**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held in the Minor Hall of Reynoldston Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th May 2019**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. John Mahoney, Deb Vine, Dan Dyson, Margie Bond, Sue Ashelby, Internal Auditor Alan Bryant and one member of the public.

**APOLOGIES: Cllr.** Jennie Clements

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIR:** The Clerk asked for nominations. Cllr. Dyson proposed Cllr. Mahoney seconded by Cllr. Ashelby. Cllr. Mahoney took the Chair.

Cllr. Mahoney asked for a moments silence to remember Tim Clements who sadly died two years ago today.

1. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:** Cllr. Bond proposed and Cllr. Dyson seconded Cllr. Vine.
2. **ELECTION OF CLERK:** Cllr. Vine proposed and Cllr. Mahoney seconded Andrew Berry
3. **ELECTION OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER** Cllr. Dyson proposed and Cllr. Mahoney seconded Andrew Berry
4. **APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR:** Cllr. Mahoney proposed and Cllr. Bond seconded Alan Bryant.
5. **ELECTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS** Cllrs. Mahoney and Dyson were elected.
6. **ELECTION OF ONE COUNCILLOR AS DELEGATE TO ONE VOICE WALES:** Cllr. Dyson was elected
7. **ELECTION OF ONE COUNCILLOR AS OBSERVER TO THE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Cllr. Ashelby**
8. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:** The Chair suggested that these be declared as they arose during the meeting
9. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.** These were approved and signed by the Chair.
10. **MATTERS ARISING:**

* Cllr. Vine congratulated Cllr. Mahoney on the new village sign, the work to the Higher Green and the repair of potholes by the bus shelter and Seafield.
* The bunding on the Higher Green is now much better.
* Cllr. Mahoney has written to Cllr. Richard Lewis thanking him for organising the new traffic calming signs.
* Cllr. Dyson volunteered to help clear the village pond in Robins Lane when this is next addressed. The Chair asked if it needed clearing now and it was agreed that a decision would be left to the next meeting.

1. **APPROVAL OF ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST 2019:**

* This was approved by the Council and signed by the Chair. Cllrs. Were given a copy of the Annual Return. The Independent Auditor gave a copy of his report to the Council.

1. **REVIEW OF THE CLERK’S REMUNERATION:**

* This was agreed following the NALC and SLCC guidelines for the coming year.

1. **GRANTS:**

* There were no grants to be discussed at this meeting.

1. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO A TOTAL OF 15 MINUTES):**

* There was a question from a member of the Public about the different responsibilities of councillors. It was agreed that this will be put on the website.
* Alan Bryant asked about the mirror near the fire station that needs repairing. It was agreed that the Community Council will buy a new one after first finding out who owns it.

1. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS:**

* The Chair had been asked about contractors repairing the road over Cefn Bryn, apparently they had been observed throwing tarmac on to the verge. The Chair has been to have a look, but could see no sign of this.
* The verge outside the chapel had been damaged by being accidentally set on fire! This had then been covered up by carpet. Cllr. Mahoney had spoken to Ian Campbell who has purchased gravel to be put in place on the previous plastic webbing. There is a concern that this will wash in to the storm drain. It was proposed that the council would purchase ‘grasscrete.’ Permission would first need to be obtained from the Somerset Trust. It was suggested that the gravel be moved (with permission) on to the post office car park. The Clerk will write to the Somerset Trust after first talking to Bob Griffiths of the Commoners.
* The path across the Higher Green has been discussed before, gravel properly compacted could work, a resin bonded path would be expensive, could the solution be planings? The Commoners and The Somerset trust would have to be consulted and agree. It was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair would discuss this with Bob Griffiths of the Commoners first.
* After the work to secure the Higher Green some cars are now parking nose in on the other side of the road and encroaching on the green.
* The brick bus stop has been discussed with the aim of moving it away from the junction with a new shelter. The Clerk will contact Penrice CC and ask for their advice. Cllr. Lewis has been contacted with the aim of providing speed bumps in the village.
* The Clerk will find out how the Best Kept Village Sign can be improved.
* Hugh Jones had asked about the provision of interpretive boards around the village. There would need to be two or three with maps and points of interest. The Clerk pointed out that these will need to be in English and Welsh. It was agreed that the Clerk will come up with information and some costs as well as asking Hugh Jones to come to the next meeting in July.
* There have been concerns over the number of camper vans on top of Cefn Bryn with up to twenty on one night. The Commoners don’t want a designated car park. Cllr. Bond suggested that what is needed is a Gower Ranger.
* Cllr. Ashelby showed photos of a possible solution to the problems of the width of access either side of the Applegrove cattle grid. It is felt that Reynoldston sheep will be able to learn to cross the suggested solution (being very clever sheep!). Cllr. Ashelby will contact Cllr. Richard Lewis again. Cllr. Dyson had to leave at 8.25.

1. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

* The planning application for West Down was discussed, the Clerk disclosed an interest due to living opposite. Cllr. Mahoney said that there would be no objection if it were single storey and placed away from the road. The County Council wanted to know the number of visitors and visibility. Cllr. Ashelby said that bungalows often become chalet bungalows. A new application had been made stressing disability access and use for a holiday cottage. The King Arthur Hotel had supported this as they only have one room for disabled access. The Chair said that the development might impact views from Wyndgarth.
* As regards the development of houses on Castle Ditty Lane there is nothing new. The development had been held back due to concerns about roofing and run-off drainage. The water cannot go in to existing drains as they might not cope. Alan Bryant said that the gate into the site was now twice as wide as it should be and ancient hedgerow had been destroyed. The houses are advertised for sale already.
* Fairy Hill car park had been approved with conditions.
* Other planning applications were smaller including a tree protection order in The Downs, and Ty Bryn. The Clerk mentioned Welsh Water and the work at Fairy Hill, they have written to say they will reinstate the hedges / trees when the work is completed.

1. **VILLAGE MAGAZINE:**

* Cllr. Vine will include a report from the meeting in the next village magazine.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

* The Clerk had received quotes for the motor mower insurance and after the meeting a quote for the council insurance.

1. **FINANCIAL POSITION AND BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

The current balance on the Treasurers Account is: £ 9,897.56

Council Insurance: £ 476.05

Motor Mower Insurance: £ 282.78

**Cheques for payment**

The Clerk presented a cheque for £67 for membership of SLCC.

The Clerk will pay for Kaspersky internet protection for the council laptop

The Council has still not received a bill for the new village sign.

Road Tax is due on the tractor mower, this is zero rated.

1. **AOB:** Councillors can claim a grant for £150. The Chair said he would not claim. The Clerk has circulated an email to councillors with regard to this.

Paul Lloyd -Davies has the key to the tractor motor mower, he asked again if anyone wished to learn to drive the motor mower, Cllrs. Mahoney and Bond volunteered along with the Clerk.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday July 16th in the Minor Hall at 7.30pm.