       PUNCHESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A meeting of Puncheston Community Council was held on Wednesday 25th April 2018 at Puncheston School at 8.00 pm.

Present: Messrs. Dewi Lewis, Peter Lilley, Wyn Williams, Mrs. Alison Evans, Mrs. Eirian Forrest, Clerk.

1. Apologies: Received from Gareth Howells, Mrs. Anne Thomas, Cllr Bob Kilmister

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. Alison Evans said that the owners of Ardwyn, Tufton had cut back the hedge and visibility is slightly improved.
2. Telephone Kiosk at New Inn – book swap library is now up and running.
3. Dewi Lewis has come to the conclusion that the post code issue is a problem with Google Maps and not a Sat Nav problem.
4. Highway matter regarding the surface water overflowing onto the tarmac – this was not highway water but appears to be coming from a spring.
5. No update received in relation to the overgrown hedge at Yet-yr-Rhug, however, Alison Evans had seen someone strimming the grass in this area that day.
6. It has been agreed to relocate the bin from Bryn-Siriol to the former amenity site. This won’t happen straightaway but is on the list.
7. Dog Poo bins are not supplied, however the community council can purchase but they will responsible for the upkeep and their emptying. The Clerk was then asked to find out if PCC would provide a normal waste bin instead.

4. Highway matters

Street lights reported – Numbers:

803417 - near sewage works in Little Newcastle – not working

803397–opposite the notice board in Little Newcastle – on all day and night

8043014 –on Trecwn Road – glowing red

803406 – Flickering

Alison Evans said she would check these again before reporting them to PCC.

5. Planning

There was one matter for consideration – 18/0005/PA Resubmission of application – Barns at Tufton Arms, Tufton – it was agreed to support this proposal.

For info: 17/1102/PA Alterations and extension at Mount Pleasant Farm, Ambleston has been approved.

6. Annual Accounts 2017/2018 and Annual Audit

1. The annual accounts for 2017/2018 had been prepared. The balance brought forward from 2016/17 was £1562.32, Precept received £2200.00, Wayleaves payment £201.01, VAT reclaim £14.84, total receipts being £3978.17. Payments had included Clerk’s salary for twelve months £1242.50, Clerk’s expenses for twelve months £74.33, Section 137 Donations £200.00, insurance £432.47, audit fee £198.00, hire of rooms £100.00, Caretakers fees £50.00, One Voice Wales membership fee £73.00 (2017) and £76.00 (2018) other payments totaling £382.97. Total payments were £2829.27. The two cheques that were issued in 2016/17 totaling £130.00 which were cashed in this financial year (total cashed £2959.27). The balance carried forward to 2018/2019 being £1018.90 which agreed with the Community Account bank statement ending 31.03.2018. The Chairman and Clerk signed the Accounts.
2. The Audit date has been set at 18TH June 2018.
3. It was agreed to ask Mrs. Sharon Wormleighton to act as the internal auditor.

7. Risk Assessment

Members agreed that there was adequate insurance cover, with Fidelity Guarantee cover of up to £25,000. The matter that Barclays Bank didn’t have a list of signatories is being rectified, and only two of the selected members now sign every cheque with all cheques being signed at Council Meetings and the cheque stubs being initialled by the signatories. The Clerk does not sign cheques but holds the cheque books. The Internal Auditor is completely independent of the Community Council.

8. Applications for Financial Assistance

All the requests received during the last twelve months for financial assistance as per Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 were considered. It was agreed to make a donation of £45.00 each to, Wales Air Ambulance, Cylch Meithrin, Paul Sartori, and Fishguard Young Farmers Club. (Dewi Lewis declared an interest in the Fishguard YFC and was not involved in this decision).

9. Correspondence

1. One Voice Wales – confirmation of renewal of membership 2018-19.
2. Precept received 12.04.2018 - £734.00
3. HM Revenue & Customs –VAT reclaim - £14.84
4. Pembrokeshire County Councils briefing - Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant – a briefing will take place 16th May 2018.
5. PCNPA – Replacement Deposit Plan.
6. Hywel Dda – Our big NHS change – Drop in Events. Posters have been displayed in Little Newcastle and Puncheston. Alison Evans will try and attend one session, and the Clerk to write a letter of objection to be sent to the Health Board and a copy to Paul Davies, AM.

10. Any Other Business

Wyn Williams had watched on the Welsh News that Swansea University had carried out research on Japanese Knotweed. It was reported that it is not possible to get rid of it, but it can be controlled.

The meeting finished at 9.10 pm.

Date of next meeting agreed as Wednesday 30th May 2018 at 8.00 pm at Puncheston School. The Annual General Meeting will commence at 8.00 pm followed by the ordinary meeting.