

## MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>TH</sup> February 2018 at the Village Hall, Merlin's Bridge

**Present:** Cllrs Hilliard Studley (Chair), Mrs Alison Palmer, John Cole, Paul Davies, Nick Stamp, Ms Janice Morgan, Mrs Mary Owen, Mrs Queenie Thomas, Grant Lewis, Richard Thomas and Mrs R Johnson (Clerk). Also present Jessica Massey (member of the public).

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Mrs Sylvia Hughes

**2. Additional Agenda Items:**

- Welfare Committee

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting** – The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr J Cole, seconded by Cllr J Morgan.

**4. Matters Arising:**

- Planning Application St Issell's Avenue – Cllr Lewis declared an interest in this. He did advise the council that he had spoken with Paul Davies AM about this planning application to voice concerns. Cllr Cole advised members that he had asked for this application to go to before a separate committee for consideration. The clerk had submitted a written response both to the on-line portal for planning applications and by separate email to PCC voicing the concerns over in particular parking/road issues as well as the suitability of such a development in this area. It would appear that PCC had received a lot of negative responses from residents and there were concerns from elderly residents in the area too.
- Fly-tipping – Cllr Davies commented on two rubbish bags in Pembroke Road that appeared to have been dumped but Cllr Cole thought that they actually belonged to one of the neighbours.

**5. Correspondence:**

- OVW – annual renewal notice. Membership fee for 2018 £299.00. It was agreed to renew membership for this year.
- OVW – letter requesting payment for two attendees at recent courses @ £40.00 per person - £80.00 total. Cllr Mrs Thomas didn't feel it was necessary for more than one person to attend courses. All councillors except Cllr Mrs Thomas agreed to pay the £80.00 due.
- Emmanuel Church – letter of thanks from John Welsby for the council's recent donation. He also made a suggestion to buy a permanent Christmas tree to be situated near the play area to provide a safer area for gatherings at Christmas time. The council felt that this was a good idea. Clerk to contact Rev Welsby asking him to get a price for a living tree.
- PCC – Statutory Consultation regarding Haverfordwest Primary Schools. Noted.
- Draft Charter between Town/Community Councils – copy sent for information to members by Cllr Davies. This had now gone to the Cabinet and has been accepted as a working document.
- Family Events in Pembrokeshire – posted for circulation.

- Notice Board, old Post Office – the clerk reported that she had been contacted by the man running the cobblers shop in the old Post Office making a request to have the notice board removed. Other possible sites for the board were John’s shop or possibly a new board on legs in the car park area of the village hall. Cllr Cole said he would arrange for the notice board to be removed from the old Post Office and look into a price for a new one, size approx. 3’ x 4’.

**6. Donations:**

No donations for consideration.

**7. Planning**

Variation – 17/0839/PA – Solar Farm, Pope Hill

Permission – 17/0766/PA – Frame

Amendment – 17-0954/NM – De Clare Court

Noted.

**8. County Councillor’s Report**

- School Crossing – vehicle counter had been installed which was ongoing. This matter will be going to cabinet for discussion.
- Waste Management – changes to collections of black bags (will go to 3 weekly), big push on recycling in the future.
- Precept – 12.5% increase in Council Tax.

**9. Financial**

R Johnson – salary for September/expenses	£169.76
HMRC – Income Tax and NI for Clerk	£37.44
One Voice Wales – membership fee for 2018	£299.00
One Voice Wales – course fees (Cllr Davies/Cllr Mrs Palmer)	£80.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£586.20</b>

It was agreed that the above be paid in full.

Current account balance	£19525.50
Deposit account balance	£8063.92

**10. Councillor Vacancy**

The council had received an application for the vacancy from Jessica Massey who attended the meeting and gave a brief introduction to the council. Cllr Stamp proposed accepting Mrs Massey onto the council which was seconded by Cllr Ms Morgan.

**11. Way Forward for the Community Council**

There was no further information brought to the council from last month’s meeting. Councillors were asked to give some thought to topics such as the elderly in the community, loneliness in the community. Agenda item for March.

**12. Merlins Bridge Welfare Committee**

CLlr Cole declared an interest in this discussion. A letter was read out from the Welfare Committee giving details of quotes received from 3 different companies in relation to the building works for the new football facilities:

**G&G Builders:**

Phase 1 - £18974.89 + VAT

Phase 2 - £56773.29 +VAT

**A Harries:**

Phase 1 – £19148.97 +VAT

Phase 2 - £44076.52 + VAT

**Peter Cole/Philip Morris:**

Phase 1 - £15047.45

Phase 2 - £37858.73

+ VAT on materials - £6400.00

A request was made from the Welfare Committee for a donation of £20,000.00 towards the costs. Welfare Committee had committed £15k and Junior Football had committed £15k.

It was agreed that this would be listed on the agenda for March to be discussed in full before making any decision.

**13. AOB**

No matters.

**14. Date of the Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Merlin’s Bridge.**

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

**Signed:**.....

**Date:**.....