

## ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Dawn-to-Dusk Golf Club, Bastleford Road, Rosemarket, and also online via the Zoom videoconferencing platform, on Monday 5th February 2024**

**Present:** C'llrs Caroline Haley (Chairman), James Milne, Stu Gray, Jackie Prest, County Cllr Danny Young; Peter Horton (Clerk).

**Apologies:** C'llrs Jill Gibson, Gery Rostan.

### **Declarations of known interest**

None.

### **Approval of the minutes of the January 2024 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 Jackie Prest, seconder C'llr Stu Gray).

### **Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items**

There were no members of the public present who wished to comment.

### **Matters arising**

**Defibrillators.** - C'llr Jackie Prest confirmed that she had checked the defibrillators and all appeared in order. However, she did raise queries regarding the pads in one of the units, which she said appeared fewer than previously. The Clerk explained that this was probably due to the paediatric pads having been removed, as the adult pads were concealed within the actual defibrillator unit itself, and would not be visible on casual examination. However, he undertook to check this when next carrying out noticeboard activities in the village.

**Potholes.** - The Clerk confirmed that the pothole locations reported via community councillors following the last meeting had been reported on the P.C.C. website.

**Community newsletter.** It was confirmed that the newsletter had been printed and distributed successfully. Favourable feedback had been received from local residents.

**Community Council Facebook page.** It was confirmed that the page was now active.

**Neighbourhood policing patrol.** C'llrs Caroline Haley and Danny Young had joined P.C.S.O. Adam Thomas for a foot patrol around the village on the morning of 26th January.

**Benches opposite The Huntsman.** Members were concerned at the overall condition of the benches, which were confirmed as community council property. Clerk to ask Infinity Play for their recommendations on necessary work to repair them.

**Hedge cutting on corner of Front St / Lucy Walters Close.** Members noted that, although some work had previously been done to cut back the hedge at this location following concerns from residents, the degree of overhanging was expected to become a problem again once growth started to form in the spring / summer. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to renew concerns over the situation.

### **Planning matters**

There were no plans for consideration this month.

### **Correspondence**

- 1) P.C.C. - Response to query regarding flooding of Honeyborough Road - noted. P.C.C. had advised they would investigate what measures could be taken.
- 2) Infinity Play - Quotation for repairs / maintenance of play equipment - dealt with in agenda item below.

3) One Voice Wales - Invitation for nominations to Buckingham Palace garden party - noted. C'llr Stu Gray proposed to nominate C'llr Caroline Haley to attend, but C'llr Haley advised she was unable to accept the nomination due to work commitments. The Clerk advised that there was still some time to consider nominations before the mid-February deadline.

4) Local resident - Query regarding potholes along bridleway at The Beacon - it was confirmed that responsibility for maintaining bridleways rested with P.C.C. There was no role for the community council in managing this work. Furthermore, any potential upgrading / maintenance of the bridleway to accommodate vehicles using it by private established right would be a matter for discussion between the residents concerned and P.C.C. Clerk to respond to the resident to explain the situation, and to offer to pass their contact details to the relevant P.C.C. department if they wished for him to do so.

### **Accounts**

#### **Payments**

Bert Edwards (printing costs for newsletter) : £160-00

The above payment was approved (proposer C'llr Caroline Haley, seconder C'llr Jackie Prest).

NOTE - the previously-issued cheque to the 'Rosemarket Village Hall Committee' had been binned, and replaced with a new one made out to 'Rosemarket Village Hall', due to inaccuracy in the bank account name details on the cheque.

### **Discussion of possible arrangements for pedestrian shelter provision at top end of Village**

It was generally agreed that, if the project was to proceed, formal quotations, agreement on precise location, etc., would be the next steps. It was agreed that Cllrs Jackie Prest and Caroline Haley would lead the project for the community council.

Clerk to contact Tom Greenwood, who had provided an informal estimate of costings, for an initial discussion on how best to proceed, and to arrange a site meeting.

### **Any necessary discussion of The Beacon (to include discussion on possible installation of outdoor gym equipment)**

**Outdoor gym equipment.** C'llr Stu Gray commented that he thought providing outdoor gym equipment would be a good idea. However, he was concerned about possible muddy conditions that might come about on any circuit set up in connection with this. However, other Members were not sure if a circuit would actually be needed. The Clerk suggested the play area at Hazelbank, Llanstadwell as possibly being worth a look, as there was outdoor gym equipment there set into the grass, that seemed to be a very successful installation. Further substantive discussion was deferred until a future meeting when C'llr Gery Rostan was present.

**Repairs / maintenance of equipment.** Members considered the Infinity Play quotation for sanding, re-staining of the multiplay unit and seesaw, and repairs to the rubber matting. The quotation of £1146-88 + VAT was accepted by Members (proposer C'llr Jackie Prest, seconder C'llr Stu Gray). It was felt that the work could potentially extend the lifespan of the equipment by several years, so represented good value for money. Clerk to notify Infinity Play accordingly, and confirm with them the likely requirements for fencing off of equipment.

**Recently-planted trees.** C'llr Danny Young confirmed that tree guards would be put up around them in due course. It was mentioned that care would need to be taken to ensure that the trees were not cut down during any mowing of the Lower Beacon.

**Trees along western boundary.** C'llr James Milne mentioned that some trees overhanging his boundary were in need of trimming back, and expressed his intention to carry this out. It was confirmed that no consent would be needed for him to carry out this work on his side of the boundary.

### **Discussion of ongoing community Christmas tree provision**

C'llr Stu Gray mentioned that he had seen a very good artificial tree outside Argos in Haverfordwest, and thought something similar could be a good option for the community. C'llr Jackie Prest thought this could be a good idea, though out of season storage would need to be considered. Alternatively, she felt that actually planting a tree for the purpose could work.

C'llr Caroline Haley had spoken to the P.C.C. Landscape Officer about the matter. He had offered practical advice regarding planting of a tree, but stressed that, if any such tree was to be planted on P.C.C. land, then various consents and agreements would need to be put in place first.

C'llr Caroline Haley summarised the situation, and suggested that (1) if a suitable tree was donated, it be placed outside The Huntsman as in previous years; (2) Consideration be given to planting a tree on the corner of West St and Middle St; and (3) consideration be given to planting a suitable tree on the triangle of land at the top of Front Street.

The following actions were agreed :

- Clerk to investigate possibilities for obtaining an artificial tree.
- C'llr Caroline Haley to investigate options for obtaining a tree / trees for planting, including contacting the farmer who had donated the tree in 2023 to explore whether he had a suitable smaller one for possible re-planting in the village.
- Clerk to contact P.C.C. to enquire about possible provision of a tree for planting in the village.

### **Discussion of responsibility for grassed areas adjacent to Village Amenity**

The Clerk reported that, based on Land Registry plans, both of these areas appeared to fall outside the community council's ownership. It was thought likely that the section alongside the road frontage would class as P.C.C. road verge (possibly self-seeded), and the section outside the metal fenceline on the northern boundary was likely in the same ownership as the access track serving the properties opposite. Clerk to seek clarification from P.C.C. regarding the section along the roadside.

### **Discussion of possible formation of a community book exchange**

C'llr Caroline Haley outlined the idea that had been put forward, which was to have a simple book exchange located in a convenient place in the village, for general community use. The idea had been mentioned in the community newsletter, from which several enquiries and expressions of interest had been generated. C'llr Caroline Haley had also spoken to the current management of The Huntsman pub with regards locating a book exchange on site, and was advised that the pub would be undergoing a change of management in March and so no decisions could be confirmed until after that. It was stressed that this would not be a R.C.C. project directly, but that the community council could play a useful role in supporting local residents interested in making it happen. C'llr James Milne indicated that he would be willing to assist with the project as needed.

### **Any other business**

**Litter-picking.** Several members had been out litter-picking in recent weeks and informed about the huge amount of discarded litter in and around the village of late; with many bags of litter being collected.

**Litter bin provision.** It was noted that littering had become worse since the removal of the litter bin by the cycle path on the Jordanston Road. Agenda item for March to be tabled to discuss this.

**Grit bin provision.** Agenda item to be tabled in March to discuss grit bin provision on The Beacon.

**Community coffee morning.** Members were reminded of a community coffee morning scheduled for the following morning in St. Ismael's Church.

**Community planting scheme on land opposite church entrance.** Members were invited to consider assisting with a planned community planting scheme at this location. It was also asked whether P.C.C. had any ongoing schemes for provision of bulbs for this purpose. The Clerk provided a possible P.C.C. contact to the chairman for this purpose.

The meeting concluded at 8-20pm.