**REYNOLDSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**Held at Minor Hall, Reynoldston at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th July 2023**

**Present:** Cllrs. Clarke, Ashelby, James, Cousins and Clerk Paul Sizer

**Apologies:** Cllr. Twitchett andInternal Auditor Aimee Dyer

**Absent:** Cllr. Clements

Councillor Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Disclosures of Personal Interests**  It was agreed that any Disclosures of Personal Interest would be discussed as they arose during the meeting. |
| **2.** | **To approve the minutes of the previous meeting**  The Chair asked if everyone was happy with the minutes of the last meeting. Cllr. Ashelby noted two minor errors. On page three her name had been misspelt and on page five St George’s Church had been noted as Chapel. These errors were amended in the minutes by the Clerk. The Minutes were agreed. |
| **3.** | **Matters Arising**  Cllr. Twitchett advised the committee in his absence that the road signs at the upper green and at Applegrove had all been attended to. |
| **4.** | **Co-option of new Councillor**  Fflur Thomas has offered her services to the Committee. Cllr. James proposed the new Councillor and this was seconded by Cllr. Clarke. All councillors were in favour and Cllr. Thomas was welcomed to the Council |
| **5.** | **Representative to One Voice Wales**  Cllr. Clements is the representative of the Community Council but was absent from this meeting. It was agreed to carry this item over to the next Council meeting. |
| **6.** | **Questions from members of the public.**  There were no members of the public present to ask questions. |
| **7.** | **Village Defibrillators Update**  There had been a delay caused by the clerk’s recent ill-health in attending to the fixing of a new cabinet at St George’s Church. This will be attended to as soon as possible.  The siting of a new Defibrillator in Little Reynoldston had been agreed outside Cllr. Clarke’s house which faces onto the main road. A representative of Heartbeat Trust UK had attended the site but has to date not reported back on the feasibility of installation at this site. The Clerk was asked to chase the organisation.  The Clerk had received a quote of £1802.60 in February subject to site inspection. The Clerk asked for an agreement to proceed once he had heard back from Heartbeat Trust UK. Cllr. Clarke proposed and Cllr. Ashelby seconded a budget of £2000 and to allow the Clerk to proceed once he has heard back. |
| **8.** | **Village Greens and Highways**  As noted in Matters Arising the signs had been updated on the Upper Green and at Applegrove by Swansea City Council.  Cllr. Clarke advised she had been left the file on the proposed new bus shelter on the upper road in the village from the previous Chair. Cllr. Clarke felt the costs could be better used by the Village especially as the usage of the buses was low and very few buses come along that road. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Swansea Council to see what the latest position was and to meet with Cllr. Clarke on site to discuss other alternatives.  It was agreed that the Community Council had three alternatives to discuss at the next meeting i.e.:   * Leave the current Bus Shelter “as is” with a possible “clean up” * Upgrade the Bus Shelter with the addition of a possible ramp to allow access to the Bus Shelter from users with prams or wheelchairs etc * To demolish the current Bus Shelter and erect a new version a little way away from the junction.   This matter to be carried over to the next meeting. |
| **9.** | **Planning Applications**  Cllr. Twitchett in his absence advised of his comments on the three planning applications that were present when he checked. Cllr. Ashelby agreed his findings and reported on this matter as follows:  **Beaufort Cottage**  [*Replacement of single storey rear extension with rooftop terrace, side car port, front entrance renovated, retaining structures in garden to reduce and raise some levels.*](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RV3T24EVM8S00&activeTab=summary)  The Council had not received any comments on this planning application and the Councillors had no objections.  **The Coach House**  [*Retention of a home office and swimgym/jacuzzi*](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RWII0XEVMU200&activeTab=summary)  Cllr. Cousins stated she had a “Personal Interest” in this property.  This was an amendment to the original Planning Application and the Community Council had no comments or objections to the original application and had no objections to this amended application. There had been no objections received.  **Fairy Lodge**  [*(Pre-application) Conversion of former milking parlour to house*](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RWLH6KEV0FN00&activeTab=summary)  This was only a pre-application for this proposed alteration of use. There were no objections made by the Community Council or objections received from neighbours.  **Pendragon**  [*Reconstruction of porch to front elevation, demolition of rear two storey extension and construction of new two storey rear extension and associated alterations to dwelling house (Non Material amendment to planning permission 2022/2008/FUL granted 24th October 2022 for the addition of small frosted window on first floor North West elevation, removal of first floor bathroom, and replacement of sun pipe with roof light)*](https://property.swansea.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RX9ZTGEV0FN00&activeTab=summary)  The Clerk stated this property was next door to his house so he had an “Personal Interest” in the application.  This application was an amendment to the original application which had been agreed by the Community Council. The alterations were being made on the recommendation of the Building Control Officer for Swansea City Council. There were no objections from the Councillors present. |
| **10.** | **Grants**  The grant application from the Village Playgroup which had been carried over from the previous meeting was discussed. Cllr. James and Cllr. Thomas both stated “Personal Interests” with the Playgroup.  It was agreed to carry this grant request over to a future meeting when a more formal request as received from the Playgroup.  Hugh Jones on behalf of St George’s Church had requested a grant to assist with scaffolding costs with regard to the recent “mishap” with one of the Church bells. It was recommended that the applicant get in contact with Cllr. Cousins who has access to organisations offering grants. It was proposed by Cllr. Clarke and seconded by Cllr. Cousins that support with the scaffolding costs would be offered in the range of £600 to £700 on receipt of a formal quotation and the Church trying to source alternative grants.  The Clerk reported that he had paid the print costs for the new Village Guide which was agreed at the previous meeting. The actual print costs was £375 against an agreement to pay £400. |
| **11.** | **Village Magazine**  Cllr. Ashelby will write the usual article in the Village Magazine for August although she thinks that issue is to be a “special” with mostly old photographs and September may be a better issue to write in. |
| **12.** | **Clerks Update**  The Clerk had heard back from the Audit Wales office with regard to last year’s accounts and there were no negative comments made.  This year’s accounts and report had been sent to them for their approval. The Clerk apologised to the Community Council as he had thought the year 2022/2023 were to be fully audited but in fact it is 2023/2024 that will undergo a full Audit Wales Audit.  The Clerk had received an invoice from Audit Wales in the sum of £200 for this year’s audit and was to pay it later this month.  The current bank balance stands at £22,382 which has in it a large provision for the Bus Shelter.  The Internal Auditor commented in her last report that the Clerk had made an error and underpaid himself in 2022/2023 in the sum of £54 which had been agreed by the Chair. This would be added to his July salary payment.  The Clerk had received a “Sustainable Drainage Feasibility Grant” application through One Voice Wales. It was agreed that Cllr. Cousins would look to see if the Council could apply for the different issues at the Post Office, on the Lower Green and the lane from Fairyhill road down to the Village Hall.  The Clerk is acting as Clerk and host to the Gower Forum of Community Councils on Tuesday 18th.  Cllr. Clarke as Chair agreed to attend the meeting on behalf the Community Council. |
| **13.** | **Any Other Business**  There was no Any Other Business |
| **14.** | **Date of the next meeting**  The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th September at 19.30.  The meeting closed at 9.10 |