

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held online on
Tuesday 4th May 2021

**Present: Cllrs Jill Gibson (Chairman), David Hancock, Caroline Haley, John O’Boyle; Peter Horton (Clerk);
Apologies : SD.**

Also present – Martin Jones & Pat Griffiths (local residents).

NOTE – The minutes to record that this meeting was held online via the Zoom video-conferencing platform due to the current Coronavirus pandemic restrictions. This was as per the Welsh Government emergency Covid-19 regulations governing Community Council meetings.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of the minutes of the April 2021 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 Jill Gibson, seconder C’llr Caroline Haley).

Public Forum

Pat Griffiths and Martin Jones were present to address the Council, concerning issues raised about their business at Woodhouse Barn. Due to technical issues, they had been unable to address the meeting the previous month. Mr. Jones wished it to be known that they did read the planning objections and letters of complaint raised about their business, and try to address the concerns when raised. He cited as examples of this the installation of an electricity supply to address concerns about the noise from generators. They had also tried to address traffic issues as possible. He reminded those present that they too were part of the community, and were running a business on which 72 people depended for their income in whole or in part. In respect of their planning applications to extend the months of operation to include March, October and November, he referred to the current situation whereby they were fully booked every year. He mentioned that currently the venue was booked until 2023. The extra months requested were simply to accommodate people’s wish to get married. He mentioned the effect on the business of having been forced to close for a whole year. He stated that if the business was to be restricted to 40 events, they would inevitably be larger, and possibly for more than one day. He said they focussed on weddings and corporate events, not festivals, because these had less impact on the community. Regarding the reported problem of litter in the vicinity of the venue, he mentioned that they and their staff carried out litter picking regularly, picking up everything they found as part of their contribution to the community. He said this would include such items as cans, which they did not even sell at their venue, so could not be attributed to them. Regarding the passing places, he noted the complaints about the condition of these, but said they always received complaints when they tried to do something to maintain the passing places, so could not win. They said they had been sorry about Mrs. Doherty not having been able to get to the vet, but noted that there were three possible exit routes from her property. They suggested that complaints about traffic along Barn Lane were long-standing, and partly generated by people who had knowingly chosen to live in properties right next to the highway. They stressed that they had no desire to cause problems, and just wanted to be able to put over their side of the debate. In connection with the permissions on the premises, they said they already had year-round consent for activities at The Haybarn. They said it was not their

intention to actually operate all year round, but they were seeking greater flexibility in arranging events. They also stated that the premises was currently only open for 7% of the available time.

Following Mr. Jones' comments, the Chairman thanked Mr. Jones and Ms. Griffiths for attending and giving their view to Members. He stated that this would be most helpful in informing any future decisions or recommendations Members might be called upon to make in relation to their premises.

[NOTE – at this point Martin Jones and Pat Griffiths left the meeting]

Matters arising

Litter-picking. Members were informed that litter-picking equipment had been delivered to C'lr David Hancock's house, and was available there for any Members or residents who wished to collect items for use in litter-picking. Full bags should be left somewhere convenient, and P.C.C. informed, so they could collect them.

Path registration of path alongside old railway bridge. The Clerk informed Members that no further user evidence forms had been received by him. C'lr Jill Gibson mentioned that a few forms were currently out with some long-standing members of the community. Members were agreed to defer the matter for another month, and place the matter on the agenda for further discussion in June.

Request for site meeting with officers from P.C.C. Highways Department. The Clerk confirmed that he had sent in the request, but had only received a holding response. Clerk to chase up.

Woodhouse Barn. The Clerk confirmed that he had written the draft letter to P.C.C. concerning the ongoing unresolved issues at the Woodhouse Barn, and sent this to C'lr Jill Gibson for comment. Members were happy for the letter to go off, with C'lr David Hancock as the signatory, as the current Chairman. Regarding Mr. Jones' comment that use of the Haybarn was unrestricted in respect of months of operation, the Clerk was asked to check this with P.C.C.

Planning matters

There were no plans for discussion this month.

Correspondence

- 1) Zurich – Insurance renewal – Members resolved to accept the quotation from Zurich (proposer C'lr David Hancock, seconder C'lr Jill Gibson).
- 2) P.C.C. – Guidance on no smoking signage requirements – Members noted the need to get some signs put up to comply with the requirements of the new legislation. Clerk to ask P.C.C. if they could provide bilingual signs to comply with the regulations, on a rechargeable basis. Members also raised the issue of the possible merits of placing fencing around the play equipment. That matter was deferred for consideration in an agenda item in June to discuss the whole issue.

Accounts

Internal audit report

Members had received the internal audit report for the 2020/21 accounts, and accepted this (proposer C'lr David Hancock, seconder C'lr Jill Gibson).

Annual Governance statement

Members considered the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21. All of the questions 1-8 were answered in the affirmative. Question 9 (relating to trust funds) was not applicable. The responses were formally approved, and the form held by the Clerk for subsequent signature by him and the Chairman (proposer C'lr David Hancock, seconder C'lr Jill Gibson).

Charitable donations

Deferred for consideration in June. Pending this discussion, C’lir David Hancock undertook to check to whom any donation for graveyard maintenance at Rosemarket Chapel should be sent.

Income

P.C.C. (precept 1 st instalment of three)	:	£3150-00
H.M.R.C. (VAT refund)	:	£ 840-01

Payments

Zurich Municipal (Insurance)	:	£ 395-05
Denise Mayr (Internal audit)	:	£ 60-00
I.C.O. (Registration fee)	:	£ 40-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lir Caroline Haley, seconder C’lir John O’Boyle).

Discussion of memorial to Barbara Summons’ contribution to Community affairs

C’lir Caroline Haley had spoken to Rob Summons about this matter. He had approved of the idea of a bench on The Beacon, looking out over the view, with possibly a tree planted there as well. He was happy with the idea, and for Members to move ahead with implementing it when ready to do so. Members noted that a suitable scheme would require some levelling and terracing in the vicinity of the bench, as well as, possibly, some path works. It was felt that the matter would need to be treated as a scheme with a number of elements. C’lir John O’Boyle to make enquiries about the arrangements that had been made for putting in a bench under similar circumstances on the Picton Estate. Matter to be placed on June agenda for further discussion. In the meantime, Clerk to contact P.C.C. to ask about any protocols governing such arrangements.

Discussion of any needed actions from Community asset risk assessment, or for Village maintenance in general

Benches and bus shelters in Middle Street. Clerk to ask Nathan Jones for a quotation for staining of the benches, painting of both bus shelters, and assessment and quotation for any needed repairs to the blockwork on the bus shelter opposite The Huntsman.

Middle St noticeboard. The Clerk reported that the noticeboard was not firmly fixed into the ground. C’lir David Hancock undertook to concrete the post holders in, in conjunction with concreting works at his property.

Boundary fence, recycling area. C’lir Caroline Haley undertook to send an email to Neil McCarthy of P.C.C. to request action to improve the appearance of the fence.

In respect of general Village maintenance, C’lir Jill Gibson raised the issue of the area at the junction of St. Leonard’s Close and Front Street. She felt that a Community Works grant scheme might be suitable to upgrade this area, and possibly provide additional parking at the same time. C’lir David Hancock suggested addressing this in tandem with the highway-related site visit planned, raising the issue of parking at the same time. He also suggested that a follow-up to the Community survey might be worthwhile. C’lir Caroline Haley agreed with this, and felt that it might be good to combine this with a community newsletter.

Discussion of Playground repairs / improvements

Climbing Frame. C’lir Caroline Haley had done some research on the Creative Play website, and identified a fairly close match to the existing climbing frame. The Clerk was currently awaiting a response from Creative Play with a quotation for this.

Members felt that a number of disused matting areas should be removed as part of any scheme undertaken. The Clerk mentioned the Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant scheme as potentially

suitable for this.

Clerk to obtain quotation from Creative Play for the play frame, along with whatever new matting would be needed in connection with it, and to include removal of the old frame, all matting from the old frame, and also all the other areas of redundant matting.

Discussion of potential local history project

Following an online meeting with Jack Riley, now working as a reporter for the Western Telegraph, Members felt this could present opportunities of bringing people together intergenerationally within the Community, with possible items of nostalgic / local historical interest. C'Ilr Caroline Haley undertook to do some groundwork, and come back to the next meeting with some ideas.

C'Ilr David Hancock saw this as something that would best be resident-driven, with Community Council support to back it. Matter to be tabled for further discussion in June.

Any other business

BB gun usage on The Beacon. C'Ilr John O'Boyle had logged the incident of the gun usage at The Beacon. This was currently with the Neighbourhood Policing Team for further action. He mentioned the importance of people reporting to the Police any incidents that might occur.

Directional road sign, West Street. C'Ilr Caroline Haley had reported the leaning sign in West Street to P.C.C., and work to re-concrete the sign was now in hand with them.

Open vacancy for Member on R.C.C. To be placed on June agenda for discussion.

Date of next meeting

Monday 7th June 2021

The meeting concluded at 9-15pm.