

# BRAWDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Brawdy Community Council held remotely on Tuesday February 23rd 2021. 2021/16.

1. Present. Cllr M Carter, Cllr DE Jones, Cllr Mrs A Morgan, Cllr Mrs G Lawrence, Cllr Mrs A Loch and Sean O' Connor Clerk.

2. Apologies. Cllr J Tierney.

3. It had been proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr J Tierney that the minutes of the January 21, meeting be accepted as a true record. This had been done prior to the meeting and added to the BCC website. This was endorsed at the meeting.

4. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and asked the councillors in turn whether they had any declarations of interest regarding any item on the agenda. Cllr Mrs G Lawrence declared a personal interest in item 6 on this months agenda.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the January 21 meeting.

5a. Defibrillator at Trefgarn Owen. Cllr Carter advised that he had requested and received a quote for the fitting out of the former kiosk (£310) and also for a new notice board (£216). It was hoped that all this could be put together as an application under the PCC second home scheme, where an application for 80% of the total cost could be applied for. A discussion took place on which type of defibrillator we should apply for, and it was agreed that this could be decided closer to the submission date. Cllr Carter also advised of a possible stumbling block with the electricity supply. As there was no history in place, it was not as easy to obtain a quote. A discussion took place regarding having a solar supply as an alternative. The clerk was asked to contact Welsh Hearts regarding this possibility. Once this information was available, we could contact Western Power. In summary it was agreed that we look at alternatives for our supply, comparing mains with solar power for a 100-watt supply (60 for defibrillator & 40 for bulb) to supply both light and heat. This would be discussed further at the next meeting.

5b. Llanreithan Churchyard. The clerk had been referred to the local vicar, the Rev. Michael Rowlands, by the Church in Wales. He had visited the churchyard, and was not happy with what he had witnessed. It was obvious to him that the churchyard was not being maintained at all. He advised that following his visit he would refer back to the Church in Wales and ask them to enforce any covenants that were in place. Cllr Carter also confirmed that he had also spoken to the vicar, and confirmed these actions. After a discussion it was agreed that there was little more we could do, and following the instructions of the vicar, it would be up to the Church in Wales to take action, and we wait to see what materialised.

5c. Donations. The clerk confirmed that receipts had been received from all four recipients of the £100 donation cheques agreed at the last meeting. A discussion took place regarding donating to the local churches and chapels. It was proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan that we increase our donations to the churches at Llandeloy and Brawdy and the chapels at Trefgarn Owen and Treffynnon from £50 to £75 each. This was unanimously agreed. The clerk would prepare the cheques and send them to the Chairman to counter sign, before forwarding to the recipients.

5d. The clerk had checked with our Insurance Company regarding age restrictions for our community councillors. It was confirmed that there are no age restrictions on public liability, but the personal accident cover eligibility was restricted between the ages of 18 & 75, and whilst on community council business only.

5e. A reply had been received from Neil Scott from the New Woodland Planting Scheme. This was received and filed.

Correspondence.

Pembs County Council.

6. Planning Application Consultation Ref No. 20/0297/PA. Earth Bank Nutrient Storage lagoon at Lochmeyer Farm Llandeloy Haverfordwest. Councillors had viewed this case prior to the meeting, and a general discussion took place. It was felt that it was important for the NRW report be mentioned in our reply. It was proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Loch that we reply fully supporting this application, subject to the NRW conditions being met. This was unanimously agreed.

7. PCC Budget Consultation. Alternative ways of viewing and contributing to the budget consultation on February 21st, were forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting.

## 8. County Councillors Monthly Update.

Cllr Carter reported on the outcome of the budget consultation meetings. Initially a recommendation of 5% was considered. This was then reduced to 3.75%, and he reported that this was going before the full council for approval on March 4th. He advised that some councillors supported a 3% increase, but if they wished to propose this figure, it would need to be justified. He summed up by saying that if either 3% or 3.75% is agreed, the total would still be the lowest in Wales. He also advised that he had applied to the PCC standards committee regarding dispensation to speak regarding cycling events passing through our area until May 2022. He also confirmed that they Senedd elections were going ahead this May.

## Other Correspondence.

9. One Voice Wales Code of Conduct review. This was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The clerk advised that this was a 65-page document, with any amendments required by 28/2/21. The clerk would look through the document and highlight any major changes.

10. The clerk advised that he had been in touch with One Voice Wales regarding annual membership. Our payment will fall due in early March, and will amount to £122. This was a slight increase from last year of £3. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs A Morgan and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Loch that this be paid when the invoice is received. The training dates available from OVW, was discussed, with a copy forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting. It was advised that the cost is £30 per course for members, and with a bursary available. Nobody had yet taken up the training, and the Chairman encouraged councillors to enrol. As Cllr Tierney was not present, the Chairman would contact him to discuss this. The clerk also advised that the half yearly local area OVW meeting was due to take place virtually on Tuesday March 2nd at 7pm. It was agreed that Cllr Carter and Cllr Lawrence would attend on behalf of BCC, and the clerk would confirm this to OVW, so that the agenda and invitation details are forwarded.

## Report of Responsible Finance Officer.

11. The clerk reported up to date bank account balances s 23/2/21 as: Current Account £175.18, Deposit Account £2619.90, and Election Account £3375.01. (The Current Account balance included a cheque for £100 issued but not yet presented).

12. The clerk had forwarded a copy of the current account statement, which confirmed this balance, to councillors prior to the meeting.

13. The statement also included and confirmed the clerk's salary and income tax payments for January, for the standard 16 hours only. February's payments were due later in the week, and was also for the standard 16 hours.

14. The clerk confirmed that confirmation of our precept request for 2021/22 had been received from PCC amounting to £6360.

15. The clerk advised that a letter had been received from the Welsh Audit Office regarding the dates for publishing our annual accounts, with draft accounts required by 31/8/21, with publication of audited accounts by 30/11/21. The extensions were allowed due to the pandemic. The clerk advised that he was confident, that our accounts could be completed without any delay.

16. It was proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan that the sum of £400 be transferred between our accounts to cover the payments agreed at this meeting.

17. After a short discussion it was agreed that the March meeting would be held on Monday March 29th starting at 7.30pm.

At the discretion of the Chairman.

Following the recent spell of wet weather, councillors reported many areas of excess water on the roads. These include Hollybush, Castell Cwcw, and the stretch of road between Hollybush Farm and the Old Vicarage on the B4330. Although some of these have been reported previously, it was felt, that as it was a danger, it should be reported again. Cllr Carter would pass the information on to County Hall. He also agreed to forward details of the road surface dressing programme for this year to councillors. Any areas not be included, should be passed on to him. Cllr Lawrence also advised of stretch of road between Birtwick Park and Caerwen where the surface was very rough, and there were no passing places.

18. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.52pm.