

FREYSTROP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2020

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

1. Apologies. None received.
2. Declarations of Interests. None declared.
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 13th January 2020 were passed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Utting and seconded by Cllr Hughes.
5. Matters Arising.
Matters arising will be dealt with under respective headings.
6. Correspondence.
 1. Sandy Bear. Concert at St Davids Cathedral.
 2. Cllr Michael John. Grants available for water fountains.
 3. Wales Audit Office. Consultation on future audit arrangements. Cllr Thomas will respond on behalf of the council.
 4. PCC. Extension to LDP consultation period.
 5. Wales Audit Office. Press release.
 6. Paul Davies, AM. Newsletter.
 7. One Voice Wales. Timetable of actions for annual accounts.
 8. One Voice Wales. Response to Consultation on the Local Government & Election Bill.
 9. Paul Sartori. Request for donation.
 10. Wales Air Ambulance. Request for donation.
 11. Play for Wales. Newsletter.
 12. PCC. Confirmation of Precept Amount.
7. Highways & Rights of Way.
Cllr Thomas said that he was going to submit an application under the Communities Works Grant scheme for a bus shelter at Lower Freystrop. Cllr Thomas gave a summary of the application and said that PCC expected applicants to provide a contribution towards the cost. Cllr Utting proposed that the council offer a sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Pounds , this was seconded by Cllr D. Harries.
Cllr Thomas said that PCC had published their Road Surfacing programme and that Lower Freystrop to Little Milford was included. No date had been given, but Cllr Thomas said that four weeks notice is normally given.

8. Planning.

Cllr Thomas said that the LDP consultation period had been extended by one week to 18th March 2020.

19/1026/PA. An application had been received from Gareth Hughes Motors to transfer Servicing, MOT and Valet Dept to Clayston Grove. The application had been circulated to the councillors who had no objections. PCC to be informed.

19/0924/PA. Change of use and conversion of existing storage barn to lettable holiday accommodation. There were no objections offered. PCC to be informed.

Cllr Thomas said that the Welsh Government had circulated a consultation on proposals to increase planning fees.

9. Village Hall.

a. Cllr Thomas said that all the regular hall users had been notified of the price increase, which will operate from the 1st March 2020.

b. Cllr Thomas said that the electric contract with BG Lite is up for renewal in April 2020 but that companies were already contacting him offering their services.

c. Cllr Thomas reported that hall bookings are very good

d. Bank Accounts. Current Account. £2896.74, Deposit Account £1601.17.

e. The Charity Commission annual return for 2018-2019 had been submitted by Cllr Thomas, showing income of £4945 and outgoings of £4154. Profit of £791.

10. Cemetery. Nothing to report.

11. Playing Field.

Cllr Thomas said that he had received a detailed quotation from Sovereign (Play equipment manufactures), which was as follows:-

Option 1. £19037.83 or £7385.84 a year for three years

Option 2. £21571.44 or £8351.02 a year for three years.

Cllr Thomas said that due to the high cost, he felt that other quotes should be sought and that the project would need external funding. Cllr Thomas would approach PAVs to see if grants were available. Cllr D. Harries suggested that an item could be placed on the Freystrop Facebook page to see if any members of the local community were willing to organise fundraising activities for replacement equipment. This was agreed.

12. PCC Liaison Meetings & One Voice Wales.

Cllr Thomas had attended the Liaison meeting that had taken place on 20th January 2020. The Charter has been updated and will be issued shortly. Cllr Thomas hoped it would be hard copies but would probably come electronically.

The Terms of Reference for the liaison meetings had been agreed based on a draft put forward by Cllr Thomas.

Fly Tipping. As a result of the new refuse collection arrangements, PCC were having to increase their fly tipping budget.

There had been a presentation on Bio Diversity partnership.

Cllr Thomas said that PCC were taking part in Corporate Peer Challenge. Cllr M. John said this meant that senior officials from English counties would attend and assess the way that PCC operated.

Cllr Thomas said that he was attending an area meeting of One Voice Wales the following evening and would report back at the March meeting.

13. Financial Matters.

Cllr Thomas said that the Wales Audit Office were consulting on future audits and had circulated a survey.

The invoice for the External Audit had been received.

Cllr Thomas said that Mr R. Howells, a former bank manager had agreed to be the Internal Auditor for 2020/2021. It was Proposed by Cllr Utting and seconded by Cllr R. John that Mr Howells be appointed as Internal Auditor to the council.

Bank Account. £17609.68

Accounts for payment.

Wales Audit Office £318.75

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

14. County Councillors Report.

Cllr John said that Cabinet had proposed a five per cent increase in Council Tax. The proposal would go before the full council on 27/02/2020. Dyfed Powys Police had increased their precept amount by four point eight per cent.

There was an appeal being made by PCC for more foster carers.

There was a consultation ongoing on sixth form education at Milford Haven School.

A Cabinet meeting had taken place today and Cllr John said that if anyone had any questions on any County Council matter, he was happy to try and obtain further details.

Cllr John said he hoped to produce another newsletter at Easter.

15. Members Requests.

None.

16. Date of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9th March 2020.