

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE AGM OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 10th MAY 2016 at 7.15 pm

Present: **Chairman:** **A. Bolton**
 Councillors R. Edwards
 B. Howells
 M. Davies
 V. Kennedy
 S. Banfield

In Attendance:

Judith Bolton: Clerk
CO70 Andy Jones
Councillor Ann Webb

2368 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Bolton was proposed by Councillor Davies , Seconded by Councillor Kennedy and all agreed

2369 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Howell was proposed by Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Edwards and all agreed

2370 MEMBERSHIP OF ADVISORY GROUPS

Councillors agreed that the existing memberships remain.

2371 APOLOGIES

Councillor Richards, and Councillor Howell

2372 REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE

Report from the Community Police ref. St Arvans and Howick incidents between 11th April and 9th May 2016. CPO Jones presented the report.

- a) Phil Morris has been appointed Inspector of Police for Chepstow and Caldicot
- b) There were no crimes to report in the area.
- c) The chairman asked if some thought could be given to allowing access to Parkfield Stores from the Chepstow side when the A466 is closed for RTA's.
- d) Councillors congratulated CPO Jones on his recent award and thanked him for his attendance.

2373 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

2374 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12th APRIL 2016

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Edwards and seconded by Councillor Howells. All agreed.

2375 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 12th APRIL 2016 (for information only)

Ref. 2360d) 2015-16 Accounts now with internal auditor.

2376 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Applications Considered by the Planning Group
- b) Planning Applications Decided by MCC Planning Dept. Since last Council meeting: DC/2016/00164, Certificate of Existing Lawful Use or Development. A bungalow adjacent to St Arvans Lodge. This has been approved by MCC.

- c) To note receipt of planning applications/permissions received since the preparation of this agenda. There were none

2377 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

Councillor Webb reported;

- a) New chairman of County Council, Councillor Jim Higginson and Councillor Paul Jordan is the vice-chairman
b) The Racecourse license is being reviewed.

2378 ACCOUNTS

To review the current bank balance and approve schedule of accounts

b) The overall true balance of accounts at 25th April was 2016 was £10782.02 and is made up of:

i) HSBC Balance

HSBC, Treasurer account 70724513 £661.35

HSBC, Money manager a/c 41440942 £ 6615.74

Monmouthshire Building society account £4084.26

ii) Minus £ p, comprising outstanding cheques and debt.

To whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
MCC	Owing to MCC ref. Clerk's salary and expenses	Paid by MCC	296.29
Nigel Hoskins	Grounds maintenance plus work on bollard and alleyway(bill for materials inc £5.36p VAT)	101049	236.15
Mr and Mrs Chisholm	Electricity for Christmas lights	101046	30.00
Alan Bolton	Travel expenses for meetings at Usk £12.60 Hacksaw blades for playground repair work £4.29p (£3.58p+ £0.71p VAT)	101052	16.89
		Total	579.33

c) 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	101053	200.50
Judith Bolton	1 hour web site work £9.20 Basic salary (Work done in April) £239.38	Paid thru MCC	248.58

Merlin waste	Dog Bin emptying	101054	27,12
St Arvans Village Trust	Hire of meeting Rooms	101055	12.40
Came and Company	Insurance £425.44p inc. £36.91 IPT	101056	£425.44
Margot Davies	Christmas gifts for contractors	101057	£20.00
		total	934.04

The accounts were agreed, proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Howells

2379 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

Councillor Howells presented the report

a) Grange Road

- i. Ref. The email from Mark Davies of MCC concerning traffic speed on Grange Road. It was recommended that a response based on the SACC e-mail of 11 February would be prepared by Councillor Richards and agreed by other members. The response would then be forwarded to Cllr. A. Webb for transmission to MCC.
- ii. Consideration to be given to the height of the hedge on some stretches of Grange Road to perhaps improve visibility

b) Steve Lane of MCC, has agreed to attend a meeting with the Highways Group. The topics to include:

- Grange Road edges,
- Itton Road drainage,
- Penterry Lane surface,
- Cracked pavement on A466 from village to opposite Mistletoe Cottage,
- MCC programme of drain clearance,
- Response to SACC e-mail re advertising at the Racecourse (Lion) roundabout.
- Surface of Grange Road damaged by rain and the bin lorry. Some work has been done but the quality of work is unsatisfactory.
- Several street signs in a very poor condition

d) Piccadilly Lane –provision of Sat Nav signs is on the MCC area traffic engineers signing and lining improvement programme for 2016 / 2017 - to be installed in the 'near future'.

e) The Community Speedwatch team is working again after a winter break. 80 vehicles have been noted exceeding the speed limit on Devauden Road since March 1st.

f) Councillor Edwards proposed that the previously forwarded document on Dorset Road Signage be reviewed by the Highways Group.

The report was accepted and the chairman thanked Councillor Howells and group members

2380 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION GROUP REPORT

Councillor Davies presented the report.

a) KGV

- i. Zip Wire. Complimentary email received from a resident about the state of the playing field, but raised an issue with the tyres at the end of the run. End tyre now tied back to sit horizontally to afford more "headroom".
- ii. Fencing installed in corner using material provided by a resident. Clerk to write thanking him.
- iii. Annual Inspection. Clerk had contacted ROSPA for a quote: £66.50 to include 5 items of equipment + £3.50 for each item over that number. Tim Bradfield of MCC has quoted £75 to cover all equipment. Recommended to accept the latter. Tim has confirmed that he will notify clerk in advance so as to ensure attendance by a councillor.
- iv. Councillor Banfield to investigate fixed BBQ. Brick built BBQ, £70 plus the cost of a hard base.
- v. Willow structure has been trimmed and new growth woven in.
- vi. Councillor Bolton has done the weekly inspections for insurance purposes.

b) Defibrillator

The Group re-affirmed that it did not consider it to be the responsibility of SACC to install a Defibrillator in the village, but that it would be appropriate to help with financing of same. Community Plan Steering Group has said that it does not wish to drive the project. Chepstow Lions Group is still considering financing a unit in the village and a decision should be made in the next two weeks.

c) Playing Field/ Memorial Hall Update.

- i. Over-hanging trees. Situation to be reviewed following a further season's growth. Division of cost needs resolving as ownership of trees not clear. Councillor Richards to investigate via Land Registry.
- ii. Noted that the village fete will be held on the field July 2nd. Clerk has notified MCC of the need for a grass cut in the previous week and an affirmative reply has been received.

d) Best Kept Village Competition.

- i. Noted that the village has been entered for this year's competition, and that judging may be done in early June. One property exception requested.
- ii. Road signs and fountain area have been cleaned. Several of them are in a very poor condition.
- iii. Notice to be posted on email list to advise residents to be diligent on dates for putting out waste bags/bins and collecting in the empty brown bags and bins. Any individuals needing verbal reminder to be contacted as necessary.
- iv. Memorial Hall to be weeded. Contractor has been advised.
- v. Bus shelters to be cleaned. Contractor has cleaned one and has been informed that the other needs cleaning.
- vi. Suggestion to be put to the Meeting Room committee to consider planters on the area opposite the church for 2017
- vii. St Johns Nursery has been contacted to ensure that they know of the date and asked to time maintenance of frontage accordingly. Very positive reply received
- viii. Tony Newman has kindly agreed to plant the boxes at the fountain
- ix. Church representative to be advised of the need to ensure the second graveyard is tidy.
- x. Request has been made to MCC to spray the weeds on the verges before June if possible.

e) Wye Valley Woodland Project.

Email received from Andrew Nixon of Gwent Wildlife Trust advising of a project aimed at conservation and enhancement of woodland both in the Wye Valley and wider Monmouthshire. It was agreed to invite a representative to a future meeting and the event would be advertised more widely to members of the public.

The report was accepted and the group thanked for its work.
DONB Tuesday 7th June @ 9.45 at Church House

2381 CORRESPONDENCE

To note and consider correspondence received since the previous meeting,

a) Circulated by e mail and originating from;

- i. Google Analytics; 314 sessions reported on Council website in April with 240 users
- ii. Chairman of St Arvans Village Trust. Broadband connection not to be renewed in the Meeting Rooms. Clerk has advised the Committee of possible funding.
- iii. MCC. New contractor has been appointed to repair VAS signs
- iv. A Resident: Comment on playground equipment including compliments about the park
- v. Ombudsman's Office: Casebook

b) By Phone

Quote from MCC ref. Playground inspection and confirmation that notice will be given so that a councillor can attend.

2382 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

- a) Competitions
- b) Wye Woodland Project
- c) Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

2383 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk advised Councillors that she would be formally handing in notice at the beginning of June

2384 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday June 14th at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 8.59 pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date