**Amroth Community Council/Cyngor Cymuned Llanrhath**

**Draft Minutes** of meeting held by Amroth Community Council on Thursday 22nd July online via Zoom.

**Councillors present:**  T Baron; A Evans; F Evans; R Harries(Vice Chair) ; M Harvey; J James; B Mills; R Tippett- Maudsley.

**In attendance:** Mrs Kathryn Bradbury (Clerk); R Lake; Shelley Connop, Maria Goddard.

**Apologies**: S Phillips; P Davies; A Cormack; M Morris

**Declaration of Interest. None**

Prior to the meeting Maria Goddard, Broadband Engagement Officer at PCC, addressed councillors on the Superfast Broadband project taking place in Pembrokeshire.

**Chair’s Welcome**

Vice Chairman Cllr. Roger Harries took the Chair and welcomed all Councillors to the meeting.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on Thursday 17th June 2021 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. Tony Baron

Seconded by Cllr. Fleur Evans

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

1. **Matters Arising**

* A bid has been submitted to the Traffic and Highways Community Fund for traffic calming measures. Speed measurement equipment has been deployed in the ward at several locations.
* PCNPA have been asked again to turn on the water to the tap outside the toilets in Amroth
* Communication is ongoing with PCC regarding land close to Summerhill Estate that has been suggested for additional parking.
* Potholes on Chapel Lane and subsidence in Amroth were reported. The potholes have yet to be filled.
* Following a query, byelaws confirm horses are allowed on the beach.

1. **County Councillors Report**

**Waste Recycling**

The Waste Recycling Group, of which I am a member, met today and received some heartening news. According to preliminary figures PCC is currently recycling 73% of all waste in the county meeting Welsh Government targets. Pembrokeshire is not only the best county for recycling in Wales but also in the whole of the UK. Unlike some counties, Pembrokeshire managed to maintain its waste collection service throughout the lockdown to the great credit of PCC staff who showed remarkable flexibility.

Owing to financial pressures the service is being asked to save £500,000 in the coming financial year. As a consequence, a review is being undertaken as to whether the county needs 6 recycling centres or whether the opening times of the least-used centres should be cut. Our nearest recycling centre at Crane Cross, is very modern, heavily used and would not appear under threat of closure. Nevertheless, I would recommend that residents respond to the consultation on waste recycling centres currently underway to let their views be known.

**Budget pressure and Council Tax for 2022-23**

I attended the Members Budget Seminar on 2 July, which is the start of the process that will determine the Council Tax rate for 2022-23. Largely due to WG grants, the outturn for 2020-21 was a small underspend of about £1.1 million. The current year has continuing pressure but for 2022-23 the outlook is for a funding gap of £16.6 million. This will involve considerable cost savings by services. A substantial majority of Councillors present were in favour of a 3.75% or higher Council Tax increase next year bearing in mind the need to protect the education and social care services. A 3.75% tax increase would raise about £2.5 million.

**Second Home Charge and the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant Scheme**

The Second Home Charge and the council’s policy towards vacant properties is currently the subject of a public consultation, which ends on 26 July. I would urge those who have not yet responded, to do so. The aim of PCC’s policy has been to bring vacant homes into occupation and to fund affordable housing projects. Some of the money raised from the second homes charge has funded the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant scheme. This is currently under review. There is pressure for there to be a single community pot to fund approved local projects rather than to award pots of money to Wards according to the number of second homes in the ward. I believe that those wards that suffered the direct impact of second homes should continue to be the recipients of funding mitigating the impact of second home ownership and demonstrating to the payers of the charge the use of the funds in the areas where they have their homes.

**School Places**

I attended a very informative presentation on Planning School Places on 20 July. The county has currently 61 schools and while rural areas cannot be treated in the same way as those in towns there is no doubt that there will be pressure to reduce the number and to federate schools. There is currently a substantial excess in the number of places in our schools. Greenhill School for example, has 29% excess place but that should be reduced in September when the school roll is expected to increase by 60. The ideal level of excess places is between 7.5-10%.

**IRONMAN**

Ironman Wales has been postponed to 11 September 2022 due to current Covid-19 issues. PCC has signed a five-yea Host Agreement from 2022-2026 inclusive.

**Electoral Roll**

All residents are urged to ensure that they are registered to vote including 16 and 17-year olds, who are now eligible to vote in next year’s local elections.

1. **Planning**

Building work at a property in Stepaside, which appears contrary to planning permission, is being investigated by Planning Enforcement.

**20/0585/PA. Land adjacent to fern Villa, Llanteg, SA67 8QA. Proposal:** Demolition of outbuildings & construction ofnew house**. Amroth Community Council submitted no objection comments but following reports to the community council regarding surface water and flooding issues on the land, the comments have been amended to ask that this be investigated and taken into account before any decision is made.**

*This application also highlighted a time difference between the Community Council being informed of planning applications by email and residents being informed by post. Application notices that arrive immediately before a community Council meeting will be held to allow residents time to make their comments known to the Community Council and for these to be considered before the councils comments are submitted to the planning authority.*

Groundwork at the back of a property on Cliffe Road has been reported to the Community Council. There appears to be no corresponding planning application. A query has been raised with PCNPA who have reported that it has been forwarded it to the Environment Agency for comment.

There is no update on Meadow House Caravan Park planning.

**21/0153/PA The Haven, Pleasant Valley. SA67 8NY. Proposal**; replacement dwelling. **This application has been refused**

**20/0802/PA Camp Site, Pant Glas Farm, Tavernspite. SA34 0NS. Proposal,** Siting of 36 self-catering units,associated infrastructure and ecological enhancement. **Comments by 5th August 2021.**

**Amroth Community Council have no objection to this application but are mindful that the population most likely to be affected by this application is in a neighbouring Council area. The Clerk has therefore forwarded the consultation to the Clerk of Lampeter Velfrey Community Council for comment.**

**Glastir Woodland Creation plan for Craig y Borion**. This will involve planting 0.56 ha of native broadleaves trees as shown in the attached map. If you have any comments and/or queries about this plan, please contact Gus Hellier ([gushellier@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ghellier@carmarthenshire.gov.uk); 07919 592770). **Amroth Community Council have no objection to plans outlined in this consultation.**

**Woodsmoke Lodge, Stepaside. SA67 8NY. Amroth Community Council have received notice from PCNPA that they are investigating the erection of a large wooden structure at this property. No planning application has been received.**

1. **Correspondence**

* **UK Forestry Standard review – stakeholder input sought** The four administrations of the UK are undertaking a review of the current [UK Forestry Standard (UKFS)](https://forestry.gov.scot/publications/105-the-uk-forestry-standard/viewdocument). We are now seeking initial stakeholder feedback on potential changes to the technical content of the next version, due to be published at the end of 2022. The online consultation opened on 29 June and closes on 10 August 2021. The consultation can be accessed at: <https://consult.gov.scot/scottish-forestry/5875ee93>
* **Waste and Recycling Centres (WRCs) in the County**.

A public consultation has launched. It follows examination of data that showed at some sites less than 30% of available slots at WRCS are being booked. Against a backdrop of ongoing changes to recycling legislation from the Welsh Government and increasing financial pressures, it is now timely to undertake a review of the WRCs. The consultation and full consultation document can be found here: [https://haveyoursay.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhaveyoursay.pembrokeshire.gov.uk%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7Ca9e2da94f2ca48dff9e008d941faa115%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637613368047698295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=0oXAreo%2BV5CQA14FoGj3ZXakIDQd0Zvm4TGT1dUU9ts%3D&reserved=0)

* **Pembrokeshire LDP and PCNPA LDP** **Joint Supplementary Planning Guidance on:**

Archaeology and Biodiversity

**and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan 2 Supplementary Planning Guidance on:**

Caravan, camping and Chalet Development, Parking Standards, Community Land Trusts and Affordable Housing, renewable energy and Sustainable Design and Development.

The final joint guidance was adopted at Pembrokeshire County Council’s cabinet meeting of 17May 2021 and all the guidance listed above was adopted at the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority’s meeting of 5 May 2021.

The results of the public consultation and a copy of the guidance can be found on the authorities’ websites at: [Supplementary Planning Guidance (LDP2) - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pembrokeshirecoast.wales%2Fplanning%2Fplanning-policy%2Flocal-development-plan-2%2Fsupplementary-planning-guidance-ldp2%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7C6cccfc3e9b674dc0596908d94216e2b9%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637613488342291899%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=D4tzK0%2BJzeQyUSb402oU%2BmUB80YAsVbKtillEKbsMFY%3D&reserved=0)

and

[LDP Supplementary Planning Guidance - Pembrokeshire County Council](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pembrokeshire.gov.uk%2Fadopted-local-development-plan%2Fldp-supplementary-planning-guidance&data=04%7C01%7C%7C6cccfc3e9b674dc0596908d94216e2b9%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637613488342301853%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=EuQnZmZo5dsEPJyqDkS0FATJQZu5km%2B3uiQWZFFsHqY%3D&reserved=0)

In some instances, the supplementary planning guidance replaces supplementary planning guidance documents as set out below.

| Supplementary Planning Guidance | Replaced by |
| --- | --- |
| Pembrokeshire County Council’s Biodiversity (20 May 2014) | Joint Supplementary Planning Guidance on Biodiversity – Adopted May 2021 |
| Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Caravan and Camping and Chalet Development (interim September 2020) | Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Caravan, Camping and Chalet Development – Adopted May 2021 |
| Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Renewable Energy (interim in part September 2020) | Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Renewable Energy – Adopted May 2021 |

For more information, contact Park Direction at Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority call 01646 624800 or email [devplans@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk](mailto:devplans@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk)

The joint documents are available to download from the Pembrokeshire County Council website (link provided above), and from the National Park Authority web site (link provided above) and can be viewed at the National Park Authority offices (when open to the public), Oriel y Parc (when open to the public) and on publicly accessible computers in public libraries where available.

* **A new round of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Sustainable Development Fund is now open**.  The Fund is supporting community projects in and around the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park that contribute towards a reduction in carbon and help respond to the climate emergency. We are looking to fund projects that can deliver one of three specific carbon reduction projects listed below. There is also a fourth option for community led project ideas that reduce carbon and can demonstrate how they help to mitigate the climate emergency.

1. Install renewable energy generation facilities to a community building i.e. solar panels
2. An initiative to promote reduction in carbon emissions in transport i.e. installing an electric charging point for bikes or cars or by supporting access to non-individual travel
3. Install a community facility that minimises waste, i.e. water fountain
4. Any other community-based carbon reduction initiative.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on Friday 10th September.  Further information on how to apply and an application form can be downloaded by clicking on this link  [Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pembrokeshirecoast.wales%2Fabout-the-national-park-authority%2Fsustainable-development-fund%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7Cd265e6fb0ed54027108708d946b5fc96%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637618569713629956%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2FgMcO6Iv9t8R%2B0UVyNK24cDqMEVfD25tFBk0qrl8Ges%3D&reserved=0) which will take you to the Sustainable Development webpage.

1. **Finance as of 28 May 2021**

Account 649 – 23,170.20

Account 856 – £15,193.90

David Rees £1334.22

**Income**

Interest 0.38p

**Payments;**

Clerks wages

Dylan Harries – Internal audit £200

Bev Mills Expenses for the Wildflower project

Payments for the new playground project.

**All Payments were agreed**

1. **To discuss and resolve Asset and ward maintenance issues**

* PCC are still investigating who owns/ is responsible for the maintenance of the stone bridge at Wisemans Bridge Beach which is dangerous and in urgent need of repair.
* The road from Amroth Arms to Amroth Farm is very overgrown and needs cutting urgently. With the number of visitors on the road it is a health and safety issue. **Agreed;** The Clerk to report this to PCC.
* The Clerk has again written to PCC requesting paint for the Bus stop in Summerhill and the toilets by Amroth Castle Caravan Park.
* Speed monitor strips have been put in place around Amroth / Summerhill.

1. In Summerhill, immediately opposite the bus stop. This is in the 30mph zone and at the point where you decelerate if turning down to Amroth.

2. In Amroth, on the rise between the Castle slipway and Toad Hall.

3. On the main road between Kilanow Farm and the Summerhill junction, directly opposite the main road sign.

4. Pleasant Valley in the 30mph zone. The Clerk has written to request these strips are moved to the delimited zone where speeding is an issue.

* Since the removal of the waste bin from the Bus stop in Stepaside, there seems to be a lot more litter, especially dog waste. **Agreed;** The Clerk to request the bin is replaced.
* Dust has been put on the road through Wisemans Bridge where the tarmac has been melting in the heat.

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

The hall is open, and clubs have resumed.

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

The hall is open, and clubs have resumed.

9 tonnes of chippings donated by Carol and Sam Lander was transported free of charge by Paul Turpin for use in the Old School Garden, Llanteg. The Community Council are most grateful for these generous actions. Funding from the PCNPA will support a pollinator project in the Old School Garden, Mountain Chapel, the Clay Pits and Stanwell Corner.

1. **Report by Summerhill Play Area Representatives**

* Work to install the new play equipment will start on 26th July and last for two weeks. The play area will be closed during this time for safety.
* Repairs are being organised for the broken upright on the junior multigym. It has been taped off for safety. Paul Turpin has been asked to quote to carry out the repairs. Funding will be sought to replace this equipment even though the original plan was to keep it. The wood is rotting faster than anticipated.
* Cllr Harvey attended a Play Wales Seminar which highlighted that much of the new equipment being installed in Summerhill is suitable for less able/disabled children to play, that play items can be incorporated into community green spaces and the importance of play to children’s health. Play Wales provide resources to help communities provide suitable play opportunities.

1. **Beach access and dog restriction byelaws**

The dog restrictions on Amroth Beach are to protect the water quality and blue flag status, however every year many dogs and their owners stray on to the restricted section. In addition, access to the restricted area at the New Inn end of the beach is difficult for many and almost impossible for the less abled. The slipway is currently the only way for less abled dog walkers to access the restricted area at the New Inn end but this means crossing the restricted section.

Raising this with PCC, they responded to say that they will look at signage first to make sure visitors are aware of restrictions and ensure that the forthcoming enforcement process aligns with reasonable defences as to why visitors may have inadvertently walked into a restricted area. In addition, they will consult with officers as towhether they acknowledge the geographical challenges (access issues at the New Inn end) of the restrictions at Amroth and therefore be mindful of how they look at the enforcement process in that specific location.

All decisions are data driven with information from onsite officers and enforcement appeals and so if signage and enforcement were seen not to be working, then PCC Officers will meet with ACC to discuss future action.

1. **Bus service in the ward**

Following a meeting with Cllr Phil Baker and Owen Roberts the following actions were agreed in the short term.

* The connection between the 351 and the 222 will be advertised in the relevant timetables and on the destination displays for both buses.
* Taf Valley will look at making the 12 trip ticket available on the Pembrokeshire Services.
* We will look at branding the vehicle to make it more attractive and eye-catching so it encourages people to use it. Perhaps we could put some of the Coastal Bus branding on it as it does serve and important section of the coast.
* ACC will be sent timetable changes and will update the information at bus stops.

In the longer term, PCC will review suggested route/timetable changes to see what would be possible based on the current funding available.

Cllr Harvey reported that Bus travel is free Friday to Monday in the Swansea City region during August and this should be supported across all authorities in the region. He also queried why train services between Carmarthen and Tenby were still operating on a restricted timetable**. Agreed;** Cllr Baron will raise this with Cllr. Paul Miller at PCC.

1. **Superfast Broadband**

The presentation before the meeting highlighted the need for the new Superfast Broadband infrastructure as the current copper connections will become obsolete over time affecting both telephone and internet connectivity. Less than 7% of properties in Pembrokeshire receive full fibre. Most properties on upgraded services currently receive fibre to the green box then copper to the property. The new Superfast Broadband will mean fibre is connected to the property.

The funding from Welsh Government is time restricted, hence the need for interest locally to ensure the Amroth area is included. Businesses and private properties can register their interest without further commitment and Councillors urge you to do this for the benefit of the whole community. See [www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/broadband-survey](http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/broadband-survey).

As part of this project every supplier has to commit to installing full fibre which offers the CAPABILITY to provide 1000 Mbps ( Gigabyte technology ).

Packages then offered by the supplier may be different and in previous project areas the 100 Mbps package is typically £20 and is the one which the vast majority of people are taking advantage of. There are also 300 Mbps (£30), and 1000 Mbps packages ( £60 ) which about 1% of people have taken up.

1. **Project ideas and Updates**

A project group will meet to plan for the year ahead. Please forward any ideas of community benefit to the Clerk.

**Amroth Free Wifi –** Installation is likely towards the end of July

**Exercise Jantzen –** work on the interpretation board is ongoing

**Historic road Signs Project –** No further update

**Wildflower Project –** Volunteers are needed for preparation work in Summerhill on the 20th August and planting on the 23rd August. To take part please register via [Summerhill Wildflower Meadow Planting 23 August 2021](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fwildflower-meadow-planting-summerhill-tickets-163974938455&data=04%7C01%7C%7C9764b63d1080453b2eb808d94b6ae82d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637623744790263163%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gwYwWp2zWhri2WetfsYgrDpVzzW4e%2FC9qt7w08tg2i0%3D&reserved=0) or contact the Clerk.

**Milestone Markers –** Ruth Roberts contacted the clerk several months ago about getting the historic milestone markers protected. The Clerk will progress this project.

1. **Community matters**

* A letter was sent to Class 2 at Tavernspite school thanking them for carrying out a litter pick during a class visit to Amroth Beach
* Cllr. Harries has priced up recycled picnic benches for the play area at £399 inc vat.
* A reply has been received from the Charity Commission with guidance on the disposal of land. Councillors will investigate this further.
* Cllr. Tippet-Maudsley reported that Llanteg Park is not signposted from the road**. Agreed;** The Clerk will contact PCC
* Building activity without the requisite planning approval seems to be increasing. The Community Council is obliged to report these when notified resulting in Enforcement action from the planning authority.
* The Woodland Trust will be removing all trees from the area of land by Llanteg Park due to disease. The area will be replanted with broad leaf native species.

1. **Determine matters Councillors wish to be added for discussion at the next meeting**

* Please send through matters for discussion to the Clerk by Thursday August 12th 2021.

1. **Date of next Meeting is 19th August 2021**

This will be via Zoom unless informed otherwise. Anyone wishing to observe online, please send your email address to [amrothclerk@outlook.com](mailto:amrothclerk@outlook.com) **The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**If you would like to be kept informed as to information regarding matters affecting the parish, road closures, public consultations, sea defences etc please email the clerk and you will be put on our secure mailing list (GDPR compliant).**