

**DALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MEETING  
AT  
THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE.  
ON  
10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2016.  
AT  
1930HRS  
MINUTES**

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

**In attendance: Nil.**

**Apologies for absence: Mr M Reynolds; Cllr R Owens.**

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2016** – the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 were agreed as a correct record subject to correction of the date of the meeting in the heading.
- 2. Matters arising** – it was noted that all matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting and report on progress made since that time have been included in the Agenda for discussion at this meeting.
- 3. Declarations of Interests** – 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 items were discussed was noted.
- 4. Progress Report** – the meeting received a brief report on the progress made on issues which have been considered / agreed at previous meetings and it was noted that the issues of sewerage still New Code of Conduct and village maintenance are included in the Agenda for consideration under Items 5, 6 and 7, respectively. In particular, the following issues were noted:
  - a. Car park** – it was noted that a meeting with the County Council officers has been fixed to take place at 1030hrs on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2016 and Community Councillors were asked to make every effort to attend. It was agreed that the core problem is the use and abuse of the car park by camper vans – a problem that is only likely to grow as news of the facility spreads on social media. It was agreed that the erection of a height restriction barrier at the entrance would provide an effective solution and that the loss of camper vans from the village would not be detrimental. It was noted that the Clerk / Mr Morgan had not been able to pass copy photographs to the County Council.
  - b. Slipway / beach / pontoon issues** – a meeting with the Beaches Officer has been requested
  - c. Village sign** – the County Council is working on the design.
- 5. Sewerage stinks – incidents May / July / August / September, 2016** – it was noted that there had been reports / complaints of stinks coming from the area of the sewerage treatment plant in May, July, August and September, 2016 which had been reported to Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and to the County Council. It was noted that:
  - a. DCWW reported on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2016** that they have now completed the programme of works that they promised at the meeting in January, 2016 – replacing wooden door and window frames with UPVC and installing “additional odour prevention equipment”.

- b. Incidents have been reported on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 (associated with the time when the DCWW works were being carried out) and on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 (i.e. after completion of the works) – a medium strength pong.
- c. DCWW have now confirmed that the works are complete and that they do not intend to do anything more. If we are not content with the position, we are invited to make a complaint (again) to the Consumer Council for Water.
- d. Mr Westley – CEO of the County Council – has offered to attend a meeting with Community Councillors at / around the site on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at 1400hrs. It was agreed that Mr Westley should be thanked for his offer, but asked to defer this meeting while the Community Council and residents monitor the performance of the treatment plant now that the works are complete – and while more solid evidence / corroboration is collected of this ephemeral nuisance.

**Action: Clerk to write to Mr Westley and confirm to next meeting.**

- e. Evidence collection – the Clerk was asked to write to residents in and around the area of the treatment plant, urging them to report incidents direct to DCWW – as well as to the Community Council - in order to reinforce the efforts made by the Community Council.

**Action: Clerk to write to residents and confirm to next meeting.**

- f. **Evidence collection** – the Clerk was asked to maintain a log of complaints – identifying time, place and identity of the complainants.

**Action: Clerk to build evidence base.**

- g. **Monthly report** – the meeting noted the Monthly Report from DCWW for the month of September – no problem found. The weekly inspection will cease until April, 2017.

- 6. **New Code of Conduct** – the meeting noted that, in advance of the meeting, each Community Councillor had received a copy of the new Code of Conduct (as adjusted by the Clerks) and had had the opportunity to study it in advance of the meeting.

The Deputy Clerk gave a brief report outlining / explaining the provisions of the new Code of Conduct and reporting on the offers of assistance that had been received from Pembrokeshire County Council. The Community Council then:

- a. Agreed to adopt the new Code of Conduct – as amended by the Clerks.
- b. Agreed that each Community Councillor should sign a copy of the new Code of Conduct [POST MEETING NOTE – a copy of the new Code of Conduct has now been signed by all Community Councillors]
- c. Agreed to publish a notice in a newspaper reporting that a new Code of Conduct has been agreed and where it can be inspected – and agreed that the offer of assistance from the County Council in this respect should be accepted.
- d. Agreed if at all possible to attend a training session led by the County Council on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 at Herbrandtston village hall. [POST MEETING NOTE – the training session was attended by three Community Councillors and by the Clerks. Copies of the training session notes have been passed to those Community Councillors who were not able to attend].

- e. Agreed to send a copy of the signed Code of Conduct to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales through the agency of Pembrokeshire County Council.

**Action: Deputy Clerk forward documentation to County Council/ confirm to next meeting**

It was noted that the required newspaper advertisement will cost £30.00 and the RFO was instructed to make the necessary payment in this respect.

**Action: RFO to arrange payment and confirm to next meeting.**

The Community Council resolved that Community Councillors and the Clerks should within 28 days of receiving any gift, hospitality, material benefit or advantage provide written notification to Dale Community Council's proper officer of the said gift, hospitality, material benefit or advantage.

Welsh language – it was agreed to defer consideration of this aspect of the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, so that the options for a solution can be sought and considered.

- 7. **Village maintenance** – it was noted that the Community Councillors annual “walk-the-village” review had taken place immediately before the meeting when the following items had been identified for attention:

- a. Tree on the path by the toilet block – to be trimmed sufficiently to allow the street light to penetrate.

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

- b. Water on Point Road – stones washed down. County Council to arrange divert water flow.

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

- c. Drains in sea-wall blocked – County Council to clear.

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

- d. Drains in South Street – County Council to arrange jetting.

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

- e. Grass cutting – throughout County Council areas of the village – the grass had not been cut for several weeks [POST MEETING NOTE – the grass was cut shortly after the review]. It seemed unlikely that the contractors had fulfilled their quota of cuts through the year and the Clerk was asked to seek reassurance from County Council.

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

- f. Path by Meadow View / Henry Tudor Stone – still unrepaired.

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

g. Wall / growth on Meadow side of Blue Anchor Way – falling into disrepair.

**Action: Clerk to request Castle Estate and confirm to next meeting.**

h. Ditch / stream through Meadow – to be cleared / dredged.

**Action: Clerk to request Castle Estate and confirm to next meeting.**

i. Gate at Summer Road / Castle Way – to be repaired / replaced.

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

J. Wall / valerian – Castle Way – to be trimmed [POST MEETING NOTE – this was done shortly after the meeting].

k. Wall / trees at WI hut – to be trimmed.

**Action: Clerk to request Castle Estate and confirm to next meeting.**

l. Wall on right hand side of Castle Way – to be repaired / made safe.

**Action: Clerk to Request Castle Estate and confirm to next meeting.**

m. “No Entry” road sign by car park – not lit at 1915hrs.

**Action: Clerk to check / report to County Council / confirm to next meeting.**

n. Stones at Boathouse dinghy park – Yacht Club / Mr Morgan to rearrange / tidy.

**Action: Mr Morgan to arrange and confirm to next meeting.**

o. Stones on slipway – Mr Truelove agreed to ask Mr Reynolds to clear at the same time as he clears the debris from Bonfire Night.

**Action: Mr Truelove to arrange with Mr Reynolds and confirm to next meeting.**

p. Slipway gates – the right hand gate is noted to be stiff.

**Action: Deputy Clerk to seek advice / remedy from NRW and confirm to next meeting.**

q. Dog nuisance sign – has been left by the slipway gate.

**Action: Chairman to request removal by Mr Kehoe.**

8. **Flood gate issues / DRAFT Flood risk awareness guidance** – it was noted that copies of the DRAFT Guidance had been passed to Community Councillors in advance of the meeting and that this provides a thorough and comprehensive guide to members of the Community who are likely to have to have a leadership role in the event of a flood incident in the village. It was noted, however, that the work required in the event of such an incident must be left to the experi

/ first responding agencies because of the risks involved. However, it is important to identify vulnerable points and people.

It was noted that the flood gates are central to flood prevention efforts in Dale and it was noted that the keys are in the possession of Messrs Jones, Morgan, Nockels, Truelove and Vickers. However, it was noted that the Community Council is responsible for the operation of the gates and that the keys should be held only by Community Councillors so the Chairman agreed to recover the key from Mr Vickers and pass it to Mr Garnish.

**Action: Chairman to collect / transfer key and confirm to next meeting.**

It was noted that the right hand gate is stiff and the Deputy Clerk was asked to seek advice from NRW and arrange correction.

**Action: Deputy Clerk to seek advice / remedy and confirm to next meeting.**

**9. Events review – Dale Half Marathon 25-10-2016** – it was noted that the event had passed off successfully and with the usual high level of organisation and clean up. The Clerk was asked to thank the organisers and to welcome their return next year.

**Action: Clerk to write and confirm to next meeting.**

**10. County Council matters** – deferred.

**11. Planning Matters** – nil

**12. Finance.**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>a. Receipts</b>                         | - | <b>nil</b>  |
| <b>Payments</b>                            | - | <b>£150</b> – Christmas equipment – Item 12(d)(iii) – 5-9-2016.<br><b>£150</b> – Fireworks – Item 12(d)(iv) – 5-9-2016. |
| <b>b. Balance</b>                          | - | <b>£1,300(approx)</b>   |
| <b>c. Bank account signing authorities</b> | - | no progress to report.  |

**Action: RFO to press for resolution and confirm to next meeting**

**d. Budget review** – the meeting noted the adjustments to the Community Council budget which had been agreed following the decision of the Community Council on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 to pay for an improved village sign at the entrance to the village and reviewed an amended Budget document in which the adjustments had been incorporated. It was noted that the Community Council remains on course to finish the financial year with a balance of £1,106 approx (over 65% of the Annual Precept). It was noted that the regulatory obligations in connection with the new Code of Conduct will incur a cost of £30.00, and that the winter season might bring unexpected costs, but it was agreed that the Budget still provides sufficient cover to protect the Community Council against unexpected expenditure in the remainder of the financial year.

**Action: RFO to arrange payment £30.00 to PCC and confirm to next meeting.**

**13. Correspondence – nil.**

**14. Any other business.**

- a. Speed bumps – Castle Way** – it was noted that Col. Webber has made a renewed request for speed bumps / traffic calm measures in Castle Way. It was thought unlikely that the County Council Highway Authority will respond favourably to such a request and the Clerk was asked to report accordingly.

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

- b. Benches on the sea front** – it was noted that there are reports that another request will be made for a memorial bench on the sea front (a growing trend and limited space) and it was agreed that the Community Council should lay down firm guidelines against which such requests can be assessed - including residents (long term resident – on the voters register for the village) or non-residents who have given exceptional service to the village, obligation to maintain / replace or remove and the design to be agreed with the Community Council.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL TAKE PLACE:**

**MONDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

**AT**

**THE JUBILEE SUITE, DALE**

**AT**

**1900HRS.**