**GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYWMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ZOOM (VIRTUAL) MEETING**

**6 April 2022 / 6 Ebrill 2022**

1. **(A) Attendance (B) Apologies**

Councillors: Karen Armstrong, Ruth Appleton (Vice Chair), Adrian Barsby, Dave Bolton (Chairman),
Rob Challinor, David Coggins Cogan, Sue Coles, Rob Edwards, and George Tattum.

**(B) Apologies – None.**

**Non-Attendance – Cllr. John Elcock**

1. **Declaration of interests in relation to the listed agenda items**

The clerk left the meeting and did not take part in the Planning Application: 064177 - The Barracks.

1. **Matters Arising from the last minutes**

Cllr. Bolton advised the cabinet is in place for the defibrillator, but Pantymwyn Village Hall have advised the defibrillator has not yet been delivered. A plague / notice was agreed which would highlight the fact that the cabinet was part funded by the community council.

The Planning Group remain dissatisfied with the response from the planning officer in relation to Pantybuarth cottage, Gwernaffield (PA Ref: 063895) and want to know why it was approved and the change from their original decision to refuse. Members have read the officers report as directed and wanted to know if there has been a change of policy or practice.

**RESOLVED: The minutes of the last meeting were proposed by Cllr. Ruth Appleton and seconded by Cllr. Karen Armstrong and will be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.**

1. **To consider postponement of the May meeting, post the election to Wednesday 18 May 2022.**

Members considered the change of date and agreed with Wednesday 18 May, as the current date falls on the evening prior to the elections.

Discussion of the format of future meetings was held, the clerk and members were aware of the duty to hold both access to meetings physically but also remotely.

There is a majority agreement that meetings should commence face to face / physically as soon as practically possible. The clerk will make enquiries with various venues in the villages and liaise with the Chairman.

Cllr. Sue Coles said governors’ meetings at the school are socially distanced and taking place again face to face.

1. **To formally express the community councils thanks to Councillor Karen Armstrong for her work and bid her farewell in her role as community councillor.**

Cllr. Dave Bolton expressed thanks to Cllr. Karen Armstrong, who cannot stand again for a seat on Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council as she no longer lives in the area. Also, now the statement of nominees has been published on Flintshire County Councils website, we are aware of who will not stand again. Councillor John Elcock and Councillor Rob Edwards. Cllr Ruth Appleton’s name did not appear on the list and following her contact with the elections office she was advised this was a technical error by County and would be rectified. There are 7 nominations for 12 seats.

1. **To consider Streetscene Matters including any streetlighting updates.**

The clerk has submitted a request for the electric to be transferred to the new column which is situated next to the old column which cracked in Y Waun, Gwernaffield and has been informed there is a 6-week response time.

Cllr. Rob Edwards has said work needs to be completed on the concrete column on Pen Y Fron Road, Gwernaffield and will liaise with the clerk and engineers at Deeco Lighting.

No further matters raised.

1. **To receive a verbal update from the Community Events Committee including a request to consider of items in the villages for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.**

Members thanked the newsletter group for the recent newsletter which has now been distributed in the villages. Members commented it was packed interesting information.

Cllr Armstrong informed members the events committee was due to meet later this month to discuss possible options for the Queens Platinum Jubilee including the purchase of some bunting for the villages and a celebratory booklet. Cllr. Armstrong reported on her discussions with the Holy Trinity Church including an invite to get involved with a precession by the scouts and guides and serve tea and coffees after the church service and help to decorate the church hall.

The budget for community events was discussed which was increased to include the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Cllr. Armstrong asked if the community council would donate toward refreshments following the church service at the event. The clerk suggested the church raise this directly in writing with the community council and said it was important that the event was not a fundraising event as the community council are not allowed to assist with funds and money be made from an event too.

Cllr. Barsby suggested a brief document / bullet points about what the Church are requesting from the community council.

A maximum of up to £1,400 if required.

A tree and planter something tangible as a reminder of the event.

Cllr. Coles is finalising the Easter Window Dressing Competition poster.

Cllr. Armstrong commented on the design of a Facebook page for community council events, this has not been released yet. Concern as Cllr. Armstrong is leaving and who would be prepared to take this over?

1. **To receive an update from the Road Safety Sub Committee. (RSSC)**

There has been no further meeting of the RSSC since the last meeting.

Cllr. Bolton reported the solar speed monitor has been delivered and a response is awaited about its erection from Scottish Power. Post the elections it is hoped that this matter can be progressed further.

1. **To receive a final update on the Armed Forces Covenant.**

The clerk updated councillors on this commitment to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support of the Armed Forces Community which requires signing by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Dave Bolton and Cllr. G Tattum.**

1. **To approve the schedule of April Accounts for payment.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **April** | **Payee** | **Details** | **VAT** | **Amount** |
| SO | K.Roberts | Salary and Home Office Allowance |   | 647.38 |
| Bank Transfer | HMRC | PAYE |  | 161.80 |
| Bank Transfer | Scottish Power | Electricity  | 103.08 | 618.47 |
| Bank Transfer | Wales Audit Office | External Audit 21/22 |   | £275.00 |
| Bank Transfer | Came and Company Council Insurance Ltd | Annual Council Insurance |   | £658.71 |
| Bank Transfer | Information Commissioners Office | Annual Registration Fee |   | £40.00 |
| Bank Transfer | David Bolton | Reimbursement x 2 dog bin keys cut |   | £12.00 |
| Bank Transfer | Kay Roberts | Reimbursement Microsoft Family 365 (annual fee) |   | £79.99 |
| Bank Transfer | Councillor Karen Armstrong | Reimbursement Newsletter costs/Instant Print |   | £207.44 |

1. **To receive an update on the internal audit / accounts and the Annual Bank reconciliation from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022.**

The clerk had circulated a summary of expenditure for 2021/2022, which demonstrated expenditure for the financial year of £30,491.27 as compared to £23,395.17 in 2020/2021. This extra spending was largely down to playground improvements and expenditure in Pantymwyn Park including a memorial bench in Gwernaffield Park. Replacement of a cracked street light column with a new column, holding a Senior Citizens Christmas lunch, not held due to restrictions the previous year and the purchase of a traffic speed monitor.

The annual bank reconciliation showed end of year balance at £42,124.96 2021/2022 which was approved and signed by the Chairman.

The clerk will now liaise with the Chairman in preparation for the internal annual audit with JDH Business Supplies for May 2022.

**12. Clerk’s Update and Correspondence**

**12a. To receive and update from Mr Richard Roberts, Aura Play and Leisure Services in relation to installation of new play equipment on Pantymwyn Play Area.**

The clerk provided a verbal update from Mr Richard Roberts at Aura Leisure and Libraries in relation to the play structure which is scheduled for installation in April. The total cost is £10,605.40 of what 50% will be paid by Aura and 50% by the community council inclusive of a donation from a local company Hi Tech Turf Ltd.

**RESOLVED: Unanimous decision to proceed with installation as soon as practically possible to finish this piece of work prior to the school summer holidays to maximise the playgrounds usage.**

**13.** **Planning Applications (A) Planning Decisions (B)**

(A) Planning Application Reference: 064177 The Barracks, Pant Y Buarth, Gwernaffield, Mold, Flint, CH7 5ER. Proposal: Demolition of 3 existing timber holiday lodges and replace with 4 new holiday lodges.

All members in attendance (Cllr. Coggins Cogan had left the meeting) discussed this application and requested that the clerk object on grounds of inadequate access, impact on environment and loss of amenity and character of the area. Concerns about waste management and impact on nature.

**RESOLUTION: The clerk instructed to liaise with the Planning Committee and submit an objection to Flintshire County Councils Planning Department.**

(B) Approved – Planning Application Reference: 063805 - Smithy House, Gwernaffield.

Planning Application Reference: 063885 Cae Rhug Farm, Gwernaffield.

Planning Application Reference: 064245 Mold Golf Club Prune x2 Ash and x Larch Tree by the edge of the golf club.

**14. The date of the next council meeting and Annual General Meeting will be confirmed at the April Meeting.**

The 18 May 2022 was confirmed as the next meeting date.

**The meeting closed at 8.43pm.**