

Martletwy Community Council  
Clerk: Mrs Lizzie Lesnianski  
Email: [martletwycommcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:martletwycommcouncil@gmail.com)

**Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of Martletwy Community Council  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm at Lawrenny Village Hall**

**Note:** With the agreement of all parties involved these proceedings were recorded

**Present:** Cllr Liz Williams (Chair), Cllr Bruce Carlisle (Vice Chair) (arrived 19:58); Cllr Jason Crowther, Cllr Phil Davies, Cllr Phil Eynon; Cllr Di Clements (County Councillor); Lizzie Lesnianski (Clerk) **Apologies:** Cllr Victoria Evans

**24/025: Minutes of previous meeting:** Unanimously agreed as a true copy. Signed and dated.

The Clerk confirmed due to the pre-election period there could be no discussions of a political nature.

**24/026: Matters arising:**

**a. Bluestone:** Clerk enquired if councillors agreed to holding a meeting at Blackpool Mill. Council agreed it was a good idea if a private space could be arranged. Clerk to investigate options for September meeting and/or moving forward.

**b. Flood Signage Garron Pill:** Cllr Clements reported. PCC have an outdoor advertisement and signs policy. There are deemed consent allowances for signs for advertisement or information. Cllr Clements to pass the information to Cllr Davies for consideration. It may be permitted development, but permission will be required from the Crown Estates. Cllr Eynon suggested keeping the sign small, around the size of a number plate. Councillors agreed. Cllr Davies to action.

**24/027: Planning:**

**a. Applications Received:**

*i. 24/0117/PA: New Pencoed, Lawrenny, SA68 0PL.*

Following considerable discussion, it was agreed there could be no comment or opinion offered by the community council on this matter. If individuals chose to put in a response, not as a community councillor, they were free to do so.

Cllr Bruce Carlisle arrived at the meeting at 19:58

**b. Application Notices Received:**

*i. 24/0142/AG: New House Farm, Canaston Bridge, SA67 8DE.*

Clerk introduced the notice received 07/06. It is a Notification of Planning Decision at the location. Quite specific to agricultural planning. Decision is "prior approval required". Cllr Davies explained the process behind the notice. The applicant has applied to see if planning consent is required. The Planning authority have decided it is. The notice confirms a planning application is required.

**c. Other Planning Matters:**

*i. Monitoring and Enforcement:*

**1. Reporting of planning concerns:** Clerk reported being at the Working Better Together meeting. During the meeting at the end with the Clerks the matter of planning response policy was raised, including the matter of enforcement, and the roles of the community council and the local planning authority, and how they work together. The Clerk confirmed her main concern is the intensity with which the community council gets wrapped up in enforcement and whether it is appropriate as we have no jurisdiction. What came out of the WBT meeting was that many Clerks are seeking guidance from the local planning authority who have suggested we should not be discussing it, but simply reporting it direct to the local planning authority via their website. Clerk asked there was agreement for her to work with Cllr Evans and Cllr Williams to come up with a policy regarding both planning responses and also how to react to reported allegations of breaches of planning. Cllr Clements thought it would be very useful. Clerk confirmed feedback was we should not be chasing up the enforcement team once the alleged breach has been reported.

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**24/028: Highway Matters**

**a. Clerk Report:** Clerk confirmed responses from PCC.

- i. Crosshands and Cott Lane. Pothole. Will be addressed next time there is a team in the area.
- ii. Vallen Farm, Martletwy. Pothole. This has been repaired. Area to be monitored regularly.
- iii. Broadley, Coedcanlas, Moneybank. Potholes and badly eroded edge of highways. PCC say there is evidence of overrun by agricultural vehicles. Does not require urgent attention. This road has regular safety inspections. Any further deterioration will be identified and actioned accordingly.
- iv. Rushmore, Martletwy. Drain blocked. Added to list of drainage issues. Will be attended to when resources are available.

**b. Councillors reported following issues:**

Cllr Davies reported drainage pipe exposed on Pencoed Hill.

Cllr Eynon reported Chapel Bridge, Coedcanlas. It has been hit again and stones are dislodged.

Cllr Eynon reported Jericho. Hole on corner Jericho side.

Cty Cllr Clements reported deep pothole down hill from Broomhill.

**24/029: Finances:**

**a. Invoices and Remittances:**

i) PCC – SLA Invoices. Clerk presented invoices for approval. One Invoice has grass cutting included. Clerk to query this. All agreed. All in favour of paying invoices once issue is resolved.

ii) Audit Office. Three Audit Invoices received for the years the Audit Office previously claimed the community council had not delivered. No response as yet to Clerk's queries. 2019/2020 £240. 2020/2021 £255. 2022/2023 £200. Still awaiting 2021/22 full audit. All approved payment.

**b. VAT update:** Clerk confirmed this is ongoing.

**c. Audit 2023 – 2024:** Clerk presented Audit papers for final sign off. Clerk confirmed all paperwork had been forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Williams proposed approval of the conclusion of the audit. Seconded by Cllr Crowther. All in favour. Cllr Williams signed the Audit. Clerk confirmed it will be sent off to the Audit Office before the end of the month.

**d. Clerk Salary:** Clerk presented previously emailed report. All in favour.

**e. Doing the Small Things Fund:** Cllr Williams confirmed the successful bid for the Doing the Small Things Fund. The Clerk confirmed the monies had been paid. Clerk and Cllr Williams to look at the website element of the application. Councillors unanimously congratulated Cllr Williams on the successful application. Cllr Williams confirmed it involved volunteering, using the website for various volunteer community engagement. Swap shop on website.

**f. IRPW:** Clerk presented form produced by IRPW with regard Councillors mandatory payment. To be forwarded to all councillors.

**24/030: Playgrounds:** Clerk reported on the fencing at both sites. Still awaiting a response from PCC as to whether the community council can complete the work themselves. Will chase up next week. Cllr Eynon asked if it was possible to use modular fencing. That way it can be moved if Lawrenny decide to move the playground to another part of the site. Clerk to enquire if modular fencing meets safety standards.

**24/031: Community Council Policies:**

**a. Annual Report:** Clerk confirmed there is now a requirement for each Community Council to produce an Annual Report under the Local Government and Elections Wales Act 2021. This legislation presents a package of reforms to strengthen and extend the powers in local government. A good Annual Report will assist the community council in their work and help them to engage and enhance their communities. As soon as reasonably practical after the end of the financial year produce the Annual Report about councils' priorities, activities, and achievements over the previous year. It is mandatory. It is a lot of work. Clerk will take this forward.

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**b. Biodiversity Plan:** This is also a requirement. Clerk will take this forward. Cllr Clements confirmed Nature Partnership in PCNP will assist us with this and will forward information.

**24/032: Councillor/Clerk Training:** None completed in the month. Clerk reminded councillors to keep an eye out for training opportunities.

**24/033: Meetings Attended by Community Councillors/Clerk:**

The Clerk confirmed attendance at the Working Better Together session including the introduction to producing a website. Presentation and assistance given by an IT specialist. So far 30 of the Town and Community Councils are signed up. A Digital Coach is assisting. In addition to the work done by the Clerk, monies are available through the Doing the Small Things fund to enhance the website build.

**24/034: Correspondence Received:**

**a. Local Business Enquiry:** A local business in Lawrenny contacted the council with concerns about noise coming from a local festival. Community councillors reached out. The matter appeared to be resolved at the time. Cllr Carlisle to reach out to check they were satisfied with any resolution.

**b. The Circuit:** The Clerk confirmed the Circuit, with whom the defibs are registered, had emailed. It notifies the council of pad or battery renewal requirements. Currently pads need renewing in the Autumn this year. Cllr Davies to action. It was also noted the ground around the Landshipping Defib kiosk needs tidying. It was understood Cllr Evans will action this.

**c. Thanks for 20:** The Clerk cannot present this item as it is a campaign letter. Clerk and Cty Cllr Clements did confirm people can now put in feedback to PCC regarding 20mph in your area.

**d. Pembrokeshire Local Food Partnership:** To be shared on Facebook and the website if possible.

**e. PCNP - Open to all:** Making people aware of the ongoing project showcasing Pembrokeshire as an inclusive tourist destination.

**24/035: Communication:**

**a. County Councillor:** Cllr Clements unable to report due to the impending General Election.

**b. Any Other Business:**

**i.** Cllr Eynon suggested a letter be written to the owner of the land on which the Beacon was placed by way of thanks. Clerk to action. Cllr Clements offered her thanks to Cllr Eynon for organising the Beacon and taking the wood to the site.

**ii.** Cllr Eynon once again raised the matter of an alleged planning breach at Cllr Carlisle's property. He stated he now had photographs, He got out of his chair and crossed the floor until he was standing in front of Cllr Carlisle. He asked him to identify photographs. The Clerk, Councillors Davies and Crowther and the Chair told him to desist and warned him not to continue with this behaviour. The Clerk told Cllr Carlisle he need not respond. Clark was adamant Cllr Eynon should not continue. He ignored the warning and carried on and said he would bring it up at the next meeting. The Clerk stated he would not. Cllr Eynon repeated he would bring it up. Again, the Clerk stated he would not as no one would listen. The Chair moved on the date of the next meeting.

**24/036: Date of Next Meeting:** Next meeting in September 2024. Date to be confirmed.

On conclusion of this item the Clerk stated on reflection she would seek advice regarding Cllr Eynon's behaviour as it was bullying. Cty Cllr Clements excused herself and left the meeting. Cllr Davies suggested it was harassment. Clerk to seek advice regarding this incident.

**Meeting closed:** 20:42

Signed: E. Williams Date: 02/09/24 Position: Chair