

FREYSTROP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018

Present. Councillor's D. Thomas, E. Utting, D. Harries, R. Harries, G. Hughes.
County Councillor M. John, C. Griffith, Clerk.

Members of the public. None present.

1. APOLOGIES.

Cllr. R. John.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

None declared.

3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.

None had been received.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th March 2018 were passed as a true record.
Proposed by Cllr. Utting and seconded by Cllr. Hughes.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Data Protection Act. The Chairman said that the Society of Local Council Clerks had commissioned solicitors to prepare a briefing and template for the use of councils. Cllr Thomas said that the template was onerous for small councils such as Freystrop and was geared towards large councils. He had prepared a briefing sheet listing the personal data that needed to be held by Freystrop Community Council. Cllr Thomas said that one of the suggestions of SLCC was for neighbouring councils to get together and appoint a Data Protection Officer between them. He said that he was prepared to be the acting Data Protection Officer and that the matter would be discussed further at the next meeting. This was agreed.

Seminar on the future of Community & Town Councils.

The Chairman said that he had attended the seminar held by the Welsh Governments Review Panel in Carmarthen, which had been very successful and well attended. The emphasis appeared to be on the "capability and capacity" of Town and Community Councils to be able to not only maintain their current level of activity but to take on more services which County Councils wish to devolve. The Review panel's report was expected by the end of the year.

Dog Watch Scheme.

The Chairman had attended a PCC liaison meeting at which a briefing had been given on the scheme and what it entailed. Cllr M. John said that there were several such schemes in operation in Pembrokeshire.

Donations.

The Chairman suggested that all requests for future donations would be discussed on a quarterly basis. This was agreed. Cllr M. John said that some of the councils he attended kept all such requests until the last meeting of the year and then decided.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

1. One Voice Wales. Confirmation of membership renewal,
2. PCC. LDP. Call for candidate sites. To be discussed under Planning.
3. Hywel Dda Health Board. Consultation on Healthcare Services.
4. PCC. Information on grant criteria for Enhancing Pembrokeshire Project.
The number of second homes in our community would only permit a grant application of about £850, but other money can be accessed.
5. R. Bush. Information on removal of street light.
6. Wales Audit Office. The importance of the external audit.
Suggestions of more limited audit in future for smaller councils.
7. One Voice Wales. Newsletter.
8. One Voice Wales. OVW/SLCC joint conference at Llandrindod Wells.
9. PCC. Guide to Community Dog watch
10. One Voice Wales. Response to the review of Community & Town Councils.
11. Hywel Dda Health Board. Public meeting at Whitland on 27/04/2018 to discuss
Healthcare Services.

7. HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND STREET LIGHTING.

The Chairman said that he had received a letter from PCC confirming that surface dressing on certain roads in the village would be carried out.

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

No planning applications had been received.

Cllr Thomas said that a recent consultation document from Planning Wales had suggested that neighbouring county councils should draw up a joint LDP as opposed to each council have their own. LDP's should also consider need for improved community facilities.

LDP. Candidate sites. Cllr Thomas said that with the new LDP it was possible to nominate candidate sites for non development as well as development. He proposed nominating part of the playing field, which was presently outside the village boundary, as a candidate site for a possible new village hall, and nominating the rest of the field for non development. To be discussed at the next meeting.

9. VILLAGE HALL.

The builder who had been awarded the contract to do maintenance work on the hall will shortly give Cllr Thomas a start date.

The hall had been inspected by PCC on 21/03/2018 for re-licensing and all was found to be in order.

Cllr Thomas had received notification from PCC that the hall had been granted a 100 per-cent reduction on council tax. There was no council tax to pay.

Cllr Thomas said that the hall was being used on a regular basis and bookings being maintained.

Savings Account. £1595.57

General Account. £2327.21

10. CEMETERY.

Cllr Utting reported that she had spoken to James Allen at Narberth Crematorium who would arrange for the mole problem to be looked at.

11. PLAYING FIELD.

Nothing to report.

12. FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Chairman presented an end of year review of the council's finances, which were healthy. He would give a copy to the council's RFO. Budget reviews would be carried out quarterly, the next one due in June.

It was proposed by Cllr Utting and seconded by Cllr D. Harries that Cllr Thomas report be accepted.

Accounts for payment.

Cllr Thomas. Travelling expenses to seminar at Carmarthen. £35.90.

It was proposed by Cllr Utting and seconded by Cllr D. Harries that the account be paid.

13. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.

Cllr John said that the Welsh Government was again looking to reduce the number of major councils from 22 to 10, which a reverse on their decision of a few years ago.

The agenda for the PCC Cabinet Meeting had been published today.

New Secondary School at Haverfordwest. The site of the school had still not been decided.

14. MEMBERS REQUESTS.

The Clerk asked if it was possible to bring forward the date of the June meeting by a week to Monday 4th June, as he had other commitments on the 11th of June. This was agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Hughes enquired whether there had been any update from PCC Planning Enforcement Team on the illegal caravan adjacent to Sandy Wells bridleway. Nothing had been received so far. The Chairman would follow up.

15. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 14th May 2018.