

## ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall, Rosemarket on  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Present:** Cllrs Steve Davies, Barbara Summons (M.B.E.), David Hancock, Glyn Jenkins, Jill Gibson; Peter Horton (Clerk);

**Apologies :** None

### **Approval of minutes of December 2018 monthly meeting**

The minutes were approved as written, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C’lir Steve Davies, seconder C’lir Barbara Summons).

### **Discussion of flooding along Honeyborough Road**

Members welcomed Marten Lewis of Melrose House to the meeting, and thanked him for coming along. He had lived there for 5 years. He said that during his time there, there had been increasing damage and erosion to the land occurring, and also some evidence of progressive damage to the carriageway fabric as well. He felt that this could become serious in time. He said that there had been six floods in the last few weeks, and that the last flood was worse than any previous ones in recent times. He said that the hole in the hump-backed bridge was not big enough to allow the water to disperse during times of high rainfall. He also mentioned that the historic leat constructed to divert some water to the old mill would have provided some relief when the bridge was first constructed. However, this was now empty, and had been so for many years, possibly over a century. He also suggested that climate change may be contributing to an increase in rainfall levels. Due to the inadequacy of the bridge hole size, whereas the water used to flow along the wall alongside the road, much of it now crosses the woodland, bypassing the bridge, and thus eroding land over time. Mr. Lewis mentioned that at least five trees had been lost from his land in recent times, and more are under threat. Once they are lost, the problem would be exacerbated, as the banks would be further weakened. In time, unless action is taken, he suggested that the river may not go through the bridge at all, but rather straight across the road and across his land. This is all because the hump-backed bridge is not fit for purpose in respect of allowing the passage of water.

The Chair asked C’lir Barbara Summons of her memory of previous incidents. C’lir Summons commented that failure to clear out the streams of debris was a contributing factor in her opinion.

The Clerk read the message from the P.C.C. Drainage Engineer regarding the stream. This suggested that debris in the stream was not a significant factor, and attributed the problems to the low-lying nature of the land. Mr. Lewis pointed out that some of the flooding is not on low-lying land, but rather caused by backing up of water due to the inadequate culvert.

Members agreed that the Clerk should contact the P.C.C. Highways and Land Drainage Departments to raise the issues mentioned by Mr. Lewis, with a request for a site visit / meeting to assess the situation properly. Message to raise the issue of potential damage to the road fabric as a cause for concern. Mr. Lewis confirmed that he was happy for his email contact details to be provided to P.C.C. in order for them to contact him regarding arrangements. C’lir David Hancock offered to try and be available for site meeting as well, on behalf of the Community Council.

### **Discussion of parking / speeding problems around Village**

Members welcomed to the meeting C.S.P.O. Leanne Nicholls and colleague from the Local Police Service, present to discuss parking and speeding problems around the Village.

Mr. Marten Lewis of Melrose House mentioned a problem with speeding along the road outside his house, which is in a 60mph zone. He said his front step is being hit quite regularly by passing

vehicles, and wanted the 30mph limit extended to beyond the railway bridge. He would also like a pavement in front of his property, and would offer land for this purpose if it could be achieved. It was left with Mr. Lewis to write in with a detailed assessment of the problems and the actions sought to address them, after which Members undertook to consider the matter further.

C’Ilr Glyn Jenkins referred to a general problem with speeding through the Village. He had carried out some ad hoc experiments, which had indicated quite a widespread speeding problem. He asked the officers what could be done about it, and also asked specifically about the Community Speedwatch initiative. The officers said they would ask GoSafe to assess the sites for suitability for the scheme. Middle Street and The Beacon leaving the Village along the Bastleford Road were cited as the two locations where there were perceived to be a particular problem. The latter was of particular concern, as it involved vehicles passing close to the playground. .

The question of a possible 20mph limit in some Village locations was raised for discussion. Members were told that this had been introduced in some Neyland locations, including some locations not close to schools. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to enquire about this.

The officers asked if any speed surveys had been carried out in the Village. It was mentioned that one had been done some years ago, but not been helpful. This was because it was felt that vehicles had slowed down when passing the strips, thus giving a false picture.

Members also raised the issue of parking, which was accepted as an ongoing issue due to the narrow lanes in the Village. As a specific concern, C’Ilr Barbara Summons mentioned a car parked in West Street, on highway. It had a tarpaulin over it, and had been there for around 18 months. The Police officers mentioned that they would check if it was taxed and insured. In general terms however, they said that in the absence of parking restrictions, and if vehicles have a right to be parked, there is little that can be done by them to address perceptions of inconsiderate parking.

C’Ilr Jill Gibson asked about parking on footpaths. It was stated that the pavement is normally technically part of the Highway. If there are no parking restrictions, then there is not viewed as being an issue if there is sufficient room for a pushchair to get through. The officers pointed out that illegal parking issues would be dealt with by the P.C./C. Civil Enforcement section, rather than by the Police. Their advice on responsibility for handling obstructions was not clear cut.

The Officers invited names of those potentially interested in being Speedwatch volunteers. Those who put forward their names would need to be vetted, and would be given training. It was left with individuals to put forward their names personally. Following the discussion, Members thanked the officers for attending, after which they left the meeting.

### **Matters arising**

**Trees behind Middle Street Bus shelter.** Members were informed that some branches were thought to have been lopped back. However, the extent of this was not certain. C’Ilr David Hancock had been in discussion with a local contractor removing a leylandii from a plot close to the bus shelter. It was thought that he might be willing to cut back the branches at a future date, for a small payment. It was agreed that C’Ilr David Hancock would speak to the individual concerned, and arrange to pay up to £20 for him to cut back the branches (proposer C’Ilr Steve Davies, seconder C’Ilr Jill Gibson).

### **Planning**

#### **Applications**

**18/0943/PA (Proposed Single Dwelling, Plot Adjacent to 26 West Street, West Street, Rosemarket, SA731JH) – no comments.**

## **Accounts**

### **Independent Remuneration Panel Members' rates**

Members accepted that the mandatory £150 payment to each Member would need to be precepted, and could not be the subject of a Community Council decision to turn this down collectively. It was left for individual Members to decide whether or not to accept the payment. Members resolved not to implement any of the optional determinations regarding payments to Members (proposer C'lr Jill Gibson, seconder C'lr Glyn Jenkins).

### **Clerk's salary / expenses review**

As per the Clerk's contract, salary to rise by 2.6% from April 2019, in line with the national pay award. Members agreed that all fixed expenses rates should rise by the same rate (proposer C'lr Steve Davies, seconder C'lr David Hancock).

### **Precept for 2019/20**

The precept for 2019/20 was set at £9000 (proposer C'lr Steve Davies, seconder C'lr David Hancock). It was noted that £1500 needed to be precepted for potential mandatory Members' allowances and the ring-fenced sum retained for possible election costs. The remaining balance held on hand was required for potential works to improve the Village Amenity.

### **Income**

R.V.H.C. (contribution towards direct mailing costs) : £56-87

### **Defibrillator fund**

Received from carol-singing event : £155-67

Current standing of defibrillator fund (including carol-singing proceeds) : £1043-13

Members decided to proceed with further defibrillator purchase. C'lr David Hancock to contact Cariad to arrange this (proposer C'lr Steve Davies, seconder C'lr David Hancock).

Clerk to check if he had written to Jack Wood following his recent sponsored swim.

Clerk to write a letter to village choir, C/o 9, Westaway Park, to thank them for the effort made in raising the donation for the defibrillator fund.

## **Correspondence**

All correspondence items were covered in agenda items, or carried over to the February meeting.

### **Any necessary discussion of Village maintenance**

Deferred for discussion at February meeting.

### **Discussion of proposed works at the Village Amenity**

Deferred for discussion at February meeting.

### **Discussion of request to hold community bonfire event on The Beacon**

Deferred for discussion at February meeting.

### **Discussion of R.V.H.C. request to relinquish lease on Westaway Park**

Deferred for discussion at February meeting.

### **Discussion of reported problems of horse-riders using cycle path**

Deferred for discussion at February meeting.

### **Any other business**

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 9-05pm.

### **Date of next meeting**

Monday February 4th 2019, 7pm.