**Amroth Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Llanrhath**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 21st May 2020 online via Zoom.

**Councillors present:**  T Baron; A Cormack; P Davies; F Evans; R Harries; M Harvey; J James; M Morris; S Phillips (Chair); R Tippett- Maudsley.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk)

**Apologies**: R Lewis

**Declaration of Interest;** Cllr. Alec Cormack declared a prejudicial interest on planning application 19/1340/PA as he is a resident of Pleasant Valley and a member of SPVRA. He took no part in the discussion on this application.

**Chair’s Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all Councillors to the meeting.

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

Proposed by Cllr. Roger Harries

Seconded by Cllr. Tony Baron

Cllr. Phillips printed off a copy of the April Minutes and signed them on completion of the meeting.

**Matter Arising**

* ACC has submitted a bid for funding for a Wildlife Garden to Local places for Nature based on a previous application by Llanteg Gardening Group. Information was received to say that there was still money available in the pot specifically for Community Councils. If successful, Llanteg Gardening Group and community partners will carry out the project.
* A letter has been sent to the owner of land in Church View, Summerhill that has become very overgrown, and is attracting litter and vermin, asking him to clear it as soon as possible. No reply has been received to date.
* ACC have contacted PCC asking about evidence needed to support new road name signs for Llanteg and the costs involved. Research into historic road names is ongoing.
* Dog restrictions on Amroth Beach. This is legislation covered by a bylaw and cannot be changed easily. Also, the removal of dog restrictions will adversely affect the Blue Flag status of the beach. For these reasons, the dog restrictions remain in place.
* AGN continues to support residents during the Crisis. An application for funding support to cover costs incurred has been made by ACC/ AGN to PAVS Covid 19 Supporting Community Action fund. This was successful.
* Due to a delay in manufacture and delivery, the order for the new memorial seats has been cancelled. Streetmaster will advise when production resumes and ACC can reorder. Seats in the Old Village Hall garden will be removed for refurbishment of the garden and will be replaced with new seats in due course. Seats taken from the garden will be placed elsewhere within the community.
* **County Councillors Report**

**Resumption of PCC Committee Meetings**

Pembrokeshire County Council has successfully tested holding remote meetings using video-conferencing technology. One of the first public meetings to be held is a Planning Committee Meeting scheduled to take place at 10 am on 2 June. Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings will also be conducted remotely in June.

**Heritage Park**

I am continuing to receive representations from residents of Stepaside/Pleasant Valley concerning Heritage Park, the various planning applications made and the failure of PCC over a number of years to enforce the conditions of the lease granted to the Park owner/operator. In particular, I have, since being elected in 2017, received numerous and constant complaints about access to the public north car park, to which under the lease the public should have unimpeded access at all times. I have relayed these complaints to Hellen Mcleod -Baikie at PCC and to Cllr. Bob Kilmister and have had a number of meetings with them re the obstruction of the north car park preventing its proper use by the public

I have requested that there be a moratorium on any planning application decisions and on any decision to grant an assignment of the car park until there has been a full consultation with all parties concerned and Cabinet has had a chance to discuss the matter.

**Second Home Owners and Car Park Restrictions**

I have also received a number of complaints about people ignoring the travel ban to visit their second homes. I have relayed these complaints to PCC. However, while the police can turn people back if they are caught on the road, it seems that they cannot instruct them to return home once they have reached their second home.

There appears to be growing concern about the arbitrary nature of some of the restrictions imposed upon Amroth residents. For, example Amroth car park has been closed even though residents, who have nowhere else to park, have paid for season tickets to use the facility. Also, if someone with limited mobility drives 1 mile to the beach to walk along the flat beach front but carefully maintains social distancing, are they really risking the R rate in Pembrokeshire? The overwhelming majority of people care for others and are willing to accept restrictions on their personal freedom for the greater good. Insistence on banning minimal risk activity risks losing public trust and consent.

**Planning**

**19/1340/PA Former Craft Village Car Park, Heritage Park, Pleasant Valley, Narberth, SA67 8LN Proposal;** Variation of Condition 2 (relating to twin unit caravans) & 7 (relating to car park) of Planning Permission 11/0585/PA. **Comments by 25th May 2020. This has been sent out again for further consultation because of the covering letter referred to, but missing from the documents, on the planning portal. It is now available to view.**

**ACC object to this application and will submit reasons to PCC Planning Dept.**

**20/0046/PA Blaencilgoed Quarry, LUDCHURCH, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LD.** **Proposal:** Variation/Removal of condition 64 of planning permissions 98/0004/MN, 98/0005/MN and 98/0006/MN. **Comments by 25th May 2020. Agreed; No Objection**

**20/0090/PA Penybryn, PLEASANT VALLEY, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LP Proposal:** Extension to dwelling to create granny annex. **Comments by 8th June 2020. Agreed; No Objection**

**Correspondence**

* ACC have received numerous information updates from PCC regarding the current situation all of which have been forwarded to Councillors, community web site hosts and community Facebook page moderators for publication. The Amroth Good Neighbours websitehttps://**sites.google.com**/view/amroth-good-neighbours is being kept up to date with current information and advice for the community and volunteers.
* The Community Hub is also still offering help and support to Pembrokeshire residents during the crisis. They can be contacted on 01437 776301 or via email on [communitycovid19@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitycovid19@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)
* Tenovus Cancer Care charity have written requesting a donation. **Agreed;** ACC have a policy of supporting Charities in the Community Council area only and so politely refused the request.
* Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has requested the publication of Councillors expenses for the financial year 2019-2020. This must be done annually by September. The form has been submitted and acknowledged.
* ACC have received information from the IRP on the principles relating to the reimbursement of costs of care for Councillors. Details are with the Clerk.
* Correspondence continues between the Chairman and a resident regarding the historic road names in Llanteg.

**Finance as of April 30th 2020**

Account 70121649 – £5574.30

Account 40736856 – £15,186.58

David Rees £768.89

**Interest on the Premium Account has fallen from 0.10% to 0.01%**

**Payments;**

**Alec Cormack expenses for purchases for AGN (lamination, lanyards, Zoom and telephone costs) £134.13**

**Mark Harvey expenses for research on Land Registry - £9.00**

**Clerks Wages £304.25**

**Clerks Expenses for Malware Bytes £29.99**

**Insurance £439.00**

**Bank Mandate**

The bank mandate needs updating and so it is proposed to add two additional names to it to cover the risk of the current signatories not being available to authorise payments online. Cllrs. Harvey, Cormack and Tippett Maudsley volunteered. It is proposed to add Cllrs. Harvey and Cormack to the mandate and Cllr. Tippett Maudsley be appointed to check the bank reconciliation on a quarterly basis. This is a requirement of ACC’s Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Management.

Proposed Cllr. Harries

Seconded Cllr. Baron

**Audit**

The audit has been sent to the internal auditor for inspection.

**Travel**

All travel on Council business outside the Council area must be authorised beforehand.

**7.Report By Amroth and District Community Association**

The hall is closed at this time.

**8.Report by Llanteg Village Hall Committee**

The Hall is temporarily closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is being checked weekly for insurance purposes. Cllr. James commented on the high quality of the clearance work carried out at the Clay Pits and Old School Garden and thanked Cllr. Harries for organising it. He mentioned that the work to fit new equipment in the Hall was on hold because of the crisis.

**9.Project Updates**

* **Amroth Good Neighbours –**There are relativelyfew requests for help currently. Requests are mainly for prescription collections
* **Exercise Jantzen –** The Imperial War Museum announced they would be opening online. Cllr. Harvey contacted them regarding photographs from cinema reels of Exercise Jantzen, but no response has been received to date.

**10.Matters to be added to the agenda for next meeting**

* To discuss and comment on the Welsh Governments traffic light system proposal to govern the exit strategy from lockdown
* To discuss the opportunity for Asset Transfers in the area

**11. Urgent Business not on the Agenda**

* Cllr. Cormack reported Japanese Knotweed is spreading rapidly in Wisemans Bridge, across the road from the Sea Wall. This has been reported to PCC.
* Cllr. James reported that the Community Police meeting has changed dates and would clash with Community Council meetings when it resumes. It was suggested a report be obtained from another attendee and circulated.
* Cllr. Harries reported that he hoped the work, to fell the rest of the trees with Ash Die back on Community Council land, will be carried out by the end of May.
* The Annual Meeting of ACC is usually held in May, however legislation stated attendance in person was required. Following a temporary change in legislation, due to Covid 19, the annual meeting can now take place online and so it will take place in June 2020. Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year are to be forwarded to the clerk by 7th June. If there is more than one applicant for either post a secret ballot will be held by the Clerk and the result announced on the 18th June at the Annual meeting.

**Date of next Meeting is Thursday 18th June 2020. The Annual Meeting will commence at 6.45 pm followed by the monthly meeting.**

This will be via Zoom unless informed otherwise.

Anyone wishing to observe online, please send your email address to amrothclerk@outlook.com