

## ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2013 at 7.15 pm

**Present:** Chairman A. Bolton  
Councillors A Vickers  
M. Davies  
B. Howell  
B. Howells

**In Attendance** Judith Bolton (clerk)  
CO70 Andy Jones

#### 1758 APOLOGIES

Councillors Moar and Jarrett sent apologies.

#### 1759 REPORT FROM PC LOUISE THORPE

CSO Andy Jones attended. Reported incidents in St Arvans and Howick between 9<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

- 08/12 – a report of sheep worrying with injuries was received from a farm in Howick – the dog was captured and the owner will be spoken to.
- 21/12 – report of flooding nr St Arvans Cottages, St Arvans – Council informed.
- 22/12 – suspicious incident reported at a premises in Howick – knocking was heard on the door at 3.15am – caller checked the area but with a negative result.
- 31/12 – sign just off the A466 junction with Penterry Road had graffiti on it – it has now been cleaned off by the owner.

The chairman reported that a resident had rung on the 31/12/12 to say that personal paperwork had been thrown into the hedge on the A466 just north of Parkfield Stores. On investigation, the chairman found that these had been cleared.

The chairman thanked Andy for his attendance and report

#### 1760 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none

#### 1761 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Howell

#### 1762 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012 (for information only)

- a) Ref 1745c) Lights at entrance to Grange Park now operational
- b) Ref. 1745d) List of e mail contacts, promised at Llandogo meeting with MCC senior officers has not yet been received.
- c) Ref. Minute 1755) The Parish Magazine did not publish notes from the December meeting despite submission before the editor's deadline. They will be printed in the next magazine with an apology
- d) Ref. 1749b) MCC Transport department has confirmed that the bus shelter can go ahead. Details of design have not yet been received
- e) Ref. 1751b) The Planning Application DC/2011/00879 submitted by Livox Quarry is not determined. Lorry traffic in December 2012 was apparently not due to newly quarried material being moved but aggregate waste being transported to Clearwell Quarry. This movement of material was covered for 12 months from expiry of the planning permission (31/12/11) under a condition of the Approval of Mineral Permission Review, dated 13/8/08. Lorries are still being driven through the village despite the deadline of 31/12/12. The chairman will continue to investigate the situation.

**1763 PLANNING MATTERS**

a. a. Planning application received since the last Council meeting:  
DC/2012/01068 Conversion of barn from holiday let to residential. Pen Y Parc Barn. Resolved that the application be recommended for approval but reference to the comments of the Community Council to the original application be made, i.e. at that time the Council considered its life as a rental property be limited.

b. No Planning Applications have been determined by MCC Planning Dept. Since last Council meeting.

c. To note receipt of planning applications/permissions received since the preparation of this agenda

**1764 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR A. WEBB**

Councillor Webb had investigated the police report on flooding. MCC Highways had no reports of flooding in St Arvans.

**1765 ACCOUNTS**

**a) To review the current bank balance and approve the schedule of accounts**

Overall True Balance of Accounts as statement of 25<sup>th</sup> December is £10283.24p

i) HSBC Balance

Money Manager Account	£ 3886.51
Community Account	£ 3901.59.
Final payment of precept received	

ii) Monmouthshire Building Society £2512.96

v) One cheque outstanding

	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc	Cheque Number	Value £
Merlin waste	Dog Litter Bin emptying	100850	£17.82
		Total	£17.82

**b) Invoices/Expenses/ Salary Costs presented for Authorisation & Signature**

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc	Cheque Number	Value £
Nigel Hoskins	Monthly Grounds maintenance for December,	100851	£160.00
Judith Bolton	Clerks salary, SCP 18 £149.76 Plus £4.80 (2packs of copy paper) (No tax to be paid)	100852	£154.56
St Arvans Memorial Hall	Donation ref Minute 1752	100853	£50.00
St Arvans Village Trust	Donation ref Minute1752	100854	£50.00
Mon Building Society	Reserve Fund Ref. Minute 1685a)	100855	£500.00
Merlin waste	Dog Litter Bin emptying	100856	£11.88
Mr & Mrs Chisholm	Donation for electricity used to service Christmas Lights( as per budget)	100857	£40.00
		Total	£966.44

Councillor Howells proposed acceptance of the accounts and Councillor Vickers seconded.

## 1766 FINANCE GROUP REPORT

There was no meeting this month .

The Council confirmed the retention of the precept at £9020 (Ref Minute 1749a) and resolved approval for the budget for 2012-3 as presented at December's meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Howell and seconded by Councillor Howells

## 1767 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP (ERAG) REPORT

- a) **Childrens Play** The chairman reported that WAG are conducting a survey on Children's Play Areas in the county. It was resolved that the chairman contribute to the survey

b) **Fountain Repair:**

The leak on the fountain has now been repaired but some refurbishment work may be necessary in the next financial year.

c) **Entrance to the KGV Recreation Field – Improvement Project:**

The entrance area has now been planted with shrubs and has received excellent reviews. The clerk will write to MCC thanking the department concerned for the work done. Invoice awaited

The remaining area, inside the fence will be cleared up by a working group early in March. The work will involve raking up the chippings and re-seeding the area.

d) **Play Group Garden Refurbishment and Access**

Councillor Davies will discuss with St John's Nursery whether or not it wishes to take over the garden. Should it decide negatively, the following actions by an ERAG working group were recommended

- i. Remove the fence and open up the area again, re-using the fence alongside the Hall.
- ii. Dispose of the shed
- iii. Re-level the area but leave the willow constructions for children generally to use.

e) **Village maintenance:**

- i. MCC grass cutting :- It was agreed that no changes were necessary to this contract and that it should be allowed to run.
- ii. General Village Maintenance:-

The current schedule of work for Nigel Hoskins is dated November 2001. The group recommended that this schedule be updated to account for any changes, to ensure no duplication and to incorporate new duties, e.g. the new bus shelter, whilst accepting that there will always be some "extras". to be decided when necessary. The current details will be checked with the Clerk and a new schedule will be produced for presentation to the February ERAG meeting.

Road sweeping and litter collection in outlying areas are not to be included in the proposed new schedule and will be discussed with MCC Highways.

The Finance Advisory Group is asked to consider costs of proposed new schedule

- f) **Weekly insurance-defined inspections** of equipment have been carried out between 13/11/12 and 8/1/13

- g) **Date of Next Erag Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at 9.45am on Tuesday February 5th 2013 at Church House.

The Council resolved to accept all recommendations of the group and the chairman thanked Councillor Davies for her report.

**1768 HIGHWAYS ADVISORY GROUP**

There has been no meeting this month. Councillor Bolton reported that

- a) The Bus Shelter should be in place before the end of the financial year
- b) Steve Lane has been approached for a site meeting to assess water damage to road surfaces, including some subsidence, in the area of Penterry Lane
- c) Councillor Howell reported a road sign in hedge near St Arvans Court, almost completely obliterated by growth.

**1769 TO CONSIDER DONATIONS TO CHARITY**

It was resolved that £50 be donated to Sara. The clerk will investigate any charities associated with Chepstow Community Hospital.

**1770 ANNUAL DINNER**

It was decided that Barney Bamfield be asked to cater for the Annual Dinner, the Meeting Rooms be used as the venue and members of the rural police team be invited.

**1771 CORRESPONDENCE**

**Correspondence Received between 11<sup>TH</sup> December 2012 and 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

- a) Circulated by e mail and originating from;
  - i. MCC: Papers for Monthly Cabinet Meeting
  - ii. MCC: Individual Cabinet Member Decisions
  - iii. Strong Roots Training. One Voice Wales.

It was decided that Councillors Bolton and Vickers attend a training session

- iv. MCC Budget Meeting
- v. Independent Remuneration for Wales Report : December 2012
- vi. One Voice Wales Training Programme
- vii. Meeting Room Hire Rates from St Arvans Trust
- viii. MCC Play Sufficiency Audit and Plan 1/1/13

A response to this was necessary before the next Council meeting. Councillor Bolton had circulated a draft response and this was agreed

- b) In Hard Copy for circulation after meeting and originating from;
  - i. One Voice Wales Magazine
  - ii. One Voice Wales Area Meeting Minutes 10/1/13

**1772 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE**

Because of editorial/printer error, the December notes missed the January edition & will be printed in the next. The Council decided that a short entry should be made to update residents on the matter of lorry traffic through the village and KGV planting

**Clerk**

**1773 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

**1774 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This will be Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date