

FREYSTROP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th JANUARY 2020

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

1. Apologies. Councillor D. Harries.
2. Declarations of Interests. Cllr Thomas said that if there was a detailed discussion of candidate sites, he and Cllr R. John would be declaring an interest.
3. Questions from the Public. No members of the public were present and no written questions had been received.
4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th November 2019 were passed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Utting and seconded by Cllr R. Harries.
5. Matters Arising.
Cllr Thomas referred to Item 5 of the November meeting(land registration) and said that he had raised the matter at the last meeting of the PCC liaison group and the PCC representative seemed unaware of the matter.
6. Correspondence.

1. Police & Crime Commissioner.	Precept Consultation
2. PCC.	Community Works Grant
3.PCC.	Budget Consultation
4. PCC.	Vacancy for School Governor at Mary Immaculate School
5. Paul Davies AM	List of surgeries for 2020
6. National Park.	LDP
7. Clerks & Councils Direct	Newsletter.
7. Highways & Rights of Way.
Cllr Thomas reported that he had reported the potholes outside the playing field to PCC and the faulty street light in Moorland Road had been reported by Mrs Lowman, The light had been repaired.
A sewer line marker post near Hill Crest had been damaged. Cllr Thomas had reported this to Welsh Water.
Verges at the entrance to the cemetery were badly damaged and strewn with litter. Cllr Thomas would report this to PCC.
Cllr Thomas said that he had read the Community Works Grant papers which had been received last week and he was of the opinion that it could be used for a number of projects, including the provision of a bus shelter at Lower Freystrop.
8. Planning Matters.
Cllr Thomas said that permission had been granted for the equestrian facility on the bridleway from the end of Moorland Road to Dredgemans Hill.

8. Planning Matters/continued

LDP2. Cllr Thomas said that the Deposit Plan for the LDP was now open to consultation from 15th January to 11th March 2020. The only site accepted in Freystrop was the wedge between Moorland Road and Targate Road. Owners of candidate sites not accepted will be able to argue their case for inclusion during the public examination by a Welsh Government Inspector in the autumn. The plan is unlikely to be approved before autumn 2021. The plan will run from the day of approval to 2033.

9. Village Hall.

Cllr Thomas reported that the heater grills had been installed and all users seemed pleased with the new heating system. The cost of the grills and some electric work was £918.

Cllr Thomas said that the hall hire charges had not been increased since January 2016. He added that with the new heating system electricity bills were likely to increase, in view of this he was suggesting that the hire costs be increased from £6.25p an hour to £6.75p an hour, an increase of 50p an hour. Cllr Utting proposed that the hall hire charge be increased by 50p an hour. This was seconded by Cllr R. John.

Cllr Thomas said that he would introduce the new charges from the 1st March 2020 to enable him to give a months notice to existing users of the increase,

Bank Accounts.

Current Account. £4384.58

Deposit Account. £1601.17

10. Cemetery.

Cllr Thomas said that littering is a continual problem . He also said that the new sign promised by PCC had still not arrived.

11. Playing Field & Play Park.

Welsh Water had requested access to the field during December to test the sewer line but there was no sign of any activity.

Cllr Thomas had met with a representative of Sovereign Play Equipment to discuss the cost of a new climbing frame and slide and new decking covering 80m². The quotation had been promised by tonight but had not been received. Cllr Thomas suggested setting aside £7500 for replacement play equipment, but as the quotation had not been received, it was agreed to leave it until the next meeting.

12. PCC Liaison Meetings/One Voice Wales.

The next PCC liaison meeting is being held on Monday 20th January 2020, Cllr Thomas will give a report at the February meeting.

Cllr Thomas said that he had been appointed to the National Executive of One Voice Wales. He was congratulated by the meeting.

13. Financial Matters.

Bank Balance. £18167.28p

Donations. It was proposed by Cllr R. John that the council give the usual donations to Church and Chapel for maintenance of the grounds and that they each receive £100. This was seconded by Cllr Hughes,

Cllr Thomas circulated a budget sheet which would assist in setting a precept figure. Cllr Thomas gave an explanation of the figures and following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr Utting that the precept be set at £4500.00. This was seconded by

Cllr R. John and agreed by the meeting.

30/2020

14. County Councillors Report.

County Councillor M. John spoke about the LDP and said that PCC were arranging drop in sessions, the plan was online and a hard copy was available at County Hall for inspection.

PCC wanted a 60/40 rural/urban split for housing and the Welsh Assembly Government wanted a 70.30 split. PCC had opted for 60/40 but the Welsh Assembly could reject the suggestion.

It had been announced in December that the Welsh Assembly was increasing the money being given to large councils.

Second home council tax. Cllr John said that as a result of this tax, PCC were now building affordable housing in Solva and could possibly build in Llangwm.

Cllr John said that he had been made aware by residents of Hook and Llangwm of cold callers canvassing householders about new heating boilers, etc. He said that it involved a scheme called Ecoflex, which was sponsored by the Welsh Assembly to assist people in fuel poverty and that it was a genuine scheme. The scheme was being monitored by PCC.

Cllr John reported that the new recycling scheme seemed to have settled down and appeared to be working. Following a question from Cllr R. John regarding elderly people struggling to put the waste containers on the pavement, Cllr M. John said that PCC operated an Assisted Collection Scheme and if the elderly and infirm were unable to place their waste on the roadside, they could register with the County Council and the refuse collectors would collect the waste from closer to the house.

15. Members Requests.

Cllr Hughes said raised the matter of the lack of a bus shelter in Lower Freystrop.

Cllr Thomas said that he would complete the Community Works Grant application form in respect of this.

16. Date of the Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 10th February 2020