

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held online on
Monday 5th July 2021

Present: Cllrs Jill Gibson (vice-Chairman), Caroline Haley, John O’Boyle; Peter Horton (Clerk);

Apologies : C’llrs David Hancock, Steve Davies.

Also present was Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer for One Voice Wales.

In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting was chaired by the vice-Chairman C’llr Jill Gibson.

NOTE – The minutes to record that this meeting was held online via the Zoom video-conferencing platform due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic situation.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of the minutes of the June 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 Caroline Haley, seconder C’llr John O’Boyle).

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

Discussion of tree-planting scheme

Rachel Carter from One Voice Wales was welcomed to the meeting. She proceeded to give a brief overview of her role. She explained that her post was set up to assist Town and Community Councils to obtain funding for nature-related projects. She explained that this initiative was primarily being aimed at areas of deprivation, which predominantly occurred in urban areas. Assessments would normally be based on published deprivation data. The initiative was also aimed at projects which could benefit certain disadvantaged groups (i.e. groups representing those with disabilities, special needs, mental health challenges, etc). She also explained that the funding stream was aimed at increasing biodiversity in areas where there was currently little access to nature. Based on these criteria, she felt it unlikely that any project in Rosemarket would qualify for funding based on the basis of deprivation, or on lack of access to nature. She thought it at least possible that some of the identified projects in the Village might qualify for funding on the basis of including or benefitting certain target groups, if this could be demonstrated satisfactorily.

Rachel Carter also mentioned some other funds that she thought might be worth the Community Council investigating. These included the Community Woodland Fund and National Lottery Heritage Fund (both administered by the National Lottery Fund). The funds were aimed at promoting wild flower planting and formation of areas for community growing. She offered to pass on email contact addresses for these funds via the Clerk.

Members were not convinced that area by bus shelter would be suitable for wildflower planting. They thought that the triangular area outside the Village Hall could just possibly be suitable for this type of scheme, and The Beacon was potentially suitable for a wide variety of schemes.

Rachel Carter also mentioned the Keep Wales Tidy funding stream, though she was uncertain how suitable this would be for the kind of scheme envisaged by the Community Council, as it was focussed on food growing areas and wild flower planting in deprived areas.

Rachel Carter also suggested that it might be worth contacting Anthony Rogers (Biodiversity Officer for P.C.C.) to seek advice on possible ways forward to progress the scheme, and for advice on possible funding sources.

[NOTE – at this point Rachel Carter left meeting with thanks from Members for the advice and input she had provided].

Clerk to contact Anthony Rogers of P.C.C. to ask for his advice.

Clerk to submit a preliminary Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant application form for the proposed works, as well as the proposed works around the playpark, and to include proposed benches. Newsletter to include mention of this, as this could provide opportunity to demonstrate public consultation in connection with any detailed application submitted thereafter.

Matters arising

There were no Matters Arising discussed.

Planning matters

There were no plans for discussion this month.

Correspondence

1) P.C.C. – Notification of opening of grant application window for Community Works Grant scheme – dealt with in agenda item below.

2) Creative Play – Quotation for new climbing frame – dealt with in agenda item below.

3) O.V.W. – Invitation to Area Committee meeting to be held on 6th July – noted.

4) P.C.C. – Agreement to cover materials cost for painting of fence around recycling area – C’lfr Caroline Haley suggested that the fence would need initial ground clearance, surface cleaning and preparation, and then enough paint for two coats. Paint brushes would also be needed. C’lfr John O’Boyle agreed, and felt that the needed preparation would take a good few hours, as would the painting itself. C’lfr Jill Gibson suggested that spray-painting could be a good option to consider instead of painting by brush.

Members were willing to volunteer some time to do the necessary work in stages, rather than pay a tradesman to do it. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to ask for 20 litres of dark green paint suitable for timber fences, along with either brushes or, preferably, a sprayer to administer it.

5) Tamsin Moore – Application to join Community Council – dealt with in agenda item below.

6) W.G. – Consultation on Clerk qualifications required for councils to gain General Power of Competence status – Clerk to respond to suggest that a reasonable period of experience in the job (say 5 years of experience) should be sufficient for this purpose, rather than any need for a formal qualification.

Accounts

Quarterly budget review

The quarterly budget statement circulated to all Members was considered, but no issues were raised.

Charitable donation payments

The following donation payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lfr Jill Gibson, seconder C’lfr John O’Boyle) :

St. Ismael’s Church (for grass-cutting)	:	£100
PATCH	:	£100
Wales Air Ambulance	:	£100

Members noted that no donation was being made for grass-cutting at the Chapel graveyard this year, as information had been received suggesting that the funds were not needed this year. However, Members were committed to considering donations for this purpose in future years as needed.

Clerk to inform C’llrs David Hancock and Steve Davies of the donations approved, and invite them to consider charities for further donations to be approved in the September meeting, as the sum that had been approved for the current year for charitable donations had been £500 in total.

Discussion of arrangements to advertise open vacancy for a council Member

Members voted to co-opt Tamsin Moore, who was the only person who had applied (proposer C’lr John O’Boyle, seconder C’lr Caroline Haley). Clerk to contact her accordingly and cover the administrative aspects of the co-option as soon as possible. When doing so, Clerk to ask her if she would be happy for her contact details to be included in the forthcoming newsletter, and advise C’lr Caroline Haley accordingly.

Discussion of Road safety / Highways issues, and associated possible Community Works grant application

Members noted that the deadline for submission of the Community Works grant applications was the end of July.

Members resolved to arrange the submission of an application for one driver feedback sign, with two posts to be provided (one at the entrance of the Village at The Beacon, and the other at the Village entrance on the Honeyborough Road), to enable the sign location to be alternated between the two locations. The project would have an estimated cost of around £5000, and members agreed for a community contribution towards the scheme of £1000 (proposer C’lr Jill Gibson, seconder C’lr Caroline Haley). C’lr Caroline Haley to complete the form with assistance as required from the Clerk.

C’lr John O’Boyle offered to contact the local Neighbourhood Policing Officer for assistance in getting speeding data around the Village to support the application.

In connection with a separate matter arising from the recent site meeting held with P.C.C., Clerk to contact P.C.C. to ask for details of all areas around the Village where ‘safety cuts’ were currently authorised and implemented. This was in connection with problems with growth from highway verge areas in the vicinity of the old railway bridge.

Discussion of renewal / repair of playground equipment, and possible fencing provision around play equipment

Members noted the quotation received from Creative Play for a new climbing frame.

As it had already been decided to put in a preliminary form for the Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant scheme, Members were content to leave the matter until a response to the initial pre-application had been received. In the meantime, they were content that the existing equipment was safe to use for the time being.

Regarding fencing provision around the playpark, Members were agreed that this would be too expensive to be worthwhile.

Regarding the required ‘No Smoking’ signage, C’lr John O’Boyle undertook to place these on and around the equipment in the most appropriate way.

Discussion of progress towards submitting application to register public footpath up to the cycle track alongside old railway bridge

It was agreed for the Clerk to send an email to all Members, asking them to let him know when they had in their possession all the completed forms anticipated. Clerk to then co-ordinate collating these, and make the submission to P.C.C. for registration of the path thereafter.

Discussion of memorial to Barbara Summons' contribution to Community affairs

The Clerk updated Members on his conversations with Michelle Salmon in P.C.C. A response was currently awaited as to whether or not P.C.C. would be willing to provide a quotation for a suitable memorial bench.

Any other business

Maintenance work on bus shelters and benches in Middle Street. The Clerk confirmed that he had spoken again to Nathan Jones, who had said he had been experiencing difficulty making contact to discuss the scheme, as the number provided would not connect. C'lr Jill Gibson undertook to call Mr. Jones, and the contact number was passed to her by the Clerk.

Date of next meeting

Monday 6th September 2021. As per previous discussions, this meeting to be held in the Village Hall unless intervening circumstances should mitigate against that.

The meeting concluded at 9-20pm.