**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**Held at Minor Hall, Reynoldston at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th July 2022**

**Present:** Cllrs. Vine, Bond, Clarke, James, Clerk Paul Sizer and two members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Twitchett and Ashelby.Internal Auditor Aimee Dyer

Councillor Vine welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

It was agreed that any Disclosures of Personal Interest would be discussed as they arose during the meeting.

1. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair asked if everyone was happy with the minutes of the last meeting.

The Clerk pointed out two small “typo” errors on page 4 section 19 where there are two £ signs and on page 5 an extra “r” appears in the date. These errors will be adjusted for the signed copy.

1. **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Twitchett had made contact with Steve Avo of City and County of Swansea regarding the Highways, road signs, speeding drivers and road signs in the Village. Due to the apology of Cllr. Twitchett this matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr. James confirmed she had checked two of the three defibrillators in the Village and they were working correctly. She would check the third one asap and also complete a check on all defibrillators prior to the next Council meeting.

The Clerk confirmed he had purchased some plastic storage boxes to store achieved documents safely in. It was agreed by the Council that the Clerk approach Hugh Jones and the Village Hall and ask if the boxes could be stored in the Village Hall somewhere safe even if a fee was to be paid.

1. **ELECTION OF COOPTED COUNCILLOR.**

Cllr. Clements was proposed by Cllr. Vine and seconded by Cllr. Bond to be co-opted back onto the Council. This was agreed unanimously.

1. **ELECTION OF ONE COUNCILLOR AS DELEGATE TO ONE VOICE WALES.**

As Cllr. Clements had been co-opted back onto the Council it was agreed that she would act as the contact for One Voice Wales.

1. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Two questions were asked from members of the public. The first surrounded the lack of bus services into the Village. Most villages on Gower had an hourly service to and from Swansea but Reynoldston appeared to only have one usually every two hours. It was also discussed about some buses not following the correct routes and missing out Reynoldston Green and Little Reynoldston. It was agreed that the Clerk would make contact with City & County of Swansea in the first instance as they support the costs of these bus services to see if both the 118 and 119 services could both divert through Little Reynoldston and Reynoldston Green. It was agreed the Clerk would also write to NAT as the bus operator to ask them to keep to the correct route and always call into the Village Green and Little Reynoldston. (Post the meeting the Clerk has discovered not all buses are routed to go via Little Reynoldston. It was suggested by the Clerk to hold off the letter to NAT until he had discussed the matter with City & County of Swansea.)

The second question asked regarded speeding in the Village especially the road from Fairyhill to the crossroads noting the worst area is down the slope to the Post Office/Community Shop. The Clerk mentioned he had witnessed an incident last Sunday during the Gower Bike ride where a car had pulled up over the give way lines and the bicycles taking part in the race had to weave around parked cars attending the shop and the chapel which could easily have caused an accident. Speed bumps were discussed but would need lighting and the modern ones require a gap for bicycles to pass through which would defeat the object of trying to slow them down. It was noted that this road is supposed to be 20mph only. The Council decided to keep this matter for future meetings as the Welsh Government had only just agreed all villages to become 20mph and it would be interesting to see how they intend to monitor the speeds in the villages.

1. **VILLAGE GREENS AND HIGHWAYS**

Cllr. Vine will make contact with Neil Pritchard to arrange completion of the grass verge on the upper green.

As reported earlier in the meeting, Cllr. Twitchett had made contact with Steve Avo from City & County of Swansea regarding the road signs, culvert at the Post Office junction and speeding vehicles. This matter will be taken up again at the next meeting with any further progress.

1. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were two planning applications which had been checked by Cllrs. Twitchett and Bond. Cllr. Twitchett had reported prior to the meeting that the applications were:

**Rowan** - [*Increase in ridge height to provide additional living accommodation in the roof space, three rear dormers, three front roof lights, side porch, rear steps, patio, decking and glass balustrade,* and **South Ridge**](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RBZAYLEVMG100&activeTab=summary)- [*Three front roof lights, three rear roof lights, first floor side extension, and single storey rear extension with first floor balcony and associated balustrades above*](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RDF01EEVMX700&activeTab=summary)

There were no negative comments received or made by the councillors.

Cllr Bond asked the Clerk if he could update Cllrs. Twitchett and Bond when new planning applications were received. The Clerk responded that he had submitted a request to the planning office to receive notifications but this had not been responded to. He would chase the Planning department again.

**8b. GRANTS.**

The Clerk apologised that he had missed this item off the agenda and the Chair added an amendment to make it agenda item 8b.

 A request had been received from Hugh Jones on behalf of the new play group at the Village Hall for a grant towards running costs and or equipment. Cllr. James advised that as she was part of this new play group she was stating a “Disclosure of Personal Interest” and did not take part in the discussion or vote. Cllr. Vine proposed a grant of £700 towards “equipment” which was seconded by Cllr. Clements. The matter was agreed unanimously. The Council agreed they would be happy to receive any further requests once the group was up and running.

1. **CLERKS UPDATE**

The Clerk advised that at long last he was now a signatory to the bank account and was applying for the on-line banking facility. Cllr. Vine had to become involved with the request for access to the Clerk.

The bank account currently held £19948 but a large element of this balance was for the bus shelter (see AoB)

Payments were due to SLCC for £80 and the Village Hall for two meetings at £12 each. The SLCC were happy to take a cheque payment which was completed and the Village Hall were willing to wait until the on-line banking had been actioned.

The clerk had incurred minor expenses in the purchase of plastic storage boxes for archived files and he would make a claim for these and other minor expenses in the near future.

The Clerks salary was due but there was no agreement yet of the salary for the Clerk. Cllrs. Vine and Clements are due to meet to discuss the matter and the Clerk will make a post-dated application for payment.

The Clerk now has access to the Village website after support from Rob Vine. He can now update the webpage for agendas, minutes of meeting etc.

The Clerk offered the councillors a risk assessment for the use of the motor mower. The Clerk thanked Cllr. Twitchett for the support in writing the risk assessment and for Cllr. Bond in agreeing the format. The risk assessment was signed off by the chair of the council and would be monitored on a regular basis to confirm it is accurate.

1. **AOB**

Cllr. Vine had found documentation regarding the proposed bus shelter. She has also been advised of a contact at City & County of Swansea – Charlotte Collins who is the passenger transport coordinator. Cllr. Vine will continue with making contact with City & County of Swansea regarding this matter.

The proposed playground in the Village has not been granted permission to cross the grass verge by Penrice estate. Without this permission the proposal cannot proceed. Cllr. James who also is linked with the playground group stated that approaches were being made directly to City & County of Swansea to help locate a suitable area of land for a playground.

The subject of the Ironman race around Swansea and Gower was discussed. It was agreed that the idea of the event with no notice or discussion with affected villages was not a good idea as many residents feel they will be “locked into” their houses and several businesses would be affected with no compensation being made available. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the organisers stating the feelings the council had with regard to this event. There was an on-line meeting being held on Thursday 14th July and Cllr. James volunteered to attend on behalf of the council and report back.

Due to the absence of Cllr. Ashelby who writes articles for the Village Magazine it was agreed the Clerk would forward details to her for inclusion as soon as possible.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd September 2022 at 7.30 in the Minor Hall. The unusual day is due to the absence of the chair and vice chair on the usual second Tuesday in the month and the absence of the Clerk on several other suggested dates.

The meeting closed at 9.00