

# **Dale Community Council**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

**21<sup>st</sup> June, 2021 at 7pm in the Coronation Hall**

### **1. Present**

Peter Morgan (PM)(Vice Chair), Andy Truelove (AT), Francesca Jones (RFO)  
Jane Warr (JW), Paul Garnish (PG) via Zoom

### **Apologies**

Lyn Jones (Chair)

Mark Reynolds

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

None

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held virtually 17th May 2021**

The minutes were agreed as a true record and Councillors were happy to sign them off.

### **4. Matters arising**

PM stressed the ongoing issue with Parking control. Although the Community Council have been assured that Parking Wardens are in operation in the area, there have been little sightings of any wardens and hardly any evidence of cars being fined appropriately or moved on. PM has requested that under the Freedom of Information Act, the number of tickets that have actually been issued should be requested, as well as where the tickets were issued, ie in the carpark or on double yellows around the village.

PG raised a concern from a resident who has, on more than one occasion, had to push their pram into the road in order to get around cars that are parked across double yellows and over the entire footpath. Most recently this involved tables that had been moved across the pavement from under the shelter on the village green.

JW suggested a way of encouraging 'access only' via South Street, perhaps by means of signage at the junction by the Café. This would hopefully deter people from simply driving through to 'see what's there'. It would allow people going to Coco's to still collect orders and visitors to residents as well as access to the slip way and the boat park.

The matter of the Speed Limit becoming 20mph was agreed to be left until the compulsory changes in 2023. There is a chance that the speed checks at present would reveal that 20mph is not needed based on the facts, regardless of opinion on the matter and that by the time all checks and details are sorted out, it will be around 2023 anyway.

**Action** – Clerk to contact the Council regarding parking tickets. Clerk to contact Clare Williams to see if they can recommend a suitable sign for South Street to be put forward at next council meeting. Also, to confirm with Clare that the meeting with Darren Thomas is still in the diary.

## **5. Speeding/Parking Update**

It was hoped that Marc Owen would have given an update regarding the carpark since our meeting with him, however, as yet nothing has come through. He had promised to send a rough design for his proposal to alter the carpark to maximise the space available and make it clearer and easier for cars to appropriately park.

Clare Williams had sent a comprehensive list of issues raised during our meeting with her and Stephen Bengier. It clearly set out what was proposed and who was going to follow it up. JW pointed out that the No Entry sign we had mentioned that was missing by Brook Cottage and the starting hut, had perhaps been mistaken by Clare for one of the other pairs. It was also questioned as to whether the No Entry signs should legally be put up in pairs. There is only one at the exit from the Summer Road.

PM had noticed that where the grass and hedge had been neatly cut back to the left of the Summer Road exit, cars have now begun to use it to park. This is now causing more of an obstruction than the badly manicured hedges as cars are having to pull out even further to look left for oncoming traffic when a car is left there. This is a serious safety issue. It was suggested that some stones could be placed around the edge, allowing the grass to still be cut but meaning vehicles will not park.

**Action** – Clerk to email Clare with a picture of the signs to clarify and to ask for advice regarding placing stones at Summer Road exit.

Clerk to follow up the exact rules regarding residents' parking permits for the bays outside the YC as mentioned in the previous meeting.

## **6. Traffic & Highways Community Works Fund Application**

The application has come through for the Community Works Fund and the deadline is July 31<sup>st</sup>. The councillors were all keen to continue with a Speed Warning Sign as discussed with Clare during the meeting to tackle speeding. Even though the speed limit issue is to be left until it is compulsory, the sign should be able to be put in place and to reflect the current speed limit. The Clerk is to check that the speed can be altered accordingly ready for 2023. Marloes Community Council have already been

through this process to purchase a sign for their village. The councillors would like to ask any advice from them in terms of applying and choosing the best sign.

As the discussion of grants was raised, PM put forward a proposal that sometime in the future, the Council should try to purchase the green outside the Coronation Hall. He had suggested it as a way of the Community owning a space that everyone can use as currently there is no where that is not owned by either the Council or the Estate. His concern was that in the distant future, the estate could potentially change hands and the people in charge could be less co-operative and 'for the village' as the current owners are. Something of this scale would need fundraising or grants to fund.

AT addressed the issue of insurance, liabilities, and maintenance.

First refusal of purchase was mentioned as an idea to put to the estate should the green ever become available for sale. The matter was decided to be put to a full council, hopefully next meeting in September.

**Action** – Clerk to contact Marloes' Clerk to ask for any advice and to find out where they sourced their sign, as a starting point.

## **7. Planning**

There was no objection to the proposed signs that are to be installed at the Gann. JW wished for an addition to be added, if possible, alongside the reminder for dogs to be kept on leads, which reminds owners to clean up after their dog. Dog fouling along the Pickleridge has been an issue highlighted a lot during Lockdown.

PG brought up the current building works that are being carried out at 81 Blue Anchor Way. There have been comments circulating the village regarding the mess and untidiness at the property during building works and now there has been a large concrete building erected in the garden which were not mentioned in the original planning. PG wondered if anyone from Planning ever comes out to monitor builds once planning has been granted. It is apparent that Listed Buildings are monitored very closely, however the same cannot be said for unlisted properties.

There are also concerns that Brook Cottage may be turned into 4 separate holiday lets, instead of the original single dwelling as shown on the plans for the ground and first floor layout. This raises concerns for Dale's already high holiday let ratio and the problem of parking for cars at the property.

**Action** – Clerk to respond to Planning and to ask the questions raised relating to the monitoring of plans.

## **8. Plan for the Village**

It was decided that the Plan should be left until after the Summer and perhaps have a meeting just for this in order to fully discuss the matter and hopefully have a full council present.

**Action** – Clerk to add Village Plan to the next Agenda.

## **9. 2<sup>nd</sup> Home Consultation**

Information and a Survey have been received to gain the Public's thoughts about the problem Pembrokeshire has with empty and 2<sup>nd</sup> Homes. The consultation proposes changes to the current Council Tax rates. It was decided that the Survey is for individual response and that the link should be posted to the Community Facebook page in order for residents to have their say.

**Action** – Clerk to post relevant information on the Facebook page.

## **10. Financial Report**

### **a) Receipts/Expenditure/Balance**

#### **June 2021**

##### Community/Current Account

Opening Balance (1/4/21) £1,424.47

Expenditure	£49.00 One Voice Wales
	£237.50 Audit Fee 17/18
	£257.60 Zurich Insurance
	£530.00 Clerk Wages

Receipts £1,400 Precept

Closing Balance (10/6/21) £1,750.37

##### Business Premium

Balance (10/6/21) £2,254.01

£750.00 to be transferred to the Business Premium Account

### **Payments to be issued today:**

Peninsular Paper Grant: £100.00

Coronation Hall Grant: £250.00

Cemetery Grant: £250.00

## **b) Clerk's Contract**

JW noted that the Clerk's contract should now increase in line with the yearly increase. PG suggested a set figure for the amount to increase to however JW wanted to check the correct scale was followed. JW and Clerk are to check the correct scales and report back at the next council meeting.

## **11. Budget 2021/2022**

The Budget was reviewed, and Councillors were happy to continue with the proposed Budget which will be reviewed again later in the year.

## **12. Correspondence**

The Clerk received a consultation from the National Park to gain public views on the vision for the Parks.

There was also a Survey to gain public opinion on the pharmaceutical provisions available in the County at present.

Both had links to online surveys which should be filled out by individuals. It was agreed that the Clerk should post the links to the Surveys on the Community Facebook page so that they can have their say.

At the end of the meeting, JW brought to the council's attention that a local resident had posted photographs of the bins outside the Griffin Inn and the state of the rubbish that had been strewn all over the road by gulls. It was noted that the Griffin does not seem to have enough Wheelie Bins to accommodate the amount of rubbish put out each week and that perhaps another Bin or more regular collections could be arranged. It was agreed to keep an eye on the problem as the summer progresses.

AT raised a similar issue with residential bins. Many residents are still putting their grey bag outside their property the night before collection, without covering them. This is leading to rubbish being dispersed around the village, especially on windy days. PG suggested that perhaps the County Council could provide the Community Council with some of the Black seagull sacks which could then be made available to residents to have/purchase to encourage covering the Grey bags.

**Action** – Clerk to contact the County Council to see if this is something that could be done.

## **14. Date for the next meeting**

The next meeting was set for 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Coronation Hall.

Meeting was closed at 20.35 pm.