**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES of a MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th July 2020**

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

The meeting was held online, the agenda was published on the village noticeboards and the village website in advance of the meeting. Members of the public could ask questions in advance.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. John Mahoney (chair), Deb Vine, Margie Bond, Sue Ashelby, Jennie Clements (by phone) Mr. Paul Sizer and the Clerk Andrew Berry.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Dan Dyson.

Cllr. Mahoney welcomed Mr. Paul Sizer to the meeting. He had volunteered to be the new Internal Auditor. He was thanked for volunteering. His appointment was proposed by Cllr. Mahoney, seconded by Cllr. Bond and unanimously approved.

1. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:** It was 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 unanimously approved and signed by the chair.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

* No responses had been received following a request for interested parties to set up a working group on sustainability and climate change in the village. This had been publicised in the last edition of the village magazine. It was agreed that this would be mentioned again. It was felt that John Whiten had spoken well. Cllr. Vine will talk to Lisa Kirkman and Dawn and Stuart Thomas to see if there is any interest in forming a group.
* Cllr. Mahoney raised the question of disabled access from Applegrove. There is a problem with a gate at the top of the lane thought by the owner to be caused by raising of the level of the lane when it was last resurfaced. There is a concern about future resurfacing. Cllr. Ashelby said that in a meeting with the Swansea Council on site it was thought that resurfacing could lead to increased flooding and erosion at the foot of the lane. Cllr. Mahoney will investigate.
* Cllr. Mahoney said that the moving of the bus stop and shelter had been delayed due to Covid 19 and the project would be carried forward.
* The Clerk said that the problems with Stout Hall Lane had been raised in discussion with a resident who had spent one hour on Monday getting through to Knelston due to the volume of traffic. This was in part also due to drivers not using the passing place on the main road. The Clerk suggested a bigger sign at the triangle above the King Arthur sending through traffic via the much wider road toward Little Reynoldston. The Clerk will write to County Councillor Richard Lewis. Cllr. Mahoney will contact the local police.
* Cllr. Mahoney said that following the remedial work the grass outside the chapel was now growing. Cllr. Bond has some larger stones which will prevent parking and volunteered to donate these to the area. Ian Campbell on behalf of the chapel said that they were happy for the stones to come back as before.
* 50% funding of the information panel outside the church had already been agreed.
* Three operators of the motor mower had been trained, John Mahoney, Margie Bond and Andrew Berry. Thanks to Paul Lloyd-Davies, Adam Cowley and the Fire Station.
* It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase a new trickle charger for the mower.

1. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** There were no members of the public present. Cllr. Ashelby had been asked about ownership of the grass area at the top of Applegrove. It had been suggested that it might be an area for wildflower planting. There was some discussion as to who owned the land. The owners will be approached once it has been ascertained who they are.
2. **GRANTS:** There had been a request from Hugh Jones on behalf of the Reynoldston Village Hall Association for a grant of £3000 towards rebuilding the crumbling steps at the entrance to the village hall, this will improve disabled access with a new handrail and create two additional car parking spaces. RVHA has, the Clerk understands now raised enough money to pay for the replacement floor and associated works and will not now need the £1000 grant previously agreed to help pay for this. The Council unanimously approved a new grant of £3000.
3. **INTERNAL AUDITOR TO THE COUNCIL:** Mr. Paul Sizer was unanimously approved. The Clerk will contact him before the next meeting (see above).
4. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS:** Cllr. Vine suggested the possibility of some tree planting at the top of the Higher Green. The trees would help prevent erosion with maybe a small copse. Cllr. Mahoney suggested approaching for the funding first then ask the Commoners. Cllr. Bond suggested Rowan trees and said that the tree at the crossroads was looking particularly beautiful at the moment.
5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** There were no objections to the application for an extension in Applegrove, It was understood that the appeal by the owner of Merlins had been turned down. There were no objections to the most recent application on Castle Ditty Lane, however nothing had been heard on problems with drainage on the new housing site.
6. **VILLAGE MAGAZINE:** The appointment of Paul Sizer and requests for the leadership of a working group on climate and the environment would be mentioned as well as the grant to the village hall. Cllr. Vine to organise.
7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk had circulated these to the Council. In particular there had been correspondence regarding the car park on Cefn Bryn. This had been replied to and the Clerk had today received information from the Clerk at Llanrhidian Higher that there was no intention to open this car park in the immediate future. However there had been parking at the site nonetheless. The Clerk had been asked for the phone number of the police (101 in this instance) by a local resident passing the site who said that they thought they had observed people digging a fire pit for a barbecue in the car park.
8. **FINANCIAL POSITION AND BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

* The bill for resurfacing and stabilising the land outside the chapel had been £1080 and had been paid.
* The current balance on the Treasurers Account is £14,193.29
* £3000 was agreed to be paid as a grant to RVHA (see above under grants)
* Clerks Remuneration for the last four months was £541.91
* HMRC Income Tax was £135.48
* The next precept was due on 30/08/2020 for £4166.67

1. **AOB:** A reminder and agreement of items to go in the Village Magazine (see above)
2. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Hopefully this will be the delayed Annual Meeting to be held in the Minor Hall on Tuesday 8th September 2020.