

FREYSTROP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14th OCTOBER 2019

Present. Councillors D. Thomas, D. Harries, R. Harries, G. Hughes, County Councillor M. John, C. Griffith.

1. Apologies. Councillors E. Utting, R. John.
2. Declarations of Interests. None were declared.
3. Questions from the Public. No members of the public were present and no written questions had been submitted.
4. Minutes of the Last Meeting.
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019 were passed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr R. Harries and seconded by Cllr Hughes.
5. Matters Arising.
Defibrillator. Cllr Thomas said that due to organising the new hall heating, he had not been able to make enquiries about the defibrillator.
Land Registration. Cllr Thomas reported that the land registration issue was a work in progress.
6. Correspondence.
 1. One Voice Wales. Survey re. use of technology. Completed by Clerk.
 2. ICO. Confirmation of Direct Debit payment.
 3. One Voice Wales. Letter from the Chief Executive.
 4. One Voice Wales. Newsletter.
 5. Police & Crime Commissioner. Briefing re. CCTV
 6. Citizens Advice Bureau. 80th Birthday Party & launch of Project 40.
 7. One Voice Wales. Protecting Community Spaces.
 8. Paul Davis AM. Newsletter.
 9. Remuneration Panel for Wales. Annual return of councillors expenses. Completed by Clerk.
7. Highways & Rights of Way.
Cllr Thomas reported that traffic monitoring was taking place on the main road near the Chapel. He hoped that the results would be available to the community council.
Cllr Thomas said that there had been flooding at Maddox Moor which had been reported to PCC. Warning signs had been placed, but he was requesting PCC to trace the source.
8. Planning Matters.
Cllr Thomas reported that the application for a variation of condition's in respect of No 5 and No 6 Poplar Close had been approved.
19/0319/PA
19/0323/PA

9. Village Hall.

Cllr Thomas said that the new heaters had been installed, they had simplified controls, along with new fire/smoke alarms, Also the annual fire & safety inspection had been carried out. He had requested a quotation from the electrician, to examine the lighting system with a view of issuing an electrical circuit certificate. It had been four years since the last one had been done, also to PAT test the electrical appliances.

8. Village Hall/continued.

Bank balances as at 27/09/2019.	Current Account.	£3140.58
	Deposit Account.	£1600.37

9. Cemetery.

Cllr Thomas said that there was no news on the signs and he had emailed James Allen and was awaiting a reply.

10. Playing Field.

Cllr Thomas thanked Cllr Dawn Harries for painting the entrance walls into the playing field and to Cllr Roy John who had cleared and tidied the area.

Cllr Thomas said that a request had been received from Langwm Lions football club to site a container for their equipment in the field. This had been agreed.

Cllr Thomas said that the marquee had been damaged at the Church Pig Roast and he suggested an ex gratia payment from the Village Hall/Playing Field account towards the cost of repair. This was agreed by the meeting.

11. PCC Liaison & One Voice Wales.

Cllr Thomas said that the liaison meetings had not yet recommenced, PCC had appointed a new Chair, who was Cllr Phil Baker. One Voice Wales had held a meeting with Cllr Baker and others. PCC seemed keen to make the liaison meetings inclusive of the voluntary sector. One Voice Wales did not agree with this.

A One Voice Wales area committee meeting had been held last week, in which a short presentation on the Democracy Act had been given. This was a bill being put out for consultation by the Welsh Government following last years review of Town & Community Councils. The review had recommended 47 changes, Welsh Government were looking at introducing 3,

1. Councils to present an annual report to the electorate.
2. Compulsory training for councillors.
3. Formal training for clerks

12. Financial Matters.

Cllr Thomas produced a budget review, which was circulated to councillors. Cllr Thomas gave a breakdown of the review, which showed that the budget was on course. The Clerk reported that the annual financial return had been returned from Grant Thornton. They had given a qualified report and mentioned the following items,

1. The Financial Report had not been published on the council's website.
2. The Council had not adopted Model Financial Regulations, The Council had adopted a Code of Conduct which includes financial regulations. The Model Financial Regulations will be adopted at the November meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr R. Harries and seconded by Cllr D. Harries that the report from Grant Thornton be accepted.

Bank Account.	£19,544.78
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13. County Councillors Report.

Cllr M. John said that following a review of polling stations, Freystrop had received a good report.

He then mentioned Ash die back, and said that the affected trees along the trunk road network were being marked orange for removal.

Cllr John said that over 60% of the Household Enquiry Forms sent out by Electoral Registration had been returned in the Llangwm Electoral area.

Cllr John said that the 50% reduction in council tax currently allocated to empty houses was being withdrawn. This was due to funding being stopped by the Welsh Government. Bus passes. For those unable to do this online, drop in sessions would take place at libraries during November.

New refuse collection rules. Cllr John said that the drop in session in Hook Sports Club had been well received with good attendance.

Cllr Thomas thanked Cllr John for arranging the drop in session.

The question of rubbish generated by hirers of village halls was discussed. Cllr John said that some halls made the hirer remove the rubbish. This was accepted as the best way forward.

14. Members Requests.

Cllr. R. Harries said that he was making enquiries about grants for new play equipment.

15. Date of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th November 2019.

