**Amroth Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Llanrhath**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 23rd July 2020 online via Zoom.

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

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk); Carol John, Robert Lake, Ben Morris

**Apologies**: R Lewis

**Declaration of Interest. Alec Cormack and Alan Evans declared a prejudicial interest to item 4.5 Correspondence as both are members of Stepaside and Pleasant Valley Residents Group**

**Chair’s Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all Councillors to the meeting. He expressed sympathy on behalf of ACC to the family of retired Councillor Bernard Lawrence who passed away earlier this month following illness. Bernard was a very popular member of the Council and served the community for nearly 40 years.

New Councillor Alan Evans was co-opted into the Council and welcomed to his first meeting as a councillor.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2020 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. Roger Harries

Seconded by Cllr. John James

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

1. **Matter Arising**
* The land in Church View, Summerhill has been cleared.
* Amroth and District Good Neighbours and The Community Hub is also still offering help and support to Pembrokeshire residents during the crisis. AGN can be contacted on 0 1834 855 808 or email info@amrothgoodneighbours.wales and The Hub can be contacted on 01 437 776 301 or email on communitycovid19@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
* Virtual Meeting Policy - point 3 has been amended to include names of approved online platforms including Zoom, Microsoft Teams and Google Meet.
* A dog waste dispenser has been repaired. Another one needs to be removed for repair.
* The Modus has been removed from in front of the entrance to the Clay Pits
* Litter bins Summerhill and Amroth. PCC have employed extra capacity in the bin emptying and litter picking teams both north and south of the county and the street litter bins are being emptied each afternoon by the beach cleaning team. Councillors queried if the damaged bin that was removed by PCC from Amroth would be replaced. The Clerk will investigate.
* Educational Charity of David Rees -two qualifying children have been identified through Stepaside School and one in Templeton school. A scientific calculator was given to each in Memory of David Rees.
* The final and largest diseased Ash tree has now been safely removed from the Old School Garden
* Street signage – Quotes have been received for 6 signs and the fitting of them. The cost will be around £900. The Village signs have yet to be agreed. ACC will apply to the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grants Scheme to cover 80% of costs incurred.
* Three holes have appeared on the road between New Inn and Amroth over the past 4 weeks, the last one of significant size and depth. Quick action by a PCC employee and local residents made the area safe. Contractors have repaired all holes promptly. The Clerk has written to the Coastal Engineer asking if there is any way to survey the road to anticipate any future failing. He is currently on annual leave and will respond on his return.
1. **County Councillors Report**

**PCC Remote Meetings**

Pembrokeshire County Council’s programme of remote meetings using video technology is going well. On 16 July a remote Full Council meeting with over 70 participants including Councillors and Officers was held successfully. Remote meetings are likely to be held for a sustained period but the possibility of hybrid meeting with some present in County Hall and the rest connecting remotely is being explored.

**Heritage Park**

I am continuing to raise residents’ concerns about Heritage Park with the Leader, other Cabinet Members and the Chief Executive along with other Senior Officers.

As a result of all the representations made by residents, the Council has been undertaking a full review of all its dealings concerning Heritage Park. Originally it undertook to communicate its finding by the end of June. However, PCC has yet to fully respond to the letter sent by Mr Alec Cormack on behalf of SPVRG on 11 May. I believe he may have a response by the end of July.

I have argued that consideration of 19/1340/PA by the Planning Committee, should be delayed to give time for a meeting to be held with ACC and SPVRG representatives and the developers. This request was refused

I will continue to argue that any decision to grant an assignment of the north car park should not be taken until there has been a full public consultation, given that the Heritage Park development was partly undertaken with public money and that the covenant on the north car park in the Heritage Park lease was granted to the public for 999 years. The decision on whether or not to assign the car park is likely to be taken by the Cabinet in September.

**Amroth**

I have emailed Marc Owen at PCC twice regarding the protection of the road along the sea front in Amroth but have received no reply yet (like other officers he has extended duties due to the pandemic). Delay may be due to the fact that Welsh Government is about to issue its updated policy re coastal protection. However, our Clerk has managed to obtain an agreement from Darren Thomas to organize a meeting re the Amroth’s sea defence but it is unlikely to take place before September.

PCC has allocated one person to meet and greet visitors in Amroth and remind them of the need to maintain social distancing. Amroth has not been allocated a lifeguard this year as it has been deemed to have less risk than other beaches in the County

**Bus Services**

Councillor Harvey queried why a reduced bus service schedule was being maintained as lockdown eased and suggested that the service be returned to the normal schedule as this would make social distancing easier. With businesses and holiday accommodation opening and a noticeable increase in visitors to the area, the need will be for more buses not less. Amroth especially has car parking issues, with cars often causing obstruction in front of the shops, something ACC has been working with PCC to solve. Less buses will mean more cars. Walkers of the coast path will need two cars if a bus is not available to transport them back to their starting location.

Cllr. Davies reported that in the 15 years she has been resident in Amroth the regular bus service from Tenby to Pendine in pre covid times often only had 3-4 passengers in the hight of the season, and suggested that as the service is not used to capacity that ACC should not be requesting more.

A discussion took place. A number of passengers exit in Summerhill, so the bus does look empty passing through Amroth. If the service cannot be resumed to a pre Covid schedule due to cost, maybe a coastal shuttle bus could be used across the summer months.

There is currently no public information available on the PCC Bus timetable section or the Welsh Travel Line website to indicate what the revised timetable will be from Monday 27th July. The online notes said that a regular Mon - Fri service would be back on, albeit at a reduced level. This means that there are potentially some services missing between Monday - Friday and no service on a Saturday.

Tony Baron agreed to write to PCC to express the view that by reducing services, less people would use the bus and so services would be reduced further. People should be encouraged to use Public Transport to ease parking problems. He will also request more service information to be added to the PCC website making it easier for passengers to find out about bus services.

**3.Planning**

**20/0269/PA JOLLY HAVEN, Starre Gorse, PLEASANT VALLEY, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8LR Proposal:** Proposed single storey rear extension and roof alterations to creat a part first floor. **Comments by 6th August 2020**. ACC has No Objection to this application

Siting of caravans on land next to Stepaside Coachwork. This has been reported to PCC to query if planning is required. PCC are investigating.

**NP/20/0303/FUL Jakar, Wisemans Bridge, Saundersfoot, SA69 9AU. Proposal;** Part demolition, alterations and extensions to residential property to create a total of 4 holiday letting apartments. Construction of new retaining wall on boundary adjoining public highway**. Comments by Monday 27th July 2020 –** ACC has No Objection to this application

**4.Correspondence**

1. Welsh Hearts Cymru, a charitable organisation has written to ask if ACC require more defibrillators in the area. They can offer a financial contribution of up to £200, plus training for councillors and community members. **Agreed;** The Clerk to write about enquire about an additional unit for Stepaside.
2. Western Power - utility service companies are required to maintain a register to help identify 'vulnerable' people. For power companies, this includes households with children under 5, pensioners and people with various medical needs including keeping refrigerated medicines. They use this list to help provide advance notice of planned power outage, offer help where needed and to prioritise restoring of power in unplanned outages. To sign up see https://www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-the-community/priority-services/priority-services-register
3. Marie Curie Cancer Charity has written asking for a donation. **Agreed**; ACC supports charities specific to the local area so the Clerk will write to politely decline this request.
4. Dyfed Powys Community Policing team have just re-launched their community messaging system in Pembrokeshire that local neighbourhood police teams are using to share important messages with residents.

People are encouraged to register their details on the system, called Dyfed Powys Community Messages, or DPCM for short, and indicate the type of messages they would like to receive. They could be about watch schemes, incidents in particular areas, or information about events and initiatives.

They would like to get as many people living in our communities to register on the system as possible. You can sign up by visiting

<https://member.everbridge.net/337829242601525/login>

1. **From Stepaside and Pleasant Valley Residents Group** re Public Access to Land at Heritage Park, Pleasant Valley, Stepaside

We are writing to ask Amroth Community Council to consider taking the following actions:

1) Ask the Highways Authority (PCC) to record as public rights of way the following as being deemed as dedicated to the public through more than 20 years of uninterrupted use:

● The south car park and access road at the Heritage Park

● The north car park and access road at the Heritage Park

● Various footpaths around the Heritage Park site identified in the 2007 lease Plan 2 and coloured brown (attached as appendix 1)

2) Ask the Highways Authority (PCC) to prevent the unlawful stopping up or obstruction of any of the public rights of way on the Heritage Park which are threatened imminently due to recent planning applications.

SPVRG respectfully (also) ask that Amroth Community Council:

 1. Notify PCC that there is prima facie evidence that at least some of these previously unrecorded public rights conflict with planning applications recently applied for by the Heritage Park.

 2. Agree to lead a concerted community effort (with assistance from SPVRG) to collect and document evidence from local residents as to which parts of the Heritage Park have been continuously used by the public for at least 20 years, as either footpaths or access and parking space for cars.

3. Request that PCC hold a moratorium on the granting of planning permission for the Heritage Park allowing time for the evidence gathering process above to complete and to be considered by PCC as highways authority.

4. Ensure that PCC updates the Consolidated Definitive Map to accurately show the public rights as described above.

 5. Once PCC confirms the additional public rights of way, we request that ACC as community council, monitor closely, and if necessary, request that PCC as highways authority, act to prevent the unlawful stopping up or obstruction of those rights.

Full letter & maps are with the Clerk

Ben Morris, representative of SPVRG was invited to address the meeting on the issues set out in the letter.

*Cllrs. Cormack and Evans left the meeting before any discussion took place.*

A discussion took place. It was proposed to support this request and for a letter to be drafted and sent to PCC.

**Proposed** Stephen Phillips

 **Seconded** Tony Baron

 **Agreed.** Councillors present voted unanimously to support this proposal.

*Cllrs. Cormack and Evans were contacted to rejoin the meeting following conclusion of this item.*

1. **From PAVS** - Round 2 of the Supporting Community Action Fund is now open for applications. To date grants of £57,910 have been distributed through the Micro and Main grant scheme.

The focus is on ‘**Planning for the Future’,**  and this round of funding is about encouraging organisations to take those first steps towards regenerating community action, confidence and enjoyment, while observing health and safety guidelines. It is also about encouraging organisations to pilot innovative ways of supporting members and beneficiaries, building on lessons learned during the crisis.

**It will provide up to 100% of revenue and capital costs to a maximum value of £2,500 for activity in one or both of the following themes:**

**Theme 1: Recovery: Moving Forward**

For organisations who want to re-start activities or services and/or re-open buildings for members of the public.  This theme might include funding for PPE, signage, motion sensor fittings, deep cleaning, creating outdoor meeting areas, and so on.

**Theme 2: Doing Things Differently**

To develop great ideas, buy equipment or organise training for delivering services differently, resulting in a longer-term changed and/or added value strategy for the future.  This theme will be of particular interest to organisations supporting vulnerable people who have delivered their services differently during lockdown and who plan to continue with these new models of service delivery longer term

The fund is open to constituted voluntary and community groups and social enterprises with established governance structures.

The deadline for applications is the 14th August 2020, with decisions being made at the beginning of September.

For further information or to request an application pack email development@pavs.org.uk

**Zoom Funding Update – Funding for the Future**

2pm – 3.30pm - 12th August 2020

Caroline Marmara will provide an update on the current funding opportunities available to the sector. At a time when groups are beginning to make plans to restart activities, may be in different formats, this session will highlight what funds are available on a local , regional and national level. Plus an opportunity to ask questions and share ideas.

Email development@pavs,org.uk to book a place, an invitation will then sent to you

1. The Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs has formally laid the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales in the Senedd for a 40-day period, prior to full publication. Once adopted, this Strategy will replace the 2011 document and progress will be reported every two years.

The new National Strategy sets out our ambitious approach to reducing the risks of flooding and coastal erosion and links with new flood data, mapping and planning advice to ensure our decisions do not store up problems for future generations. It has a strong focus on catchments approaches and natural flood management and is accompanied by our recent improvements to the Welsh flood and coastal programmes and the extra support we are providing to Local Authorities and NRW to accelerate delivery and help at-risk communities, including those who flooded earlier this year

The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales National Strategy;

<https://senedd.wales/laid%20documents/gen-ld13343/gen-ld13343-e.pdf>

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); <https://senedd.wales/laid%20documents/gen-ld13344/gen-ld13344-e.pdf>

**5.Finance as of June 30th 2020**

Account 70121649 – £3989.19

Account 40736856 – £15,190 66

David Rees £792.90

**Payments;**

**Clerks Wages £304.25 + expenses £62.13** ( for 3x calculators, U bolts for Dog waste bag dispensers and travel)

**Councillor expenses Roger Harries £15.75** (travel)

**Tree removal £700 – paid (agreed November 2019)**

**Income**

**Interest £4.08**

**VAT reclaim £950.66**

**Financial support for Village Halls in the ward**

Both Halls have received grant funding and so are financially secure at this time.

**Audit 2019/2020**

Notification received that the external audit report will not be received until September

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

The hall is closed at this time. The inside has been painted during lockdown.

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

The Hall is closed but maintenance work is ongoing**.** Information has been received on safe reopening measures, but no official date has been set. The oil tank has been replaced and the audio and hearing loop are working well. The new lighting is in hand.

Items from ‘Keep Wales Tidy’ to build a wildlife garden on Community land have been received.

Reminder about widening the gate entrance to the Old Chapel to enable the mower to access easily.

Now the Modus has been removed from the entrance to the Clay Pits, can removable bollards be placed across the entrance to prevent this reoccurring. Cllr Harries suggested that the groundwork for the bollards and the widening of the gateway be combined to reduce cost. He will source quotes which will be circulated to Councillors by email for agreement to proceed. Ideally the work can then be carried out during the drier summer months.

Cllr. James reported that it is doubtful that the monthly community Police meetings will be resumed, and the new Community Messaging scheme will be the source of community information (See earlier item under Correspondence).

 **11. Project Updates**

* **Amroth Good Neighbours –** A joint meeting with Haverfordwest Good Neighbours is taking place via Zoom at 8 pm on Monday 27th.
* **Exercise Jantzen –** No activity has taken place this month.
* **Road Names –** Covered earlier under matter arising
* **Amroth free Wifi –** Cllr Cormack has been in touch with PCC regarding the plan to use the toilet block to host an antenna. He is waiting for a response.

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

Nothing to add at this time

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

* Micro plastics and Trommel Device – Anna Strzelecki has been in touch to inform Councillors that a Trommel device is available in the county to clean micro plastics from beaches. While a very small amount of micro plastic has been seen at Wisemans Bridge it does not warrant use of the trommel at this time. Amroth is not affected.
* **District Enforcement has recommenced. They will be patrolling open spaces which the public have access to – including streets and parks - and anyone seen littering or failing to pick up after their dog will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £150 (reduced to £75 if paid within 10 days).**
* **It has been reported that a number of fines have been issued in Amroth for illegal parking and dogs on restricted areas of the beach.**

**The District Enforcement officers will also be operating on the County’s beaches to ensure that by-laws are being followed. Cars parked illegally have already been ticketed in Wisemans Bridge.**

* Changes to Voting age in Wales. By registering to vote anyone aged 16 or over, including foreign Citizens can now take part in Senedd Elections. Register at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)
* On footpath SP10/10 which passes through Legerland Farm, Llanteg, a gate has been left open, on several occasions by walkers, allowing cattle to roam. This has been reported to PCC who have instructed contractors to contact the farmer to discuss a solution.
* The Bus shelter in Summerhill needs redecorating. **Agreed.** The Clerk will contact PCC regarding this.
* The damaged fence around the play park has still not been repaired and play parks are reopening soon. **Agreed;** Clerk to contact PCC again and copy in Cllr. Baron.
* Cars are travelling at inappropriate speed through Amroth and additional traffic calming measures are required, especially between Mole End and the New Inn. A discussion took place about what measures would be appropriate. **Agreed**. The Clerk to contact the police to carry out speed checks and request a visit from the Road Safety Partnership.
* Funds are being raised locally to purchase a Gator for a local resident to help her mobility and allow her to resume her hobbies**. Agreed.** Councillors agreed this was a worthy local cause to support and instructed the Clerk to donate £250.

**Date of next Meeting is Thursday 17th September 2020 at 7 pm.**

 This will be via Zoom unless informed otherwise.

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

**The meeting closed at 8.48 pm**