

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of June 2023 monthly meeting held online, on Monday 5th June 2023

Present: Cllrs Caroline Haley (Chairman), Jill Gibson, Stu Gray; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C’Ilr Jackie Prest, Tamsin Turner, Gery Rostan, County Councillor Danny Young.

Declarations of known interest

None.

Approval of the minutes of the 2023 A.G.M.

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

Approval of the minutes of the May 2023 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’Ilr Stu Gray, seconder C’Ilr Caroline Haley).

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present.

Matters arising

Defibrillators. Recent checks had been carried out by C’Ilr Jackie Prest.

Dog-fouling signage. Clerk to ask P.C.C. for an update on the order made following the May monthly meeting.

Defibrillator / noticeboard currently situated outside Village Hall. The Clerk had obtained initial advice from the P.C.C. Planning Dept regarding the issue of possible need for planning consent for a new shelter, and this was shared with Members. Agenda item to be tabled for July with a view to discussing this advice in detail, and considering ways forward in respect of re-siting the defibrillator and noticeboard, and possible provision of a shelter.

Triangle of land. Neil McCarthy had provided a statement to P.C.C. Property Services Department in early February outlining historical maintenance of the land by the Environmental Services Department. This should have paved the way for the Property Services Department to progress the registration of the land. However, nothing further had been heard to date. Clerk to ask P.C.C. Property Services Department for a progress report.

Planning matters

There were no plans for consideration this month.

Correspondence

01) P.C.C. – Consultation on impending speed limit reduction to 20mph – Members questioned the process / responsibility for arranging re-calibration of the two speed-activated signs in the village. Clerk to seek information from P.C.C. about this.

02) Hywel Dda – Invitation to online consultation meeting on proposals for paediatric emergency care provision, to be held on 12th June 2023 – noted. C’Ilr Jill Gibson encouraged anyone who might be in a position to attend to do so.

03) P.C.C. – Invitation for nominations to Standards Committee – noted.

04) National Lottery – Request for publicity material in connection with recently-awarded grant – Clerk to respond to explain that project won’t be completed for a few months and assure them that their requests for publicity would be attended to as soon as the new equipment was fully installed.

05) Paul Sartori – Request for financial assistance – [NOTE – C’lr Caroline Haley noted a personal but non-prejudicial interest in any discussion on this matter, as a volunteer for the organisation, but not a position of general control]. Agenda item to be tabled for July to discuss charitable donations in general. Clerk to research amounts of previous donations to Paul Sartori for reference when considering their request.

Accounts

Payments

Clerk (salary / fixed expenses, April – June 2023)	:	As per contract
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax on above)	:	As per contract
Clerk (incidental expenses, December 2022 – May 2023)	:	£119-42
Jackie Prest (Member allowance 2023/24)	:	£156-00
Gerardo Rostan (Member and consumables allowances 23/24)	:	£208-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lr Stu Gray, seconder C’lr Jill Gibson).

Annual Governance Statement

Members completed the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23 and approved in the affirmative the relevant statements made (proposer C’lr Caroline Haley, seconder C’lr Stu Gray). The document was retained by the Clerk for subsequent signature by the Chairman.

Discussion of / update on initiatives at The Beacon

New roundabout installation. Members were informed that Infinity Play had placed the order for the roundabout. The Clerk had been informed that they hoped to carry out the installation in good time before the school holidays, and would be in touch to confirm installation dates.

Basketball Hoop. The Clerk had made approaches to Valero, Sports Wales and P.A.V.S. to investigate possible additional grant funding for the basketball hoop. The Sports Wales application had been rejected, as their funding was aimed at groups setting up sports clubs and associations. The P.A.V.S. application had not gone ahead, since the fund currently open excluded applications for capital expenditure. The Valero application had been completed, and a response was currently awaited. Agenda item to be tabled for July to discuss awarding the contract for the basketball hoop supply and installation, in the hope of getting it installed prior to the school holidays. Clerk to ask Infinity Play for the lead time on the basketball hoop, and pass this information to members when available.

Grass-cutting. Clerk to make arrangements with One Stop Property Development to carry out the previously-agreed cut of the Lower Beacon as soon as possible.

Trees on Beacon. C’lr Jill Gibson expressed concern about the condition of the Oak trees, which seemed to be either dead or dying, and had not produced any leaves since their planting two years previously. One of the fruit trees was also looking in poor condition, possibly due to bark damage. The Clerk confirmed that he had been in touch with Grandiflora to request a site meeting to inspect the trees. They had undertaken to confirm a site meeting for the week commencing Monday 12th June. Regarding information on who had arranged the planting of trees along the cycle path, the Clerk confirmed that he had sent a message to Sustrans to seek information on this. A reply was still awaited. Clerk to chase up Sustrans for the information.

Playground inspection reports. Clerk to ask Infinity Play to replace the missing caps on the see-saw, and also replace missing cable ties on the goalposts, when next in the area carrying out inspections.

Possible wild flower planting. C’lr Jill Gibson suggested consideration to the idea of planting some areas of wild flowers on The Beacon. Members decided to consider this idea later on in the year, in conjunction with discussions on further tree-planting and general maintenance of the area after the current season was over. Agenda item for October to consider in more detail.

Any other business

Community Policing event. Next event scheduled for Friday 8th September at the Rosemarket Golf Club.

Litter picking equipment. New litter-picking equipment was now with C'lr Caroline Haley, and available for anyone who could use it.

Glass bottle bank. Members were informed that this had still not been emptied despite several reports being made to P.C.C. by C'lr Caroline Haley in recent weeks. Clerk to make another call to P.C.C. requesting urgent consideration to this, and citing health and safety concerns as glass bottles were now being deposited on the ground around the bottle bank.

Footpath by old railway bridge on Honeyborough Road. C'lr Stu Gray asked if there was any update on the application to register the path as a public right of way. The Clerk confirmed that nothing had been heard recently, and undertook to chase the matter up with P.C.C.

Road sign tampering / removal. C'lr Jill Gibson mentioned that a number of local road signs were reported to have been removed, and that the Bastleford Road sign at the Bastleford Crossroads had been turned upside down. Clerk to report the Bastleford Road sign to P.C.C., with a request for it to be re-oriented. Agenda item to be tabled for July to discuss the wider problem of signage removal. C'lr Jill Gibson to provide a schedule of signs needing attention, if available.

Retaining wall in Front Street. C'lr Stu Gray mentioned that damage had occurred to the retaining wall next to the road below the steps fronting some of the houses in St Leonards Park. He had reported this to P.C.C. three months previously, but nothing had been done to date.

Dog-mess bags. Discussion to be held in July about possible provision of dog-mess bags for community use following request for consideration by a resident. (NOTE – this to be included in the item on litter-picking).

Ash tree opposite entrance to The Glades. C'lr Jill Gibson felt that the apparent condition of the tree was a cause for concern. She also mentioned some other trees around the village which were of concern due to their size, and potential to cause damage. Particular reference was made to an area of land on the left-hand side of Front Street as viewed travelling up the road. This area was understood to be possibly unadopted and unregistered, but had a number of large trees growing on it. Agenda item to be tabled for July to discuss this land, and what might need to be done about the trees on it. The Clerk undertook to investigate ownership of the land in the meantime.

July meeting. The Clerk confirmed that he had made enquiries regarding Village Hall availability for a possible in-person meeting in July but had yet to receive a reply. Clerk to circulate information when a response had been received regarding hall availability. A final decision on venue for the July meeting to be made after that.

The meeting concluded at 8-35pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 3rd July 2023, 7pm.