**Peterston-super-Ely Community Council**

***Cyngor Cymuned a Llanbedr-y-Fro***

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm, on 11th March 2013 at the Church & Community Hall, Peterston-super-Ely**

**Present:** Councillors:Jan Parry (Chairman), Pat Cadwalladr, Ian Pearson, Ray Petre,

David Jaques, Bill Budd, David Moody-Jones & Michael Morgan.

**Also Present:** Joanna Howell (Clerk to the Council)

Cllr Rhodri Traherne

**Apologies:** A number of members of the public wished to send their apologies: - Marilyn Thompson, Rhona Probert and Hayley Brain.

Cllr Parry welcomed everybody to the meeting and was delighted by the public turnout of nearly 30 people; she explained that this was a special meeting in order to discuss the draft action plan for the next financial year.

**70 County Council Matters**

Cllr Traherne was present and updated on the following matters.

*Radar Speed Survey*- The VoG speed survey results were not yet available however he would chase the highways officer. He suggested that a 20mph limit would greatly improve road safety. Llandough and Penarth had both recently set up campaigns for 20mph zones in their areas. Cllr Traherne therefore suggested that if this was something the village wished to pursue they should set up a survey in order to put pressure on the VoG Council. A show of hands indicated that this was something the majority of the public present would support. **AP – Clerk to set up and publicise e-petition.**

*Budgets -* Cllr Traherne informed us that the VoG Council have decided on a 4.8% increase in Council Tax, and this would be required to ensure there is minimised disruption to services despite the decrease in revenue budget.

*Local Development Plans* – A new draft deposit plan will be released in the autumn, this is not likely to show any change for PsE, as the preferred strategy has not changed.

*Bus Complaints* – All bus complaints have been passed on to the leader of the VoG Council.

**71 Public Session and matters arising**

Cllr Parry briefly ran through the draft Community Action Plan and then opened the public session asking for comments, questions and new ideas.

1. *The recent clearing of the riverbank has taken place on a site of scientific interest, although a VoG ecologist has given permission should the Countryside Council for Wales also be giving their authority?* Cllr Cadwalladr explained that the belief was that the clearing would in fact enhance the growing of wildflowers due to the cutting back of the nettles. The responsibility of the area lies with the VoG and so it would be ensured that their permission given was received in writing. The ecologist did previously work for the Countryside Council and so could consider what they would look for.

Cllr Cadwalladr requested help from the public to ‘map’ the areas of protected species and this help was agreed. It was acknowledged that it was important to still have small secluded areas where the migrating otters could take shelter. It was also explained that there were plans to keep the brambles down.

1. *What are the plans for the ‘Village Green’ area opposite the Sportsman’s Pub.*

Cllr Morgan explained that at this moment it was difficult to ascertain who owned the land and therefore there were limitations on what could be done.

1. *Why is the Community Council involved in Churchyard maintenance?*

Cllr Parry explained that this land was owned by the council and not the Church and so the council had responsibilities to maintain it.

1. *Who is responsible for the original bridge beside the white bridge, perhaps this could be removed in order to help beautify the village?*

The council were not aware of who had the authority over this bridge.

1. *Could the council lend weight to an appeal to the VoG in order to increase the supply of allotments as there is a waiting list for these within the village? A new Welsh government initiative regarding allotments will be shortly coming in.*

**AP The council agreed to discuss this with Cllr Traherne.**

1. *The Chair of the Tennis Club (Dave Chapman) wished to present a proposal for the council re the future of the tennis club:-*

*Mr Chapman explained that the current state of the courts meant action would need to be taken within the next couple of years to replace/repair them. The club also needed to plan to make the club more community based and widen the age groups and membership. The tennis club have just had a special meeting to discuss the action required. Over 75% of the members have agreed to support a proposal to change the space into a multigames area e.g. facilities for football, basketball, cricket, bowls, tennis etc. As well as having one permanent tennis court. Costs had been investigated and a multigames facility would cost about £145k ( incl VAT). Mr Chapman enquired whether the community council would be willing to support the project and join a steering group. He would also be looking for support from the school.*

*Mr Chapman confirmed that the use of the area would be as open as possible and it would be the property of the village not just members of a private club. He did point out that there would need to be a system of charging as income would be needed to maintain and eventually replace the area.*

Cllr Parry suggested that any steering group would benefit from joining with the Playstation committee, once the playground was up and running. Cllr Pearson confirmed that this would be suitable as they are already a charity and an official subcommittee of the council. Cllr Pearson did enquire whether it may be best to get the ownership of the playing fields back first before starting this.

Cllr Parry requested that the Tennis Club put together a paper on this proposal showing all their research and this would be considered at the May council meeting.

1. *What are the ideas about the cricket pitch? Where could it be positioned?*

Cllr Jaques confirmed that the position would be carefully considered, should the pitch go ahead.

1. *It was pointed out that people needed to use the buses a lot more before we had much cause for complaining. If we don’t use them then we stand to lose them.*
2. *Would the council support 2 long term aspirations :-*
   1. *An Ely valley cycleway - There is a cycleway from the barrage at Cardiff bay to St Fagans. This could be extended through to the village in order that people can cycle away from the traffic. We could make this aspiration known to the VoG council in order for them to take it to the appropriate organisations.*
   2. *Electrification of the metro route throughout South Wales could lead to a possibility of having a station again in the village.*

**AP- Cllr Traherne to investigate whether potential to put a proposal in place for a cycleway from St Fagans.**

1. *The VoG does not have any facility for the disposal of hazardous/chemical waste e.g. pesticides. People are told to use private facilities the costs associated with this maylead to people disposing of such waste in normal black bags.*

**AP- Cllr Traherne to investigate this.**

1. *Regarding the Community Orchard it was enquired whether the council saw any problem with asking the village society’s whether they would purchase a tree for £20 each, in order to try and grow the facility.*

The council saw no problem with this and Cllr Parry confirmed that the council would be willing to purchase one.

1. *Regarding road safety has the feasibility of having a crossing been looked into?*

Cllr Traherne confirmed that this had been brought up with the highways officer and again would depend on the outcome of the speed survey. He also said this would be something that ‘Safer routes for schools’ may be able to help out with.

1. *It was enquired whether the village could look into entering the Best Kept Village competition?*

It was felt that previously this wanted the village to be tidy at the expense of the environmental factors. However it was believed that this may no longer be the case therefore suggested that further information be gathered and the website be used to test the interest.

1. *It was felt it was important to acknowledge the work that Ian & Sue Pearson had put into refurbishing the bus shelter.*

The council agreed that the work meant the bus stop was now looking great.

1. *Who is responsible for the bus shelter at the 3 Horseshoes which is also in need of work?*

Cllr Parry confirmed that work would be underway on this shortly.

1. *As well as work needed to be done on the cutting back of hedges around the road signs it was pointed out that the school hedge and a number of hedges in the village needed to be cut back as they were imposing on the pavements and roads.*

The council agreed with this and would look into it.

1. *The Clerk wanted to raise 2 points that had been given to her for the meeting:-*
   1. *The support for a pathway in the playing fields in order for access for the elderly/disabled and also as a place for children to learn to ride bikes etc.*
   2. *That it would seem appropriate to have a pathway towards the area of cremated remains in the Churchyard.*
2. *An update was required on the issue of the right of way application re the path along the top of the playing fields.*

Cllr Pearson confirmed that the right of way application had been submitted by a private individual a long time ago and there was still no response. **AP- Cllr Traherne requested that he be sent a copy of the application and would then follow up on this.**

1. *Would it be possible to use the website to set up an oil buying club within the village?*

The Clerk confirmed this should be possible and asked to be sent more details.

At the end of the public session Cllr Parry encouraged all to start using the village website and to sign up the emailing list. She went on to give her sincere thanks for everyone’s attendance and reminded everyone they were welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting if they wished.

**72 Update on Playstation**

Cllr Jaques stated that the building was underway and still on schedule. There had been no problems to date. He emphasised the need for continued fundraising for stage 2 of the project.

**73 Churchyard Plan Allocation**

Cllr Parry allocated each part of the Churchyard to a team of two Cllrs and it was requested that they check through the plan of their area and confirm it was correct. **AP- Clerk to provide Cllr Pearson with the plan and he will then copy and pass on to each pair.**

Cllr Jaques confirmed once the check had taken place he had appropriate software to draw up a new plan.

**74 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th January 2013**

The minutes were reviewed, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**75 Matters Arising**

Paragraph 57.5

A thank you letter to be sent to The Entertainment Society for their donation of the hamper for the village shop hamper draw. **AP-Clerk to arrange.**

Paragraph 58.2

A letter of congratulations to be sent to Cyswllt Peterston Connect regarding the Community Orchard. **AP – Clerk to arrange**

**76 Clerk’s Report**

The clerk’s report was reviewed and the following comments made:-

Flood Planning

**AP- It was agreed that the Community Flood Plan be investigated by Cllr Moody Jones. Clerk to send on further details.**

Payments & Receipts Jan 2013- March 2013

Council acknowledged the payments that needed to be made and the receipts received.

Cllr Budd enquired on whether the rebate payment due from the VoG had yet been received. The clerk confirmed that all investigations on this had not resulted in any acknowledgment by the VoG Council about this payment.

**AP - Cllr Jaques agreed to investigate this with his contacts at the Council. Cllr Morgan agreed to further investigate the ‘Penny rate’ calculation method.**

**77 Planning Matters**

The new planning applications were reviewed and no comments were made to be passed on to the VoG Council.

**78 Correspondence**

These were reviewed and acknowledged.

**79 Councillors Reports**

Cllr Parry reported on her attendance of the Community Liaison Committee. The main points of note were:-

* There is the lowest rate of crime in the VoG in 30 years
* Anti-social behaviour was the main priority
* There was a speaker on rural housing and the lack of affordable housing in the Vale, which was a real problem
* The major changes in the welfare reform were a real issue.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Cllr** | **Report** | **Action Taken** |
| 17/02 | Pearson/Parry | Need for Bin at White Bridge Bus Shelter due to large amount of rubbish accumulating | *Reported to VoG – bin now put in* |
| 20/02 | Moody- Jones | Blockage of drains under the railway bridge on Groes Faen Road with gravel. | *Reported to VoG* |
| 05/03 | Moody -Jones | Reporting of further problem with buses – following treatment of Mrs J Thomas after a fall form bus. | *Reported to VoG.* |

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_