**AMBLESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

A meeting of Ambleston Community Council was held remotely via Skype on Monday 25th January 2021 Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

Present were: - Messrs. Julian Harries (Chair), Kevin Morris, Dai Ambrey, Gareth Owen, Mrs. Gail Davies, Cllr. David Howlett, and Mrs. Eirian Forrest (Clerk)

1. Apologies: - Nil
2. **Minutes of the last Meeting (23.11.20)**

Copies of the minutes of the last meeting had been distributed to members. It

was proposed by Gail, seconded by Kevin that they were a true record and that

they were to be signed.

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes**
   1. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – The Clerk has written twice to them but n
   2. o response received.

3.2 Casual vacancy – separate item on agenda

3.4 SLOW sign – Cllr Howlett will chase the matter up.

4. Streetlight outside Cartref – has been fixed.

12. Spikes outside Cartref – The clerk had contacted Stephen Roberts at PCC. His response said that the spikes appeared to be just within the boundary of the property, however, they could prove particularly dangerous being is such close proximity of the public highway. He would forward to Mr Rob Evans, Highways Asset Manager who may be able to advise/take the matter further.

1. **Highway matters**
2. Gareth reported the road surface is breaking up on the road by Cwarre Duon towards Tufton cross roads.
3. Julian reported a blocked drain in the same area as above.
4. Julian reported a newly tarmacked section of road by Parcyllyn to Wolfscastle has surface water which isn’t draining away and causing icy road conditions when freezing.
5. Kevin reported blocked drains on the road from Woodstock-to-Woodstock Farm, and the drain by the post box is overflowing.
6. Julian reported a few patches of top surface breaking up on the road near Slouthy.
7. **Planning**

20/0432/PA – Erection of livestock building, below ground slurry tank and

associated work (partly in retrospect) – Conditionally approved**.**

1. **Ambleston Broadband update**

Progress being made, the cabinet was put in last week and everyone who has applied has had an email to unlock funding. The Ambleston project has overtaken New Moat with connectivity due February/March.

1. **Wallis Pond**
2. Bench – No update
3. Stone Plinth – No update.
4. Silt & overgrowth – The Clerk has been exploring funding options. She has spoken to a lady in PAV’s regarding a South Hook LNG Community grant of £5000 max. Also contacted Ant Rogers, Biodiversity Partnership who advised that he will have a small pot of funding available from April, but suggested to contact Nathan Walton of the Wildlife Trust who’s done a lot of pond enhancement in the last few years and may be able to advise on suitable contractors and funding. Email sent to Nathan but no response received yet.

Grant applications will need two quotes and It was agreed to start getting these together. Pete Howe did say at the meeting in October that he would contact Aquaclear Water Management on the CC’s behalf. The Clerk will chase up.

1. **Defibrillator – payment for replacement pads**

It was proposed by Gareth and seconded by Julian to reimburse The Clerk for purchasing the pads at £37.99.

1. **Casual vacancy**

The Clerk had received an email from someone interested in becoming a Community Councillor The vacancy will need to be advertised. The Clerk will send the list of criteria to the interested person to see if they meet the relevant criteria.

1. **Correspondence**
2. PCC precept remittance – 07/12/2020 - £533
3. Welsh Government – Appropriate Sum under Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2021-2022 is £8.41 per elector.
4. Audit Wales -new Audit arrangements from 2020-21 onwards. Moving to a 3-year cycle, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 will be a basic audit, 2022/2023 will be a full audit. Further details to follow.
5. **Any other business**
6. Gail has noticed that a resident is tipping fire ash down the drain opposite Cartref, Ambleston, which is causing blockages further down the line. The Clerk will report.
7. The Clerk emailed Grant Thornton regarding the result of the annual audit as she hadn’t received any correspondence from them. They responded saying that they hadn’t received the documentation which was posted on 02 September 2020. The Clerk resent the documentation to them, however didn’t have a copy of the signed Governance Statement to send. A response was received that the audits are in the process of being transferred to Audit Wales, they will send them the information and a note that the paperwork was originally sent on 02 September and someone should be in contact.

NB: Due to the meeting being held remotely the signing of minutes and cheques etc. will be done at a later date.

There being no further matters the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.05pm. Next meeting via SKYPE arranged for 22nd February 2021 at 7.30pm.