

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BODFARI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held at Bodfari School by ZOOM conferencing software at 7.00 pm Tuesday 13th December 2022

Present:

Cllr Martin Shutt (Chair)(MS)

Cllr Julie Burnage (Vice Chair) (JB)

Cllr Philip Barley (PB)

Cllr Sue Davidson (SD)

Cllr Rebecca Parrin (RP)

Cllr Alan Waterfield (AW)

Also present:

Mel ab Owain (Clerk)

1. Apologies:

Cllr Chris Evans (DCC Councillor)

2. Declaration of interests:

AW Declared an interest in item 9 ii.

3. Urgent Matters.

None.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2022.

RESOLVED: That these minutes be approved as a true record with minor alterations.

Proposed: **SD** Seconded: **PB**

5. Matters Arising from the minutes not on the agenda.

i. Fence in the park next to the social housing. This had now been replaced.

ii. Ty Cerrig flooding. The Clerk had reported this to DCC.

iii. Lime tree in the park. The Clerk had asked a tree surgeon to have a look at the tree.

iv. Containers for storing marquee. The Clerk had received an indication of costs in the region of £700 to purchase refurbished containers.

ACTION: The Clerk would speak to the Clerk of Aberwheeler CC to see if they would be interested in a joint purchase.

v. Gap near the small gate in the park. **AW** had done some work to close this gap.

6. County Councillor's Report.

This had been circulated previously.

7. Planning and Highways.

a. Highways.

- i. Concern was expressed about the regular flooding near K+M Garage on the main road.
- ii. The Council felt there was a need for an additional grit bin on the path above the park.
- iii. There was also a need for an additional street light at Maes y Graig.

ACTION: The Clerk would contact the County Councillor with these concerns.

b. Planning – 41/2022/ 0640. Blaen Dyffryn, Bodfari Village to Pontrufydd Cottage Junction With A541, Bodfari, Denbigh, DENBIGHSHIRE, LL16 4DA Construction of dormer extensions to front and rear elevation.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application.

8. Finance.

a. Financial report: Current account: £7076.62 Reserve Account: £4439.40

b. Budget and precept 2023-24.

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget. The Council noted that inflation generally was running at 10% and that there were significant increases in the cost of material for the renewal of the play area, the Clerk's salary and Councillors' allowances.

RESOLVED: To increase the budget to £9350 and request a precept of £8500 (see appendix 1)

Proposed: **JB** Seconded: **SD**

c. The Council had the Audit for 2019-20 and 2020-21 back from the external auditor. He had issued a qualified audit and highlighted two key items:

- i. That a budget had not been set in either year.
- ii. That the internal auditor was inappropriate.

A proper budgeting process had been followed from 2021 -22 and a new auditor would be appointed (see below).

d. It was proposed that JDH of Gwernymynydd would be appointed as the Council's internal auditors.

Proposed: **SD** Seconded: **MS**

ACTION: The Clerk would formally write to JDH appointing them as the Council's internal auditors.

e. Payments.

i. Clerk's salary for November 2022	£160.78
ii. Tax and Ni for November 2022	£40.00
iii. Farmers Bronze Restoration	£1920.00

iv. Farmers Bronze Restoration	£282.00
v. Clerk's Expenses September to December 2022	£50.75

Proposed: **MS** Seconded: **PB**

9. Village Playground and Park.

i. Inspection: December – **SD** January – **MS**

AW left the room.

ii. a. **Swings base**. The Clerk had asked 6 contractors for quotations but had only received one response. The other 5 contractors said that either their order books were full and/or that the contract was too small.

Quoting from Financial Regulations the Clerk said that the Council may, by resolution of the Council suspend any part of these Financial Regulations provided that reasons for the suspension are recorded. He presented an assessment of the risks arising from proceeding with one quote namely that the Council may not be able to get the best value for money from one quote and there might be a risk of poor workmanship.

The Council felt that as the Contractor had undertaken work for the Council in the past and there seemed to be no realistic alternative, they would proceed with the quote received.

RESOLVED: That the quotation for the installation of the base received from Bodfari Environmental for £1445 plus VAT be accepted.

Proposed: **MS** Seconded: **SD**

b. **Grassmatting**. Three quotes had been received to provide material to surface the swing base for £648, £705 and £748.

RESOLVED: The quote from The Shopfittingshop for £648 be accepted.

Proposed: **SD** Seconded: **JB**

iii **Goalposts**. **AW** had not had the chance to examine these but would do so shortly.

10. Environment/ Biodiversity Report.

The Clerk had drawn up a report as required by the 2016 Act.

RESOLVED: That this report be accepted:

Proposed: **MS** Seconded: **SD**

11. Vacancy on the Council.

The Clerk had enquired about placing an advert for an election for the vacancy on the council but had not received a reply. **ACTION:** He would follow this up in the new year.

12. Correspondence: None.

13. Annual Report.

Appendix 1

BODFARI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AGREED BUDGET 2023/24

		£	£
Income			
Precept			8500
Projected VAT repayment			850
Total Income			9350
Expenditure			
	Notes		
Clerks salary and expenses	Including HMRC payments	3600	
stationery / postages		100	
Audit fee		350	
Insurance		400	
Grounds Maintenance and equipment		1500	
playground inspection	Annual inspection fee	140	
subscriptions	One Voice Wales	60	
room hire		500	
Flowers for planter		100	
Website maintenance		100	
donations		400	
misc	misc - eg advertising, training, playground repairs	400	
ICO		50	
Annual Report		250	
Councillors allowances		1400	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			9350