PUNCHESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting of Puncheston Community Council was held on Wednesday 28th February 2018 at Puncheston School at 7.30 pm.

Present: Messrs. Dewi Lewis, Gareth Howells, Wyn Williams, Mrs. Alison Evans, Cllr Bob Kilmister, and the Clerk

1. Apologies Received from Mrs. Anne Thomas

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Copies of the minutes of the last meeting had been distributed to members. The minutes were agreed as being a true record and were signed.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

1. Barclays Bank PLC – Clerk went into Haverfordwest Branch and discussed the mandate requirements. Only three persons can be signatories for Community Councils. Dewi Lewis, Alison Evans and Wyn Williams were selected and given forms for completion. Copies of identification and bank account details were given to the Clerk for safe keeping in readiness to submit to the bank to set up the official list.
2. Gareth Howells said that the manhole issue opposite Castleblythe Farm is ongoing.
3. Alison Evans brought the receipt for the wreath for Little Newcastle’s annual Remembrance Sunday.
4. It was noted that the timetable board outside Puncheston Bus Shelter had been removed.
5. Alison Evans reported that streetlight (803397) opposite village board in Little Newcastle is working; however, it is on all day and night.
6. Alison Evans believes that the streetlight (8031888) outside Maesyrafon, Little Newcastle is now working.
7. Telephone Kiosk at New Inn – The Clerk had received confirmation from BT Payphones that the equipment had been decommissioned, and was sent a Completion Notice, and a sign to display inside the kiosk, which notifies the public that BT no longer owns the kiosk. The Clerk will write to Mr. Davies to advise him that he may set up the kiosk as a book swap/library, and the Clerk will display the sign inside the kiosk. Cllr Kilmister advised that the kiosk should be added to the list of assets for insurance purposes.
8. The Clerk had received updates from Dorian Williams, Highway Maintenance Supervisor on reported highway matters:
9. Pothole outside Smyma Chapel Vestry has been repaired. There is one pothole in the access to the vestry/car park, but this is off highway limits so it would be down to the property owner to repair.
10. Blocked culvert outside Lower Castleblythe Farm House – there appears to be an issue with a damaged section of pipe. A ticket for remedial works to be carried out has been raised, hopefully within the next few months this work will proceed.
11. Potholes near the Cross Fach Junction – a ticket for the potholes to be filled again has been raised. Area maintenance fill potholes with temp repair slowest and a ticket is raised at the same time for the Engineering gangs to follow up with hot tarmac. They may take up to 2 – 3 years to follow up as their list is very long.
12. Poor visibility to the north of Castleblythe / Tufton Cross Roads – The reduced visibility is caused by the overgrowth of trees/privets growing out of land at a property called Ardwyn. Clerk was advised to contact the owners to ask them to cut their hedge to improve visibility. Clerk will write to property owners.

4. Highway matters

There were no new matters to report.

5. Planning

17/1102/PA – Alterations and extension at Mount Pleasant Farm, Ambleston SA62 5DP – it was agreed to support the application.

6. Payment of room hire charges and caretaker’s fee

It was agreed to pay room hire charges of £100.00 for the period April 2017 to March 2018 inclusive to Puncheston C.P. School. The cheque was signed by Wyn Williams and Alison Evans. It was agreed to pay £50.00 caretaker’s fee to Mrs. Janet Miles for the period April 2017 to March 2018 inclusive. The cheque was signed by Dewi Lewis and Alison Evans.

7. Correspondence

1. Precept - letter of confirmation received from Kerry Macdermott, Pembrokeshire County Council
2. Email from OneVoice Wales regarding legal guidance relating to the General Data Protection Regulation which requires compliance by 25 May, 2018. A toolkit will follow.
3. One Voice Wales – Renewal of membership 2018/19. It was agreed to renew the membership. A cheque was signed by Alison Evans and Wyn Wiliams.
4. Requests for donations received from: Kidney Wales, Paul Satori and Cruse Bereavement Care – it was agreed to discuss these at a later meeting with any other previous requests.
5. Clerks and Councils direct.

8. Any Other Business

1. Alison Evans reported that there were broken fence posts at Puncheston Green which looked unsightly. It was noted that this had been a previous issue and it was thought that posts were purchased and Mr. Robert Griffiths was to erect. It was thought that surely this work had been done. The Clerk agreed to check back through the minutes to establish what was agreed and when. Since the meeting, Minutes dated 25th November 2015 noted that John Griffiths had seen Mr. Robert Griffiths who had agreed to purchase the necessary materials and carry out repairs to the fence.
2. Cllr Bob Kilmister reported that the second homes council tax proposal where 50% of the revenue received will be available to Town and Community Councils for projects in their area was progressing and will be presented to Cabinet on 16th March 2018. The amount is calculated on how many second homes there are in each community council area, and there are 15 second homes in Puncheston which will equate to a community benefit of £2831.00. The Community Council will have to bid for this funding to be used for worthwhile schemes, and there will be potential to increase this amount by 50% from grant match funding. If the bid is successful the money can be carried over for a maximum of two years. Such schemes could be litter picking, flower borders, grass cutting etc. Cllr Kilmister said that some thought needs to be given to schemes that will visibly make a difference. Timescale for applications for funding will be 1st April – 31st March. Cllr Kilmister will be holding Town and Community Council events to spread awareness and dates of these events will be communicated.
3. Alison Evans noted that there hadn’t been any news reports in the County Echo and notice boards for some time. The Clerk responded that since July there hadn’t been any news that she felt was worthy of publishing, however, the adoption of the telephone kiosk at New Inn and that a book swap/library would be set up would be published.
4. Dewi Lewis reported that there was an issue with ‘Sat Nav’ devices where deliveries to his neighbor with a post code of SA62 5RR which is in Puncheston are being directed to an address in Castle Morris. Cllr Kilmister checked Google Maps and the Royal Mail website which was correct. It was decided that the Sat Nav database must be incorrect, and this couldn’t be rectified locally.

The meeting finished at 8.35 pm.

Date of next meeting agreed as Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 7.30 pm at Puncheston School.