**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held in the Minor Hall of Reynoldston Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th January 2020**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs. John Mahoney (chair), Deb Vine, Margie Bond, Dan Dyson, Jennie Clements and the Clerk Andrew Berry. Steve Heard from the Gower AONB Management Committee, plus one member of the public.

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Sue Ashelby

1. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

These would be taken as they arose during the meeting

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

These were unanimously agreed and signed by the chair (budget is meeting referred to in item 6 below).

1. **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Mahoney said that the parking space outside the chapel would be covered with a mix of soil and stone. John Alexander had assured him that this is the best option for this space. This might also be an option to improve the path across the Higher Green as grass would grow through the parts unused and the Commoners would therefore lose no grazing to the path, it would also have a minimal impact on the appearance of the green.

1. **PARKING ON CEFN BRYN**

Steve Heard informed the Council of the actions being taken to control parking at the top of Cefn Bryn. He stated that to his knowledge the problem went back at least thirty-five years. He has spoken to Bob Griffiths from the Commoners and Chris Linley among others. The parking area is growing in size and there are various problems caused by caravans, camper vans and tents particularly in the summer months. It has been agreed that boulders will be placed 15 metres in from the roadway. The bund next to the road below this will be repaired for a distance of 120 metres. There will be a gap into the area of 9 metres and then a 20 metres gap for access. In time the area will be reduced. The surface will not be filled in or repaired as this is not a designated car park. The work and finance have now been agreed.

There followed a discussion about the effects of the work. In the New Forest there are a number of car parks off the road for visitors. Why not a car park at Broad Pool and another below the summit? Concerns were raised about parking being forced to move down the hill towards the Higher Green in Reynoldston. Cllr. Vine asked about timing of the work and was told that this should happen before the Spring. It was thought that the right-hand side on the way in to Reynoldston would have to be protected from parking as well. Steve Heard said that a solution here might be short wooden posts such as those recently installed in Scurlage. Cllr. Mahoney thought that we should deal with the problems if and when they arise. There was considerable discussion about raising possible problems with Swansea City and County now rather than leaving it until later.

Steve Heard was thanked by the chair and congratulated on the work done so far.

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

These were dealt with in the above discussion.

1. **2020 -2021 COUNCIL BUDGET APPROVAL**

Cllr. Mahoney circulated the minutes of the budget meeting, they were unanimously approved and signed by the chair. The precept of £12,500 for 2020 / 20121was approved.

1. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS**

The plan is for two plinths with Reynoldston signs. The plinth on the road from Little Reynoldston had unfortunately been sited incorrectly and this will be rectified as soon as possible following a letter from Mr. Methuen-Campbell. The Council have replied to this letter and apologised. This plinth will be rebuilt to the north of the boundary with Little Reynoldston. Cllr. Mahoney will arrange for this to happen.

Nothing had been heard from Cllr. Lewis as regards the siting of the bus stop. One person has said they will object to this. Cllr. Dyson said that there is a good shelter at Southgate. This is in abeyance until we hear back from possible objections. It was reiterated that the moving of the shelter and bus stop was for safety and aesthetic reasons as well as the old bus shelter being used as a refuge for sheep and apparently as a urinal.

Cllr. Mahoney has written to Cllr. Lewis regarding the one-way proposal for Stouthall Lane, he explained that it had to be going towards the South Gower Road as the fire and police vehicles have to be able to make a rapid exit down this road from the village. The Clerk will write to Highways Nigel Fitzgerald to ask for a meeting.

Cllr. Vine had completed the environmental form and this will be published on the Council website.

The tidying up of the area around the stream has been set for the Saturday the 25th April. It was agreed that the village sign will just need a clean. Cllrs. Bond and Mahoney will organise this.

1. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were three, all of which the council had no objections to.

* Box Farm
* Knelston
* Little Reynoldston Farm
1. **GRANTS:**

There was agreement that a grant would be made to the Community shop of £1,000 towards painting the exterior. The Clerk and Cllr. Clements declared an interest. Grants of £1,000 would also be made towards the Village Hall and the Community churchyard.

1. **VILLAGE MAGAZINE**

Cllr. Vine will report on the need for two new Council members and the clean up of the pond on April 25th.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported on a number of communications received.

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

The balance on the current account is £17,271.14. There were two cheques for payment: £1,000 to the Village Hall Association and £1,000 to the church for upkeep of the churchyard. The cheque for £1,000 towards repainting the community shop will be signed when the clerk has ascertained the exact title of the payee. There is also a bill for the last audit of £245.80 from the Wales Audit Office. All were agreed.

1. **AOB**

Cllr. Vine asked if the Council could go back to Bob Griffiths and ask if the top of the Higher Green could be filled in with soil and grass with some bunding and some stones to limit the erosion by cars. It was agreed that Cllrs. Vine and Clements will organise this.

Both Cllr. Mahoney, the current chairman and Cllr. Vine stated that they would be resigning after the next meeting of the Council. The positions will be advertised in the village magazine. The Clerk will contact Democratic Services in Swansea Council to ensure that the proper process is adhered to. The Internal Auditor Mr. Alan Bryant is also resigning. A suggestion was made as to a replacement for Mr. Bryant. Adrian Hughes had expressed an interest in joining the council to Cllr. Mahoney.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 10th at 7.30pm. The Clerk has circulated the dates for the coming year.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.