

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2014 AT EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr I Prout (Chair)
Cllr D Beynon
Cllr C Hopkinson
Cllr D McIntosh
Cllr Mrs K Talbot
Cllr A Ratcliffe
Cllr J Williams
Cllr I Wilkinson

APOLOGIES: None received.

The clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark)

295/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

296/14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2014 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record apart from changing the name Bynon to Beynon in the list of apologies.

297/14 MATTERS ARISING

The following points were raised:

- a) **Minute 284/14** - A map of the village has been prepared showing the names of the properties for the emergency services and delivery companies to use.
- b) **Minute 292/14** - Dog signs Hill Lane. Cllr Hopkinson reported that all the lamp posts were wooden so he could not stick dog fouling notices up.
- c) **Minute 292/14** – The street light adjacent to Meadowbank has been fixed but the hedge has not been cut on Clayford Road. Cllr D Beynon offered to ask the owners to cut it back.

298/14 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications received only one planning refusal for 14/0602/PA Demolition and change of use of builders yard and workshop to residential on land south of Clayford Road.

299/14 PLAY AREAS

Pentlepoir: The grass needs cutting so Cllr Charles Hopkinson will top it and take the cuttings away. The play equipment is in good order however it was noted that for those doing inspections they have no identification in case

they are challenged by a member of the public. The Clerk agreed to make up identity cards and all councillors agreed to provide a suitable photograph for this purpose.

It was also noted that the old school is being demolished at Pentlepoir.

Broadmoor: Generally looking good. All repairs have been carried out and the play equipment is looking in good condition. A few more items need doing and these will be discussed when Colin is back at work. The grass is a bit long but not too bad. Completed Inspection sheets were handed to the clerk.

East Williamston: The grass needs cutting but otherwise is not looking too bad. The ground is quite wet there now.

300/14

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The following correspondence had been received:

- a) Your Chance to Re-imagine Public Services in Pembs – noted.
- b) E-mail PACTO – Pembs Community Transport Services Information – noted.
- c) E-mail OVW – Nominations for Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2015 – agreed to put forward the name of the current chair Cllr I Prout.
- d) Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales – Review of County Electoral Arrangements for Pembrokeshire – noted no change for EWCC.
- e) E-mail Older People’s Commissioner for Wales – Ageing Well in Wales Initiative invitation to join – agreed not at this time.

301/14

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Bank balances up to 30th November 2014 were shown as follows:

Current Acct	£2,774.98
Deposit Acct	£6,077.37
Park Acct	£13,030.80

In order to set a draft Budget the clerk had circulated documents including the following:

- a) The Financial Statement Cashbook up to 30th Nov 2014
- b) A Financial Budget Comparison up to 30th November 2014
- c) A schedule of income and expenditure transactions to 30th Nov 2014.

The total income is £13,980.99 and expenditure (gross) is £19,677.33 with £1,055.67 Vat to be recovered. The closing bank balances totalled £21,833.15.

The budget for 2014-2015 totalled £15,965 and the actual expenditure to the end of November was £18,621.66 indicating an overspend of £2,656.66. It was decided to recommend the following changes to the expenditure budget for 2015-2016:

- a) An additional budget of £2,000 for contingencies
- b) A £1,000 budget for donations.
- c) The salary budget was increased to £3,500 due to an impending pay award of 2.2% provided that Council is happy to implement this from 1st January 2015 as directed by the Society of Local Council Clerks and NALC.
- d) The play area maintenance budget was increased to £10,000.
- e) Hall rent to £200.00.
- f) The Insurance budget be increased to £2,100.
- g) The audit fee budget be increased to £300.
- h) The expenses budget be increased to £250.00
- i) Subscriptions budget to be reduced to £50.00
- j) S137 payment budget reduced to £500.00
- k) A PAYE budget of £600 be set.

This made a total budget of **£21,350.00**.

The Council's income was entirely from the Precept, a small amount of interest and a small Way leave payment from Western Power. The County Council has set the tax base for this area as being band D equivalent of 833.55 and if the precept remained as the current year of £19.50 this would bring in an income of **£16,254.00** which makes a shortfall of **£5,096**. The income budget for 2014-2015 was **£17,761.00** and this therefore would suggest that an increase in the precept is required as there is already a shortfall in the current year of **£2,656.66**.

It was agreed that a notice be put in the local paper regarding tenders for the maintenance contract in order to gauge whether the budget was sufficient and to set a budget once that was received. A discussion also took place as to whether PCC would make a contribution towards the grass cutting costs at the play areas as councillors recalled that some years ago an agreement was made with PCC that the £500 annual grant could be spend on maintenance, grass cutting or both. It was agreed that inquiries be made with Sinead Henehan of PCC about this arrangement.

RESOLVED: **That an advert be placed in the local newspaper regarding tenders for the maintenance contract and that inquiries be made with PCC regarding payments towards grass cutting at the play areas.**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Mrs J Clark Salary for Nov	£185.05
PAYE for November	£46.20
Cllr I Wilkins Reimb for tractor certificate	12.00
Riverlea – repairs to tractor	£773.33

303/14

REPORT OF COUNTY CLLR JACOB WILLIAMS

After concerns were raised at a previous community council meeting, Cllr Williams enquired with the highways department at County Hall about the line markings along Station Road, Pentlepoir. Cllr Williams is informed that the lines are complete and are in accordance with the regulations for this type and width of road.

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales has completed its lengthy review of electoral boundaries for Pembrokeshire, which took into account council ward sizes, population sizes, links between neighbouring communities, the number of councillors in total and the overall electoral parity by elector/councillor ratio.

Their final proposals sent for approval by the Welsh Government will see a reduction of councillors from 60 serving 60 electoral divisions (all single-member wards) to 57 representing 51. This would be achieved through some mergers of various communities in the county, and with the introduction of two multi-member wards in Pembroke Dock and one in Milford Haven, represented by two councillors each; one in Pembroke represented by three councillors; and Saundersfoot would merge with Amroth and be represented by two councillors.

The Commission received a representation from the county council's cabinet, and was also lobbied in a personal capacity by the then cabinet member Cllr David Pugh of the Kilgetty/Begelly ward, both with proposals to split up the East Williamston Electoral Division as it currently exists. Neither suggestions were adopted by the Commission. Their final proposal will see the East Williamston Electoral Division remain completely unchanged, incorporating the East Williamston Community Council area and the Jeffreyston Community Council area, represented by one councillor, which, if implemented, would be the largest by population of any single-member ward in the county.

Following a period of heavy rain, a section of Devonshire Drive was completely flooded near Carne Springs, causing the road to be closed for a week. Significant earthwork has taken place over recent years at Carne Springs, which, in places, has built up the land behind the roadside hedge, which surrounds the particular piece of land on two sides.

This is believed to have affected the water course and the ability of water to escape from the road side and from the land on the other side of the hedge. Cllr Williams understands the landowner denies any liability for the flooding.

Following representations from Cllr Williams and others, and a week-long closure which saw levels rise to over two feet and stay that high, a temporary solution was put in place which allowed the water to drain and the road to reopen. Despite welcoming the work and the fact that the road could be reopened, the costs were met by the county council - i.e. by taxpayers - which Cllr Williams expressed dissatisfaction over.

Looking at the longer-term, Cllr Williams and the ward councillor for this particular stretch of Devonshire Drive, Cllr Jonathan Preston of Penally, are lobbying the council to take any and all action necessary to see the water course and the means of drainage in this location returned to how they were before the road began to suffer such prolonged and unacceptable flooding, which has blighted the area and its residents in recent years through lengthy road closures.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Williams’ report be accepted.

304/14

ITEMS OF BUSINESS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

The following matters were raised:

- a) A Litter pick through village had been carried out after the County Council had cleared out ditches. Lot of cans of energy drinks were found which could be from cyclists.
- b) A Manhole adjacent to Link Elm on junction is about 6” deep. Dangerous to pedestrians needs to be brought up to road surface.
- c) A dip in the road at the bottom of Elveston Lane on corner needs to be filled.
- d) The noticeboard at Pentlepoir needs a path over the grass. It was agree that some paving slabs be used for this purpose.
- e) A new field in Cold Inn has been purchased and should be made secure from the public with a gate and post. Council were asked for a donation towards a gate and post. It was agreed that this council should open an acct with Cardigan Farmers and this matter be put on the next agenda.
- f) The Community Energy Information Day notices have been sent out. Clerk to ask PLANED why they have put our logo on it?

305/14

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 8th January 2015 at 7.00pm at East Williamston Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed.....ChairDate

Signed.....Clerk