**Amroth Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Llanrhath**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 20th February 2020.

**Councillors present:**  A Cormack; P Davies; F Evans; R Harries; M Harvey; J James; M Morris; S Phillips (Chair)

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk); A Evans Resident;

**Apologies**: T Baron; R Tippett-Maudsley, R Lewis

**Declaration of Interest;** None

Geraldine Murphy CEO of Citizens Advice Pembrokeshire gave a presentation to Councillors about the work that they carry out in Pembrokeshire. There are offices in Pembroke Dock and Haverfordwest that can help with managing debt, housing and benefit issues and understanding rights at work. They also work at different locations in the county on an outreach basis and can provide advice over the phone, online and by email. They are a charity made up of employees and trained volunteers. For more information see [www.pembscab.org](http://www.pembscab.org) or www.citizensadvice.org.uk

**Chair’s Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all Councillors to the meeting and informed them that he had received a letter of resignation from Mary Megarry, effective immediately. A letter of thanks has been sent for the service she has given over the last 3 years.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 23rd January 2020 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. Roger Harries

Seconded by Cllr. Martin Morris

Signed by Cllr. S Phillips following completion of the meeting.

 **Matters arising from previous minutes**

* A Grit bin will be sited directly across from 1 Staggers Hill, Birds Lane, Stepaside in the near future.
* Route Gritting. Robert Evans, PCC will raise ACC’s request regarding treatment times on Bus Routes / Secondary Routes in the next Winter Maintenance review.
* ACC concerns regarding inconsiderate parking and traffic speeds in Stepaside have been forwarded to the PCC Traffic Management team. The Clerk is waiting a reply.
* The Modus car blocking the Clay Pits is still there. Chairman of ACC, Stephen Phillips has written to Councillor Phil Baker asking for PCC to take action. The Clerk has written to Simon Hart MP to ask him to look at making changes to the legislation concerning vehicles blocking public places. A case worker has been in touch to say they had contacted PCC last week on the matter asking for action to be taken. A notice has since be placed on the car requesting removal in 7 days or the car will be removed by PCC.
* Re changes to the bus service 351 Tenby to Pendine. Owen Roberts, PCC has met with Carmarthenshire County Council to discuss the potential of merging the 351 and 222 into one route. Both Councils are keen to implement this, but the main issue is the difference in the size of the vehicles required in the Summer months. Due to the demand on the 222 between Laugharne and Carmarthen, Taf Valley operates a full-sized Enviro 200 style vehicle which is 11 metres long. This size bus is needed on this route as it is very busy during the summer months and would not be suitable for getting through Pleasant Valley and Wisemans Bridge during the busy summer months. To better promote the connections between the two services and they will look at changing the destination boards on the buses to show the onward journey to Carmarthen and Tenby.

 Cllr. Harvey has responded to these comments with suggested solutions and a dialogue is ongoing to maintain a good service agreeable to all.

* Replacement Seats for the Old School Gardens, Llanteg. These are used quite a lot in the summertime. Cllr. Harries will look at options such as recycled plastic wood like  ~~s~~eating and report to the next meeting.
* 3 seats are also needed in the Memorial Gardens as the wooden seats there are rotten. A discussion took place and it was agreed to look at the cost of renovating the whole area. Cllr. Harries will request quotes for this work and report back to the next meeting.
* Gary Meopham replied to our request regarding a reduction in car parking charges for local people. He wrote “the ticket pricing which has been in place over the last few years is based around the common need to park, rather than the status of a particular individual, or the individual's reason for parking. The result is our offer of a range of Pay and Display parking charges ‘bookended’ by  short term free parking at one end  and season tickets at the other which are standardised across all of our charging car parks and universally available to all to meet the reasonable needs of the motorist. For this reason, we are not able to provide Amroth residents with any preferential or bespoke access to Amroth car park and would instead encourage them to consider which of our universally available parking offers might best meet their individual requirements”.

The Clerk will contact the PCNPA to investigate if there is an option for local shops to sell Season tickets.

* Re Monthly Community Police meetings. The Clerk has written to the Police Commissioner explaining how informative these meetings are for the community and asking that officers be allowed to attend even if not on duty to enable these meetings to continue. He has forwarded this request to Dyfed Powys Police.
* Pembrokeshire Coast Path 50th Birthday celebrations. ACC has been informed about The Good Life + Work Project who are planning a charity walk along the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path over 9 days covering the full 186 miles in aid of Tonic Surf Therapy (West Wales). The Big Walk 2020 is split into nine legs. People can choose to walk a single leg, multiple legs or join them for the whole walk.

- May 16 | St Dogmaels - Cwm-yr-Eglwys (18.6 miles)
- May 17 | Cwm-Yr-Eglwys - Aber Bach (20.3 miles)
- May 18 | Aber Bach - St Davids (23.5 miles)
- May 19 | St Davids - Little Haven (17.4 miles)
- May 20 | Little Haven - Dale (19.5 miles)
- May 21 | Dale - Pembroke (22.5 miles)
- May 22 | Pembroke - Castle Martin (21.6 miles)
- May 23 | Castle Martin - Freshwater East (18.6 miles)
- May 24 | Freshwater East - Amroth (18.6 miles)

The project will use Amroth as its base. The project is being supported locally. There is an event set up on Facebook ([https://www.facebook.com/events/976833586012865/](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fevents%2F976833586012865%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cbb9929fce69d40892f6f08d7ae465fe0%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637169489581946303&sdata=6kJ%2Fh0x1UCdpuTWQSKbUlfohfOlkFbCaBFr%2Fj7Rli%2BQ%3D&reserved=0)) and further details here ([https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-good-walk-big-walk-tickets-83536254185](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fthe-good-walk-big-walk-tickets-83536254185&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cbb9929fce69d40892f6f08d7ae465fe0%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637169489581946303&sdata=Dp70FkSNV0D9raCsJn6YkBIGuT55lYgfXibK%2B%2F7Okpc%3D&reserved=0)). They are hoping to set up additional fundraisers between now and May to support raising additional funds for the charity.

PCNPA have also replied to say they are still looking at options.

* Repairs to Slipway to allow access for a beach wheelchair. Cllr. Davies has kindly agreed to take photographs of the slipway surface to be sent to PCC.
* Meadow House Caravan park. PCNPA have been in touch to say that the investigation is now completed. The felled trees had no protection on them and so the owner was entitled to take them down. The new caravan units are within permitted size; however, an application has been requested for the extensive decking surrounding the caravan units.

**County Councillors Report**

**Budget Consultation**

Bob Kilmister, the Cabinet Member for Finance, held a Budget Seminar for County Councillors on 17 February. He explained that the consultations he had undertaken showed strong support for the priority given to education in the proposed Council Budget for 2020-2021. He was particularly complementary about the quality of the wide-ranging questions raised by Amroth residents at the meeting held in Llanteg Village Hall. This meeting was by far better attended than the meeting arranged in County Hall in Haverfordwest. Bob held up the Llanteg meeting as the template for future local budget consultation

**Estyn Report**

The recently published Estyn Report on Pembrokeshire’s schools makes for very disappointing reading. Estyn has left PCC with clear recommendations. These include:

* raising standards in literacy numeracy and Welsh second language.
* improving outcomes for learners eligible for free school meals.
* improving teaching and leadership
* evaluating its work and planning for improvement.

It should be noted that performance varies widely across the County with some very good primary schools such as Tavernspite. The variability, however, needs to be addressed. PCC is currently developing its post-inspection action plan and revised strategies to ensure that all learners receive a good education and that all children are equipped with good literacy and numeracy skills.

I have supported substantial increases in Council Tax in the past in large part to protect the schools’ budget. However, the Estyn Report clearly indicates that there has been a lack of leadership and training provided by PCC to schools. The Cabinet has found a one-off £1 million to improve standards. Nevertheless, it is clear that a consistent multi-year approach is required to raise the performance of all Pembrokeshire schools to an acceptable level.

**Community Asset Transfer/ Band of Hope Woodland**

PCC has acknowledged that ACC may have an interest in a Community Asset Transfer of the Band of Hope Woodland from the County Council to the Community Council. It has also confirmed that Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grants can be used by Community Groups in connection with community asset transfers. PCC’s is still reviewing its Community Asset Transfer Policy but is likely to formally adopt a new policy in the near term. It is already accepting formal expressions of interest prior to the new policy going live. I registered an interest in the Band of Hope Woodland so that it would not be sold before ACC has had a chance to investigate fully the desirability or otherwise of taking over responsibility of the Woodland. I have not entered a formal expression of interest form. Note that even if a formal expression of interest is submitted by ACC or any other group, there is no commitment to proceed with the transfer. Given that the Woodland has mine shafts and a relatively small area that is contaminated, a reasonable way of proceeding might be to seek an initial Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant to undertake a feasibility study of turning the Woodland into a public amenity and wildlife sanctuary.

**Community Works Grant**

The purpose or the Community Works Grant is to provide an opportunity for Town and community Councils to submit bids for small highway schemes, which have a cost to PCC of up to a maximum of £10,000. Funding is available for short footway connections, signing schemes, visibility improvements (e.g. by hedge removal or set back), bus stop improvements and contributions to traffic calming schemes. Only one application per Community Council can be made per year. But the grant could be used to fund different stages of a project, with a further application being made once a phase has been completed. PCC will fund 90% of any project. Bids are currently being collated but so far there has been no allocation from the total £100,000 that is available for this year. Given the various road issues we have, for example in Pleasant Valley and Summerhill, it may be worthwhile making a bid. I have a copy of the simple bid form.

**Waste Collection – Good News**

The move to kerbside sorting has resulted in a substantial improvement in recycling in Pembrokeshire. By the end of last December recycling had reached 73%, the highest in Wales. The Welsh Government’s target for the whole of Wales is 64% this year. Two years ago, the recycling rate in Pembrokeshire was 57%, one of the lowest in Wales, and the County faced large fines if it did not meet the Welsh Government’s targets.

**Planning**

**NP/20/0017/FUL Amroth Car park, Amroth. Proposal:** Installation of Pay and Display ticketmachine & sign**. Comments by 21st February 2020**

**No Objection**

**19/1064/PA Glenwood, PLEASANT VALLEY, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8NY. Proposal:** Proposed Annex for elderly relative. **Comments by 24th February 2020**

**No Objection**

**19/0992/PA Woodland Heights, I Clos Yr Ysgol, Stepaside. SA67 8NZ. Proposal:** Erection ofsingle and two storey extension**. Comments by 10th February 2020. No Objection was submitted. Update; this application has been withdrawn.**

**19/0506/PA Heritage Park planning application**

Cllr. Cormack updated Councillors, reporting that the application may come before PCC’s Planning Committee in March.

**Correspondence**

* Cllr. Davies forwarded a copy of a resident’s email which is a strongly worded objection to the introduction of car parking charges in Amroth Car Park. It has been sent to the Ombudsman for Wales. As requested, the Clerk has forwarded it to other Community Councils where charges are to be introduced and to Simon Hart MP and Angela Burns AM. A case worker of Simon Hart has contacted the Clerk to say that Simon cannot influence the Ombudsman as they are independent however he will watch the reaction with interest.
* Elizabeth Owen, PCC is the Digital Assistant with PCC. Her role is to support people who wish to use alternative/digital methods of communicating with Pembrokeshire County Council – mainly via the **My Account** **system.**  The My Account has many useful features including reporting issues, applying for jobs with PCC, paying bills, checking your waste calendar, find your nearest Councillors and much more. It can be accessed via a computer/tablet, on a smart phone, or at a public library for anyone who doesn’t have internet at home.

She is keen to attend community events that could benefit from her attending.

Contact; elizabeth.owens@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

**Take Me Too!** This project matches people who need a lift with people going that way anyway. See [www.takemetoo.org.uk](http://www.takemetoo.org.uk) or call 01 437 775 033. Drivers can sign up to take part.

* The Replacement Pembrokeshire County Council Local Development Plan (LDP 2) has been extended by a week, to **18th March 2020 at 4.30pm.**

* **Two donation requests have been received.**

**Sandy Bear Children’s Bereavement Charity** has requested a donation. This year, one of their major fundraising events is a concert held by the London Welsh Male Voice Choir, supported by local young musical talent performing in the iconic setting of St Davids Cathedral during midsummer weekend, Saturday June 20th 2020, at 7.30pm.

**Paul Sartori Hospice at Home** have written requesting a donation towards their work in Pembrokeshire.

**ACC’s policy is to support charities with specific remit within the Amroth CC area or that has specific benefit to residents.** Both requests declined.

* **Planning Fees.** A consultation has been issued which seeks views on proposed changes to planning fees. The consultation proposes amending the existing fee levels for planning and related applications, as well as introducing a fee for Certificates of Appropriate Alternative Development.

Details of the consultation can be found on the Welsh Government’s consultation pages at [https://gov.wales/changes-planning-and-related-applications-fees?\_ga=2.233246302.1926474314.1576494937-1869591993.1570433432](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fonevoicewales.us14.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D11ab1846ab416c98ac182e020%26id%3Db0877e13d8%26e%3Dc2c8871b68&data=02%7C01%7C%7C1cf9d9469d3f42d4a9fa08d7ae1d9af0%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637169314491380940&sdata=IK6auNYujJQNlp1yNdgvvpnvG7Nht6DIk1KNK9VBCxU%3D&reserved=0)

**Responses to the consultation paper are invited by 13 March 2020**.
* **Recycling Consultation**. Since devolution, Wales has become a global leader in recycling. Every household has played its part, showing how small steps can lead to fundamental change. It’s now a part of who we are, embedded in the culture of 21st century Wales. Recycling is what we do.

How we manage our waste and the resources we use has become even more crucial; the need to tackle climate change has become the single greatest challenge of our time; awareness of the impact of what we buy and the waste we generate is growing; economic opportunities for more environmentally-friendly solutions are rapidly expanding

Making Wales a greener, more equal, and more prosperous country is what as a Government we are working to deliver. In December, we launched our consultation document – Beyond Recycling.

<https://gov.wales/circular-economy-strategy>

Come and share your thoughts on how Wales can progress towards zero waste and what we can do to reduce our carbon footprint. We have set out some ideas – but we need your thoughts too. Do you have a great idea you would be willing to share?

There are events taking place across Wales including.

4 March – Haverfordwest

5 March – Narberth

  Book your free place here:

<https://tocyn.cymru/en/organisation/0cff23c5-1a3c-42d4-b500-0ae42c72e7a5>

BeyondRecycling@gov.wales

* **Local Places for Nature**

A Local Places for Nature scheme – a brand-new initiative, has been launched, funded by Welsh Government, that aims to create, restore and enhance hundreds of habitats across the country.

Applications are now open to community groups and organisations looking to help reverse nature’s decline.

There is a choice of ‘packages’ tailored to different groups and organisations. Each pre-paid package includes native plants, tools and other materials. We’ll handle the orders and deliveries, and our project officers will even provide support on the ground to help you create your new nature space.

The packages fall into three categories:

* Starter packages for [**town and community councils**](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.keepwalestidy.cymru%2Fpages%2Fcategory%2Fnature-starter-council&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926084387&sdata=e4wYBIkN3cAeBuoh4FNxN1M%2F9mEX4ZNgURb6VS0K%2FPw%3D&reserved=0)(1 each) - Choose from; a) Butterfly Garden, b) Fruit Garden or c) Wildlife Garden. [Read the guidance and FAQs](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.keepwalestidy.cymru%2FPages%2FFAQs%2FCategory%2Fnature-starter-council-faq&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926084387&sdata=MD31PoMVcnoMGSd8b%2FUEdG7mJauFRh2DzaAMYiNRvR4%3D&reserved=0)
* Starter packages for [**community-based organisations**](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.keepwalestidy.cymru%2Fpages%2Fcategory%2Fnature-starter-community&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926084387&sdata=cfB9huXQhXsqHLOD%2BlFc6j9sjEzcYA7u7Bo61uPfFcw%3D&reserved=0)(3 per county);  Choose from; a) Butterfly Garden, b) Fruit Garden or c) Wildlife Garden. [Read the guidance and FAQs](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.keepwalestidy.cymru%2Fpages%2FFAQs%2Fcategory%2Fnature-starter-community-faq&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926094397&sdata=G1VDrAmv%2F0tisepxRU9V3rSSsLNyYvpwc%2BAgdYKWrXo%3D&reserved=0)
* Development packages for [**community-based organisations**](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.keepwalestidy.cymru%2Fpages%2Fcategory%2Fnature-development&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926094397&sdata=J%2B%2Bj%2FwwFz7AmKmzRFYXCEoHRQnyK6banSKo511SV2Uo%3D&reserved=0) (3 per county) – Choose from a) Food growing area b) Sustainable urban Drainage System or c) Wildlife Garden. [Download the guidance here](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fkwt.eu.rit.org.uk%2FHandlers%2FDownload.ashx%3FIDMF%3Dc9795b7f-8dcd-425a-85a2-6055f1e2c8a0&data=02%7C01%7C%7C17c6e1d9c52f4ca3528308d7b54561ba%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637177181926104406&sdata=P%2BXewlRxerzGjslD3imNh8RT0SStEVYveDxYy2ll%2F6k%3D&reserved=0)

There is a simple application process, and the deadline for first application round is **12pm** on **Friday 6 March.**

Llanteg Gardening Group are keen to apply and have requested permission to plant fruit trees on CC land. This was agreed.

**Finance – as of January 2020**

All financial matters were discussed and resolved. Details can be obtained on application to the Clerk.

**To review and update the asset register**

Councillors reviewed and agreed the asset register. An additional 4 seats had been added.

**Report by Amroth and District Community Association**

No report this month.

**Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee**

* Llanteg Newsletter has 8 new advertisers which has helped to sustain it.
* All groups and activities are still making excellent progress
* A WW2 Quiz is to be held in May, date still to be decided
* Gill Roberts was commended for organising popular community walks throughout the year
* The Hall lighting has been improved

 **Monthly Police meeting –**

* NHS now has own **non-emergency** medical helpline. The number is 111.
* Jim Moffatt PCSO will still attend meetings and these will now be on 3rd Thursday of the month starting in March
* HSBC Scam. Callers threatening a visit from bailiffs
* Tenby Police Station will revert to a 24hour station
* Drink driving is being closely monitored as it is reported to be on the increase.

**Update on projects**

* **Update on Amroth Free Wi-Fi.** This project is still under consideration with Cllr. Cormack looking at solutions to overcome hosting issues.
* **Exercise Jantzen –** Cllr. Harvey has identified 9 pictures from Imperial War Museum reels that show activity at Amroth. He will draft copy for the information board and then choose the most relevant images to illustrate it.
* **VE day Celebration May 2020 Amroth –** Cllr Harris has been in touch with the scouts to ask them to be involved in some capacity. Kelvin Thomas of ADCA is organising a tea party and film show in Amroth Parish Hall to coincide with the celebrations.
* **Beach Art Event –** Clerk to contact Tina Cunningham following the resignation of Cllr. Megarry.
* **Brown signs.** This project is ongoing. An application is to be submitted to PCC initially assuming local businesses are willing to support it. The Clerk will check with SWTRA re likely cost for a brown sign on A477

 **Matters to be added to agenda for next meeting**

 No matters to be added.

 **Any other or urgent business**

* Cllr. Roger Harries has carried out repairs to the fence and sign on the ground opposite/ adjacent to Amroth Castle Caravan Park.
* Ice cream van vendor has requested permission to sell ice cream by slip way. Cllr. Phillips to investigate legality.
* Cllr. Tippett-Maudsley has reported that the fence around the playing fields in Summerhill is damaged and needs replacing. The Clerk has informed PCC. Cllr. Harries has agreed to take photographs and investigate how much work is needed.
* Solar lighting between the Slip way and New Inn – Cllr. Davies to find out costs.
* GDPR – It was agreed to sign up via ICO
* Renew membership of OVW**. Agreed;** This was agreed. The Clerk is to query cost based on the number of second homes in the area.
* It was agreed to order an additional 5 memorial seats.

**Date of next meeting Thursday 19th March 2020 at Amroth Parish Hall starting at 7.00 pm**

**The meeting closed at 9.07 pm**