

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2015 at 7.15 pm

Present: **Chairman:** **A. Bolton**
 Councillors: B. Howells
 M. Davies
 S. Gilbey
 B. Howell
 V. Kennedy
 J. Richards

In Attendance:

Judith Bolton: Clerk
County Councillor Ann Webb
Mr. and Mrs N. Weaver
Mrs. J. Morgan

7.00pm Pre-Meeting.

Mr and Mrs Morgan spoke on the Planning Application DC/2015/00118; Conversion of existing loft space to form ancillary living accommodation at Llanmouth, Grange Rd. They stated their objections to the application because they considered it an invasion of their privacy, particularly noting the velux windows which would give sight of their gardens and a kitchen window.

2148 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CO-OPTED MEMBER

Jonathan Richards signed the declaration. He will join the Highways Group & Environment/Recreation Group

2149 APOLOGIES

Councillor Vickers

2150 REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE

Police report for the area, sent by email and covering the period: 13/1/15 – 9/2/15
The report comprised 2 minor incidents;

- a) sheep on the A466
- b) vehicle driven into ditch on Devauden Road, no one injured.

2151 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

2152 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13th JANUARY 2015

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Gilbey and seconded by Councillor Howell
All agreed.

2153 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 13th JANUARY 2015 (for information only)

- a) Ref. 2135 The work on the children's play area behind the Memorial Hall has been completed. The clerk has thanked Councillor Webb, the staff at MCC and the governor of Prescoed.
- b) Ref.2140a) i The labels have been ordered
- c) Ref 2140c) i 32 more names on the email registration list.
- d) Ref 2140c) ii Web Site page with photographs updated. Councillor.

2154 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) **Considered by Planning Group since the last meeting:**
There were none

- b) **Planning Applications Decided by MCC Planning Dept. Since last Council Meeting:**

DC/2014/01398. Non-material amendment. Retention of Leylandii hedge along the northern boundary of Cwrt Pyrs, St Arvans NP16 6DN. This is in relation to planning permission DC/2008/01194. Permission granted 28/1/15

- c) **To note planning applications/decisions received since the preparation of this agenda**
DC/2015/00118, Conversion of existing loft space to form ancillary living accommodation, including installation of side roof windows at Llanmouth, Grange Rd., NP16 6EU. Agreed that a recommendation of approval be made to MCC with a recommendation that the number of windows be re-considered so as to reduce the impact on neighbours; proposed by Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Kennedy. All agreed.

2155 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

- a) Dell School Governor's meeting had been informed that the school had been rated 'Yellow' and considered this a satisfactory result.
b) MCC will be collecting Nappy Waste fortnightly. Consideration will be given to special cases
c) MCC will collect 2 black bags at each fortnightly collection from April 1st. Grey bags can be used until householders run out, then black bags are to be purchased.
d) Council tax is likely to rise by 4.95%

2156 ACCOUNTS

a) To review the current bank balance

The overall true balance of accounts at 25th January 2015 is £13,677.47p and is made up of

- i) HSBC Balance
 Money Manager Account £ 782.21
 Community Account £ 9282.48
 ii) Monmouthshire Building Society £4035.68

iii) 2 cheques outstanding

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
Nigel Hoskins	Grounds maintenance	100971	£153.00
Merlin Waste	Dog Bin emptying £33.90 new dog bin, inc fitting (ref minute 2060d) no VAT. £236.00	100973	£269.90
		Total	422.90

b) To approve schedule of accounts

Invoices/Expenses and Salary Costs presented for Authorisation and Signature of cheques.

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
Nigel Hoskins	Grounds maintenance	100974	182.75
	Clerks salary, SCP 18 £239.38 Increase of 20p per hour to £9.207p from 1/1/15: ref. NJC Agreement Nov. 14 Hrs per month increased Ref Minute 2119b)	100975	289.79.
	5 hours web site work £46.04 Adhesive labels to amend welcome Postcard £4.37 inc. VAT		

Merlin Waste	Dog Bin emptying	100976	27.12
MCC	Grass Cutting £718.24 (inc Vat of £119.71)	100977	718.24
Mr & Mrs Chisholm	Christmas Lights: Electricity	100978	40.00
		Total	1,257.90

b) The clerk will organise a new mandate with HSBC.

The accounts were accepted. Proposed by Councillor Howell and seconded by Councillor Kennedy. All in favour.

2157 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

The group had not met.

a) Councillors Bolton and Howells had attended a meeting with the Steve White at the Racecourse. Councillor Howells presented a report of this meeting.

- i. Welsh Grand National.
Steve White reported that the meeting had been very successful with an attendance of 11,500. He agreed that verge parking was a problem. When the main car park became full, traffic was directed towards the on-course car park in the direction of St Arvans. However, some drivers parked on the verge. The Racecourse intends to take preventative measures next year.
- ii. Pedestrian Crossing use during minor race meetings.
Pedestrians crossing to the car park in intermittent numbers causes disproportionate delays to traffic. Steve Lane said that personnel qualified able to control the crossing were not employed for these meetings but the intention was to use security personnel to control the exit gate so as to control the number of race-goers leaving to use the crossing at any one time.
- iii. Memorial Hall Playing Field Status.
Councillors were told that a contract had been agreed in principle, but had not been issued possibly due to changes in personnel.
- iv. Point of Contact
Peter Townsend had been appointed as Marketing Manager for the Racecourse and would be the best point of contact for SACC. A complete list of events, including musical evenings etc has been received by the Clerk for inclusion on the website.
- v. Phil Bell (Regional Executive Director) intends holding a Residents Meeting in the near future.

b) Additional items to report.

- I. Councillor Howells had received a report from a resident that some drivers leaving Wyndcliffe Court were driving straight over the cross roads after leaving the drive. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the tenants at the house, proposing that they erect a suitable warning sign.
- II. The Council is awaiting feedback from MCC on a report that a Grit Bin on Penterry Lane was unsuitable for use.

The report was accepted; Proposed by Councillor Gilbey and seconded by Councillor Howell. All agreed

The chairman thanked Councillor Howells for the report.

2158 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP (ERAG)

Councillor Davies presented the report:

a) Dog Litter bins

- i. Labels. The contractor is sourcing appropriate labels. **Clerk**
- ii. Positioning of bins. All bins have been assessed for usage. The bin on Grange Road behind Laurel Park is the most used and the other 3 were half full just prior to emptying. It was recommended that the bins stay in the present position until further notice.

b) Playgroup Garden

Work has been completed on clearing scrub and levelling the sand pit. MCC work party not authorised to reposition the palisaded fence. Re-erection of the fence along the line of the edge of the field to be discussed at the next meeting. The wigloo and tunnel are being tended by Garden City Football Club.

Clerk

c) KGV Issues

Entrance inspected by the ERAG members. Agreed that some of the shrubs will need pruning in the near future. Inspection for insurance purposes carried out by Councilor Bolton

Group

d) Fountain Area

The information board at the fountain has been cleared. EAA tree service advised that remedial work be done on the tree in November when the lights can be sorted at the same time.

e) Meeting with Memorial Hall Committee

Member(s) of ERAG will attend Memorial Hall Committee meeting on March 19th to discuss action for Best Kept Village Competition.

e) DONM

5th March 9.45 am at Church House

The report was accepted and the chairman thanked the group for its work.

2159 COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There was no report but the Clerk informed the Council that, in January, the number of visitors to the website had exceeded 300 per month for the first time since its launch 12 months previously

2160 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

To be discussed at the next meeting

2161 CORRESPONDENCE

To note and consider correspondence received since the previous meeting,

a) Circulated by e mail and originating from;

- i. MCC. Ref: Cabinet meeting on 4/2/15
- ii. MCC. Severnside Area Committee 11/2/15 at Chepstow Leisure Centre
- iii. MCC. Highways Operations Team Changes
- iv. Resident in Praise of Web Site Walk
- v. Numerous residents ref. email distribution list.
- vi. Racecourse: Events List.
- vii. Racecourse: Job Fair

2162 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

- a) Meeting with Racecourse
- b) Fountain
- c) Refuse Bags
- d) Website visitor numbers.

2163 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Howell has stowed the yellow hose left by the Garden City Football Club

2164 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday March 10th at 7.15pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date