

BRAWDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Brawdy Community Council held remotely on Monday 30th November 2020.

2020/14.

1. Present. Cllr M Carter, Cllr J Tierney, Cllr Mrs A Morgan, Cllr Mrs A Loch, Cllr D E Jones, Cllr Mrs G Lawrence & Sean O'Connor Clerk.

2. Apologies. None.

3. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and asked each councillor in turn whether they wished to declare an interest in any item on the agenda. Cllr Mrs G Lawrence (6) & Cllr M Carter(5d) did declare an interest on an item each, as featured below.

4. The acceptance of the minutes of the October meeting was proposed by Cllr J Tierney and seconded by Cllr M Carter after a slight amendment to item 7. This was unanimously agreed. These would now be transferred onto our website by the clerk. The Chairman asked councillors to respond to the initial publishing of the minutes as soon as possible, in order that any changes can be made, if required, before transferring to our website.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the October 2020 meeting.

5a. Defibrillator at Newgale.

5a. Cllr Carter confirmed that the installation had been completed, and registered. The clerk confirmed that it had been insured with Zurich, with no additional premium for this year, and an increase of £20/£25 from the renewal in May 21. Cllr Carter had distributed photographs, and everybody agreed it was very impressive. It was also noted that Dr Rob Jones had written to PCC regarding the eligibility of defibrillator purchases under the second homes scheme. It was agreed that the clerk contact Welsh Hearts regarding training early in the new year. After a discussion it was agreed that the next defibrillator would be for Trefgarn Owen. It was also suggested that Cllr Tierney contact Cllr Neil Prior regarding the successful applications at Mathry and Abercastle, and obtain some photographs. Cllr Carter would contact Sinead Heneghan at PCC to ascertain exactly what was required for a future application under the PCC scheme. The clerk would also ascertain what the position was for featuring the code on the outside of the cabinet, and whether this was covered under our insurance policy. All of these issues would be discussed at our next meeting.

5b. The clerk reported that our claim for the VAT return for 2018/19 had been acknowledged by HMRC. The amount reclaimed was for £98, but the payments are taking 5 to 7 weeks to process. As instructed the clerk had also looked back at receipts on his expenses claims. The only thing that had attracted VAT, was for ink cartridges. This amounted to only £3.33, and as this is well below the minimum claim of £50, it was agreed not to proceed.

5c. Following information obtained by Cllr Mrs A Morgan and Cllr D E Jones the clerk had replied to Mr Gordon Parsons in Canada regarding his family tree, and the property formerly known as Penyffordd. A reply had been received in thanks for the information provided.

5d. Trefgarn Owen Chapel. At this point Cllr Carter declared a personal interest, as his property backed on to the chapel. He reported that there were cracks in the masonry, and some of the roof slates were loose, and only being kept up by the guttering. He had distributed photographs highlighting these issues. There is a definite danger to the public, and any passer-by. Cllr Carter had contacted the chapel representatives, and received an acknowledgment. He would leave it for a few days, and if nothing is done, he would contact them again. If the site is not then made safe, he would escalate matters to PCC. His actions were fully endorsed by the council.

Correspondence.

Pembs County Council.

6. Planning Application Ref. No. 20/0637/PA. Erection of agricultural building adjacent to Brawdy Business Park Penycwm Haverfordwest. The details of this application were sent to councillors prior to the meeting, as a reply was requested by PCC. Cllr Mrs G Lawrence declared an interest, both at the time of receiving the correspondence, and again at the meeting. A response had been sent in

support of the application on 16/11/20, which also suggested that a dense hedge be planted on the earth bank to the north side of the site, to help the screening of the development. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs A Loch, seconded by Cllr M Carter, and unanimously agreed by all present.

7. It was reported that a meeting of the planning and public rights of way committee had taken place on 10/11/20, which approved the planning application at Greenstone Farm Penycwm (Ref No. 20/0086/PA)

8. The paperwork for the PCC Rural facilitates settlement report had been sent to the Chairman prior to the meeting. He proceeded to read through each of our villages in turn, and any amendments were made by councillors as appropriate. Once completed he would return the completed form to Sara Morris at PCC.

9. County Councillors' monthly update.

Cllr Carter confirmed that Mr Richard Brown had been selected as the new temporary PCC chief executive for a 6-to-12-month period. After this, a new appointment would be made, which could be an internal or external appointment.

He also advised that he had spoken to the chief executive regarding a discretionary one-way route at Newgale, for when the village is shut. This would considerably help the flow of traffic and also assist emergency vehicles. A meeting later that week had been arranged to discuss this further.

Cllr Carter also advised that, following a cabinet meeting, PCC were considering purchasing some properties and shops alongside the riverside area in Haverfordwest. This was part of their regeneration plan, with grants available for parts of the project. He had raised his concerns regarding these purchases in the current climate. There are further discussions to follow before any final decision is made. The Chairman advised that the annual budget meetings were imminent, and promised to keep everyone informed and updated.

Pembs Coast National Park.

10. Proposed planning application from Sitec acting for Vodafone. Ref No. NP/20//0534/PNT. Installation of 4m monopole with 2 antennas and ancillary works at land adjacent to Cwm-Mawr Penycwm Haverfordwest. This matter was discussed and it was generally agreed that this was a smaller version of the previous application but at a different location further down the valley. The Chairman asked each councillor in turn for their views. It was proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr J Tierney that we reply with no objection to this application. Cllr Lawrence asked for more time to view the details, and it was agreed that if the clerk did not hear anything further within 7 days, he was instructed to reply with no objection.

Other Correspondence.

11. The clerk & Councils direct brochure for November 20 had been forwarded to Cllr Mrs A Morgan prior to the meeting. She would now circulate this to other councillors.

12. Details to obtain the link for the PAVS volunteer reward scheme survey were provided to councillors by the clerk.

13. Details to obtain the link were provided for the online survey from NHS Wales regarding the future pharmacy services.

Report of Responsible Finance Officer.

14. The clerk reported up to date bank account balances as at 30/11/20 as Current Account. £61.44 and Deposit Account £4979.79.

15. The clerk had forwarded a copy of the monthly bank statement to councillors prior to the meeting which confirmed the above balances.

16. The clerk confirmed his monthly salary and income tax payments for November had been received from our accountants. These were for the standard 16 hours only, and were included on the monthly bank statement.

17. Prior to the meeting the clerk had prepared an income & expenditure statement in readiness for the discussion leading to our precept request for 2021/22. A copy of this was sent to councillors, and included the situation over the last three years, together with the anticipated income and expenditure for the remainder of this financial year. A discussion took place and included continuing to make provision for local election costs in 2022. Bearing this in mind the clerk was instructed to look at the possibility to open a separate account to retain the annual election funds, if there were no costs involved. After a thorough discussion it was proposed by Cllr DE Jones that we increase our precept request by £180 to £6360 per annum, which was an increase of 2.90%. This was seconded

by Cllr Mrs A Morgan, and unanimously agreed. The clerk would attend to this once the request form from PCC is received.

18. The clerk confirmed that the final report from our external auditors Grant Thornton had been received. It stated "The information contained in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met".

19. The clerk submitted a claim for reimbursement of expenses incurred for the period August to November 2020. This contained receipts, and amounted to £56.05. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs G Lawrence and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan that this be paid.

20. It was proposed by Cllr J Tierney and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan that the sum of £25 be transferred between our accounts to cover payments agreed at this meeting.

21. The next monthly meeting was set for Monday January 25th 2021, virtually, starting at 7:30 pm. Before closing the meeting at 9.28 pm, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions in 2020, and wished everyone a merry Christmas and hoped that 2021 would be a better and kinder new year for everybody.