Uzmaston Boulston and Slebech Community Council

Thursday 15th March 2021

**Attendance**

D Campbell, H Thomas, S Evans, S Green, M Howe, B Thomas, and M Williams. Also in attendance was County Councillor D Clements and the Clerk.

1. **Chairs Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all, and thanked the councillors for attending.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from L Screen.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

B Thomas declared an interest in the Silage Trucks agenda item, and S Green for the Frolic item.

1. **Minutes**

The minutes from the February 2021 meeting were read and agreed.

1. **Matters Arising**

Agricultural Machinery - The members discussed the use of agricultural machinery in the area and the issues that had been reported to the Council. In particular the councillors raised four issues:

* Road safety – this was the biggest concern as residents had reported issues with dangerous driving, lack of identification and speed. These reports had come from drivers and walkers.
* Road noise – the number and size of the agricultural machines travelling in the area has caused issues for residents in certain roadside areas.
* Road damage – due to the increased size and weight of some of the tractors and trailers, concerns have been raised over the deterioration of the roads.
* Environmental impact – residents have been concerned over the potential amount of slurry coming into the area, and the effect this may have on the environment.

The councillors discussed these issues and how to achieve a workable balance between the needs of the agricultural industry and the feelings of the residents. The councillors suggested sending a letter to local agricultural businesses to start a dialogue and raise issues. In particular adding identification to tractors and trailers, having some advanced notice of silage times (if possible), and to try and establish a set of best practice guidelines. The Clerk was asked to draft a letter.

Village Green – The searches of the Green have been requested, and will take approximately 6 weeks to complete. The councillors also noted the Village Green had been cut.

Man in the Woods – The man has been asked to move over concerns to his health and safety with essential Ash tree cutting in the area.

Other vulnerable residents – There was a discussion around remaining alert to other potential vulnerable people in the area, to ensure anybody needing help should receive it.

Frolic Footpath – The path around the Frolic is being widened and flattened to improve accessibility. D Campbell raised concerns over the maintenance of the path to Uzmaston Church, and S Green has requested a meeting with Sean Tilling to discuss this.

Rubbish – Residents have reported an increase in rubbish in the area. The Clerk was asked to request an additional bin in the Frolic carpark and another for the top of Uzmaston Road by the WI bench.

Church House and Uzmaston Hall – Repairs have been completed to the property and the Church are hoping to sell. The members discussed concerns over the hall and the previous educational ties on the building.

Slebech Church – This has had a recent break in. Councillors were asked to remain vigilant.

Broadband Project – Cllr Clements gave an update on progress. The project is on track.

Bridleways and Multi-User Path – S Evans reported there has been research into the bridleway from Hillblock and whether it can be used. The multi-user path project is looking for an alternative route to avoid Slebech Park.

1. **Planning**

None reported.

1. **Reports for Decisions**

None received.

1. **Reports to Note**

Circulated via email.

1. **Accounts**

The current balance is shown as £12,754.45. There are two outstanding amounts to be deducted before the end of year accounts can be completed.

1. **Payments**

The councillors agreed to issue payments for the Clerks salary (£466.50), Payroll invoice (£30), Zoom refund to Clerk (£14.39), One Voice Wales Membership (£58) and Eaton-Evans and Morris for land searches (£298).

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7.30pm.

Finished at 8.50pm.