

OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting to be held in the Village Hall, Newport Rd,
Old St. Mellons at 7.00pm on Thursday 8th March 2018

Present

Chair: Cllr Rosemary James (RJ)

Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Johns (SJ) – apologies

Councillors: Cllr Vic Davies (VD)
Cllr Gaynor Hassan (GH)
Cllr Dennis Matthews (DM)
Cllr Charles Price (CP)
Cllr Dianne Rees (DR)
Cllr Derek Stroud (DS)
Cllr Joel Williams (JW)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs N Evelyn-Gauci (NEG)

In attendance: Mr Paul Good (RFO)

1. Apologies for absence (1 min)

Cllr Sarah Johns – work commitment

Noted: Accepted

2. Declaration of interests (1 min)

DR: St. Edeyrn's, St. Johns College

RJ: OSMVA, St. Edeyrn's

DS: OSMVA

JW: OSMD

3. Minutes – to approve as a correct record of the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2018 (5 min)

It was approved as a true and accurate record – DS proposed, DR seconded

4. Matters arising from the minutes of 8th February 2018 (10 min)

None.

5. Police Matters (1 min)

Nothing to report.

6. Local Residents (15 min)

Under Standing Order 84 the meeting may be adjourned for up to fifteen minutes for a public session. Each member of the public may speak only once and may express observations only. Members of the Council should not enter into any discussion. The Chair may limit an individual's speech to provide equal opportunity to all members of the public.

Nothing to report.

7. Finance (10 min)

(RFO to present financial report)

The bank reconciliation spreadsheet as at 28th February has been forwarded to all Councillors. Hall income has been in line with budget with a further £225 banked relating to St Edeyrn's. Whereas normal monthly expenditure is in line with budget, other anticipated and budgeted expenditure on our three assets amounting to £5k is behind schedule due to a number of reasons. Briefly the amount is allocated -£2.5k St Edeyrn's, £1.5k Playing Fields and £1k Village Hall. It is probable that only part of this amount will be spent in the current year (mainly on tree work & maintenance), while ongoing reviews and new estimates are obtained for outstanding work. The RFO considers that work on the boules and tennis courts at the Playing Fields together with St Edeyrn's maintenance works are completed in the coming months. There are a number of cheques to be approved and in addition two further cheques 3941 /42 for Hall bond repayment £75 and emergency frozen pipes repairs £45 to the Pavilion.

St. Johns College – refund days that were not used due to severe weather conditions - All agreed

7.1 One Voice Wales annual membership is due wef 1st April 2018 The RFO recommends that the membership is renewed.

It was resolved: all agreed to pay the membership and to put this under consideration prior to the next renewal

7.2 Grass Maintenance Contract wef 1st April 2018 – The RFO has spoken to two other firms, who expressed an interest, apart from the two existing estimates. It appears that St Edeyrn's Burial grounds cutting might be awkward and required hand-cutting. As the existing contractor is £2 k cheaper for the three sites, is holding his price at the same price as three years ago and there have been no issues, the RFO is recommending the existing contract is renewed unless individual prices are to be considered for each site.

It was resolved: All agreed - to continue with current contract, arrange inspection to be carried out in April and all outstanding work to be carried out as soon as possible

7.3 Burial Fees have not been increased for several years and our current fees are out of line with Council Fees, which are likely to increase further in 2018/19. The RFO considers that any increases should also take into consideration the administration fee of £75 approved at the previous meeting.

It was resolved: To apply charges in line with Cardiff Council, residents residing within Old St. Mellons boundaries will receive 10% discount. Charges to apply commencing 1st April 2018 – JW proposed, DS seconded

7.4 The RFO has forwarded Councillors an email copy of a publication from the Wales Audit Office relating to Management & Governance in Local Councils 2016-17. The RFO that the WAO in conjunction with HMRC are holding regular weekly webinars to deal with many of the issues highlighted in the Contents section (pages 4& 5) of the publication.

RJ wished to note that the RFO has worked very hard to make sure that OSMCC is compliant and up to date with regards to the new Audit requirements.

8. Annual Planner (5 min)

Grass cutting – see 7.2

St. Edeyrn's Risk Assessment – see 13.c)

9. Policies & Procedures (5 min)

Deferred to next meeting

10. County Councillors Report (10 min)

(Cllr Dianne Rees and Cllr Joel Williams to present their reports)

- Concerns over the way in how the closure to Bridge Road will be made - just before River Bridge - to all vehicle access, residents have expressed that they wish Bridge Road to remain closed, there were consultations prior to Christmas but the exact way in which this road will be closed remains unclear
- Scrambler type bikes are still being a nuisance
- Cars have been seen spinning around in circles (known as doughnuts) in the area

11. St. Mellons Primary School (5 min)

(Governor's Report)

There is little to report for this month. We had a staffing problem to resolve this month but that was done with a small meeting.

The Health & Safety report prepared during this Christmas term has still not been addressed and the time is closing on the reparation of the next report.

12. Planning Applications (5 min)

12.1 18/00310/MNR Development of new sports pavilion south of Began Farm

Noted withdrawn by applicant.

JW – left to attend meeting – 9:10

13. Working Party Reports (10 min)

(Working Parties to present their report)

a) Village Hall Working Party

- Ladies dryer needs to be replaced – different type required
- Light needs replacing
- Guttering needs replacing to rear of hall
Noted – to obtain quotes

b) Playing Fields Working Party

- Boules Pitch – one quote received - £4000
- Tennis Court – Needs new nets, court floor needs attention

c) Village Plan and Planning Working Party

- St. Edeyrn's Risk Assessment – a full risk assessment has been carried out and a report has been sent to Councillors
 - Footpaths cracked and pointing missing
 - It was noted that there immediate concerns over some of the benches that were thought to be unlicensed and need of attention – owners will be written to and asked to repair or remove
 - Gate to Church closes itself – need to close properly
 - Top gate yard railings damaged – railings need welding
 - Rubbish bin unstable – suggest chain for stability
 - Graves with loose chippings – owners need to action
 - Inspect all memorials
 - Unstable memorials and grave kerbs – owners to action
 - Inspect all trees – some overhanging pathway – needs to be cut back
 - Main vehicular access – appears blocked by grave, may need addressing in the future

14. One Voice Wales – report (5 min)

Pension situation ongoing – a request has been made for a signed copy of the original contract need to establish OSMCC involvement.

15. Village Association – report (5 min)

VA has asked for the Fete to be held in the Village Hall on the 14th July, looking for volunteers – stalls, tents, car park attendance, any help required. Their next meeting 23rd April.

16. Newsletter (10 min)

Would all Cllrs please send as soon as possible anything wishing to add to the Newsletter. Noted received some information from OSMVA.

17. Correspondence Received (10 min)

17.1 W.I. concerns over access areas

Noted – Ongoing maintenance programme – Clerk to write requesting that issues and/or concerns to be notified to the Clerk immediately

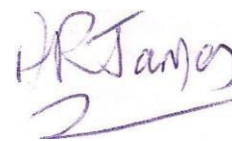
17.2 Hall hire – HK – keys

It was agreed that this hall hirer be given a set of keys as they are long term users

18. Items for next meeting (2 min)

- Items for newsletter

Meeting closed at 21:45



*Cllr Rosemary James MBE
Chair to the Old St. Mellons Community Council*