

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BODFARI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held at the Dinorben Arms and by ZOOM conferencing software at 7.00 pm Tuesday 17th January 2023

Present:

Cllr Martin Shutt (Chair) (MS)

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 Julie Burnage (Vice Chair) (JB)

Cllr Chris Evans (DCC Councillor)

2. Declaration of interests: None.

3. Urgent Matters.

The Clerk tendered his resignation on health grounds. He gave notice for 31st March 2023, or sooner if a new Clerk could be appointed.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 13th December 2022.

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

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

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

i. Lime Tree in the park. The Clerk had arranged for a tree surgeon to inspect the tree.

ACTION: He would agree a date for surgeon to come.

ii. Storage container. **ACTION:** The Clerk had yet to speak to the Clerk of Aberwheeler CC but would do so.

iii. AW had closed the gap near the small gate in the park.

iv. Lighting in Maes y Graig. Cllr Evans had spoken to DCC but they had asked for more detail. **ACTION:** Councillors were asked to forward more details to the Clerk.

6. County Councillor's Report.

This had been circulated previously.

7. Planning and Highways.

i. Highways:

- a) AW would report an issue with trees at Treetop Cottage, Nant Gwylim to DCC.
- b) PB reported another incident concerning a large lorry coming through the village and damaging a private house. **ACTION:** The Clerk would speak to Cllr Evans and ask him to report the matter to DCC.

ii. Planning:

41/2022/1015 Bryn Tirion, Sodom Road to Bryn Celyn, Bodfari, LL16 4DY Retention of stable block (retrospective application)

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

8. Finance.

- a. Financial report: Current account: £10192.22 Reserve Account: £4444.08
The Clerk reported that the latest payment of the precept - £2467.00 – had been received. He suggested that the Council needed to further discuss its capital expenditure programme.
ACTION: This would go on the next agenda.

b. Payments.

i. Clerk's salary for December 2022	£ 100.00
ii. Tax and Ni for December 2022	£ 25.00
iii. The Play Inspection Company	£ 132.00
iv. Denbighshire CC – Election costs. i.	£ 100.00
v. Denbighshire CC – Election costs. ii.	£ 57.79
vi. Harold Smith – PAYE admin	£ 30.00

Proposed: **MS** Seconded: **AW**

9. Installation of path from the park along the B5429.

The meeting felt that the current lack of a footpath along this road was a serious danger to pedestrians. It noted that the previous County Councillor, Chris Marston, had persuaded DCC officer to attend a site visit to discuss this and a new park entrance. Over the election period this commitment had been dropped.

AW had asked a local contractor for an indicative quote he had suggested around £19,000 to lay a 25m path.

The meeting felt that the Council should now renew lobbying for this path and do so in an assertive manner.

ACTION: As a first step the Clerk would speak to Chris Marston about who they spoke to in DCC and ask Cllr Evans to renew that dialogue.

10. Village Playground and Park.

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

ii. New swings. The installation of these was proceeding well but there had been some delay because of drainage issues. One silver birch had been removed as the work cut into its roots.

iii. Goal posts. AW would look at these shortly.

11. Asset register.

The Clerk submitted a copy of an amended asset register.

RESOLVED: That this be adopted.

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

12. Risk Assessment.

The Clerk submitted a copy of an updated risk assessment.

RESOLVED: That this be approved.

Proposed: **RP** Seconded: **PB**

13. Investment Strategy.

The Clerk submitted a copy of the existing investment strategy.

RESOLVED: That this be approved.

Proposed: **SD** Seconded: **AW**

14. Correspondence: None.

15. Vacancy on the Council.

The Clerk had received a proforma poster from DCC to advertise for an election to fill the vacancy.

ACTION: He would complete and send this to DCC to check and they would post it.

If this failed to attract any applicants the Council would move to co-option.

16. Annual Report.

ACTION: The Chair would draw up a draft based on the Tremeichion Annual report for the next meeting.

17. Clerk's appraisal.

Following the receipt of the Clerk's notice the Council decided to proceed rapidly with the recruitment of a new Clerk:

- i. The Clerk would draw up an advert and job spec by the end of the week. Hours/rate of pay would be 6 hours per week at c £15 per hour.
- ii. The Council would advert through the Society of Local Council Clerks and One Voice Wales.
- iii. The Council would email Clerks throughout Flintshire and Denbighshire to see if they would be interested or knew someone who would be.