

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held online on
Monday 4th January 2021

Present: Cllrs Jill Gibson (Chairman), David Hancock, Caroline Haley, Steve Davies; Peter Horton (Clerk);

Apologies : C’llr Barbara Summons.

NOTE – The minutes to record that this meeting was held online via the Zoom video-conferencing platform due to the current Coronavirus pandemic restrictions, and members of the public were not invited to attend. This was as per the Welsh Government emergency Covid-19 regulations governing Community Council meetings.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of the December 2020 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as an accurate record, and held by the Clerk for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’llr David Hancock, seconder C’llr Caroline Haley).

Matters arising

Offer of Christmas tree from Mr. Bob Merriman. The Clerk confirmed that he had sent the message thanking Mr. Merriman for his offer as requested.

Gate at bottom end of footpath from Front Street to The Beacon. Members noted that the footpath was now complete.

Public footpath from Barn Lane to Thurston Lane. Members noted that maintenance work on the footpath had been completed. However, C’llr David Hancock mentioned that a stile in the middle of the path was still in bad condition. Clerk to report this to P.C.C.

Rhys Jones. C’llr Jill Gibson informed Members that she had arranged for a hamper to be made up and delivered, as previously arranged, for which the cost had been covered by Members on an individual basis. She said that Rhys had been delighted with it.

Footpath by railway bridge. The Clerk confirmed that he had discussed this with P.C.C. The path was not currently on the definitive map as a registered public footpath. The Clerk had requested forms from P.C.C. to apply for registration of the path. These were currently awaited.

Planning matters

Applications

There were no applications for consideration this month.

Refusals

20/0540/PA - Proposed residential annex ancillary to the host dwelling.

Site Address: Sunny Hill Cottage, ROSEMARKET, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1JJ

On a separate planning matter, Members raised the issue of the unauthorised letting chalets on land at Woodhouse Barn. Clerk to send letter in to P.C.C. about these, requesting action to address the breach of planning control (proposer C’llr Jill Gibson, seconder C’llr David Hancock).

Correspondence

- 1) P.C.C. – Play area inspection regime – Members agreed to accept the P.C.C. rechargeable inspection scheme for the forthcoming 2021/22 year (proposer C’lrr Jill Gibson, seconder C’lrr David Hancock). Matter to be tabled for review in September, to assess how the scheme was going.
- 3) Police and Crime Commissioner for Wales – consultation on policing priorities – noted.
- 4) P.C.C. – Response re. right of way adjacent to old railway bridge – discussed in ‘Matters Arising’ above.

Accounts

Payments

There were no payments for approval this month.

Discussion of precept for 2021/22

The Clerk had circulated a provisional budget projection for the coming financial year.

Members resolved to make the following amendments to the projections :

Bus shelter maintenance to be listed specifically as part of the amount set aside for village maintenance, with this sum being increased to £1000 in total. [In connection with the footpaths around the Village, C’lrr Jill Gibson mentioned that some had moss on them, and were very slippery. Clerk to report this to P.C.C. for their information / action. Areas of particular concern were at the top end of Middle Street, and other shady areas, mainly in Middle Street.]

Playground maintenance and improvements to be precepted at £1500.

The precept for 2021/22 was set at £9450, this representing a 5% increase after the past increase two years previously.

Clerk to circulate updated budget projection document to all Members when amended.

It was noted that the reserves projected were to be held for potential additional expenditure on precepted projects, and as a small contingency fund for unanticipated expenditure.

Internal audit for 2020/21

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact the internal auditor from last year, and invite her to carry out the audit of the 2020/21 accounts.

Clerk’s expenses allowances

Members agreed for the Clerk’s contract to be amended for these fixed allowances to automatically alter in line with the N.J.C. pay award already in use for annual salary increases. It was noted that for the past few years this had been implemented annually, and this arrangement would remove the need for this to be discussed every year.

The above items were agreed by Members (proposer C’lrr Caroline Haley, seconder C’lrr Steve Davies).

Discussion of possible tree-planting schemes for Village

After some discussion, it was agreed that C’lrr David Hancock would examine the suggested planting / landscaping schemes provided by Mr. Richard Staden of P.C.C., and report in detail to the February meeting with his recommendations on how to proceed, especially in relation to the area by the bus shelter in Middle Street. Clerk to investigate arrangements for obtaining searches on underground services and equipment. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion next month.

Discussion of vacancy for council member following the resignation of C’lrr Rhys Jones, and of appropriate way to mark C’lrr Jones’ years of service to the Community

Clerk to advertise for applications for co-option as soon as confirmation had been received from the Elections Office in P.C.C. Matter to be placed on the agenda for further discussion in February.

With regard to how to note Rhys Jones’ years of service to the Community, Members were agreed that a notice in the Western Telegraph would be a good idea. C’lrr Caroline Haley undertook to ask C’lrr Barbara Summons if she knew exactly how long he had served as a Council Member. C’lrr

David Hancock thought he might have a suitable photograph that could be cropped and used for the entry in the Western Telegraph.

Any other business

Damage to noticeboard by Village Hall. The Clerk confirmed that arrangements were in hand for the repairs to the noticeboard, with the contractor currently awaiting delivery of the acrylic sheeting needed to complete this. C’llr David Hancock confirmed that the Police were still dealing with the matter, and seeking an interview with the suspect in the presence of the family guardians. However, it was thought that, as there had been no direct witnesses of the vandalism, any action might be dependent on a confession being obtained. Getting the cost of repairs recovered might be dependent on this, and was also being pursued.

Litter along Rosemarket - Neyland Road. C’llr Caroline Haley mentioned that there had been a lot of litter left along the Neyland Road over the last couple of weeks. Much of this appeared to be from Domino Pizzas and MacDonaldis. Matter to be placed on February agenda for discussion, with a view to possibly contacting these companies to raise the issue.

Date of next meeting

Monday 1st February 2021

The meeting concluded at 8-40pm.