

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 14th May 2013 at 7.15 pm

Present: Chairman A. Bolton
Councillors A Vickers
B. Howell
B. Moar
A. Jarrett
M. Davies

In Attendance J. Bolton (clerk)

1821 TO RECEIVE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2012-13

Councillor Bolton presented his report for 2012-3 which had been previously circulated by e mail. Councillor Davies thanked him for his conscientious work over the last 3 years. She also thanked the clerk for her work for the Council.

1822 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Davies proposed that Councillor Vickers be elected. This was seconded by Councillor Jarrett and unanimously accepted.

Councillor Vickers was pleased to accept the position. He outlined three topics that he would like to consider during his period of tenure, involvement of young people in the village, improving communication between residents and the Council and the development of a village plan.

1823 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Vickers proposed Councillor Bolton and this was seconded by Councillor Jarrett. He was duly elected.

The chairman thanked Councillor Davies for her work as Vice-chairman in the previous year.

1824 REPORT FROM PC LOUISE THORPE, sent by e mail

Incidents between 09/04/13 – 13/05/13 are as follows;

13/04/13 A burnt out vehicle was found in Wyndcliff Car park. The vehicle was identified as being stolen earlier that evening from The New Inn, Pwllmeyric.

17/04/13 There was a burglary at a property in St Arvans during which some jewellery was taken and entry gained through an upstairs window. Enquiries on-going.

08/05/13 Attempt break at the Piercefield Hotel. The window was broken but the building was not entered.

1825 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY GROUPS

a) Finance

Councillor Vickers is chairman. Other members are Councillors Bolton, Davies and Howell.

b) Environment & Recreation

Councillor Davies is chairman. Other members are Councillors Jarrett, Moar, Vickers and Bolton.

c) Highways

Councillor Moar is chairman. Other members are Councillors Howell, Howells, Vickers and Jarrett.

d) Planning

Councillor Howell is chairman. Other members are Councillors Moar, Howells, Stokoe and Vickers.

1826 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Howells, Stokoe and Webb, also PC Louise Thorpe.

1827 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none declared.

1828 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9th April 2013

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Bolton and seconded by Councillor Howell.

1829 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 9th April 2013 (for information only)

- a) Ref. 1812 d) Howard Nash has taken the Annual accounts for internal audit.
- b) Ref. 1814 g) The Post Office has replied to the clerk's request for information on the Mobile Post Office Service, saying that there are 3 post office branches within 3 miles of the village so it will not consider a mobile service at this time.

1830 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Applications under Consideration:
 - i. DC/2013/00265 - single storey extension to Gorse Farm. Devauden Road. It was decided that a recommendation for approval be made to MCC
 - ii. DC/2013/00253 - outline permission for a single dwelling on Grange Road, adjacent to Glasserton. A recommendation for approval was agreed and will be sent to MCC.
- b) Planning decisions; none.
- c) 2 notifications of Planning Appeals have been received but no Planning Applications/Decisions since the agenda was published;
 - i. Appeal number E6840/A/13/2195942 for Planning Application DC/2012/00613, New Barn Workshops.
 - ii. Appeal Number E6840/A/13/2195943 for Planning Application Dc/2012/00886, variation of condition 11 of Planning Application 21850.

1831 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR A. WEBB

No report.

1832 ACCOUNTS

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

Overall True Balance of Accounts as statement of 25th April is £ 7728.98

- i) HSBC Balance
 - Money Manager Account £ 467.95
 - Community Account £ 4185.17
 - Monmouthshire Building Society £ 3015.76
- ii) No Outstanding Cheques to be paid
- iii) Cheque received from HMRC £60.10p

b) Invoices/Expenses and Salary Costs presented for Authorisation

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc	Cheque No.	Value £
Nigel Hoskins	Monthly Grounds maintenance for April	100874	144.50
Judith Bolton	Clerks salary, SCP 18 £149.76 Plus 2 hours for attendance at meeting with CMC ² £17.84 + Quarterly contracted office expenses £37.50 + Book of 12 First Class Stamps £7.20	100875	212.30
St Arvans Village Trust	Rental of meeting Rooms inc. electricity	100876	48.54
Merlin	Emptying of dog bins in May	100877	11.88
Came and Co.	Insurance	100878	448.35
		Total	865.57

Councillor Moar proposed acceptance of the accounts and Councillor Howell seconded.

1833 COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEB SITE

The clerk had attended a meeting with CMC² where a presentation had been made on the proposals for a portal web-site for Community and Town Councils in Monmouthshire. The Welsh Government has made funding available to local authorities to assist those town and community councils with no web sites and others who wish to upgrade an existing site. This is to help to fulfil the WG aim that all councils should have web sites by 2015. Over half of the councils represented at the meeting already had web sites and some delegates expressed the opinion that individual funding to develop their own sites would benefit their councils more than joining an 'umbrella' organisation. Since the meeting, MCC has announced that individual councils may submit a business plan to apply for up to £500 to develop a web site and CMC² has asked councils still interested in a portal to contact them so that an estimate of remaining funding can be made. The council decided that further information should be obtained from other web site providers and CMC². Therefore, Councillor Bolton proposed that the chairman and clerk meet both with the web manager for the Trellech United CC website (which has proved to be satisfactory for its council) and CMC² and report back to the next meeting. This was agreed.

1834 FINANCE GROUP REPORT

There was no meeting this month.

1835 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP REPORT

Councillor Davies presented the report;

1) KGV Playground

- i. Internal entrance to KGV has been prepared ready for seeding and this will be completed when weather allows. Councillor Davies proposed the purchase of grass seed up to a spend of £20. This was seconded by Councillor Jarrett and agreed
- ii. The Wigloo is thriving and is well used by visitors to the park.
- iii. Councillor Davies proposed and Councillor Jarrett seconded the proposal that MCC be invited to perform the annual inspection at a cost of up to £75. This fee is competitive with private providers. This was agreed

2) Playing Field and Former Playgroup Garden

- i. No formal application for use of the Playing Field on Wednesday afternoons for sports purposes, has, as yet, been received from St. John's School.
- ii. The former playgroup garden area was historically for public use. A period of consultation with groups and residents within the village is recommended. On conclusion of this, the Council will make a decision on any future development. Meanwhile the area should not be allowed to return to an unkempt condition.
- iii. Weekly inspections of the playground and equipment have been carried out.

3) Dog Litter Bin

A new bin will be ordered from Merlin Waste (ref minute 1800c). It was agreed that Merlin Waste be invited to extend its twice weekly emptying contract to this new bin at a cost of up to £2.00 per empty. Proposed by Councillor Davies, seconded by Councillor Jarret. Members of ERAG will meet on site with Merlin Waste staff to decide a suitable position on the pavement adjacent to the A466, leading out of the village towards Tintern.

4) Best Kept Village and Garden competitions

- i. An entry has been sent for the Best Kept Village competition. It was proposed that awareness of the competition be increased within the village by liaising with the Nursery, the Piercefield Inn and Memorial Hall Committee. Local residents will be approached to help with the Fountain Area.
- ii. It was agreed that judging of the Best Front Garden/ Hanging Basket Competitions will be slightly later this year; preliminary judging to be completed by Tuesday July 9th. Last year's judges will assist again this year. Results will be announced in August and awards made in September.

The next meeting of the ERAG will be on June 4th at 9.45 am at Church House.

The chairman thanked the members of ERAG for their work.

1836 HIGHWAYS ADVISORY GROUP

The Highways Group has not met but Councillor Moar reported these items:

- a) Police Motor cyclist with speed gun and the speed van still have a presence in the village.
- b) A group of off-road motor cyclists were apprehended in woods near the village recently.
- c) The road markings at the top of the lane leading to Porthcasseg Farm and at the T junction outside Wyndcliffe Court have been done.
- d) MCC has trimmed the edges of the grass on the A466.
- e) MCC has filled in potholes at the rumble strips on the A466.

The chairman thanked Councillor Moar

1837 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received between 9TH April and 14th May 2013

- a) Sent by e mail and originating from:
 - i. From MCC: Papers for Cabinet Meeting, 1 May 2013
 - ii. From MCC: Papers for Lower Wye Area Committee Meeting, 8 May 2013
 - iii. MCC: Electoral Register Updates
 - iv. The Post Office, Letter ref Mobile Post Office
 - v. Ombudsman :The Casebook
 - vi. One Voice Wales: Invitation to Western Power Stakeholder Workshop
 - vii. MCC: Enforcement Lists
 - viii. CMC²: Report on meeting ref. Community Web Site

- b) In Hard Copy and originating from:
 - i. One Voice Wales Magazine 'The Voice'.
 - ii. Education Achievement Service: Invitation to nominate representative to sit on governing body of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin, Caldicot
 - iii. 'Play Wales' News magazine
 - iv. AONB Picturesque Magazine

There were no comments on last month's correspondence

1838 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

- a) Elections
- b) Mobile Post Office
- c) Best Kept Village Competition
- d) Garden Competitions
- e) Dog Bin
- f) Recycling.

1839 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none

1840 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will be Tuesday June 11th 2013 at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date