**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES of a MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th May 2020**

This meeting was held in accordance with new temporary regulations in existence up to April 2021.

For practical reasons this meeting was held online, the agenda was published on the village noticeboards and the village website well in advance of the meeting.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. John Mahoney (chair), Deb Vine, Margie Bond, Sue Ashelby and the Clerk Andrew Berry.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Jennie Clements, Dan Dyson.

1. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:** It was unanimously agreed that these would be taken if and when they arose during the meeting.
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** These were approved and will be signed by the chair.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:** Cllr. Mahoney said that the environmental and climate change work of Pennard Community Council had won a One Voice Wales award for sustainability. It was agreed that the proposal to set up a working group would be advertised in the next edition of the Reynoldston magazine. Names of people in the community who might be interested in this were discussed and it was hoped that there would be enough volunteers from the community to establish a group. Cllr. Ashelby reported back on the problems of disabled access from the lower part of Applegrove. The Community Council had cleared the path twice in the last year after being told that it was not the responsibility of Swansea Council who then cleared it! Cllr. Ashelby has met with a representative of the County Council on site, but there are problems as there is a concern about possible erosion by running water if it is paved and then permission will need to be obtained from the owners of the path which is a public right of way owned by householders who border the path. Cllr. Mahoney said that the bus shelter and the possible one-way system for Stouthall Lane would have to wait until the current Covid 19 crisis is over. Cllr. Bond asked if anything had been heard from Cllr, Lewis regarding these two items Cllr. Mahoney said no. Cllr, Vine reported on the parking area outside the chapel. The contractor was concerned about interfering with social distancing and queuing for the Post Office but this was felt to be on the other side of the road and with less traffic at present now might be a better opportunity to proceed after previous delays caused by the weather. Cllr. Vine will ring him tomorrow (Wednesday)
4. **APPROVAL OF ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST 2020:** The return had been signed by the Internal Auditor Mr. Alan Bryant. It had been previously circulated by the Clerk and was unanimously approved by those present. The annual return will be made public as will arrangements for interested parties to view the accounts.
5. **GRANTS:** Cllr. Mahoney outlined the background to three possible grants, these are: 1) Interpretive panels, a grant for the first one of these was approved at the last meeting. There are plans for another two, one outside the post office and another outside the King Arthur Hotel. It is believed that the King Arthur panel would be first. It was unanimously agreed that the Council would fund 50% 0f the cost of the first panel and wait until an application is made for the second. 2) The Village Hall floor is around 100 years old and is in need of replacement. The Council agreed to help fund this to a minimum of £1,000 depending on how much of the estimated £23,000 can be funded from other sources, it is believed that the Hall will fund half the cost itself and then the rest will come from other sources. 3) The Council had been asked for a contribution to a charity providing face masks for NHS workers, however due to not being able to ascertain exactly the charity background it was decided not to part with money going to an uncertain recipient.
6. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS:** It was agreed that possible work to the top corner of the Higher Green will be left to wait a while.
7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** The application for alterations to ‘Merlins’ had been turned down by the County Council. There had been no objection from the Community Council and it is believed there will be an appeal.
8. **VILLAGE MAGAZINE:** Cllr. Vine will write a piece asking if anyone or group is/are willing to set up as at Pennard to come up with a village environment / local sourcing of food / climate change working party. Also mentioning requests for new Community Council members and very much thanking Mr. Alan Bryant for his work as Internal Auditor to the council over the years.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk had circulated correspondence to members since the last meeting. Very much of this was advertising, there had also been advice circulated among members regarding Covid 19 from OVW, SLCC, The Welsh Government and Swansea Council.
10. **FINANCIAL POSITION AND BILLS FOR PAYMENT:** The Clerk stated that the bills for payment were to CLA (tractor mower insurance) £282.78 the same as last year; BHIB (council insurance) £481.51, last year £476.05; SLCC £78.00 (Society of Local Council Clerks) last year £76.00 and One Voice Wales £69 (local democracy advice) last year £65.00 These were all unanimously approved for payment. The current balance is (12/05/2020) £16,184.62. This sum is much larger than anticipated due to work on the Higher Green, bus shelter and parking area outside the chapel having been delayed first by the weather and then restrictions caused by the pandemic.
11. **AOB:** Cllr.Bond asked about the tractor mower. There are several people who have volunteered to use it. Could they be trained? The Clerk said that this was very important as health and safety and insurance would mean that at least basic instruction would need to be given (and please check your licence!) Cllr. Mahoney agreed to approach Paul Lloyd-Davies to arrange suitable training. The Council needs a new Internal Auditor and suggestions were made about this – approach to potential candidates will be made by Cllr. Clements. Cllr. Mahoney praised the work of Mr. Alan Bryant as Internal Auditor and this was unanimously agreed in a vote of thanks by the Council. Councillor Ashelby asked how the village was coping with the Covid 19 lockdown? The Council has volunteered help but none has been asked for. It seems as far as the Council that people are coping with help from neighbours, relatives and the village community shop amongst others.The Clerk had been asked by a member of the community about two concerns regarding building a fence and what appeared to be parking restrictions. This was discussed but it was decided that no action be taken.
12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Hopefully this will take place under more normal circumstances on Tuesday 14th July at 7.30 pm in the Minor Hall.