

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of October 2023 monthly meeting held online via the Zoom videoconferencing platform, on Monday 2nd October 2023

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

Apologies : County Councillor Danny Young.

Declarations of known interest

None.

Approval of the minutes of the September 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'lr Stu Gray, seconder C'lr Jackie Prest).

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present.

Matters arising

Dog fouling signage. Members noted that the sixth sign was now in situ on the multiplay unit.

Triangle of land. The matter had now been taken on by a different officer in the P.C.C. Property Services Department, and was now in hand.

National Park Coast Path sign. This had now been delivered to C'lr Caroline Haley, and was ready for installation in the bus shelter at the bottom of Middle Street sometime soon.

Grit box. The Clerk had made a request to P.C.C. for this to be refilled, and it was understood to be in hand.

Potholes. Members noted that some of the potholes around the village remained, and resolved to send lists of locations through to the Clerk, for him to report these to P.C.C. in one all-encompassing email.

Planning matters

There were no plans for consideration this month.

Correspondence

- 1) Woodland Trust – Notification of intended delivery of free tree pack – noted, and discussed in agenda item below.
- 2) P.C.C. – Exchange of messaging regarding triangle of land – noted.
- 3) Infinity Play – Inspection reports for The Beacon – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 4) Police – Invitation to attend meeting in Milford Haven for information / update on tackling various issues – noted. C'lr Caroline Haley undertook to contact P.C. Neil Lees to obtain more information on the planned event.

Accounts

Payments

P.C.C. (Dog-fouling signage fittings) : £91-27

P.C.C. (Rental for Westaway Park) : £ 7-50

Clerk (reimbursement for defibrillator battery purchase) : £24-94

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

Quarterly budget review

This had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting. Members discussed the various items on the report, and considered what amendments, if any, were needed to the annual budget. None were specifically made, but possibilities for deferring / cancelling certain items of expenditure were discussed in some detail. As part of this, it was agreed that discussion on any potential donation for the Village Hall this year would take place if / when a request for a donation was received. C’lrr Gery Rostan undertook to seek an update from the Rosemarket Village Hall Committee on the current situation and any developments with the sale of the existing hall. Regarding the Remembrance Day Wreath order, Members agreed to proceed with this as usual. Clerk to make arrangements accordingly.
Clerk to provide an updated budget review in advance of the November monthly meeting.

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

Roundabout. Members were informed that the replacement bearing had been installed on the roundabout, and surfacing was expected to be completed as soon as weather permitted.

Inspection reports. Some new items had been flagged up in the operational report. Most of these had been low risk items. However, one item recommending that rough sections on slide handrails needed sanding / smoothing had been listed as low / medium. Clerk to ask Infinity Play to rectify this as necessary, by sanding / smoothing the rails.

Discussion of tree-planting initiatives in Village

The free tree pack of 30 saplings was due to be delivered from Woodland Trust in November. Members agreed on the need to discuss in advance a plan of action to deal with them, including specific planting locations.

After discussion, it was generally agreed that planting the majority of the trees in a copse in the middle of the Lower Beacon, and a few trees on the triangle of land outside the Village Hall, would be a good plan. C’lrr Caroline Haley suggested drawing out a proposed planting plan, and seeking advice from Richard Staden of P.C.C. on this if required.

Discussion of community council vacancy

Clerk to commence process as necessary.

Discussion of possible locations for village hall defibrillator and noticeboard, and maintenance requirements for both defibrillators

Members discussed possible locations for the defibrillator and noticeboard if and when the Village Hall should be demolished. All agreed that siting of the defibrillator, in particular, should remain in this area of the village. C’lrr Stu Gray suggested one option, being siting of the defibrillator on free-standing posts set into the ground on the triangle of land.

An estimate of around £2,500 had been obtained for construction of a pedestrian shelter similar to the one at Bowling’s Corner, excluding groundworks. This was noted, and shelved for possible future consideration.

Another possibility for the defibrillator could be to attach it to the chapel graveyard wall on one side of the entrance gates. The custodian of the chapel graveyard had indicated that they would not object to this, as long as no liability would fall on them in connection with it. P.C.C. had indicated that they would be unlikely to object, but had asked to be sent a photograph of the possible location. Clerk to action this. Regarding the replacement of the infant pads on the defibrillators, which were showing as having expired, discussion around this took place, in particular whether replacement was required when adult pads could also be used on children. The infant pads are costly and need to be replaced more often than the adult pads. C’lrr Gery Rostan suggested consulting with paramedics

as to their use in practice. It was agreed that C’Ilr Caroline Haley would consult with Tamsin Turner over this initially, to get her view as a professional paramedic. In the meantime, matters to be left unchanged and Clerk confirmed that both defibrillators were active and functioning correctly.

Discussion of possible need for regular maintenance of Village Amenity

Members discussed maintenance requirements at the land. C’Ilr Stu Gray had inspected the area. He felt there were some areas that needed cutting / trimming, but not to a serious degree. He offered to try and attend to cut this growth back, but could not guarantee this, and would not be able to remove the growth. C’Ilr Jill Gibson felt that if it was not urgent, it would be better to wait until the growth died back in the winter, and re-assess then. Members were in agreement with this approach, and the matter was left in abeyance for the time being. C’Ilr Jill Gibson raised the matter of the annual 24-hour closure of the Village Amenity that had previously been done. She felt that this arrangement should be reinstated. Agenda item to be tabled for November to schedule a date for this, probably in December. The Clerk had obtained advice on charging for car parking. This advice was relayed to Members. Members were generally against introducing any charging regime for the car park. Agenda item for use and future of village amenity to be placed on November agenda for discussion, to include consideration of the extent of liability falling on the community council from the use of the land by members of the public.

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

Members discussed various suggestions regarding possible future maintenance of the path. However, liability issues were mentioned as a concern in this respect. It was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until such time as the footpath registration had been completed by P.C.C.

Discussion of littering problems along Honeyborough Road

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Llanstadwell CC about the matter, and received an acknowledgement of this. Members agreed that there was not a lot more that could be done about the issue, other than engaging in litter-picking on a voluntary basis.

Discussion of Watery Lane

Members were concerned about the amount of water coming down the lane on a more or less ongoing basis. C’Ilr Jill Gibson thought that drainage installed by P.C.C. previously had been inadequate. C’Ilr Jackie Prest understood that the problem may have originated with damage caused to a well on adjacent private land some years previously.

Clerk to report the problem to P.C.C., and ask them for their suggestions to improve the situation.

Discussion of maintenance of St. Leonard’s Well

Members reported that the area around the well was getting very overgrown. Overhanging trees were noted as a particular problem. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the adjacent landowner to ask if they could possibly offer any assistance in clearing the overgrowth from the immediate area.

Any other business

Community newsletter. Agenda item to be tabled for November to discuss a timetable for publishing the next community newsletter.

Community Christmas tree. Agenda item to be tabled for November to discuss any possible arrangements for a community Christmas tree. In the meantime, C’Ilr Caroline Haley undertook to make some initial enquiries regarding a possible arrangement similar to that of last year.

The meeting concluded at 9-15 pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 6th November 2023, 7pm.