

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 13th JANUARY 2015 at 7.15 pm

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

In Attendance:

Judith Bolton: Clerk
CSO Sally Parker

2129 APOLOGIES

Councillor Kennedy

2130 REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE

Police report for the area, sent by email and covering the period: 10/12/14 to 12/1/15

a) Incidents

01/01 - Caller with concern for the security of a property next door to them in St Arvans. The neighbours were away on holiday and the caller reported that their upstairs doors on their balcony were wide open. Police attended and the door appeared to have blown open in the wind. Everything was in order and no offences were committed. The caller was happy with this conclusion.

19/12 - A report of a possible attempted break in to the caller's neighbouring garage in St Arvans, overnight. The caller said the garage lock had been broken. Police attended and everything was in order. After speaking with the residents, they confirmed the lock was already broken prior to their holiday. No offences committed.

b) Staffing

Inspector Morgan has been replaced by Inspector Lyesha Thompson.

The chairman thanked CSO Parker for her attendance and report.

2131 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

2132 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER 2014

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

2133 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 9th DECEMBER 2014 (for information only)

There were none.

2134 PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Considered by Planning Group since the last meeting:**

i) DC/2013/00456 Proposed change of use to the storage and repair of light motor vehicles and a trailer. Retention of vehicle washing area and ancillary parking. Land including existing workshops. New Barn Workshop Site, St. Arvans NP16 6HE. There have been only minor changes to this application since the previous submission. The Council decided to recommend to MCC Planning that this application be approved and reference be made to its previous comments submitted at the time. Proposed by Councillor Howell and seconded by Councillor Howells. All agreed.

ii) DC/2012/00613 Proposed change of use to allow storage of builders' materials, construction machinery and equipment, including metal storage containers and the security gates. New Barn Workshops, adjacent Mistletoe Cottage, St Arvans NP16 6HE. There have been only minor changes to this application since the previous submission. It was therefor decided that the Council should recommend Refusal, as before, and that its previous comments should be taken into account. Proposed by Councillor Howell and seconded by Councillor Bolton. All agreed.

iii) DC/2014/01398, Non-Material Amendment; Cwrt Pyrs, formerly land at the Swallows DC/2008/01194, Retention of existing Leylandii hedge instead of the stone wall as agreed in the application. It was agreed that up to two members of the Community Council should attend the site meeting to confirm the Council's response to the application.

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

No applications decided

c) To note planning applications/decisions received since the preparation of this agenda

DC/2014/01421. Refurbishment of Existing with the rebuild of an old stable. Mistletoe Cottage. St Arvans. Notification of the application was received after the agenda was published but before the Advisory Group met. Public notices had been posted near the property. So the application was discussed at the group meeting.

The group reported to full Council that the application should be recommended to MCC for approval. This was then proposed by Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Gilbey and all agreed.

2135 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

There was no report. The chairman asked that the clerk request a report on any progress with the reclamation of children's play area

2136 ACCOUNTS

a) To review the current bank balance

The overall true balance of accounts at 25th December 2014 is £14,317.75 and is made up of

i) HSBC Balance

Money Manager Account	£ 3651.46
Community Account	£ 6630.61

ii) Monmouthshire Building Society £4035.68

iv) Vat refund from HMRC of £366.52p has now been received

iii) No cheques outstanding

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	100971	£153.00
Judith Bolton	Clerks salary, SCP 18 3 hours web site work Notebooks ¾ year contracted office expenses	100972	£217.79
Merlin Waste	Dog Bin emptying new dog bin, inc fitting (ref minute 2060d) no VAT.	100973	£269.90
		Total	640.69

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

2137 FINANCE ADVISORY GROUP REPORT

Capital Spend Items

To be discussed at the next Finance Group meeting in March

2138 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

Councillor Howells presented the report.

a) Speeding and Community Speed Watch: Meeting with Police, MCC and Safety Camera Unit

A meeting was held with MCC, Local Police and members of the Safety Camera Unit to discuss traffic speed and road safety issues with the aim of detailing SACC concerns and the data analysis done by Councillor Howells. It was felt that the meeting was both positive and constructive. The SACC Presentation was well received.

- i. The Safety Camera representatives agreed to look at changing the times of monitoring on site, to cover higher risk periods of the day.
- ii. There was a positive response to the possibility of using Speed Watch. The system is being considered by Llandogo CC at the present time.
- iii. The monitoring of traffic speed on Grange Road would be further considered at a future meeting with the Safety Camera Unit.
- iv. Various traffic calming measures were discussed for the A466 and Devauden Road. On the A466, double white lines had been considered previously and rejected. Speed bumps and chicanes would not be acceptable on the A466 because it is a main road. A further meeting with MCC was felt necessary to continue investigation of the matter.

b) Devauden Road/ Grange Road Junction/ & Proposed A466 Footpath

It is intended to raise these matters with MCC at the above proposed meeting

c) Response to Wales Government National Transport Plan

A response has been sent to MCC.

d) Racecourse

It had not been possible to meet with representatives of the Racecourse before Christmas so it was proposed to request a meeting in the near future. Matters for discussion would be a review of the Welsh Grand National meeting, security on the pedestrian crossing and the Memorial Hall playing field status.

e) Prioritisation of Road Works

Councillor Bolton will discuss with MCC its method of prioritising road works within the village.

The report was accepted. The chairman thanked members of the group for their work.

2139 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP (ERAG)

Councillor Davies presented the report:

a) Matters Arising

A466 foot/cycle path alongside the Racecourse has been cleared of leaves by MCC.

b) Dog Litter bins

- i. New labels, with wording similar to 'No Bulk Waste' are being sourced.
Clerk
- ii. Positioning of bins still awaiting outcome of trial. Councillor Howell to check usage weekly to enable decision on whether or not a bin should be moved. **BH**
- iii. 'Give Dog Fouling the Red Card'. Working Group of some local Town/Community Councils to co-ordinate activity against dog fouling. The Council agreed to join. **Clerk**

c) Playgroup Garden

Meeting still to be arranged with Ann Webb, Nigel Leaworthy and SACC to agree scope of work.

Clerk

d) KGV Issues

- i. Members of SACC to check and prune plants at entrance to KGV as necessary. **Group**
- ii. Member(s) of ERAG should be present for the 2015 inspection. All agreed.
- iii. Regular inspections of equipment, for insurance purposes, have been done by Councillor Bolton

e) Fountain

Plan to be drawn up for refurbishment of fountain area before March CC meeting. 2 tree specialists to be approached first to advise on pruning of the tree,

VK & BH

f) DONM

3rd February 9.45 am at Church House

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

2140 COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

a) New Resident Welcome Postcard:

- i) The postcards will need modification to cater for the changes to Council. The old cards will be used by applying a new label using the same design and font. **JB&SG**
- ii) The distribution system is to be improved. Councillors will report the address of any "For Sale" signs they see to the Clerk, so that the properties can go on a watch list. Similarly, Councillors will be asked to ensure the Clerk is aware when new residents are seen in a property. The Clerk will arrange delivery of the card **All**

b) Web Site Review:

Hit rates on the site continue to increase, as does the number of new users. Positive comments have been received and Councillors are asked to feed back any comments they receive from any source.

c) Input from the Community Led Plan Process:

The CLP process is now entering a new phase, following the "Feedback" meeting, by beginning the build of the first draft plan. A new steering group, utilising a number of the newly identified volunteers, is being formed to drive the process, along with the formalities of developing a constitution and the setting up of a bank account etc. Items of direct interest to the Community Council will come forward in due course.

- i. The Email Circulation List
Results from the CLP questionnaire showed that some residents wanted more information by email. It was agreed that Councillors could ask friends in the Community to email the clerk if they would like information via the Council email distribution list. Considerable efforts have already been made to increase the number of residents receiving Council emails this way but few people have responded
- ii. Councillor's Details and Photographs
Councillors agreed to provide the Clerk with a photograph of themselves to go on the web site with a little basic information about themselves.

d) StarBay (Classified Ads):

So far there has been little interest in this initiative and it was agreed to put it on the back burner for review in 12 months' time.

e) Web Site Management and Further Resident Involvement:

It was agreed:

- i. The Clerk can manage the web site for the time being but she would like much more input from councillors and the community at large for the news pages.
- ii. The CLP steering group will be invited to take a page on the site.

iii. The Memorial Hall will have its own page listed on the main menu.

f) Date of Next Meeting:

It was agreed that monthly meetings would not normally be needed and that quarterly would be a reasonable frequency. The next formal meetings would therefore be in early April, early July and early October.

The report was accepted and the chairman thanked the members of the group.

2141 TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Letters had been received from 2 residents who were interested in becoming members of the Council. Both had been circulated to all councillors. The Council decided by a majority vote that Jonathan Richards of Mill Cottage should be co-opted.

2142 ANNUAL DINNER

6TH March at the Piercefield. Cost to Councillors £25 per head.

2143 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

To be discussed at the next meeting

2144 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 7/1/15
- ii. Wales Government: Section 173.1) and 173.3) Expenditure of £7.36 per elector
- iii. Resident Ref. allotment availability.
- iv. One Voice Wales; Area Committee meeting: Jan 15th , Sessions House Usk
- v. MCC. Severnside Area Committee 28/1/15. 10.00 am no venue as yet
- vi. Robin Carr Associates. Rights of Way Consultation. Not applicable to St Arvans as no named routes were in the community

2145 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

- a) The agreed precept and budget to be reported in the February issue, also the provisions noted in Minute 2119d) .
- b) Meeting with MCC/Police/Traffic Camera Unit
- c) Co-option
- d) Thanks to John Pattison for his work with the Christmas lights
- e) Email distribution list.

2146 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

2147 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date