

**DALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MEETING
AT
THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE.
ON
5TH OCTOBER, 2015.
AT
1900HRS.**

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

In attendance: Nil.

Apologies for absence: Cllr R Owens.

- 1. Planning application – Eaton Hall, Dale** – [Mr Garnish declared his interest but was invited to stay in the room]. It was noted that the application had been made on 24th July, 2015 but only sent out by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA) for consideration on 21st September, 2015. In the meantime, PCNPA officials have given provisional clearance for the work to commence – and work has started. It was noted that the development is visually in keeping with the neighbouring properties, is not prominent and is not likely to overlook or be overlooked by neighbouring properties. It was agreed that there is no objection to the proposed development and the Clerk was instructed to respond accordingly to PCNPA.

Action: Clerk to notify PCNPA and confirm to next meeting.

- 2. Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th September, 2015** – the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th September, 2015 were agreed as a correct record and it was agreed that they should be placed on the website, together with a copy of the letter from Dwr Cymru Welsh Water dated 7th September, 2015 which was considered at the meeting.

Action: Deputy Clerk to arrange with website.

- 3. 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.
- 4. 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.
- 5. Progress Reports.**
 - a. Sewerage smells** – the meeting noted the report of Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) for the month of September, 2015 has not yet been received and will be circulated to the Community Councillors as soon as possible. It was noted that there has been considerable activity in / around the treatment plant in the days before this meeting.

Action: Clerk to pass the DCWW report to Community Councillors as soon as possible.

Stinks – it was noted that there had been reports of a stink in the area of the treatment plant on 5th October, 2015 and the Clerk was instructed to report this incident to DCWW.
[DCWW Report Letter attached to these Minutes]

Action: Clerk to report incident to DCWW and confirm to next meeting

Flooding in the meadow – it was noted that during the floods on 14th September, 2015 the second manhole in the meadow was seen to be “bubbling”. The Clerk was instructed to report this to DCWW.

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

Floods 14th September, 2015 - it was noted that there had been reports that the flap to the storm drain seems too tight and that it seems to hold back water when it should be releasing it. It was also noted that the storm drains in the sea wall adjacent to the Griffin Inn seemed to be blocked – they had not been able to drain the floods caused by the heavy rainfall on 14th September, 2015. There were also substantial overflows across the road at the cemetery end of the village – indicating a possible blockage of the drainage from Drift Hill. The Clerk was instructed to report these matters to the County Council.

Action: Clerk to report to PCC and confirm to the next meeting.

- b. Village maintenance issues** – it was noted that the Clerk has requested feedback from the community via Peninsular Papers, but there has not been any response by the time of the meeting.

Action: Clerk to monitor responses.

“Walk the Village Event” – it was agreed that the Community Council’s annual survey will take place on Sunday 22nd November, 2015 and that the Castle Estate should be invited to join the Community Councillors for this occasion.

Action: Clerk to invite Castle Estate and confirm to next meeting.

Mowing – it was agreed that the quality of the grass mowing has been less good than in previous seasons, but that there was no reason for the Community Council to intervene. It was noted, however that the Easter holiday in 2016 is very early and the Clerk was asked to draw this to the attention of the County Council and the contractors.

Action: Clerk to report to PCC and confirm to next meeting.

- c. Flood gate issues box / NRW event 5-11-2015** – it was noted that there had been a flood alert in the period since the last meeting (tide 7.9m, wind easterly) and that the gate had been deployed for two days and three nights. It is thought that the water may have reached the gates, but no more. The deployment had been trouble free; one gate had been opened during low tide during the day to allow access, but the gates were left closed overnight.

Notice – it was noted that there might be some confusion as to the operation of the flood gates by the Community Council and the Clerk / Deputy Clerk were asked to prepare a

DRAFT wording for such a notice to be affixed to the storage box adjacent to the flood gates. The notice should draw attention to the fact that the Community Council may arrange to close the gates without notice when there is a risk of flooding.

Action: Clerk / Deputy Clerk to prepare DRAFT and report to next meeting.

Keys – it was noted that one of the keys is held by The Griffin Inn – which will be closed for much of the winter season – the season of highest flood risk. It was agreed that this key should be passed to The Moorings which will remain open for much of the winter season and the landlord of which is a Community Councillor (the Community Council is responsible for / insured for operating the gate). The Chairman undertook to recover the Griffin key and pass it to The Moorings.

Action: Chairman to arrange transfer of key and confirm to next meeting.

Box – it was noted that the Yacht Club has signed the Lease, but that the Community Council's part has not yet been signed by the Chairman.

Action: Chairman to sign and return the lease.

It was noted that the box lid is damaged and that the Yacht Club is reviewing options..

Action: Clerks to press Yacht Club and report to a next meeting.

NRW event in Swansea 5th November, 2015 – Mr Morgan reported that he and the Clerk will attend this meeting and report to the next meeting.

Action: Mr Morgan / Clerk to attend and report to next meeting.

- d. Car Park issues** – it was agreed that the Clerk should arrange the usual end of season meeting with County Council officers - probably in November, 2015 – to review the season's experience. The Clerk has sought feedback from the community via Peninsular Papers, but there has not been any response at the time of the meeting.

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

The Clerk was asked to remind the County Council to align the times on notice boards between the double yellow lines and the car park.

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

Flooding – 14th September, 2015 – it was noted that the car park was flooded after the rains on 14th September, 2015 and had been largely unusable. The Clerk was asked to request the County Council to arrange for flood prevention measures and to clarify the parking regulations for times when the car park is not useable.

Action: Clerk to report / enquire with PCC and report to next meeting.

- e. Beach / pontoon issues** – it was agreed that the Clerk should arrange the usual end of season meeting with the County Council officer to review the season's experience. The

Clerk has sought feedback from the community via Peninsular Papers, but there has not been any response at the time of the meeting.

Action: Clerk to arrange meeting with PCC officer and report to next meeting.

- f. **Events review / 2016 plans** – it was noted that the Dale Half Marathon had taken place on 27th September, 2015 and that the organisation had, again, been exemplary. The Clerk was asked to thank the organisers.

Action: Clerk to thank organisers and confirm to next meeting.

Events for 2015 – events notified so far include the Marathon Rowing Event (probably April 2016 – date is subject to tide and the national league organisers), EnduranceLife (30 April, 2015) and Dale Half Marathon (25th September, 2015). It was noted that the Clerk has emphasised to the organisers the need to liaise with the local businesses and has offered to assist in this regard. The Clerk was asked to invite the businesses to produce a brief advert that he can pass to the organisers for inclusion in the briefing / booking documents.

Action: Clerk to set up liaison arrangements and confirm to a later meeting.

- g. **Benches** – it was noted that the Deputy Chairman has undertaken to review options / designs. The review continues and a report will be made to a later meeting.

Action: Deputy Chairman to report to a later meeting.

- h. **Regulatory Compliance** – the Deputy Clerk reported that, following a review of the legislation it seems that the Data Protection Act applies only to personal data stored on a computer. No such data is stored on the Community Council computer systems so it seems that the Community Council is compliant.
- i. **The Gann –bait digging** – it was noted that Natural Resources Wales is seeking volunteers to supplement the monitoring of the Code of Conduct which is carried out by NRW office. It was agreed that the Clerk should pass on the invitation via Peninsular Papers – but without comment.

Action: Clerk to pass on NRW invitation via Peninsular Papers / confirm to next meeting.

- j. **Milford Haven DRAFT Recreation Plan 2015** – it was noted the Deputy Clerk has reviewed the DRAFT Plan, which seem unchanged since the previous Plan although the DRAFT has not made mention of developments since the last plan. The Deputy Clerk was asked to pass copies of the DRAFT Plan to Messrs Dilly, Gainforth, Lemmon and Owens and to make the computer link available to the community via the website and Peninsular Papers. He was also asked to respond to the MHPA on behalf of the Community Council confirming that there is no objection to the DRAFT, but drawing attention to development since the 2011 Plan – e.g. new businesses and occasional closures of the slipway.

Action: Deputy Clerk to distribute copies and respond to MHPA – confirm to next meeting

6. **County Council issues** – this item was deferred.

7. Planning matters.

- a. **Mast, Dale Airfield** - it was noted that the application has been withdrawn.
<http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/Default.asp?PID=506&APASID=NP/15/0469/FU#planapps>
- b. **Other – 81 Blue Anchor Way** – it was noted that an application has been notified to the Community Council. It was agreed that there should be a site meeting at 1800hrs on 12th October, 2015.
<http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/Default.asp?PID=506&APASID=NP/15/0540/FU#planapps>

Action: ALL to attend site meeting on 12th October, 2015.

8. Finance.

- a. **Receipts – NIL**

Payments – NIL

- b. **Balance - £1,400(approx).**
- c. **Audit** – it was noted that the audit is complete and that a note to that effect is being displayed in the Notice Board.

It was noted that the following issues have been highlighted by the Auditors:

- i. Assets overstated in the accounts for previous years – this was caused by the re-valuation of the benches to reflect the purchase price (they were donated) – they are now valued at a token of £1. This had been drawn to the attention of the Auditors and the Community Council in the Annual Return. No further action is required.
- ii. There is an error in the Audit Return as to the date on which the Clerk certified the accounts. The Clerk apologised for the confusion. It is suggested by the Auditors that the Community Council should in future ensure that the accounts are certified before approval by the Council.
- d. **Audit Fee** – it was noted that the external auditor has submitted an invoice in the sum of £96.00 and the Clerk was authorised to arrange payment.

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

- e. **Change to external auditor** – it was noted that the Wales Audit Office has appointed the firm Grant Thornton to conduct the audit for the next few years – until 2019.
- f. **Budget – spending proposals** – the meeting reviewed the budget for the year 2015 / 16 and authorised the Clerk to arrange the following payments:
 - i. Audit Fee - £96.00
 - ii. Poppy wreath - £75.00.
 - iii. Xmas equipment – Coronation Hall - £150.00

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

9. Correspondence – NIL

10. Any Other Business.

- a. **One way system abuse** – it was noted that the Edwards 56 seater ‘bus was observed to exit the village against the one-way system on 2nd October, 2015 at approx 1000hrs. A complaint was made to the police and Edwards Coaches by the member of the public and the Clerk also raised the matter with Mr Edwards, who confirmed that the ‘bus had, indeed, exited the village against the one way system, but only after sending ahead a mini bus to the junction with Castle Way with hazard lights operating to prevent access to the narrows while the coach made the transit. The Clerk was instructed to invite Mr Edwards, the police and the County Council to the next meeting of the Community Council to explain why the 56 seater ‘bus had been booked to do this job in the knowledge that it is not able to exit the village except against the one way system and / or why the ‘bus was sent without ensuring that the driver had the necessary skills to turn the Cemetery Corner.

Action: Clerk to invite to meeting.

- b. **Hancock lorries – one way system abuse – Castle Way** – it was noted that some large lorries from Hancocks had been seen travelling against the one way system in Castle Way but no date / time of these incidents has been reported. The Clerk was instructed to contact Hancock to request that they desist.

Action: Clerk to write to Hancock and confirm to the next meeting.

- c. **Christmas Lights** – the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to enquire whether Christmas Lights can be placed on the street lights and whether they can draw electricity from the street light system.

Action: Clerk to enquire with PCC and confirm to next meeting.

- d. **Damaged signage** – it was noted that the signage at the exit to the car park is leaning out of the vertical. The Clerk was asked to report this to the County Council.

Action: Clerk to report to PCC and confirm to next meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, 9th NOVEMBER, 2015.

AT

THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE

AT

1900HRS

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Letter from Dyr Cymru/Welsh Water dated 5th October 2015

From: Sewerage.Services@dwrcymru.com
Sent date: 05/10/2015 - 15:31
To: bishophc@btinternet.com
Subject: RE: Dale sewerage treatment plant - stinks - 16th August, 2015 - 1900hrs
Attachments: image001.jpg 1.2 KB
 image002.jpg 5.9 KB

Dear Mr Bishop

As promised, I write to provide you with our monthly update.

Firstly, our Operational Supervisor, Stuart Midgley has confirmed that Dale Sewage Treatment Works (STW) has been operating as designed during September 2015. Please find below our findings from our routine maintenance.

2 September 2015	No Problem Found
11 September 2015	No Problem Found
18 September 2015	No Problem Found
23 September 2015	No Problem Found
29 September 2015	No Problem Found

Stuart did comment that we used a tanker to carry out essential routine maintenance at Dale STW on 1 October 2015. This may have created an odour in the area however, as previously agreed, we aim to carry out these works at convenient times to prevent any impact on local businesses and residents.

I can confirm we have now completed our works to the manhole covers and we will be installing the external well covers at Dale STW within the next 10 working days, I will provide a further update in my next monthly report.

I hope this clarifies our position but should you have any further queries regarding the above, please contact me on 0800 358 0572 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm).

Kind regards



Kate Smith
 Customer Care Officer



From: Sewerage Services