

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall, Rosemarket on
Monday 7th October 2019

Present: Cllrs Jill Gibson, David Hancock, Barbara Summons M.B.E., Rhys Jones; Peter Horton (Clerk);

Apologies : C’llr Steve Davies.

Approval of the September 2019 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C’llr David Hancock, seconder C’llr Rhys Jones).

Matters arising

Grass-cutting, The Beacon. Clerk had spoken to P.C.C. and also One Stop. There had been no response from One Stop, but P.C.C. had responded to say that if the Community Council wished to make separate arrangements for the next season, they would be free to do so.

Signage for Village Amenity. Clerk to chase up a response from the insurers before the next meeting.

Melrose House. C’llr Jill Gibson had been in further conversation with the owners of Melrose House. They had mentioned their intention to obtain a convex mirror, and also to alter some fencing arrangements on the boundary of their land to try and improve the situation.

Planning

There were no plans for discussion this month.

Accounts

Payments

P.C.C. (Westaway Park) : £7-50

Quarterly budget review

Members considered the quarterly budget review prepared by the Clerk. This indicated that the finances of the Community Council were in good order.

External Audit

Members considered the letter from the auditors, in which unqualified approval of the accounts for 2018/19 was given. A mention in the letter of a matter concerning alleged depreciation of some assets in the asset register was discussed. The Clerk confirmed that no depreciation had been applied to any asset valuations, but that retrospective depreciation had historically been applied in arriving at some initial valuations following discussion at the time with the Wales Audit Office. It was confirmed that in a subsequent email exchange with the auditors, they had confirmed that any suggestion that depreciation had been applied in the 2018/19 accounts was inaccurate, and recommended that further guidance due for publication would hopefully shed light on how best to deal with the original valuations, if any action should be needed.

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C’llr Barbara Summons, seconder C’llr David Hancock).

Correspondence

- 1) Grant Thornton – Letter of conclusion of audit for 2018/19 accounts – dealt with in ‘Accounts’ above.
- 2) C.A.B. – Invitation to forthcoming 80th birthday celebration event - noted.
- 3) O.V.W. – Details of forthcoming Pembrokeshire area committee meeting – It was agreed that the Clerk would report back to Members on any significant matters discussed at the meeting, based on any reports received back from Councillors attending from other Community Councils.
- 4) Glyn Jenkins – confirmation of end of membership – Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Glyn Jenkins for his contribution to the Community Council’s activities during his time of membership. Clerk to arrange for the statutory vacancy notice to go into the noticeboards and webpage.

Any necessary discussion of Village maintenance

Trees encroaching over highway. C’lir Barbara Summons mentioned that some hedges and trees were in need of cutting back on the stretch between the Chapel and The Beacon. She said that these were encroaching over the road, and causing some issues for passing traffic. The Clerk confirmed that such encroachment would be for P.C.C. Highways to deal with. Members commented that this was an issue in a number of locations around the Village, but was not a serious problem at present. Members undertook to monitor the situation with a view to further action if and when this should become necessary.

Any necessary discussion of Village Amenity

Nothing further to discuss at present.

Discussion of possible purchase of open air gym equipment for The Beacon

To be placed on agenda for discussion in November, with C’lir David Hancock to follow up as possible, looking at possible funding options, etc.

Discussion of situation at recycling area

Members noted that the area had been greatly improved and tidied up. The bins were still present. Note to monitor the situation.

Discussion of Environment Wales Act 2016 requirement to prepare a plan on biodiversity

The Clerk explained to Members that there was an obligation on the Council to prepare a plan of its actions to encourage biodiversity on land in its control, which in practice would apply to The Beacon. There was currently no deadline by which this needed to be complete. However, the first annual report on actions taken towards the preparation of a plan was due by the end of 2019. The Welsh Government had stated that they were going to issue guidance on how to prepare a plan, but this had not yet been published. It was agreed by Members that the matter should be made a regular agenda item for the foreseeable future. C’lir David Hancock undertook to discuss the matter with the Fire and Rescue Authority Sustainability Officer to gain ideas.

Any other business

There was no Other Business this month.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
The meeting concluded at 19-50.

Date of next meeting

Monday November 4th, 2019, 7pm