

Brawdy Community Council

Minutes of the July monthly meeting of Brawdy Community Council held remotely on Tuesday 27th July 2020.

2020/09.

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

2. Apologies. None.

3. There were no declarations of interest declared by councillors for any item on the agenda for this meeting.

4. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs A Morgan and seconded by Cllr D E Jones, that the minutes of the June 2020 meeting be accepted as a true record.

5. Matters arising from the June 2020 meeting.

5a. Following discussions at the June meeting, Cllr Carter had approached PCC about the moving of the damaged notice board at Penycwm. He was surprised to report that this would attract a cost of £170, plus a further charge for installation. It was unanimously agreed that this cost was far too much. A full discussion took place, and it was agreed that it was necessary to purchase a new notice board, as the existing board was beyond repair. Cllr Mrs A Morgan offered to locate the new notice board on a piece of private land that she owned. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs A Loch and seconded by Cllr DE Jones that we purchase a new notice board (£216 inc VAT), and it be installed at the area of land owned by Cllr Morgan. This was unanimously agreed. The Chairman thanked Cllr Morgan for her kind offer. Cllr Carter offered to take down the existing notice board, and arrange to purchase the new notice board, and when received, locate it at the new location.

5b. Cllr Carter reported that following the erection of the no flytipping signs at Llandeloy last month, an incident had been reported that grass and garden waste had been tipped alongside the sign, thereby obviously ignoring it. This was reported by a local resident, and passed on to PCC. A discussion took place, and it was agreed that if this one incident is ignored, it would lead to further occasions of tipping. Cllr Carter offered to compose a letter, which he will forward to councillors for approval. Once agreed this would be hand delivered to all local residents. Cllr Jones suggested that we ask the locals to be vigilant, and encourage them to name and shame any guilty parties. Cllr Carter also confirmed that the lay-by at Lackerlee Crossroads was owned by PCC, and was previously used as a storage site. He agreed to keep an eye on the area over the next few months.

5c. The clerk had provided councillors with details of the costs to purchase defibrillators, prior to the meeting. This also included free training, although this was on hold at present. These were all through the Welsh Hearts charity and ranged from £995 for the basic deal to £1425 including locked steel cabinets. These prices were all inclusive of a £200 discount per defibrillator. It was unanimously agreed that we purchase two, for both Trefgarn Owen and Newgale. Cllr Carter would contact Sinead Heneghan at County Hall, to ascertain whether these purchases were eligible under the Pems grant scheme. Once the details are known he would arrange a short remote meeting to discuss this further and to finalise matters.

5d. The clerk confirmed that he had received two completed opt out forms from councillors regarding the claiming of the annual allowance, or opting out of claiming. The Chairman encouraged the remaining councillors to return their forms to the clerk.

5e. The clerk advised that he had written to Captain Murphy at the army camp at Brawdy regarding a contribution towards the new notice board at Penycwm. To date no reply had been received.

5f. Prior to the meeting the clerk had forwarded the details of the vacancy for additional community governor at Roch School to councillors. Although a councillor was the preferred option for the vacancy, it was not essential. The clerk advised that the deadline date for applications was August 7th. It was suggested that some former community councillors, as well as a local resident at Roch, may be suitable candidates. All would be approached prior to the deadline date.

5g. The clerk had approached One Voice Wales regarding accountants as discussed at the June meeting. They advised that they could not recommend one company over another, and that some accountants did not carry out the annual audit work. The clerk advised that recent advice was that the Wales Audit Office were considering changing the

frequency of the audits from annually to once every three years. The clerk was instructed to obtain further information on this topic, and report back to the next meeting.

Pembs County Council.

6. County Councillors Monthly Update. Cllr Carter reported that there were reports of a lack of social distancing especially by visitors to the area. The enforcement officers and the police are monitoring the situation closely. Meetings have been arranged to try and agree solutions, but is proving difficult, as many areas are completely full, as we are experiencing a very busy time.

7. Cllr D E Jones commented on the matter discussed at the June meeting when it was advised that county councillors were not involved in the decision to light up County Hall. He advised that he felt that this should have been the decision of elected representatives, and not just the leader only.

8. The clerk read details of a newly launched 'Home Support Scheme' This was received and filed.

Other Correspondence.

9. The clerk read a letter of invitation to join the Pembs Resilience Network. This was received and filed.

10. It was agreed to circulate the July issue of Clerks & Council direct brochure, commencing with Cllr Mrs A Morgan. Report of responsible finance officer.

11. The clerk advised of up to date bank account balances as at 28/7/20. Current Account £35.28, and Deposit Account £5289.42.

12. Prior to the meeting the clerk had forwarded a bank statement confirming Julys' entries, which confirmed the above figures.

13. The clerk confirmed confirmation from the Wales Audit Office that our annual audit had been received. The processing may be delayed due to the current pandemic.

14. The clerk's salary and income tax payments for July were issued. They were for the standard 16 hours, and were confirmed on the monthly bank statement.

15. The clerk issued a claim for reimbursement of expenses for the period April to July 2020. This included travel, postage, copying and stationery. A copy had been sent to councillors prior to the meeting. This amounted to £94.79, and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs G Lawrence and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan, that this be paid.

16. The clerk advised that he had contacted our accountants regarding the reclaiming of VAT. The general advice was that as we had no vatable income, it would prove difficult to meet the criteria. However after speaking to One Voice Wales there was a way that non profitable organisations could attempt to reclaim VAT. The clerk had downloaded the form and submitted a claim amounting to HMRC for £210.81 for 2019/20. The Chairman thanked the clerk for his work with this matter, and was hopeful of a successful outcome.

17. The clerk advised of an offer from SSE for a 2 year deal for the unmetered supply of electricity to Trefgarn Owen, amounting to £5.26 per month. This was a slight increase of 66p per month, but was fixed for 2 years. It was proposed by Cllr J Tierney and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Morgan that we proceed.

18. An invoice from Gengard for the signs in Llandeloy amounting to £36.58 was received. The payment for this had been agreed at a previous meeting.

19. It was proposed by Cllr D E Jones and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Loch that the amount of £350 be transferred between our accounts to cover the payments agreed at this meeting.

At the discretion of the Chairman.

Cllr Tierney advised of an extension of the community hub scheme. Delta Wellbeing in partnership with Carms CC had obtained funding to provide iPads at £2 per month for elderly and vulnerable people. He agreed to add the details on the Brawdy Information board.

The date of the next meeting was set for Monday September 28th at 8pm remotely. If a special meeting was needed to discuss the defibrillator, the Chairman would arrange this.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm.