**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27th July 2021 in the Main Hall of Reynoldston Village Hall**

**This meeting was held in accordance with covid 19 rules, the outside doors were kept open and a register kept of attendees.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Deb Vine (chair), Sue Ashelby, Jennie Clements, Charles Twitchett, and the Clerk Andrew Berry. There were three members of the public present.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Margie Bond

1. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST** Cllr. Vine welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was agreed that disclosures of interest would be taken if and when they occurred.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** The clerk had circulated the minutes beforehand. These were approved.
3. **MATTERS ARISING** The Clerk said that the work on the Higher Green had been completed and paid for.

The Clerk had written to the AM about the situation regarding the lack of use of the First Response vehicle brought to the council’s attention by Hugh Jones Paul Sizer and other members of the community but had received no response. Cllr. Ashelby asked that the lack of use be pursued. The Clerk will write again to the MS.

The Clerk had heard no more about the Applegrove signs.

There had not yet been a request for funds towards another interpretive sign.

The ‘dead tree’ outside the King Arthur Hotel appeared to be alive!

Cllr. Richard Lewis was thanked for the sign directing caravans off Cefn Bryn away from Stouthall Lane and the village greens.

1. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** Cllr. Vine introduced Hugh Jones and Phil Barrow. Phil introduced himself, his family were from the village and he was an amateur historian. He said there was no memorial to the Home Guard on Gower. Eighty had served during WW2 in Reynoldston. His aim was to have a permanent memorial to them in Reynoldston that would be a memorial to all those who had served on Gower. He said he thought it would cost between £4,000 to £20,000 depending type and position (even in the hall). His plan was to walk from Rhossili to Mumbles in full Home Guard kit (the rifles would be deactivated) with other Living History re-enactors to raise money on a Just Giving page. He had already spoken to the Gower Society. The village hall was the Drill Hall and they expected invasion with orders to harass the enemy if the invasion came. They were members of the 15th battalion. It was pointed that permission would have to be obtained for a memorial from the landowners and possibly planning permission obtained. He was thanked for his contribution.
2. **AOB** This was brought forward by the chair from later in the meeting. The Chair asked that a vote be taken at this point to co-opt Michelle Clark as a councillor. She was proposed by Cllr. Vine and seconded by Cllr. Clements. Michelle was unanimously elected. The position had already been advertised in the village magazine, online and in the village monthly magazine.
3. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS** Cllr. Vine reported that Neil Pritchard had completed the work on the Higher Green. The end nearest the Post Office was OK however there had been problems with the end furthest from the Post Office culminating in the angle irons being stolen! It was agreed that Neil would come back to re-seed work at the end of the summer probably in October.

Neil Barry has now been asked about tree planting and has said he will get back to Cllr. Vine with advice. Perhaps birch trees or Mountain Ash would be best. It was felt that more advice on the best trees was needed with each tree costing £150 to £200 each most likely planted in three clumps between the bunds. The Commoners are OK with this. The trees will need protection from grazing animals to start with. Garry Dunn will be asked for advice.

1. **PLANNING** Cllr. Twitchett reported back on planning applications and approvals. There had been renewed activity at Meadowside and Whitewalls – the council had no objections to these. Planning permission had been extended for the Rectory Meadow field first applied for in 2011 extended in 2016 and now extended again. Charles declared an interest in Mabbets siting of a caravan. There were no objections.
2. **GRANTS** There were none to discuss at this time.
3. **VILLAGE MAGAZINE** It was agreed that this would be dealt with later.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE** The Chair and Clerk had received an email regarding flooding caused by a burst water main as well as rain and poor drainage during ‘normal’ conditions. The email was from the owners of Applegrove Cottage at the end of the path from Cefn Bryn to the Village Hall. Cllr. Vine had phoned Welsh Water who promised to tidy up the area after repairing the main. The Clerk will write to Penrice who it is believed own the land to ask if they would object to a drain being put in or gravel to make the path passable. Cllr. Twitchett asked if the owners have a duty to maintain a right of way over their own land.
5. **FINANCE AND BILLS FOR PAYMENT** The Clerk reported back on spending since the last meeting.

The Clerk had £80.00 reimbursed for SLCC membership

RVH was paid £26.00 for hire of the hall with heating

Howden was paid £282.78 for lawn mower insurance

BHIB was paid £486.74 for Council Insurance

NRP Groundworks £3348.00 for work to the Higher Green

Cheque for £120.00 to Swansea City and County for planning permission for village signs (approved)

Clerk’s Remuneration £556.89

HMRC tax paid £139.22

The Council wanted to thank Andrew Renesto for his work on PAYE for the Council.

1. **AOB (again)** Cllr. Vine had received complaints about the very bright lights from the Fire Station. The Clerk asked if they could be focussed downwards rather than horizontally along the road towards the Lower Green. The Clerk will write to the Station Manager Adam Cowley to ask about this. The Chair will be absent for the next meeting so it was hoped that Cllr. Bond will chair the meeting.

The magazine article will include a report on Phil Barrow’s idea for a memorial to the Home Guard. Cllr, Ashelby will report on the co-option of Michelle Clark, thanks to Cllr. Richard Lewis for the caravan diversion sign and the problems with the emergency response vehicle not being called upon.

Michelle Clark asked about the number of cars parked outside the King Arthur and said it would be a good idea if there were more parking provided. It was pointed out that there often is parking round the back of the hotel but that this is not widely known.

The meeting ended at 20.45.

The next meeting will be in the hall at 7.30pm on September 14th.