

OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall, Newport Rd,
Old St. Mellons at 7.00pm on Thursday 10th January 2019

Present:

Chair: Cllr Rosemary James (RJ)

Vice Chair: Cllr Derek Stroud (DS)

Councillors: Cllr Vic Davies (VD)
Cllr Gaynor Hassan (GH)
Cllr Dennis Matthews (DM)
Cllr Joel Williams (JW)

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

In attendance: Paul Good RFO (RFO)

1. Apologies for absence & Acceptance

Cllr Sarah Johns – illness
Cllr Dianne Rees – work commitment
Cllr Charles Price - accident

All apologies accepted.

2. Declaration of interests

RJ: OSMVA, St Edeyrn's, Scouts
DS: OSMVA

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

Amendments as follows:

6.4 noted not all agreed.

JW arrived: 19:10

10.4 noted: St. Edeyrn's development – as a result in the ongoing development the site looks in a poor state

It was approved as a true and accurate record JW proposed, VD seconded

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

4.1 Dogs Signs – JW/DM to update – signs have arrived.

5. Security Camera – Ty'r Winch Playing Field – to discuss

- Noted there were concerns over data protection – but the cameras should only be monitoring the gate
- Noted the costs start from £2.5k upwards cheapest seemed most adequate for our needs
- Concerns over who will be monitoring the cameras
- DM/JW to process the purchase of a camera and signs
- Monitor any queries/concerns from the public
- To review this once installed

It was resolved all agreed to obtain CCTV deterrant equipment

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.

Rachel Sinderby - Rainbows and Cheryl Crisp – Assistant County Commissioner for Cardiff and East Glamorgan.

Both RS and CC raised concerns with the increase of hire charges, it had been felt that with the low numbers attending Rainbows, that the fees required to run the group would not make ends meet. An increase in subs could have an opposite affect and children would not attend as these subs were too costly. As this is a charity run organisation there is always difficulties in raising the necessary funds to continue with the running of the group. It was noted that a Rainbows and Brownies groups have already closed due to lack of funds.

A suggestion to run the Rainbows along with Brownies was made, but unfortunately this would not be feasible as the volunteers would not be able to attend on the day/times suggested.

Chair – declared an interest

Chair noted that OSMCC will consider this issue and noted that that the hall running costs are £30 per day.

Chair thanked Rachel and Cheryl – and they left the meeting.

A local resident who resides apposite the hall raised concerns over the amount of leaves causing a problem, the drains are often blocked which results in flooding on their premises up to the front door, the resident had said that sandbags are in place but this is not good enough. The trees belong to the local council and they never appear to be trimmed. The resident also stated that they are filling up their own wheelie bins with the leaves from the trees that they do not own, and are fed up with contacting the council to rectify this situation.

JW – there is good news as the road from midway up the hill down to the Blue Bell is scheduled to be resurfaced. JW will request for more drains and will ask if a raised curb can be placed along the resident's property.

It was noted that surface water from Elgar crescent cascades down towards Newport Road which adds to this problem. JW/DS suggest a site meeting with the Council.

7. Finance (10 min)

(RFO to present financial report)

7.1 The RFO reported that he had forwarded all councillors a Bank reconciliation as at 31st December 2018 together with an up to date spreadsheet of his yearend projections as at 31st March 2019 together with Budget and Precept recommendations for 2019/20. The Chair decided a separate Finance meeting should be held prior to the January Council Meeting. The meeting took place on 3rd January with Cllr Stroud (standing in as Chair) and Councillors Rees, Matthews, Hassan and Williams in attendance. The RFO briefly explained his figures and how he arrived at the budget/precept final figures. It became clear on review there is no leeway in the overall budget due to a £12k shortfall between the Section 106 monies and the basic cost of the hall roof replacement. The RFO considered the anticipated bank balance of £10/11k as at 31st March 2019 should be the minimum contingency/'buffer' carried forward due to the timing of payments on the roof upgrade and the normal income cash flow, which is spread throughout the year. Discussions then centred on the need to generate additional income from our assets. Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the number of houses in the OSM area and this contribution towards the Precept plus an overall 5% increase would partly cover the budget shortfall. It was also agreed to approach the Village Association for a donation towards the hall roof upgrade.

- 7.2 Cardiff Council Precept letter – Finalising precept and signing for 2019/20
The budget and precept for 2019/20 was discussed at an additional finance meeting mentioned above. Further discussion took place relating to the information available on the numbers of households in Old St Mellons and Councillors decided to retain the average 2018/19 overall precept cost per household plus an overall 5% increase for 2019/20. Originally this calculated at £42k, but subsequent information reduced this figure to £37k. Following this a motion duly made, seconded & unanimously carried it was resolved that the precept for 2019/20 would be set at £37k.

It was resolved: all agreed VD proposed GH seconded

- 7.3 Information received from Cardiff Council for the year to 31st December 2018 shows that the number of new properties built is 300 approx. taking the overall number of properties in the Old St Mellons area to 828.
- 7.4 Hall Hiring – The Clerk and RFO reported that they had spoken to both the Caretaker and cleaner regarding problems encountered with two recent bookings of the Hall. In each case the hirer considerably exceeded the hours booked, failed to comply with booking terms including damage to fittings/fixtures and left the premises requiring additional cleaning. Councillors discussed the issues and decided there were grounds to retain the Hall Bond of £75 in each case. The Clerk was instructed to write informing the Hirers accordingly.
- 7.5 PAYE – A cheque payable to HMRC representing the third quarter's PAYE has been signed and forwarded to the Inland Revenue.
- 7.6 Pavilion at Ty Winch Playing Fields – The Community Council have been informed that further Section 106 funds of approx. £25k are available to upgrade the Pavilion. It was agreed that Cllr Matthews will arrange a meeting with an Architect for advice, while the Chair will contact all interested parties for suggestions.

Chair had asked everyone to thank the RFO for his hard work

8. Working Party Reports (10 min)

(Working Parties to present their report)

a) Village Hall Working Party

- The squirrel problem appears to have stopped. A trap has been set in the loft above the bar but there has been no sign of squirrels in the area.
- The circuit breaker for the kitchen and toilet lights, which had been tripping out regularly was reported by the electrician to have been the work of the squirrels. However, it is now appears to be a faulty fluorescent light fitting. We are still awaiting a repair date from the electrician.
- The new hall cleaner, appears to be doing an excellent job.
- Discuss hall closing time – private hire
To be deferred to next meeting
- Clerk – amendment of Hall Hire Agreement & First Schedule
To be deferred to next meeting

b) Playing Fields Working Party

- Noted one of the trees has died
- Drones: deferred to next meeting
- Mower: deferred to next meeting
- Lockup: deferred to next meeting

c) St. Edeyrn's Church

Nothing to report

9. Annual Planner (10 min)

- 9.1 Review Pest Control
End of February – next meeting
- 9.2 Fixed Asset Register
Agenda for next meeting
- 9.3 Grass Cutting, Tree inspection – for March
Noted new contract due in March – agenda for next meeting

10. Police Matters (5 min)

No report submitted

11. County Councillors Report (5 min)

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

- Plans for the permanent closure for Bridge Road, installed in March
- Newport road from top of hill to Bluebell and Clos Hendre resurfacing in April
- Additional flower planters – currently being considered
- CC will provide more bins if required
- Bus route Pentwyn link road into St. Edeyrn's Village – phase 1 has commenced
- Taylor Wimpey – statutory pre-consultation has closed

12. St. Mellons Primary School (5 min)

Nothing to report

13. Planning Applications (5 min)

No new applications

14. One Voice Wales – report (5 min)

- Training for Cllrs – noted WG with regards CTC will look to provide bursaries

15. Village Association – report (5 min)

- Still awaiting contact from OSMCC re hall roof funding

16. Correspondence (5 min)

16.1 Monitoring Officer Meeting with Clerks

Noted

16.2 OSMCC Website – to update

See 17.

16.3 Taylor Wimpey – Housing Cardiff North

Deferred to next meeting – discuss infrastructure

17. Communications

- Internet speed: VD will investigate slow areas
- Website to update DM to look into this
- Complaint re leaves from garden blowing onto pavement – JW to investigate
- Complaint green bags putting out too early – JW to investigate

Newsletter:

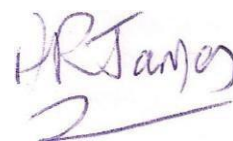
- Noted a new date for newsletter – Cllrs to send reports for February

18. Items for next meeting (2 min)

- Hall hire schedule – discuss hall closing time for private hire
- Ty'r Winch Playing Field drones, Mower, Lockup.
- Review Pest Control
- Fixed Asset Register
- Grass Cutting, Tree inspection – for March
- Taylor Wimpey – Housing Cardiff North - discuss infrastructure

Meeting closed: 21:45

There followed a private session – discuss hire fees for Rainbows



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