

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 12th October 2016 at the Village Hall, Merlin's Bridge

Present: Cllrs P Davies, H Studley, Mrs Q Thomas S Brown, J Cole, Mrs R Johnson (Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllr Mrs S Hughes and N Stamp.
2. **Additional Agenda Items:** The following items were added to the agenda for discussion:
 - i. St Mark's School
3. **Minutes of last meeting** – the minutes were amended to show J Cole as Mr and the amount of trees was amended to two. Following this the minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr S Brown and seconded by Cllr Mr J Cole.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - Haroldston Ruins – it was not known who had purchased the ruins, however no development would be allowed on this site, only animals allowed to graze. The Chair agreed to see if he could ascertain who had purchased the site.
 - Pot Holes – the clerk had contacted the County Councillor. One had been redone and the other was due to be done shortly.
 - Code of Conduct Training – this was held in Johnston and was well attended and informative.
 - Accounts – the Clerk had contacted the accountants who confirmed that there had been a clerical error and that the total sum for the year would total £60.00 not £120.00.
 - Sewage Smells – the county councillor had assured the clerk that the matter was in hand to try and reduce the smells.
 - Christmas Trees – Cllr Cole was progressing with the purchase and installation of the two trees. The clerk had contacted the school and John Welsby who had kindly agreed to organise some carols both round the tree and at the Village Hall with refreshments. This was now set for Monday 5th December at 6.00pm at St Issell's Avenue. Posters were distributed to ensure as many as possible could attend.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - PCC – Governor at Church in Wales VC School – noted.
 - OVW – Welsh Treasury News – noted.
 - Planning Aid Wales – workshop on 8th November in Narberth – noted.
 - IPRW Draft Annual Report – noted.
 - Welsh Government Reforms – re Local Government – noted.
6. **Donations**
 - St Mark's – following discussion, it was agreed that MBCC would donate the sum of £2500 towards the purchase of a new touch screen board. The Chair had also invited the Head Teacher to attend a meeting in the New Year to discuss the school's progress.
 - Nerys Butland – letter received from Nerys Butland was read out asking for a donation towards a possible Halloween party that she was hoping to organise as an individual for the children of the village. After discussion, it was agreed that the clerk would contact Ms Butland and advise her that should the party go ahead, then MBCC would be willing to donate up to £50.00 for goods/services (eg food/DJ) providing receipts were produced. Councillors did not wish to send money up front as there was no guarantee at present that the party was going ahead for definite. The matter was put to the vote and councillors voted against sending money up front. Cllr Cole voiced his disappointment at the decision made by the council and stated that he would be willing to contribute personally towards the party.
 - Welfare Committee – request for a donation towards their Macmillan Coffee Morning efforts. It was agreed to donate £50.00 towards Macmillan.
 - Macmillan Cancer – letter requesting donation. Clerk to advise that money has been donated via the Welfare Committee.
7. **Planning**

Application – 16/0501/PA – First Milk – CIP Building – no objections.

8. County Councillor’s Report

The County Councillor gave an update on the manholes. She also advised that PCC had been ranked 2nd out of 22 authorities in Wales for provision of local services. Also that the Leisure Centre in Haverfordwest had been rated as excellent by independent assessors.

9. Financial Accounts

R Johnson – Clerk’s salary	£140.80
HMRC – income tax and NI	£35.20
Macmillan Cancer (via Welfare Committee)	£50.00
St Mark’s School – donation towards touchscreen board	£2500.00

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

10. Remembrance Sunday

All the arrangements were now in place. John Welsby and Rev Cale had agreed to carry out the service. The school was going to send children to read poems etc. The wreaths would be ready for collection from Maurice and Sylvia Hughes’ next week. The 14th Signal Regiment had been invited to send a party. The trumpeter had been asked and posters were distributed to inform the public. Cllr Cole and Cllr Davies agreed to read respective parts at the service. A reminder to all that this year’s service would be at 9.30am on Sunday 13th November.

11. Councillor Vacancies

There are two councillor vacancies. Clerk to produce poster and distribute to be displayed. Also send to De Clare Court and school. The clerk had also advised the Welfare Committee.

12. AOB

- Cllr Studley voiced his concerns over the ongoing problem of speeding/parking along St Issell’s Avenue.
- Cllr Mrs Thomas voiced her ongoing concerns over parking/poor visibility on the corner at St Margaret’s Close. The Chair agreed to speak to the local PCSO about these matters next time he saw him.

13. Date of the next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9th November 2016 at 7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.00pm.

Signed:.....Chair

Dated:.....