

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2015 at 7.30 pm

Present: **Chairman:** **A. Bolton**
 Councillors: B. Howell
 M. Davies
 V. Kennedy
 J. Richards
 R. Edwards

In Attendance:

Judith Bolton: Clerk
County Councillor Ann Webb
PS119 Steve Parsons
CPSO Andy Jones
Mrs. J. Heathorn
Mr. M. Williams
Mr. J. Mitchell
Mr. I. Whitford

Pre-Meeting.

The chairman introduced Sergeant Parsons, who is responsible for the speed camera vans in Gwent and the Speedwatch project across Wales. He explained that there was an all Wales data base now which joined up all the Speedwatch groups and that it is an educative process by which drivers are informed of any excess speed by letter. The scheme operates in 20.30 and 40 mph zones only and drivers are not registered until driving above the legal speed limit + 10%+ 1mph, i.e. 23, 34, and 45 mph respectively.

If a speeding driver get a second warning letter within 12 months, a third incident would normally result in a visit by a police officer

The locations chosen for St. Arvans are:

- The fountain (allowing drivers to be noted from 3 directions)
- The bus stop near children's nursery (two directions)
- Near BT box on Devauden Road. (two directions)

The chairman thanked the police officers, members of Speedwatch and the two residents for their attendance and input. He expressed disappointment that other residents had not taken the opportunity to gain information despite widespread publicity.

2277 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Councillor Edwards signed the declaration of acceptance. She will join the Highways Group.

2278 APOLOGIES

Councillor Howells

2279 REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE

CPSO Jones said that there had been no reported crime in the area for the last month. Other areas have experienced some shed break-ins, targeting specific items. He advised care in securing sheds & outbuildings.

For some time, maybe up until Christmas, police will be checking door handles of vehicles parked on roads and drives He had checked Grange Park and Laurel Park that evening. A couple of vehicles were unlocked and the owners were advised.

Chairman thanked CPSO Jones for his report.

2280 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Edwards said she had an interest in item 2288 a) i)

2281 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13th OCTOBER 2015

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Richards. All agreed.

2282 MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 13th OCTOBER 2015 (for information only)

- i) Ref. 2264 i) HSBC has confirmed that the mandate is being processed. .
- ii) 2268. MCC received no requests for a by-election. The Council can co-opt.
- iii) 2266b) Roger Hoggins has not yet asked to attend a meeting of the Council.
- iv) 2270 a)i) Paul Matthews replied to comments about lack of communication with an apology.

2283 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Notified by MCC since the last meeting:
DC/2015/01336 Proposed change of use from the storage and maintenance of commercial vehicles, to the storage and repair of light motor vehicles. Storage and repair of up to two HGV motor vehicles and a trailer. Retention of a portable office and ancillary parking areas (Revised scheme). Reference papers for this application were not posted on the MCC website in time for a Planning Group to convene, hard copies have not yet been received but a minor amendment was emailed on 9/11/15. This application will be considered at the next meeting in December. Clerk to ask for a deferral.
- b) Planning Applications Decided by MCC Planning Dept. Since Last Council meeting:
DC/2013/00456 Change of use to the storage and repair of light motor vehicles. Storage and repair of up to two HGV motor vehicles and a trailer. Retention of vehicle washing area and ancillary parking. Land including existing workshops New Barn Workshop Site, St Arvans Chepstow NP16 6HE. Refused by Planning Committee on 7/10/15
- c) To note planning applications/decisions received since the preparation of this agenda
There were none

2284 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

- a) Chepstow Tourist Information is closing on 4/12/15
- c) Councillor Webb has attended conferences recently on AONB and National Parks joining forces. She reported that positive moves have been made toward them working closer together.
- d) Road signs are unlikely to be cleaned and shrubbery is probably not being cut back around them now.

The chairman thanked Councillor Webb for her report

2285 ACCOUNTS

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

The overall true balance of accounts at 25th October 2015 was £12,588.47 and is made up of:

- i) HSBC Balance

Account No. 70724513	£ 686,41
+ Account No. 41440942	£9736.63
+ Monmouthshire Building Society	£ 4059.90

ii) Minus £ p, comprising:

To whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
MCC	Outstanding to MCC for clerk's salary As per minute ref. 2237a) ii. Basic Payment for August	Paid thru' MCC	253.19 239.38

	Basic Payment for September + extra hrs in August and ¼ ly expenses		313.70
	Basic Payment for October + extra hours in September		276.20
Alan Bolton	a)£200 inc. £33.33 VAT. Zip wire trolley £200 b) Travel to training £ 18	101014	218.00
Mazars	Audit fee	101015	210.00
Visionict	Web Site hosting (paid between meetings) Authorised by RFO, Councillors Bolton, Howell & Howells	101016	384.00
		total	1894.47

b) 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 Hardware for KGV gate	101017	236.49
Judith Bolton	4 hours web site work £36.82 Basic salary November £239.38	Paid thru MCC	276.20
Judith Bolton	Flowers for retiring councillor	101018	10.00
Merlin waste	Dog Bin emptying	101019	27.12
S.G Luff	Hedge Trimming (inc. £20 VAT)	101020	120.00
MCC	Clerk's salary Basic pay, July, Aug. & September £718.14 Admin fee £18.75 VAT £3.75	101021	740.64
		Total	1410.45

The accounts were accepted, proposed by Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Kennedy. All agreed.

2286 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

There was no meeting this month.

a) A site meeting with Martyn Evans of MCC, Councillors Bolton and Howells has been held, to consider the hedge on A466. Some residents had expressed concern that it was obscuring the view of the penterry/A466 junction. MCC to discuss with property owner.

b) Reply from Mark Davies of MCC, on 9/11/15, ref. long-standing queries about highways matters. Most requests met with negative reply based on speed data etc. MCC however plan to regularise the signage on Grange Road. Since this would involve National Speed Limit signs, the chairman has informed Mark Davies that the Council considered the national speed limit to be totally inappropriate for the road as it is used at present. Highways Group to discuss at next meeting.

c) Councillor Kennedy reported that the traffic resulting from an afternoon race meeting resulted in very lengthy queues. Clerk to write to racecourse.

2287 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP (ERAG)

Councillor Davies presented the report:

a) Dog Litter Issues

Awaiting delivery date from Merlin for new bin. Preferred location to be near barn at Rogerstone Grange. Merlin OK with accessing it, but confirmation required of Oakgrove.

b) Playing Field

Bulbs planted in the bank next to the gate. Thanks to MD and team.

c) KGV

i) Nigel Leaworthy of MCC confirmed that they did not have the equipment to cut and mulch the grass finer. He suggested that more frequent cutting may be an option. Agreed that clerk write to ask for quote for additional cuts. However, it was felt that the timing/need of extra cuts may be difficult to gauge depending on weather trends.

ii) Flowering Cherry tree to be planted in place of the recently felled sycamore. Councillor Richards to source..

iii) Zip wire repaired, but trolley brake making it difficult for some users to pull it back to the launch. Also speed of trolley bouncing back from the tyres is causing concern. Agreed that a spring brake be fitted at a cost of c£120. Proposed by Councillor Howell & seconded by Councillor Kennedy

iv) New gate fitted by Nigel Hoskins. A spring closer still to be fitted.

v) Depressions adjacent to the train have been filled in. Condition of train deteriorating. Decided that Caldicot Joinery be contacted to see if there is a repair option for the boiler and roof of the carriage.

vi) Councillor Bolton has done insurance checks.

d) Fountain Area

i. Plumber has re-instated water supply to both cherubs. 'Press and hold' valve fitted to second cherub. He will disconnect water supply when weather becomes frosty.

ii. Tree surgeon to prune tree on November 23rd. John Pattison has been informed and will assist in dealing with the lights.

e) Defibrillator

i. VK to write to Brains reference the possible siting of a unit in the Piercefield.

ii. Considerable discussion about the ease of usage and efficacy of defibrillators in a village setting. The voice of medical professionals in the village to be sought to help inform the debate.

iii. Concern was expressed about press reports of some ambulance services not responding to calls when they know that there is a defibrillator within 250 metres.

DONM December 1st @ 9.45am Church House.

The chairman thanked the Councillor Davies and group members for their efforts.

2288 CORRESPONDENCE

To note and consider correspondence received since the previous meeting,

a) The members of the St Arvans Community Plan Steering Group reported:

i. Litter Picking Group could be working in the next two weeks

ii. Ceiligh organised in Memorial Hall

iii. New website being designed

b) Other correspondence: Circulated by e mail and originating from;

i. Resident ref. riding across fields. Clerk to write

ii. MCC. Budget Consultation evenings.

iii. One Voice Wales 'Paths for People' leaflet published by Ramblers

iv. One Voice Wales: Guidance on Pension Provision Legislation for CC's
Councillor ref. Dog Fouling.

vi. Charity commission: Confirmation of receipt of annual submission.

vii. MCC (Nigel Leaworthy) MCC will organise cutting of copse shrubbery on A466 over a period of time.

viii. MCC. 'Active Travel Consultation'

ix. Memorial Hall Committee: Donation ref. grounds maintenance, after deadline for this month's accounts

- x. Receipt of VAT refund, after deadline for this month's accounts

2289 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

For next edition in December

- a) Speedwatch update
- b) Zip wire/train
- c) MCC response to Highways queries.
- d) Pruning of tree/ bulbs

2290 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were none.

2291 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday December 8th at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date