community Council would not make any further requests for these. The Welfare Committee was strongly advised to get these in order by the AGM.

5. Correspondence:

- a. **Paul Davies AM** – notices giving dates of forthcoming surgeries.
- b. **NHS Wales** – Event at Queen's Hall, Narberth on 15th January detailing vision for the future.
- c. **Ombudsman Wales** – Letter advising the community council that a complaint had been registered against Cllr Steve Hartley in relation to a possible breach of the Code of Conduct.
- d. **John Welsby** – Letter from John Welsby thanking the Community Council for the donation of £250.00.
- e. **One Voice Wales** – communication giving details of the Queen's 90th Birthday Beacons planned for the country – Agenda Item for February.
- f. **McDonalds Restaurant** – Cllr Cole had been approached by McDonalds who wished to do something for the community – Agenda item for February.

6. Donations

There were no donations this month.

7. Planning

Permissions:

15/0612/PA – Wind Turbine – Fern Hill Farm

15/0637/PA – Conversion of Barn – Derby Farm

15/0926/NM – Velux Roof Windows – Longleat, Merlins Avenue

8. County Councillor's Report

The County Councillor sent her report, which included information cutbacks due in the county and that the County Council had won awards for the public toilets in the county.

The clerk was asked to contact the County Councillor in relation to the following:

- Please could she give a reason why she did not attend any Community Council meetings..
- Please would it be possible to send the community council information that is pertinent to Merlins Bridge.
- Does she know of any local concerns that the Community Council may help with?
- Estate Manager, Merlins Bridge – the Community Council was unaware such a person existed. Would the County Councillor have their contact details please?
- Old Hakin Road Junction – there are pot holes near City Plumbing in need of mending. was reported that there were a lot of commercial vehicles parking on the estates (especially in vicinity of St Margaret's Close). These were often blocking view of road and potentially dangerous. Could this be investigated?

9. Financial

R Johnson – salary	£140.80
HMRC – income tax and NI	£35.20

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

Cllr Hartley asked about funds held by the Community Council and whether any concerns were voiced by the auditors. The clerk advised that if an abnormally large amount of monies were held, the auditors would ask why. They had no objections if a community council was holding it for some special project. To date, no comments/issues had been raised by the auditors about the sums of money held by the Community Council.

10. Any Other Business

- i. Cllr Mrs Q Thomas advised members that there were pot holes near City Plumbing in need of attention.
- ii. Cllr Mrs Q Thomas commented on vehicles parking on the corner of St Margaret’s Close causing visibility issues.
- iii. Website – the clerk was asked if the latest minutes could be posted on the website.
- iv . Cllr S Hartley advised members that the fire exit in the hall has now been mended and is working correctly.
- v. Cllr M Thomas commented on the amount of commercial vehicles parking on the estates. Some are over 7.5te.
- vi. Cllr Mrs Palmer commented on some recent burglaries in the area.
- vii. The Chairman asked if the February meeting could start at the earlier time of 6.30pm.

11. Date of the Next Meeting:

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 10th February 2016 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall, Merlin’s Bridge.

The meeting ended at 7.50pm.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....