

SAUNDERSFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting in the Regency Hall, Saundersfoot on the 3rd April 2014

1) CHAIRMANS REPORT

- Chairman Cleevely said that on 12th March 2014 he had attended the Presentation Evening for the Poppy Appeal Awards and presented the certificates.
- On 26th March 2014 Chairman Cleevely said that he acted as Quiz Master at the Luncheon Club Quiz in the Regency Hall.

2) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minutes of the 7th November 2013

a) Minute 7 Planning Application NP/13/0480

Councillor Allsop queried why the Saundersfoot Community Council comments were not taken into account for the application for Fig Tree Cottage, Wogan Lane when discussed by National Parks and suggested that this road becomes one way.

Councillor Baker said that Pembrokeshire County Council Highways Department had decided against this and Councillor Hayes agreed that the road is not suitable for two way traffic. Councillor Baker advised members that the application is still being discussed and Councillor Morris suggested writing to the residents in Wogan Lane seeking their views.

Councillor Baker then said that he would contact the Highways Department asking why they had changed their minds for one way traffic on this road and following their response, he would then visit the residents to seek their views.

Minutes of the 6th February 2014

b) Minute 4(l) Dispensations

The Clerk informed members that he had received a response from Lawrence Harding, Monitoring Officer, Pembrokeshire County Council with regard to requests for dispensation for members of the Regency Hall Committee to speak on matters relating to the Saundersfoot Chamber for Tourism.

Dispensation to speak on these debates were agreed for Councillors Pearson, Hayes, Boughton Thomas, McDermott and Cavell but not for Councillor John.

c) Minute 10(c) Flag Pole

Councillor John informed members that he, along with Councillor Poole had cemented the base for the flag pole in front of the Regency Hall.

Minutes of the 10th March 2014

d) Minute 4(c) CCTV Camera, Saundersfoot

The Clerk informed members that Councillor John had written to Christopher Salmon, Police Crime Commissioner, Dyfed Powys Police, and a response had been received from Mr Tim Burton who was responding on behalf of Mr Salmon.

The letter states that many pertinent points had been raised in the letter and many of the issues raised have been replicated in communities across Dyfed Powys. For this reason, they have decided to commission a review into the coverage, location, standard, costs and monitoring of CCTV on a Dyfed Powys basis. Mr Burton would

be leading the project and would welcome further input and Saundersfoot Community Council would be consulted when the review team commence their work.

Intelligent use of the CCTV System would meet three core priorities.

- Prevention and tackling of crime.
- Protecting vulnerable people.
- Bringing people to justice.

The invitation to Tender in respect of CCTV would be issued next week and the Community Council would be kept informed.

Councillor Baker suggested writing to Mr Burton welcoming the review and asked for regular updates on progress.

e) Minute 4(d) Lights in Long Tunnel

Councillor Baker, along with Councillors Poole and John visited the substation in Coppet Hall to assess the required work and Councillor John had also spoken to Mr David Lewis, Hean Castle and he suggested that Pembrokeshire County Council carry out the work creating the trench to house the cabling.

Councillor Baker went on to say that Pembrokeshire County Council and Saundersfoot Community Council should work together on this project and the amount the Community Council should contribute is unknown at present, but should be known shortly. Councillor Baker said that, hopefully, Pembrokeshire County Council would provide insurance cover and he would update members at next month's meeting.

f) Minute 4(e) 100 years Anniversary World War I

Councillor Cavell said that progress is being made on the above, but asked for more support from the public, and frequent meetings are being held. Councillor Cavell said that Saundersfoot Community Council should be included in the posters, and there would be further adverts in the press requesting more memorabilia.

Councillor Cavell would update members at next month's meeting.

g) Minute 4(f) Gates, Regency Hall, Saundersfoot

Councillor Baker informed members that Councillor Poole would contact Pembrokeshire Engineering regarding the double hanging and wheels for the gates.

h) Minute 4(j) Litter in Culverts, Path to Wiseman's Bridge

Councillor Baker informed members that the above had been cleared.

Councillor Hayes expressed her concern that stones had collected in the long tunnel which were dangerous for walkers.

i) Minute 4(l) Dip in Road, Ridgeway, Saundersfoot

Councillor Baker reported to members that the above work had not been carried out due to consultation with utility companies. Members reported bad potholes in the following locations:-

- Road near Rhodewood Lodge, Saundersfoot
- Road near Vine Farm, Fan Road, Saundersfoot

- Road near Netherwood School, Saundersfoot

j) Minute 8(a) Bus Services, in Saundersfoot

Councillor John clarified the information given in the March meeting regarding the above and said that the **late** 381 service was the only service to be scrapped.

k) Minute 8(c) Request to remove ashes from St Issell's Cemetery

The Clerk informed members that he had spoken to the applicant and she had no objection to re using the plot from which the ashes were to be removed.

Members suggested that the Clerk obtain further information regarding the ownership of plots in the cemetery.

l) Minute 10(e) Condition of pathway near Swallow Tree, Saundersfoot

Councillor Baker reported to members that the trees involved belonged to Hean Castle Estate and they are responsible for clearing this debris away.

Councillor Hayes also reported that a tree had fallen during the recent storms on the footway off the Ridgeway near Hazeland Wood. Councillor Baker said that he would investigate.

3) AGENDA

a) Broadband Coverage in Saundersfoot

Councillor Morris expressed his concerns at the broadband speeds in Saundersfoot which varied greatly and gave the following report to members:-

Historically, BT have seen fit to run cables around Saundersfoot, adding on little by little, as the requests for telephone connections were made. Many of these lines now cover several kilometres before heading back to locations that are surprisingly close to the exchange from where they originated. In the days when the only concern was whether or not a telephone worked, this was bearable. In the modern era, when we are very aware of the drop off potential of broadband signals, which now travel along the same lines, we are far more concerned about how this can affect both private and commercial premises in terms of potential download speeds and fluctuations in reception. These problems would also affect any project concerned with the provision of a free Wi-Fi cloud along the front of Saundersfoot, which could possible extend slightly inland. The quality of the broadband signal needs to be tested immediately, so that any other projects can be put into place. (See below)

- **Saundersfoot Survey**

We need first to test the variation of broadband download speeds in our area (Saundersfoot). To do this, please google 'UK Broadband Speed Test' and select 'Broadband Speed Checker' from the options. In practice, BT will often provide you with information that is more promising than that which can be practically achieved. For instance, BT reported to me that I had the potential of 5.5 Mb over my home telephone link, whereas the 'Broadband Speed Checker', we would like people to use, reported to me that the actual rate was only 2.9 Mb at my location. It is essential, therefore, that we all use the same broadband download speed tester for our investigation. We need people to send their download speed results to our specially created email address, which is saundersfootsurvey@gmail.com. For those who are not able to send in results via email, please post your results to:-

Saundersfoot Survey
Saundersfoot Community Council
c/o The Regency Hall
Saundersfoot
Pembrokeshire

Your submissions, by email or letter, should include both your download speed (in Mb) and your address. The results can then be compared with the routes that the cables take around Saundersfoot and be discussed with BT in terms of immediate improvement and their plans for the future, including the arrival of Superfast Fibre Broadband, which is not expected in our area until after April 2015.

- **Wi-Fi Cloud**

We have formed a group, made up of members of the Council, Saundersfoot Chamber for Tourism and the Harbour Commissioners, to look into the provision of a Wi-Fi cloud that will be free to both local residents and tourists visiting our area throughout the year. On Monday 31st March, a meeting was held at the Harbour Office, when Mr Nic Caine addressed our group and explained how a local Wi-Fi cloud could be set up in our vicinity. It would require the proprietors of several premises to agree to allow their broadband facilities to be used. The signal from each host will then be projected by several relay devices placed on the outside of their premises. The strength of the initial signal would depend on the strength of the broadband speed at each location. Each device has the potential to generate the signal over distances of up to 150 feet. When this process is repeated from several properties over an area, a 'cloud' is formed. Each device, plus its outside cover, would cost around £140. The cost of installation would also have to be considered. It is expected that there would be a drop in signal continuity between locations when the person using the cloud is moving around the vicinity. Mr Caine pointed out that he could manage the system remotely when the need arises. He reported also that it is possible for the participating host to have their usage capped, in order to prevent excessive bills from their provider.

Obviously, our group will be investigating other devices and other providers, in order to get the best deal for the community. We will also be looking into securing a grant, as this would undoubtedly be a tourism related project.

Councillor Baker informed members that BT were due to carry out a comprehensive review of broadband speeds in Saundersfoot in 2015 and perhaps we should delay doing anything till then.

Councillor Morris urged as many people as possible to send in their broadband speeds so that results can be assessed and this can be done in the information given in Councillor Morris report under 'Saundersfoot Survey'.

4) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

NP/14/0115 - Extension, 17 Castle View, Saundersfoot

NP/14/0158 - New Retail Area, Sandyhill Nurseries, Saundersfoot

Members raised no objections to the above applications.

5) CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a) Invitations were received from Tenby Town Council for their Mayor Making Dance on 9th May 2014 in the De Valance Pavilion, Tenby.

- b) The Insurance Renewal Policy for 2014/15 was received from Zurich Municipal for attention by the Council. The Clerk said that he would examine the policy for possible amendments.
- c) A New Premises Licence was received for the Sands Nightclub in Saundersfoot. Members expressed their concern at the closure times being between 3.00am and 4.00am and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Licensing Department requesting that the closure times be restricted to 2.00am every night.
- d) Requests for Tree Works at the rear of 3 Cambrian Terrace were received from National Parks.
- e) A Public Path Diversion Order was received for land situated at Heritage Park, Stepside.

6) REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES INCLUDING THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

- a) Councillor Baker reported to members as follows:-

County Hall

- Councillor Rob Lewis is subject to a two week suspension following his use of County Council computers for election use.

Ward Issues

- Winding House - Following a call from Cllr Cavell concerned at the vandalism and theft of stone from the Winding House, Cllr Baker had contacted Cadw. Following four 'phone calls the new local Inspector (Polly Groom) did contact him and a site inspection was organised for 2.4.14. (Post meeting note - Following a photographic survey Cadw would monitor the structure and were pleased that the police have been informed).
- Adits on the Coastal path – Pembrokeshire County Council have undertaken a cleaning of both.
- Lights in the long tunnel - Although this has now become a Saundersfoot Community Council project, it was suggested that Pembrokeshire County Council be contacted to use their Framework Contractor and Legal Department to carry out the work. Councillor Baker had discussed the matter with a number of Officers and a site meeting will be undertaken on 7th April 2014. Councillor Baker reminded members that the Pembrokeshire County Council street lighting budget had been reduced by £200,000.
- Fan Road - A temporary repair has been undertaken at the junction with the B4314, Councillor Baker reminded members that the road budget had been reduced by £800,000.
- Gulley opposite Rhodewood - The gulley has been cleaned out and a temporary repair carried out, it is suspected that building works alongside may have damaged the carrier pipe and an alternative may have to be constructed.
- Paviers - The job card is now with the work team and will be taken at an appropriate time.

- b) Councillor John reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot Harbour Advisory Committee – 11th March 2014

The discussion was of the ongoing wait for the Jones & Teague site development to be finalised and what the longer term plans are. The development of more marine based activity was seen as key to the Welsh Government proposal and it is hopeful that a positive response will be had soon.

- c) Councillor John reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot Bay Heritage & Regeneration Trust

There was a report on a recent visit to PCNA who showed commitment to the Coal Office and its environs, saying they want to keep the conservation zone and therefore planning would be required to change or demolish the building. The Powell Dobson report has been delayed a few weeks so no response to that yet, this is due to there being some heritage aspects in the harbour proposal and this is awaiting the Welsh Government response to the whole harbour plan.

There was a report on a recent visit to Hermon where funding for projects was done via a share scheme which funded the purchase and development of a local hall, this idea has now been reused to fund some aspects of Cardigans redevelopment, but with the Cardigan scheme there are dividend payments. In both cases the local Credit Union assists with share purchase schemes if needed.

There are plans to visit Cardigan for further information and insight and to contact one of their organisers with plans for a public meeting to explain the current situation and proposals.

There was a suggestion that a local DIY SOS may be organised to see if local trades people would possibly assist in the future.

Next meeting is 6th May 4.30pm.

- d) Councillor John reported to members as follows:-

Saundersfoot Chamber for Tourism 31st March 2014

At a well attended meeting there was an update on the recruitment of a Social Media person who would publicise the area online to increase the public's knowledge and interest in Saundersfoot. There was an agreement from the South Wales Tourism Partnership to part fund the post.

The latest edition of the Saundersfoot Scene was going to the printers and should be available a few days before Good Friday.

There was an update on the possibility of village based Wi-Fi, from Mr Nic Caine.

There was a brief presentation on the Wales Coast App which is being funded via Keep Wales Tidy and covers all of the Wales Coast Path and can advertise the establishments along it, with paid for advertising. This may be extended to highlight local heritage sites along with some augment reality features, as has already been done in Llandudno.

There is a new Welsh Government initiative for environmentally friendly hospitality businesses, called Green Key.

The Christmas Market will be 5th – 7th December, with already over 30 stalls booked. There could be an extra dimension to the event this year too.

The Big Bang Weekend is 31st October/1st November with a firework display and bucket collection.

St David's Day Market will be 28th February/1st March 2015.

The AGM will be Thursday 1st May and will include the next ordinary meeting as well.

e) Councillor Morris reported to members as follows:-

Harbour Commissioners Report March 2014

- The repairs on the east side of the harbour wall have now been completed.
- Most of the repairs to the slipway have now been completed.
- A digger and dumper are currently at work, clearing sand from the commercial fishing moorings.
- CCTV cameras will be upgraded to improve security.
- Kelpies have been contacted with respect to boats being returned to the harbour.
- Poor weather conditions throughout the start to the year have resulted in a fall in the takings for car parking. Currently 274 car park season tickets and 17 flexi tickets have been sold.
- A meeting had been held with the Advisory Group, to discuss sand impoundment, new equipment and an update on the Marine Centre of Excellence.
- All edges to the harbour walls will soon be marked with a white line, to signify a hazard, particularly to partially sighted visitors.
- A questionnaire will be produced, to investigate the needs of visitors to the harbour area.
- Harbour representatives are involved in a project to develop a Wi-Fi cloud along the front at Saundersfoot.
- It was reported that the winter lights on lampposts around the harbour had been received positively by members of the public.

7) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Councillor Morris reported that fly tipping was taking place on the Hopshill Lane and perhaps if signage was erected there it would alleviate the problem. Councillor Baker said that he would investigate.
- b) Councillor Morris expressed his concern at trees being cut down beyond Westfield Road flats. Councillor Baker said that this land is controlled by Owen & Owen (Agents) and the Clerk was instructed to write to them with these concerns.
- c) Councillor Pearson asked if work could be carried out in the Sensory Gardens soon as it needed some attention. Members decided to liaise to set a date as soon as possible.
- d) Councillor Hayes asked if a request be made again for free parking in the Regency Hall car park after 5.00pm. The Clerk was instructed to contact National Parks requesting this.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Regency Hall, Saundersfoot on Thursday 1st May 2014 (AGM) at 6.30pm.