

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY AT EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllr D McIntosh (Chair)
Cllr C Hopkinson
Cllr J Williams
Cllr I Wilkinson
Cllr P Strydom
Cllr C Perry
Cllr R Day

APOLOGIES: None

The clerk was present (Mrs J Clark-Davies)

01/24 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

02/24 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2023 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

03/24 **MATTERS ARISING**

The following matters were raised:

- a) Minute 139/23b) PCC have been reminded about a response on the matter of the speed limit at Cold Inn.
- b) Minute 139/23e) has been resolved.

04/24 **FINANCIAL UPDATE TO 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

The following financial information had been circulated:

- a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £20,521.28 in the Current Acct, £3,151.50 in the Deposit Acct, £14,335.29 in the Parks account and £3,586.56 in the Jubilee Park Acct.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £33,813.18 (gross) and expenditure of £33,882.71(gross).
- c) The Financial Budget Comparison showing the Budget set, the actual income and expenditure figures and the balance remaining under each heading.

The Clerk was requested to do a print-out of expenditure on grass cutting and repairs etc and send it to all Members.

RESOLVED: **That the above financial information be accepted.**

02/24

05/24

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment:

a) Mrs J Clark – January salary	£289.60
b) PAYE for January	£72.40
c) Google monthly subscription	£1.59
d) Amazon Prime subscription	£8.99

Members requested that the Clerk investigate why payments are being taken for Amazon Prime and to cancel the subscription which was not required.

06/24

GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT FOR 2024

A quote had been received from the existing contractor, JN Williams Ground Maintenance for a year's extension to his current contract, which totaled £11,311.00 for the year. After some discussion, it was agreed to accept this quote.

RESOLVED: That the quote from JN Williams of £11,311.00 be accepted and his contract extended for a further year.

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QUOTE FROM TERRY HARRISON FOR SERVICE ON NEW TRACTOR

A quote had been received of £531.67 inc VAT for the servicing of the new tractor which was accepted. One of the council's strimmers has packed up and IW has looked at quotes for a replacement head of approximately £500. It was agreed that he would purchase one from Riverlea if possible, however he will double check costs before purchasing.

RESOLVED: That the quote from Terry Harrison for the servicing of the new tractor be accepted.

That Cllr I Wilkinson check on prices for a replacement head for the strimmer before purchasing. The cost is likely to be in the region of £500.

08/24

TO CONFIRM DRAFT BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2024-25

The Council Tax Base had been received from PCC which was a Band 'D' equivalent of 967.53 as opposed to 935.24 the previous year. After much debate and studying of the draft budget it was agreed to increase the precept to £40.00 per household which would bring in an income of £38,701.00 which, including other income meant a total income of £41,951. It was agreed to reduce some of the budgets to reduce the shortfall, making a total expenditure of £44,150.00 which meant a shortfall of £2,200 which, it was agreed, was acceptable.

RESOLVED: That the precept be increased to £40.00 per household, equating to an income of £38,701.00.

03/24

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PLAY AREAS INSPECTION REPORTS FOR DECEMBER

The play area inspection reports for December have been received and circulated. No quote, however, had been received from Infinity play for repairs to medium and high-risk items at Pentlepoir, as requested. The Clerk was asked to follow this up as soon as possible and to forward the quote to all Cllrs for discussion at the next meeting.

After some discussion it was agreed that all necessary repairs be made to equipment at Pentlepoir in the first instance and to downgrade Broadmoor slightly for the time being by removing any high-risk items of equipment for safety reasons.

RESOLVED: That the quote for repairs at Pentlepoir be followed up and circulated once received.

That any items of high risk at Broadmoor be removed for safety reasons.

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CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received:

- a) PCC Property – Memorandum of Rent Review on land at Pentlepoir – signed as requested for return to PCC.
- b) OVW – Cost of Living Community & Town Council activity in Wales -noted.
- c) OPCC News Bulletin. – noted.
- d) Dyfed Powys Police Newsletter – noted.
- e) Older People’s Commissioner of Wales Newsletter – noted.
- f) PCC Together for Change Newsletter – noted.
- g) OVW Welsh Govt Consultation on spending of dormant funds – noted.
- h) Welsh Parliament – inquiry into fiscal interdepartmental relations – noted.
- i) OVW Lamp Light of Peace to celebrate 80 years since D Day June 2024 – noted.
- j) OVW Training Dates for Jan, Feb and March 2024 – circulated to all.
- k) OVW Digital Training for Cllrs – noted.

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REPORT OF COUNTY CLLR JACOB WILLIAMS

Cllr Williams stated that he was still awaiting the reinstatement of the Kingsmoor Road sign which had been hit by a vehicle, and the large stone which had been dislodged from the drystone wall near the Pentlepoir play area layby.

By way of an update, Cllr Williams informed members that Pembrokeshire County Council's response as part of the review of community council boundaries suggested that warding arrangements for rural community councils should be abolished. This would in his opinion be beneficial for EWCC since it is currently warded with up to nine councillors for Pentlepoir and Broadmoor, and three for East Williamston, meaning that if more than three nominations are made at election time for seats in EWCC's present East Williamston ward, it would force an election even if there were sufficient

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vacancies within the Pentlepoir and Broadmoor ward. The removal of warding arrangements would avoid such a scenario, and Cllr Williams suggested that, if members agreed, which they did, EWCC might write to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales to express its support for PCC's suggestion.

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ANY OTHER ITEMS

The following points were raised:

- a) The general state of the road through EW is very poor with potholes, dips and water coming up through the road. Report to PCC. There are also potholes outside Fernhill which should be reported to PCC.
- b) A member has been contacted by a resident of Cold Inn to complain about a large golden labrador off the lead, causing problems in JP. It is frightening children and is not under control. It was agreed that a statement asking dog owners to keep dogs under control in the part be placed on our website and on the EW FB page.
- c) The menus for our annual dinner were circulated. Members to make their choice and send to PS.
- d) A streetlight outside Meadow Bank, EW is out. Lamp number 804-3224. Report to PCC. It was noted that this fault has been reported on multiple occasions by both a resident and EWCC since October 2023 and the lack of lighting is considered to represent an ongoing hazard to pedestrians.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 8th Feb 2024 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.39pm

Signed..... Chair.....Date

Signed..... Clerk