

Minutes of the Zoom meeting of Marloes & St Brides Community Council starting at 1930 on Monday February 15th 2021.

In attendance: Councillor Peter Smithies (Chairman), together with Councillors Brian Johnson, Christopher Jessop, William Richards, Louise Beal & James Kimpton

Mrs. Yvonne Evans – Council Clerk

County Cllr. Reg Owens

Community Residents – Rosemary Royle & Simon Wood

1. The minutes of the January 2021 meeting having been circulated beforehand were approved by the meeting, on the proposal of Cllr. Jessop, and seconded by Cllr. Richards.
2. Matters Arising

Marloes Sands car park – Cllr. Smithies advised that a site meeting had been held at the Car Park. There are problems with the water flow with regard to the Runwayskiln track. (Car Park Hut arrived on site on the 16th February).

Street Light – Clerk had been advised that there is a backlog of repairs – Light opposite Mourne House still not working. (Repaired 16/02/21)

Dog Fouling – No action taken as yet on an extra bin.

Highway Matters – Cllr. Smithies had spoken to the landowner, Mr. P. James who had agreed that the surface water near Gay Lane Terrace could be drained into the Town Meadow. Cllr. Smithies had stopped to speak to the Highway Staff surveying the site, and asked if the camber of the road could be altered to drain all the water away. Mr. Evans, PCC had advised that work at Gaylane Terrace would be undertaken this month, and the Philbeach problem would be part of the 2021/22 programme. Mr. Evans, PCC had visited Fopston Road, and advised the Council of his concern over farming activities breaking up the surface. Cllr. Richards advised that surface water drainage is also causing problems with the carriageway. Clerk to respond, and advise that Cllr. Richards is willing to meet Mr. Evans on site to discuss the matter further.

Noted that a damaged sign at Skokholm Back had been repaired today, and that the Clerk has requested that missing black & white marker posts be replaced alongside the stream on the road from the Mullock Bridge junction to Winterton junction. The road is very close to the stream in places.

Puffin Shuttle – Cllr. Owens had advised that 1,249 people had used the bus in 6 months, and 122 had used the single service in October, November & December.

PCC Seminars – Cllr. Smithies is planning to attend the next on-line meeting on 25/02/21 – to discuss “How do we work better together.”

Speed Warning Sign – The Council has been advised that Mr. Phil Leggett, PCC Highways Project Manager is now in charge of the contract.

Bathing Water Quality – The Clerk read out to members the action/discussions undertaken by Mr. Burton in relation to this matter. Mr. Burton envisages that other interested parties may take an interest in this matter, as bathing quality is more important now with people being encouraged to exercise. Noted that NRW undertake sampling at Mullock Bridge. Also noted that recently, Welsh Government has announced that all Wales will be in a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone, rather than individual areas. Winterton Marsh catchment area had been of interest, and many local landowners had cooperated with discussions – Planned BRICS project.

3. Community Issues

COVID 19 – Noted that Tier 4 restrictions continue with a review later this week. The number of cases in Pembrokeshire, Wales and in the UK have dropped, but there are still high numbers in hospital, and UK deaths are nearing 120,000. Most of the over 70's locally have received their first vaccine, and the over 60's are the next target group. Cllr. Beal confirmed that the 3-7 year olds are due to return to Coastlands School next week. The Clerk advised that there have been problems with Holiday homes/lets being visited by owners, or apparently let. These have been referred to the County Council Covid team who either take action themselves, or advise the police if relevant.

(Mrs Royle and Mr. Woods entered the meeting at 8pm and the meeting then discussed the notes on the website prepared by Mrs. Royle – see item under correspondence.)

Sewage Problem – Glebe Lane, Marloes

The Clerk and Cllr. Johnson updated the Council on the problems experienced since the last Council meeting. Clerk had been contacted by Mr. & Mrs. Watts, Foxdale who had experienced a lot of problems. The Clerk read out the recent e-mail from Welsh Water Customer Care Officer, Charlotte Cassemis. Noted that

testing will be carried out in the coming weeks, if the weather is suitable, and a report by the 8th April should be received. Cllr. Jessop asked if testing would be carried out during night hours, as this was the best way to gauge groundwater ingress. It was agreed, that at present there were no holiday homes/lets occupied which should make it easier to detect problems. Cllr. Owens was asked if PCC Environmental Health could be involved, as the Council do not want ongoing problems with sewage spilling onto the roadway. Agreed that the Clerk respond to the e-mail from Welsh Water.

War Memorial – Mrs. Evans drew attention to the need for the War Memorial in St. Peter’s Churchyard to be refurbished. A grant application can be made, but there will be a shortfall to be made up locally. The War Memorial covers residents who have died from across the Community area. It is some years since the last refurbishment. Both Churches have had a sharp drop in income over the last year, so the shortfall in funding may need to be made up by specific fund-raising. Agreed that the Clerk make further enquires to see what is the likely shortfall. The Council cannot make any financial commitment at this stage.

4. Correspondence

Hywel Dda University Health Board – Views had been sought on the following - “Help shape future pharmacy services”. Noted.

Clerks & Councils Direct – January 2021, Issue 133 received.

Marloes Website – An e-mail from Mrs. Rosemary Royle dated 10th February had been circulated to Council members. Mrs. Royle has been managing the website since early 2013. Mrs. Royle advised that Serif had withdrawn support without notice for the website, and she had been unable to purchase the latest version of the software, but the system has continued to work on Windows 10. She now considers that the website needs to be re-developed for reasons set out in her e-mail. She has looked at various possibilities – Wix, Squarespace and Wordpress, and her preference was for a Wix package – cost £72 per annum. The Chairman invited Mr. Simon Wood to speak, as Cllr. Jessop had advised that website development was his particular interest. He endorsed the summary prepared by Mrs. Royle, and advised that he would recommend Wordpress as a more suitable tool. After further discussion, it was agreed that Mrs. Royle and Mr. Wood would liaise on pursuing the Wordpress option. On the proposal of Cllr. Smithies, seconded by Cllr. Jessop the meeting agreed that a figure up to £100 be made available to cover the change to another provider.

Social Media/Facebook/Blog

Cllr. Jessop raised the possibility of the Community having Facebook as a social media presence to cover more immediate needs for communication – road closures, lost animals, and more general information. He referred to St. Ishmaels – Tish Topics as an example – this is operated by the Council Clerk who has overall control on content. Mrs. Evans advised that Welsh Government had circulated on the 22nd January a Digital Media Communications Guide. After discussion, it was agreed that Cllrs. Jessop and Kimpton together with Mr. Simon Wood consider options, and report further to the Council.

The following e-mails were received by the Council:-

18/01/21 – Welsh Govt. – Keep Wales Safe Campaign

18/01/21 & 05/02/21 – Dan Shaw, PCC – Seminars

21/01/21 & 05/02/21 – OVW/HM Land Registry – Survey for community Councils to complete by 26/02/21. Target dates for registration – 2025/Public Land & 2030/Private Land. Noted

21/01/21 – CHC/Gwen Clements – Request to attend CC meetings – Noted.

22/01/21 – OVW – New Chair is Cllr. Theodoulou- Pembrey & Burry Port T. C.

24/01/21 – Cllr. R. Owens – Road Closure affecting mainly the Dale Community.

28/01/21 – PCC Budget Planning – Details on involvement by other Councils.

Cllr. Owens advised that the County Council is planning a 3.25% increase.

01/02/21 – Dan Shaw, PCC – Free Digital Training from 22/02/21.

03/02/21 – Ben Davies, Planed – Notice Board Sites.

03/02/21 – Sue Burton, SAC – Coastal Fountain Fund – Water Refill Stations – Noted that Runwayskiln Cafe is offering a free water access facility.

5. Planning

- a) New gateway, C3102 Martins Haven Road – Musselwick Farm. No retrospective planning application received to date.
- b) NP/21/0090/FUL – Proposed alterations & rear extension, The Gables, Glebe Lane, Marloes. The Council considered that with the extension being

to the rear of the property is will have no impact on neighbours. The new layout on the ground floor is to accommodate the needs of household members, and will be of modern living standards with regard to insulation etc. The Council have no objections to the application.

- c) SPG Consultation – Draft submission circulated and agreed, prior to response by 4.30pm on the 12th February.

6. Financial Matters

- a) Wayleave – Noted that the Council had received £3.48 – a bi-annual payment for the U/G cable – Marloes Village Green.
- b) Lloyds Bank – Balance on 28/01/21 - £5, 133.50p. Noted.

7. Clock Tower

19/02/21 – The Clock House – Complaint received reference the Clock chiming continually in the early hours. Noted there had been a ring through fault –since rectified.

8. Urgent Matters

- a) HMRC Scam – Cllr. Kimpton drew attention to a scam contact he had received earlier that day reference tax avoidance. Noted.
- b) Renewable Energy in Wales – Cllr. Jessop drew attention to this consultation, with particular regard to Renewable Energy. Agreed that he circulate a draft response for consideration by Council members.
- c) Beach Litter Collections - Cllrs Smithies & Richards advised Cllr. Owens that the PCC officer (Gareth) responsible for collecting beach litter responds promptly to notification of bags to be collected. Cllr. Richards advised that some 8 bags of rubbish had been removed from Mill Haven, also lobster pots and rope.
- d) Covid Regulations – Cllr. Jessop advised that the police have been moving motorists on, found parking at Pickleridge, Dale.

The Chairman closed the meeting, advising that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday 15th March, when the draft minutes of this meeting will be submitted for approval. It is likely that this will need to be a Zoom meeting again.

