**AMBLESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

A meeting of Ambleston Community Council was held remotely via Skype on Monday 26th April 2021 Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

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

1. Apologies: - Nil
2. **Minutes of the last Meeting (22.03.21)**

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

was proposed by Gareth, seconded by Dai that they were a true record and

they were to be signed.

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

* DWR Cymru Welsh Water – No update.
* SLOW sign – is on the schedule of works list.
* Spikes outside Cartref – The spikes have been covered over with poles.
* Road surface by Cwarre Duon – Julian has taken a photo of the stretch of road in question and the Clerk has forwarded the photo to Dorian.
* Blocked drains on road to Woodstock Farm – Unsure if these have been done.

1. **Highway matters**

Nothing to report.

1. **Planning**

20/1012/PA – Extension of existing domestic garage to form domestic garage with workshop at Hook Farm, Ambleston – Conditionally approved.

1. **Ambleston Broadband update**

Cllr Howlett gave an update that engineers will be out and about and individuals will be contacted soon to book their connections. Gail said that work on the poles had stopped due to a shortage of poles. David said that it is in Broadway Partners interest to overcome the problem as soon as possible.

1. **Wallis Pond**
2. Stone Plinth – No quotes received.

1. Silt & overgrowth – Brian from Aquaclear Management went to the pond two weeks before and said the silt is solid and that using his machines would not be a cost effective way to remove the silt, and that an excavator would be cheaper and quicker option.

Following a suggestion by Ant Rogers, PCC to contact Nathan Walton, Wildlife Trust the Clerk arranged a meeting that day with Nathan, Brian from Aquaclear Management, Dai, and herself. Nathan advised that a meeting with NRW was required to discuss the works required and said that NRW has access to funding. Nathan will contact Mair and Chris at NRW to arrange a meeting.

1. **Casual vacancy/Co-option**

No further interest in the post received. It was agreed to invite Rosie McDonald to the next meeting with a view to Co-opt.

1. **Annual Accounts**

* The accounts were circulated to members prior to the meeting. The end of year accounts was read out – Receipts including the brought forward balance at 31.03.20 – £3451.06, payments total £1630.50. Community Account balance at 31.03.21 – £1820.56. The annual accounts, bank statements will be signed at a later date.
* Asset Register – remains the same as last year.

1. **Annual Audit – this year’s requirements**
2. In January we were notified by Audit Wales that in 2020/21 the audit will be moving to a 3-year cycle; however, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant backlog in the completion of the audit work and it has been decided to defer the new arrangements for one year.
3. Audit of Accounts 2021 – the Auditor General has appointed Monday 20 September 2021 as the date from which electors can exercise their rights under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004. The annual return must be certified by the RFO and approved by the Council by 30 June 2021. The audit notice must be published on the noticeboards and on the website for a minimum of 14 calendar days, and after the 14 calendar days arrangements for the public to inspect the accounts and supporting documents for a total of 20 working days to be completed by 17 September 2021. This year’s requirements are:

* A copy of the Clerk/RFO contract of employment
* Where the Clerk/RFO salary is not specified in the contract or is set annually minutes of the meeting at which the salary was agreed by the Council.
* Payslips and tax record for Clerk/RFO for October 2020.

The Clerk had been in contact with One Voice Wales regarding the requirements, who advised:

*all employees must be provided with what is called a ‘written statement of particulars’ (this is not necessarily the contract of employment), which must include certain information (name of employer, salary, entitlement to annual leave, etc). You should have an employment contract (although this is not a legal requirement), and whilst these are usually in writing they can also be verbal agreements.*

It was agreed for the Clerk to draft a contract of employment for consideration.

1. **Correspondence**

Nil.

1. **Any other business**
2. Gail reported a blocked bridleway Path No. PP1/14 which is above Wallis pond/below Y Garn. The Clerk will report the matter to Sean Tilling, Countryside Officer at PCC.
3. Cllr Howlett noted on the Ambleston Community Facebook page, Marian Doward had done a litter pick on Wallis Common and had asked for help for more litter picks.

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

There being no further matters the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm. Next meeting via SKYPE arranged for 24th May 2021 at 7.30pm.