**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held in the Minor Hall of Reynoldston Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th November 2019**

1. **Apologies:** These had been received from Cllrs. Bond, Dyson, Vine and the internal auditor Alan Bryant
2. **Present:** Cllrs. Mahoney (chair), Clements, Ashelby, the Clerk Andrew Berry, one member of the public and Cllr. Richard Lewis from Swansea Council.
3. **Disclosures of Personal Interest:** Cllr. Mahoney said that these would be taken as they arose during the meeting.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:** These were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chair.
5. **Questions from members of the public**: (15 minutes maximum): Brian Chambers kindly volunteered to help in any way he could.
6. **Parking outside Methodist Chapel:** Cllr. Mahoney and Vine had met with Neil Pritchard. ‘Grasscrete’ has been researched and decided on. However it has now been decided to obtain alternative quotes and a meeting has been arranged on Thursday to progress this.
7. **Village signs and plinths:** Dan Morris is happy to make the two new Village plinths for the signs. The signs have been ordered and are identical to the one placed on the plinth on Cefn Bryn.
8. **Bus stop:** Cllr. Lewis arrived at this point. He said that there had been some issues with a new bus shelter at Penmaen. Cllr. Mahoney explained in detail the reasons for a new bus shelter. The most important issue was the safety of children getting on and off the school bus. Site to be moved about 50 yards from the junction not opposite the entrance to the Stables. It was pointed out that the shelter needed to be strong enough to withstand cows leaning against it and would be similar to that on The Lower Green. The Commoners have no objections and discussions are ongoing with the Highways Department. Cllr. Lewis agreed to support the proposal to Highways.
9. **Matters Arising:**
* Cllr. Mahoney said that the grounds around Stouthall had now been designated as parkland by CADW.
* There is a new battery for the tractor mower. Rob Vine has volunteered to drive it.
* The Clerk has written to solicitors re The Higher Green and the deferred lease. We are waiting for a reply.
* As regards traffic, speeding is still a problem despite the introduction of 20 mph signs. Cllr. Lewis suggested that sleeping policemen could be a solution to slow down traffic. This council has already suggested this to Highways without success. Cllr. Lewis agreed to pursue.
* A discussion took place about traffic volumes through the village and the congestion particularly in Stouthall Lane. Cllr. Mahoney suggested a one-way system from Lower Green toward the South Gower Road. This would allow fire and police to exit the South Gower Road rapidly One of the problems to be considered is that it is a bus route. Cllr. Lewis promised to get hold of a retired highway engineer for advice.
* The Clerk said that Llanrhidian Lower will discuss the problems of parking and traffic on Cefn Bryn at their meeting tonight, and that they have discussed this many times before. Their clerk thought that a meeting with Reynoldston would be met with approval.
1. **Greens and Highways;** Cllr. Mahoney suggested that matters in this context be delegated to Cllrs. Clements and Ashelby, they agreed to carry this forward.
2. **Grants:** It was agreed that £150 would be donated to the Church for the purchase of a village Christmas tree.
3. **Financial Statement and Bills for payment:** The Clerk said that the current account balance was £14,176.87. The tractor mower battery had cost £190.80, Clerk’s remuneration and income tax totalled £677.31. There will be another precept payment of £4,166.67 in December. The Clerk asked for a payment of £50.00 to be paid to PC Homecall to ensure that the council laptop was virus free and operating efficiently. Although the hall rental for this evening was £16.00 there was no apparent heating, the Clerk would pay RVHA £12.00. These payments were approved.
4. **Planning Applications:** Cllr. Mahoney said there was nothing of concern recently, the ash trees between The Hermitage and the Fire Station had been lopped.
5. **AOB:**
* The Clerk will contact Cllr. Vine to complete the proforma for the Environment Act 2016 Part 6 Section 6 that will need to be completed before the end of this year.
* The letter from Suzanne Berry of the Community Shop Trustees asking for a grant for exterior painting for the Community Shop building was read out by Cllr. Mahoney. The Clerk and Cllr. Clements declared an interest. As the Chair was the only other representative he proposed a grant of £1,000 toward the cost but said this will need to be ratified at the next meeting. The Clerk will contact Llanmadoc Community Shop to ask how they received funding from their Community Council.
* A discussion about possible celebrations to mark the VE Day 75th anniversary in May 2020 resulted in there being little enthusiasm to undertake any ceremony. Other village entities appeared to be already making plans. There followed a discussion about the number of U.S. soldiers based in the area during the Second World War. It was suggested that Cllr. Vine write a piece for the village magazine that asking for relevant photos or stories from that time that could possibly be displayed in the church.
* Cllr. Mahoney suggested that tidying the stream and surrounding area in Robins Lane was work that could be done in April.
* The best kept village sign needed refurbishing and Cllr. Mahoney will ask the sign makers if they could do this.
* Concerns had been raised with reference to the village website, confusion over who owns it and who has access to it. The late Dave Harvey did most of the work but it seems that his company had been sold and the new owners wished to divest themselves of any responsibility. Rob Vine says that 19 people have access to the site and could in theory change/edit entries at will (the Clerk discovered he was able to do this to other entries). The Community Council paid over £500 to a web host company two years ago to keep the site up and running for four years. The Community Council should have its own separate more secure website. Cllr. Mahoney will speak to Rob Vine again who has volunteered to help set this up. This will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.
1. **Date of next meeting(s):** The next full Council Meeting will be on 14th January. The Clerk will circulate possible dates to councillors for a budget meeting to be held in December.

Cllr. Lewis thanked the Council for the invitation to attend and praised the Council for its welcoming and friendly attitude.