

## OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Village Hall,  
Newport Road, Old St. Mellons on Thursday 21<sup>ST</sup> February 2008

<b>Present</b>	Councillor	Mrs P Jenkins (Chairman)
	Councillors	Mr L Ackerman Mr M Boyce Mr C Price Mrs G Jones Mrs D Rees Mr E Rees Mrs J Rogers
<b>In Attendance</b>	Councillor	Mrs G Phillips,

- |                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. APOLOGIES</b>                | Mr D Stroud |
| <b>2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> | None        |

### **3. LOCAL RESIDENTS**

Six residents were in attendance.

#### Scouts.

Mr T Byrne requested the permission of the Council for Scouts to use the Village Hall for the purpose of Air Rifle Shooting and gave an explanation of what was involved. It was agreed to discuss further later in the meeting

#### Notice of Meeting.

Members of the public attending the meeting made representations concerning the notice given to the public of the meeting. Reference was made to errors as to future dates contained in a Council newsletter and to the apparent absence of a notice in a notice board. Councillors noted that it had been the established practice for decades for the Council to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. That information had appeared regularly in Newsletters and on the Council's website, and was information well-known throughout the community. That awareness was evidenced by a large attendance of members of the public at the meeting. Nevertheless, it was resolved [i] to remind the Clerk to be meticulous about such matters in the future, and [ii] to explore further the scope for the Council to exploit modern technology in a drive to become a 'paperless' Council.

#### Playing Field

One resident reported that again on a recent Sunday the gate to the playing field had not been locked. The Chairman responded that the person responsible had locked the gate and also emphasised that residents who undertook to carry out this job were all volunteers and there could be occasions where the gate would not be locked.

The resident also made reference to the cleanliness of the hall. Councillor E Rees referred to the refurbishment works that had been taking place which had caused some disruption in the hall

#### Alcohol Control

Another resident asked about the areas under consideration by Cardiff CC as alcohol free zones and whether the Playing Fields had been designated. To be raised in correspondence

The resident also referred to skips placed in the Village which were unlit – referred to police

#### Precept

A resident asked if the Community Council had set the precept for 2008 /09. The Chairman confirmed that the precept remained unchanged at £20,000.

#### Cleansing Orderly

The resident also made reference again to Cleansing Orderly. The clerk confirmed he had spoken to the Cleansing Orderly and Councillor E Rees stated that he had witnessed work being carried out. The Chairman emphasised that this work is additional work carried out in limited hours to the normal cleansing by Cardiff CC. If there were major issues regarding lack of cleaning they should be directed to Cardiff CC

#### BT Service

A resident asked if there had been any response to the complaint to BT regarding their levels of service. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to BT and that a response had been received. Copies to be forwarded to resident.

**4. POLICE MATTERS**

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Greaves to the meeting. He confirmed he had made note of the unlit skips.

The Inspector made reference to the PACT meetings and the priorities that had been identified on a regular basis i.e. speeding and anti-social behaviour

Recent funding had provided the police with handheld speeding detector guns and that were being used around the village; one motorist had been registered at 70mph.

Patrols had been increased on Friday and Saturday nights and that local Off Licences had received test visits but none had failed the test. Sergeant McGill was due to have a meeting with the local Licencees

Inspector Greaves reported that house burglaries had increased and that the CID was now operating out of the St Mellons station. A recent operation had been very successful and had produced positive results.

Councillor M Boyce referred to the spate of graffiti around the village and that he had witnessed two youths in action. When he dialled 101 he was referred to 999 but by the time he received a response they had gone. The Inspector confirmed that a crime taking place would require a 999 call and also that there was a City wide operation regarding graffiti linked to 'Crime Stoppers,' The Clerk also confirmed that he had been in contact with BT regarding removal of graffiti from their property

Councillor E Rees enquired about the future of the 101 Service. Inspector Greaves confirmed that it would be funded jointly by Cardiff CC and the Police Authority for a year from next October

Councillor C Price raised the ongoing problem of scrambler bikes. The Inspector informed the Council that there was a school programme being carried out by the schools liaison Police Officer highlighting the problem. There was an 'Off Road' team led by Bob Osbourne but it was sometimes difficult to get an immediate response. Any sightings should be logged with 101 and based on that information operations would be set in place

The Chairman thanked Inspector Greaves for attending the meeting.

**5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes of the Council meeting held in the Village Hall, Newport Road, Old St Mellons on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING****6.1 Council Minutes**

A further letter had been sent to the resident concerned for the reimbursement – no response

**6.2 Welsh Audit Office**

A response from D Woods had been received confirming that arrangements for the return of Council documents etc would be made shortly

**6.3 Three Bears Nursery – Eastern Business Park**

EBP parking issues – no response

**6.4 Bogod Field – Began Road**

Councillor Rees reported that Sergeant Ian Guildford had confirmed no application had been received regarding the site and no offences committed. He would continue to monitor

**6.4 Cardiff CC**

*Countryside Strategy Workshop:*

Councillor G Jones attended and reported on a very interesting meeting.

It included a report on the Cardiff / Rumney Valley project – the three valley walks were now completed with a great deal of voluntary help. The Angling Society reported a dramatic increase in the quality of the water at its sixteen sites, resulting in increased stocks of fish, with salmon at the mouth of the Taff River and 210 different varieties of insects on the Rumney River

A coastal walk is being put in place from Newport to Penarth and details of further walks can be accessed on the Ramblers Association website. A 'Turn off TV Week' was being held on 21- 27<sup>th</sup> April to encourage walking.

Councillor D Rees suggested the information be included in the next Newsletter

**6.5 Playing Fields**

Three quotes had been received regarding the cutting back work on the hedge adjacent to the play area; Scenescape Ltd 950.00, Cardiff Treescapes 520.00 and Castleton Landscapes 440.00 It was agreed to accept the quote from Castleton Landscapes – Clerk to arrange

**7. Sub – Committee Reports****7.1 Village Hall**

Meeting still to be held

Clerk reported that the Annual Electrical Inspection Report had been received which included additional work that was required to be undertaken. Clerk to arrange

It was also agreed to dispose of the surplus steel cabinets.

**7.2 Payments**

Deferred to end of meeting

**7.3 Complaints Procedures**

The recommendations had been reported to Councillors – approved

**7.4 Sports Council for Wales - Heritage Trail**

The recommendations had been reported to Councillors – accepted and payments agreed

**8. PLANNING**

- |                     |  |                                 |                             |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>07/01687/E</b>   | Full Planning Permission   | <b>Expected Decision Level:</b> | Delegated                   |
| <b>Received:</b>    | 21/01/2008   | <b>Ward:</b>                    | PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS |
| <b>Case Officer</b> | Andrew Bates   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Applicant:</b>   | Meadgate Western Ltd, John Swatridge, Jayne North and Claire Edwards,c/o agent   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Agents</b>       | Harmers Ltd, Mr Andrew Muir, Cardiff Business Park, Llanishen,Cardiff, CF14 5G   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Proposal:</b>    | CONSTRUCTION OF 12 DETACHED HOUSES, GARAGES AND NEW ACCESS ROAD  |                                 |                             |
| <b>At:</b>          | Hendre Gadno, Newport Rd, Old St Mellons   | <b>See Copy Letter Annexed</b>  |                             |
|                     |  |                                 |                             |
| <b>08/00195/E</b>   | Full Planning Permission   | <b>Expected Decision Level:</b> | DEL                         |
| <b>Received:</b>    | 21/01/2008   | <b>Ward:</b>                    | PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS |
| <b>Case Officer</b> | Martyn Rees  |                                 |                             |
| <b>Applicant:</b>   | c/o agent  |                                 |                             |
| <b>Agents</b>       | Polars Design Group, FAO – Paul Harris, 30 Rectory Cl, Wenvoe, Cardiff   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Proposal:</b>    | PROPOSED TWO STOREY EXTENSION TO FORM LIVING /DINING ROOM AND ADDITIONAL BEDROOM / BATHROOM TO FIRST FLOOR. ROOFSPACE USED FOR STORAGE   |                                 |                             |
| <b>At:</b>          | 44 Allen Close, Old St. Mellons, Cardiff   | <b>No Comment</b>               |                             |
|                     |  |                                 |                             |
| <b>08/00267/E</b>   | Full Planning Permission   | <b>Expected Decision Level:</b> | DEL                         |
| <b>Received:</b>    |  | <b>Ward:</b>                    | PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS |
| <b>Case Officer</b> | Mark Hancock   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Applicant:</b>   | 47 Hastings Crescent, Old St Mellons   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Agents</b>       | Mt J Evans, Kingsway House, Bank Buildings, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 3SB   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Proposal:</b>    | AMENDMENT TO PLANNING APPROVAL 07/1161/E I.E. RAISE EAVES LEVEL TO SIDE ELEVATION (SOUTY) BY APPROXIMATELY 900MM. INCREASE DEPTH OF REAR EXTENSION BY APPROXIMATELY 800M TO AVOID FOUL DRAIN |                                 |                             |
| <b>At:</b>          | 47 Hastings Crescent, Old St. Mellons, Cardiff   | <b>No Comment</b>               |                             |
|                     |  |                                 |                             |
| <b>08/00280/E</b>   | Conservation Area Consent  | <b>Expected Decision Level:</b> | DEL                         |
| <b>Received:</b>    | 07/02/2008   | <b>Ward:</b>                    | PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS |
| <b>Case Officer</b> | Tim Walter   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Applicant:</b>   | 3 Bethania Row, Old St Mellons   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Agents</b>       | Richard Whitaker Architects, 43 Plas Saint Andresse, Penarth Haven, Penarth,CF64 1BW   |                                 |                             |
| <b>Proposal:</b>    | PROPOSED NEW DWELLNG   |                                 |                             |
| <b>At:</b>          | Eastern part of land at,3 Bethania Row,Old St.Mellons,Cardiff <b>See Copy Letter Annexed</b>   |                                 |                             |

**9. FINANCE**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Service or Goods</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Chq No</b>
Digital Mapping	Heritage Trail Boards	2,737.75	603
4 Wood Construction	Replacement toilet macerator	599.25	604
British Gas	Village Hall	526.90	605
A Pearson	Annual Electrical Inspection V/Hall	331.35	606
One Voice Wales	Annual Membership	231.00	607
Mr R Kimber	Cleansing Orderly	68.64	608
W James	Cleaning Halls	125.00	609
	Grasscutting & fuel	116.00	610
	Care-taking Duties	50.00	611
	Clerks Fee	250.00	
	Postage	5.44	
	Locks 4.98		
	Tel: 26.07.07-25.01.08		
	Rental & Calls 193.56		
	VAT <u>18.15</u>		
		472.13	612
Powergen	Electricity – Village Hall	101.00	D.D.
	Electricity – Playing Fields	10.00	D.D.
	<i>Current account</i>	3,120.34	
	<i>Capital Reserve</i>	5,098.29	
<i>Less</i>	<i>Outstanding Cheques</i>	<i>Nil</i>	
<i>Plus</i>	<i>Outstanding Credits</i>	<i>Nil</i>	
<b>Reconciled Bank Balance</b>		<b>8,218.63</b>	
<b>Income since last meeting</b>			
Mrs L Brodie	Playgroup – 3 weeks 4 days	418.00	
Mossfords	Memorial CR 28 Lloyd	165.00	
Village Association	Donation Village Hall	510.00	
<b>Hall Letting</b>			
16.02.08	Village Association – Race Night		

**10. CORRESPONDENCES and OTHER BUSINESS****10.1 Cardiff CC***Alcohol Free Zones:*

Letter confirming 8 priority areas in the City Centre had been identified in the first phase and that other areas were under further consideration. The Community Council would continue to press for the Playing Fields to be included.

*Council Elections 2008:*

Timetable of elections circulated to Councillors

**10.2 ‘Calor’ Village of the Year Competition**

Information received

**10.3 Welsh Assembly**

*Stakeholder Survey 2008:* – Response by 3<sup>rd</sup> March Councillor J Rogers to respond

*Section 137 Payments:* - update received

*Borrowing Approval 2008 / 2009:* - Information received

*Code of Conduct:* Amendment received – copies to be circulated to Councillors

**10.4 External Audit 2006 / 07**

Letter received from Mazars, External Auditors, stating that the Council's accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 has not been concluded and no opinion had been issued. This was due to the fact that the Wales Audit Office had not completed the audit for the previous year

**10.5 Scouts**

Further discussion took place regarding the request for the Scouts to use the Village hall for air rifle shooting. Concern was expressed that the Council should not be actively supporting shooting activities and whether the hall was suitable for such activities. A recognised range would be more appropriate. It was agreed by a majority vote in principle but subject to additional paperwork from the Scout Association and subject the Council's own Insurance Policy. Clerk to obtain information and item to be included on the agenda for next meeting

**10.6 Council Personnel Payment Matters**

The Council resolved to exclude members of the public and the Clerk only and solely in order to consider the report of the sub-committee of members dealing with the salaries and payments to the Clerk, cleaner, litter picker, caretaker, groundsman etc. The law provides for such exclusion, and it was noted that the outcome of such consideration would appear in the minutes of the Council.

Members of the public declined to leave the meeting in pursuance of the resolution and the Chair adjourned the meeting in order that the business could be conducted on a future occasion.

**10.7 Councillor G Phillips**

Councillor Phillips expressed her concern that the manner in which the meeting was conducted was unprofessional