**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** of the Council held in the Minor Hall on Tuesday 12th March 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

**PRESENT:**                 Cllrs. Adrian Hughes (in Chair), Enid Jones, Susan Bevan, Paul Lloyd-Davies, Peter Bowen-Simpkins, Chris Spacie and the Clerk, Mr. Howard Evans.

**APOLOGIES:**            Cllr. Judith Rock.

**1.         TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**

There were no disclosures of personal interest from members.

**2.**         **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** were circulated, approved and

signed by the Chairman.

**3.                  MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising on the Minutes that would not be covered by items on the Agenda.

**4.                  AMBULANCE STATION**

The Chairman outlined the process that the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust would follow if/when they disposed of the ambulance station in Reynoldston.  Councillors discussed how the Community Council might raise funds to purchase the ambulance station if the opportunity arose.  It was agreed that a general background to this matter would be placed in the village magazine.

**5.                  VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT SCHEME**

Cllr. Bowen-Simpkins reported on a meeting that he had held with Jinny Matty of the Village Enhancement Scheme and Helen Grey.  Cllr. Bowen-Simpkins then highlighted a number of potential projects that the Community Council might consider, indicated whether the Village Enhancement Scheme (VES) would support the projects and provided some additional background to the projects:

Firs Lane – this is a designated cart track.  The VES would support the clearing of ditches along the lane. The success of any grant application would be enhanced by including that some of the work would be carried out by volunteers from within the village.

Disabled parking area opposite St. George’s Church – this would be supported by the VES and the fact that there is no existing disabled parking facilities would make a strong case for a grant to be awarded.

Provision of an area for the burial of cremated remains within the community churchyard – supported by the VES.

Provision of low voltage power supply to the Lower Green – run off the wiring for the church – supported by the VES.

Restitution of the pond and stream along Robins Lane – strongly supported by the VES.  An ecologist’s report is awaited.  Clerk to write to Penrice Estate to clarify ownership of the land.

Provision of bench on the Higher Green – supported by the VES. When surveying the site it was also pointed out that there may originally have been a shallow pond. Consideration may be given to opening it up again although livestock would drink from the pond and affect the condition of the ground.

Pond off Little Reynoldston road – declaration of interest by Cllrs. Hughes and Lloyd-Davies.  Ecologist’s report to be provided.

**6.                  REVIEW OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTATION/POLICIES**

Councillors agreed to complete their review of documentation and policies by the Annual Meeting in May.

**7.                  VILLAGE GREENS**

The Chairman reported that there had been no further progress with the lease since the last meeting of the Community Council.  In response to a question raised in the Public forum the Chairman stated that the bus shelter on the Lower Green would remain in its present position for the foreseeable future.

**8.                  VILLAGE MAGAZINE**

It was agreed that the following be included in the next edition of the Village Magazine:

·        details relating to the Ambulance Station

·        a thank you to individuals who continue to pick up litter in the vicinity of their homes – if they had any problems individuals were asked to contact Cllr. Bevan.

**9.                  HIGHWAYS**

It was considered that there had not been a deterioration in the amount of litter within Reynoldston.  It was agreed that the individuals who had volunteered to pick litter from areas around their homes should be thanked via the Village Magazine and it would be stated that if there were any problems Cllr. Bevan should be contacted.

The Chairman reported that the City and County of Swansea have undertaken some work on the ditches alongside the road down from Cefn Bryn.  However, as a result of a lack of maintenance over many years and the exceptional level of rainfall in 2012, flooding is a major concern within Reynoldston, including the Higher Green, whenever there is any rainfall at the moment.

Information and images of damage caused to the verges adjacent to Brynfield by two very long vehicles were passed onto the Chairman.

The Clerk to write to the Highways department of the City and County of Swansea to request that a supervisor meet with Councillors in order that ditches requiring clearing, potholes repairing, the requirement for repainting of the roadmarkings at the entrance to Fairyhill Lane (by the sewage works) and an Ash tree at Burry requiring cutting back can all be formally recorded so that a work team can visit to resolve all the issues.

The Chairman to provide the Clerk with details of a Road Management consultant so that he can be contacted to ascertain the potential cost of a consultation on highways in Reynoldston.

The Chairman to call on the owners of Gower Cottage to request that their roadside hedge is cut back to a greater extent as a number of Reynoldston residents have reported that it is still posing a hazard.

**10.              PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1 Church meadow – no objections.

PENTICTION – no objections.

LAND ADJACENT TO WESTERN HOUSE – letters were considered from local residents objecting to the proposed development.  After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Planning department of the City and County of Swansea with Reynoldston Community Council’s objections to the development.  The Clerk was also instructed to write to Cllr. Richard Lewis to request that the planning application be ‘called in’ and considered by the Planning Committee of the City and County of Swansea.

**11.              CORRESPONDENCE**

·           The Gower Society – ‘Best Kept Village’.

                        The Clerk to write supporting the scheme

·           City and County of Swansea – Licensing Act 2003 –

Review of Licensing Policy including Draft Special Policy on the Cumulative Impact of Licensed Premises

·           Knight Frank – response to correspondence on flooding

·           Bishopston Comprehensive School – newsletter

·           Ombudsman – various documentation

·           CPRW – ‘Rural Wales’ (Cllr. Jones)

·           One Voice Wales – Model Concerns and Complaints Policy Guidance –

                                    to be passed on to Cllr. Rock.

**12.              BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

RVHA – hall rental for tonight’s meeting                                    £  10.00

                                                            All agreed.

Cllr. Hughes declared an interest.  He had circulated a request to Councillors that the Community Council purchase a ‘Responder Bag’ for the First Responders Scheme in Reynoldston costing £132. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Bowen-Simpkins and seconded by Cllr. Lloyd-Davies that the Responder Bag should be purchased.  The proposal was agreed by Councillors (Cllr. Hughes did not vote).

**13.       DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 14th May 2013.

**14.**       **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr. Lloyd-Davies reported on a One Voice Wales meeting he had attended on the 14th February 2013.  Items discussed included the Charter agreement between the City and County of Swansea and its Town and Community Councils; remuneration for Town and Community Councillors – which was not agreed with by the One Voice Wales committee; Village/Community Halls – taxation for live music – Reynoldston Village Hall pays for an Annual Entertainment Licence; funding for a World War I memorial to be erected in France to Welsh Regiments; consideration of future guest speakers – including inviting Alun Michael – a new Police Commissioner.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.