

**DALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MEETING
AT
THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE.
ON
15TH FEBRUARY, 2016.
AT
1900HRS.**

Present: Mr P Morgan (Chairman); Mr A Truelove; Mrs T Warlow; Mr H Bishop (Clerk); Mr D Nockels (Deputy Clerk).

In attendance: Cllr R Owens.

Apologies for absence: Mr P Garnish; Mr L Jones; Mr M Reynolds.

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11TH January, 2016** – the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th January, 2016 were agreed as a correct record and it was agreed that the Minutes should be placed on the website.

Action: Deputy Clerk to arrange with website.

- 2. Matters Arising** – it was noted that all matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting of the Council have been included in the Agenda for discussion at this meeting.
- 3. Declarations of interest** – at the request of the Chairman, the Clerk reminded the Community Councillors of the obligation on them to declare any interest that they may have in matters for decision by the Community Council. The obligation on those with a “prejudicial interest” to leave the room while such matters were discussed was noted.
- 4. Progress Reports.**

- a. Sewerage stinks issues** – the report of Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) dated 15th January, 2016 was noted. In particular it was noted that “peaks” in the level of complain coincide with the April and the July / August peaks in tourism when the population of the village tends to balloon. The Clerk was asked to draw this coincidence to the attention of DCWW with the suggestion that the focus increased activity in advance of these peaks in population – it is noted that the Easter 2016 “peak” is approaching.

Action: Clerk to press DCWW and confirm to next meeting.

Monthly report – no monthly report has been received – there has been considerable activity – and the Clerk was asked to press DCWW for the necessary report.

Action: Clerk to remind DCWW and report to next meeting.

- b. One way system abuse** – it was noted that the Police have indicated that they are happy to send representatives to a later meeting and the Clerk was asked to invite them to the March, 2016 meeting .

Action: Clerk to invite Police and confirm to the next meeting.

Cemetery corner – it was noted that the Clerk has asked the Castle Estate to co-operate in the release of land for the proposed road widening scheme but there has been no response. The Clerk was asked to remind Mr Ryder and the Estate.

Action: Clerk to remind and report to next meeting.

c. Village maintenance issues - it was noted that the “Walk the Village Event” had been postponed due to adverse weather conditions. It was agreed that the event should be rescheduled to a time when weather is likely to be better and a date set at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to reschedule Walk-the Village / invite Castle Estate.

Grass cutting – it was noted that the grass in the village is growing and the Clerk was asked to request an early cut – the Easter tourism season is approaching.

Action: Clerk to request County Council and report to next meeting.

d. Car Park issues – it was noted that there has been no progress with the works or with the recommendations promised by the County Council officers at the meeting in 26th November, 2015. The Clerk was asked to remind the officers.

Action: Clerk to remind the County Council and report to next meeting.

e. Pontoon – markings / notices – it was noted that the plastic signs and metal plates have been ordered and will be erected by Mr Truelove and the Deputy Clerk when the pontoon is in place. It was noted that it is estimated that this option will cost about £100 plus VAT and a budget of £110.00 plus VAT was agreed for the purchase of the necessary parts. The Clerk was authorised to make the necessary payment.

Action: Clerk / Deputy Clerk / Mr Truelove to finalise and confirm to next meeting.

Markings on the pontoon – it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk and Mr Truelove will identify non-slip safety tapes or paint suitable to mark the restricted area of the pontoon and report to the next meeting with proposals and a quote.

Action: Deputy Clerk / Mr Truelove to investigate and report to next meeting.

f. Benches – it was noted that the Deputy Chairman has agreed with Mrs Y Gainfort for the erection of a bench in the area between benches 2 and 3 (counting from the Griffin Inn). The bench will be bolted to a 6 inch concrete pad by the family.

Action: Mr Morgan to monitor and confirm to a later meeting.

It was noted that the bench design is good, with slats 28 mil and made from sustainable hard wood, by a Milford Haven based craftsman. It should, therefore, become the “standard” for future benches.

- g. Mast, Dale Airfield** – it was noted that there has been no further contact from our MP or our AM (both of whom have been contacted by the Clerk), but that Cllr Owens and the Chairman of PCNPA have added their voices to the chorus of protest addressed to the Secretary Estate for Culture Media and Sport.

Action: Clerk to monitor and report to the next meeting.

- h. Broadband issues** – it was noted that there has been no progress on this issue since the last meeting, but it was noted that Mr Patrick Edgington of St Ishmaels has been pursuing the matter for some weeks on his own account and is in regular contact with the providers. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk should establish contact with Mr Edgington and coordinate efforts with him.

Action: Deputy Clerk to contact providers and report to next meeting.

- i. Bait digging – The Gann** – the latest report of the working party was noted.
- j. Street lights** – it was noted that the defective lights reported at the last meeting have been rectified.

- 5. Floodgate issues** – it was noted that the flood gates have been deployed between 8th and 12th February, 2016 (initially in response to a flood alert from NRW). The amount of debris / stones deposited by the gates suggests that the deployment was fully justified – it was cleared by Mr D Jones and the Clerk was instructed to arrange payment to him in the sum of £50.00.

Action: Clerk to arrange payment and confirm to next meeting.

Technical issues – the Deputy Clerk reported that the deployment of the gates revealed some technical issues – the north gate seems to have taken in water, the seals seem to be worn, there seems to be a gap under the south gate, the build up of debris / stones makes it impossible to open the gate after deployment. The Deputy Clerk was asked to draw these issues to the attention of NRW and request assistance.

Action: Deputy Clerk to contact NRW and report to next meeting.

Keyholder issues – it was noted that there is a need to ensure that there is always at least one keyholder available to respond to a need to deploy the floodgates and it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk should discuss / agree a process with the keyholders – probably involving a rota and a responsibility on the duty keyholder to ensure that he arranges cover for periods of absence.

Action: Deputy Clerk to arrange and report to next meeting.

Shovels – it was noted that there is nowhere to store shovels adjacent to the floodgates and that members of the Community Council have their own shovels which could be called on if / when required – it was noted that clearing stones and debris by hand / shovel is a daunting proposition.. It was agreed that there is no need to purchase any shovels for clearing a build up of debris.

Keys – it was noted that Mr Jones has not yet confirmed that he has collected the key from the Griffin Inn..

Action: Mr Jones to confirm to next meeting.

- 6. County Council issues** – Cllr Owens gave a brief report on the issues currently being discussed by the County Council and PCNPA, including:

Local Development Plan – it was noted that the only remaining development plot is the “potato field” opposite “Allenbrook” which is designated for 80% low cost housing in response to a survey conducted by Dale Community Council about ten years ago. This designation, combined with the usual high cost of housing in and around Dale, suggests that the site will never be developed. Cllr Owens agreed to discuss the issue with PCNPA officers and report to a later meeting.

Action: Cllr Owens to discuss and report to a later meeting.

Schools – the performance of secondary schools in Pembrokeshire remains a concern and is a priority for the County Council – Milford Haven has been designated “amber”. (n.b. Coastlands Primary School is designated “green”).

Merger / Dyfed – the issue seems to be on hold until after the Assembly elections.

Refuse collection – the County Council has no present plans to further reduce the number of collections.

- 7. Planning matters** – nil.

- 8. Finance.**

a. Receipts	-	nil
Payments	-	nil
b. Balance	-	£1,570approx.

N.B. It was noted that the balance reported at the January, 2016 meeting (£1,629approx) was incorrect.

c. Precept 2016 – it was noted that the County Council has agreed the Precept for the 2016 financial year at £1,650.

d. Bank accounts – the Deputy Clerk confirmed that his application to join the list of approved signatures is being progressed.

Action: Deputy Clerk to finalise and report to next meeting.

- e. Internal Auditor** – the Clerk was asked to invite Mr Copley to act as Internal Auditor.

Action: Clerk to invite and report to next meeting.

- 9. Correspondence** – nil

10. Any Other Business:

- a. **Storm debris at the Starters' Hut** – the Clerk was asked to request the County Council to clear this debris.

Action: Clerk to request County Council and confirm to next meeting.

- b. **No entry sign at the Starters' Hut** – it was noted that one of the signs has become twisted out of position and the Clerk was asked to request County Council to correct.

Action: Clerk to notify County Council and report to next meeting.

- c. **Danfro van** – the Clerk was asked to request the County Council to arrange for the Danfro driver to park off the grass.

Action: Clerk to arrange with County Council and confirm to next meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2016.

AT

THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE

AT

1900hrs