

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of September 2023 monthly meeting held online via the Zoom videoconferencing platform, on Monday 4th September 2023

Present: Cllrs Caroline Haley (Chairman), Jill Gibson, Stu Gray, Jackie Prest, County Councillor Danny Young; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C’llrs Tamsin Turner, Gery Rostan.

Declarations of known interest

None.

Approval of the minutes of the July 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’llr Stu Gray, seconder C’llr Jackie Prest).

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present.

Matters arising

Defibrillators. C’llr Jackie Prest had checked these on 29th August. The batteries for the Lower Middle Street unit were indicating as needing replacement. The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator was still viable for use in the meantime. Infant pads for both units, and adult pads for one of the units, were also due to expire in mid-September. The total cost for these items was likely to be around £350 in total. Members accepted that replacing these items was essential. Clerk to confirm costings and expiry dates for new pads prior to purchase and email this information around to Members in advance of completing the purchase.

Dog fouling signs. Five of the six signs were now in situ. The final one remained to be put up on the multiplay unit. Clerk to arrange this.

Triangle of land at top of Front Street. Nothing further had been heard from the P.C.C. Property Services Department regarding registering this land. Clerk to chase up again and copy in C’llr Danny Young for any assistance he might be able to offer.

National Park Discovery Point signs. The Clerk confirmed that he had finally received a contact back from the National Parks Authority. The signs were available, and without charge. Members asked the Clerk to pursue this, and request two signs if available – to be sited inside the bus shelters.

Planning matters

Applications received

23/0328/PA - Replacement of lean-to utility with contemporary alternative, creation of front dormers for attic space and replacement of temporary container/log store with machinery/tools work store; Auberon House, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3HJ – no comments.

Correspondence

- 1) Grandiflora – Comments on situation with / condition of some of the new trees on The Beacon – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 2) Llanstadwell C.C. – Response to message sent to them regarding footpath alongside Old Railway Bridge on Honeyborough Road – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 3) Tamsin Turner – Message of resignation from Community Council – C’llr Tamsin Turner had passed on her regret at the need to resign, due to personal reasons, and because she was no longer living locally. She had, however, offered her design services for future community

newsletters. Members agreed that she would be sorely missed. Members asked the Clerk to send a message of thanks and appreciation for her contribution and valuable expertise used for the benefit of the community during her time as a Councillor.

4) Infinity Play – Annual Inspection Report on The Beacon Playpark, advice on rubber safer surfacing tiles, routine inspection reports, roundabout installation update – dealt with in agenda item below.

5) NatWest – confirmation of completion of mandate change and offer of compensation payment in acknowledgement of poor service in this matter – Members decided to remain with NatWest for the time being. Matter to be kept under review during regular discussions over accounts-related matters, and re-visited as necessary.

6) Local resident – concerns over condition of retaining wall adjacent to pavement in Middle Street – This had previously been reported to P.C.C. by C’lir Danny Young, who had been contacted by the local resident earlier this year. C’lir Danny Young advised that an engineer had been sent out by P.C.C. to inspect the wall, had assessed it, and agreed that remedial work was required. This had been scheduled by P.C.C., but not on any stated timescale, as the work was not considered by them to be urgent. Clerk to respond to the resident concerned to update them of the actions taken.

Accounts

Payments

Infinity Play (supply and installation of basketball hoop)	:	£3910-90 + VAT
P.C.C. (Dog fouling signage)	:	£ 76-61 + VAT
Clerk (salary and fixed expenses, July – September)	:	As per contract

NOTE – the above payment included an additional £81-11 for locum clerk services provided to The Havens CC in June 2023, and which had been invoiced and received from them

H.M.R.C. (PAYE tax for above)	:	As per contract
Zurich Insurance (addition of roundabout and basketball hoop)	:	£ 74-65

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lir Jackie Prest, seconder C’lir Caroline Haley).

Income

Tyn Y Coed Care Home (donation towards roundabout installation)	:	£400-00
NatWest Bank (ex gratia payment as compensation for poor service)	:	£200-00

Discussion of The Beacon, including update on roundabout installation, and discussion of needed maintenance work at playpark

Basketball hoop. This was now complete and had been added to the insurance schedule and Community Asset Register. Members reported that feedback from local residents was positive.

Roundabout installation. Members understood that the surfacing initially placed around the roundabout had needed to be removed, and was due to be replaced, due to technical issues encountered. It was stressed, however, that this would not involve any additional costs for the community council. However, final completion of the surfacing was currently delayed, as the contractor had identified a fault with the main roundabout bearing and was currently awaiting a replacement from the manufacturer. This was due to be delivered during the week commencing 11th September, and would be fitted as soon as possible thereafter. The final surfacing would then be completed as soon as weather allowed, which would complete the project. Members decided against placing further temporary signage on the temporary safety fencing around the site, as a previous posting placed on Facebook had included contact details for anyone wishing to obtain progress updates on the project.

Playground inspection reports (annual and routine). Members noted the points raised in the reports. It was mentioned that the trip hazard around the picnic bench had now been resolved, and the missing / loose caps on the seesaw had been replaced.

Crack in boundary wall near vehicular access gate. C’lIr Stu Gray mentioned a crack in the wall at this point. This had not been flagged up in any recent inspection reports, though cracks in the nearby gate pillar had been noted in the Annual Inspection Report. Clerk to ask the Playground Inspector for comments / advice on this.

Rubber safety surfacing matting tiles. The Playground Inspector had been asked to advise on the situation with gaps in between some tiles, and growth on the matting. He had not recommended temporary repairs, due to the low risk and likely relatively high cost of temporary remedial works. Members were not inclined to pursue this as a matter of urgency, but were more inclined to await the opportunity to replace the surfacing at a future date. This was especially the case as the multiplay unit might need replacing at some point in the not-too-distant future. Some Members felt that the growth / weeds made the area appear unkempt, and C’lIr Jill Gibson mentioned that she could treat the area with weedkiller that would be safe within 15 minutes of application. It was left for this to be addressed on an individual basis by concerned Members if they felt the need, but was not formally sanctioned by Members.

Trees. A report had been received from Grandiflora, suggesting that the Oak trees might have failed due to lack of sufficient / consistent watering. C’lIr Jill Gibson did not agree with this and felt that the bare-rooted trees supplied had been of poor quality. Members agreed to leave the trees in situ for the time being, as replacing them at this time of year was not an option.

Discussion of tree-planting initiatives in Village

A Tree planting pack of 30 saplings was on order from the Woodland Trust, for delivery in November. Members noted the importance of having a clear plan as to where to locate the trees, and how to arrange subsequent care, in advance of taking delivery. Matter to be placed on the October meeting agenda for further discussion, with Members to consider locations and ideas about subsequent care, etc., in advance of the meeting. C’lIr Danny Young commented that simple spade-planting of young saplings around 2-3 feet high in early winter would offer the best prospects for success.

Discussion of possible locations for defibrillator and noticeboard following removal of old Village Hall, and possible consideration to new pedestrian shelter or similar

An estimate for a pedestrian shelter similar to that at Bowling’s Corner, Hill Mountain had been received of £2,500 not including groundworks.

An alternative location as a backup for siting of a defibrillator had been suggested on the chapel graveyard boundary wall fronting Middle Street (next to the entrance of the graveyard gates).

Clerk to check with P.C.C. regarding any potential objections to mounting a defibrillator there before discussing with Chapel Custodian in more detail.

The Clerk asked if anyone had considered a red phone box. These were being used by some communities for housing defibrillators and /or noticeboards. Members were interested in this idea. Clerk to try and obtain information on this scheme, which was understood to be currently under way in Wales. C’lIr Caroline Haley also undertook to seek information on this.

Discussion of possible need for regular maintenance of Village Amenity

Members were in agreement that regular maintenance was needed for the Village Amenity. C’lIr Stu Gray felt that this should be scheduled to be done annually. Members briefly discussed previous tentative plans for charging to use the area for car-parking, to cover maintenance costs. However, C’lIrs Caroline Haley and Stu Gray were against charging for parking. It was also noted that since the area was freely available to all residents to use, it was appropriate to fund any maintenance from the community precept. Clerk to research what, if any restrictions exist on charging / using the land as a formal car park. Agenda item to be tabled for October to decide on what actions to take regarding clearance / maintenance of the land.

Discussion of possible need for maintenance of path by old railway bridge

Final confirmation of registration of the route as a formal public right of way was still awaited from P.C.C. Llanstadwell Community Council had been contacted by the Clerk and had responded declining to accept any role in maintaining the path. It was noted that, as the route fell outside the boundary of the Rosemarket community area, it was difficult to see how the community council could take any formal action in respect of arranging or funding ongoing maintenance or improvement works. Clerk to seek advice on whether or not R.C.C. would be allowed to do this. In addition, Clerk to explore with Electoral Services a possible minor boundary change to bring this area within the Rosemarket Community area. Agenda item to be tabled for October to pursue further and decide on any actions.

Any other business

[NOTE – C’lir Jill Gibson left meeting at this point with apologies]

Grit box opposite The Huntsman. Members noted that grit levels were low. It was not known whether or not P.C.C. would automatically refill it before winter. The Clerk undertook to ask P.C.C. to refill it.

Potholes by Upper Crossing. C’lir Stu Gray reported a pothole at this location, The Clerk undertook to report to P.C.C.

Pavement degradation on corner of West St / Middle St. Problems at this location had been reported to P.C.C. by C’lirs Caroline Haley and Danny Young. Remedial works were understood to be in hand with them.

‘For Sale’ directional sign on grass verge in Middle St. Members noted the recent addition of this, but did not ask for any actions to be taken.

P.C.C. dog-fouling patrols. It was understood that P.C.C. had recently instigated new arrangements for patrols. The Clerk was due to contact the P.C.C. patrol team about this, flag up efforts that had been made in Rosemarket to address the problem, emphasise the serious nature of the problem in Rosemarket, and request patrols to be prioritised in the village. Any responses received to be circulated to Members.

Hedge-trimming on corner of Lucy Walters Close / Front Street. Members were informed that some trimming had been done at this location, and there was some improvement in the visibility. It was not known whether or not further work was due at this location.

Blocked drain by bridge on Bastleford Road. C’lir Jackie Prest reported that this drain was still blocked. The Clerk undertook to pursue this again with P.C.C.

Honeyborough Road. Members noted the need for litter-picking along this road, which fell in the Llanstadwell CC area. Agenda item to be tabled for October to discuss this. In the meantime, the Clerk undertook to contact Llanstadwell C.C. about the matter.

Neighbourhood Policing event. Members were reminded that the next Neighbourhood Policing event is taking place on Tuesday, 12th September (12pm – 1pm) at the Dawn to Dusk Golf Club. The date had been changed from 8th September.

The meeting concluded at 8-50pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 2nd October 2023, 7pm.