**Peterston-super-Ely Community Council**

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

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm, on 13th July 2015 at the Church & Community Hall, Peterston-super-Ely**

**Present:** Councillors:Jan Parry (Chairman), Pat Cadwalladr,

 David Jaques, Ray Petre, David Moody-Jones, & Michael Morgan.

**Also Present:** Joanna Howell (Clerk to the Council) and County Cllr Rhodri Traherne

**Apologies:** PCSO Steven Thomas, Cllr Ian Pearson and Cllr Bill Budd

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including those members of the public present.

**327 Police Matters**

PCSO Thomas was not present but had reported three burglaries to the Clerk, two where gardening/sporting equipment was stolen from outbuildings and one where a householder disturbed a burglar who had entered through an unlocked door. The Chair reminded everyone to be vigilant.

The Chair went on to explain that PCSO Thomas had started monthly drop in sessions in the Church & Community Hall, these would be on different times/days and encouraged people to look out for posters/internet advertising them.

The Chair explained that a number of people were now able to set up a Speed watch group and so this would be starting in the autumn. Also that the flashing speed sign was currently at Hensol so would hopefully be in Peterston in the autumn.

**328 County Council Matters**

The Chair welcomed Cllr Traherne to the meeting. Cllr Traherne wished to update the Council on the following:-

* Merger situation – As this Council knew the expression of interest for the VoG to merge with Bridgend had been rejected by the Welsh Assembly and a recent MAP that had been published by the Welsh Assembly showed a merger with Cardiff. In his view this Cardiff merger will happen at some stage and would be detrimental to the Vale.
* Welsh Government White Paper – Cllr Traherne has indicated to the VoG Council his concerns around these proposals and that if they were to go ahead then it would wipe out the majority of VoG Community Councils and really effect local democracy. He confirmed that the VoG Council had replied to the Consultation and were also concerned about the implications. In his view Cllr Traherne believes there will be some rationalisation but not to the extreme of that proposed.
* Reshaping agenda – Cllr Traherne is concerned that the VoG Council is not moving forward with this quickly enough and not really tackling the areas where large savings can be made. He had asked the leader of the Council about this at the last Cabinet meeting and had been assured that work was being done.
* LDP – As suspected there was little change to the LDP after the alternative sites process.
* Update on leasing of Peterston Playing Fields – he had chased the VoG about this and the reviewed Heads of Terms would be provided by 17th July.
* Speeding/Volume of Traffic – there was a discussion regarding these issues and Cllr Traherne agreed to deliver a petition to the leader of the VoG.
* Bus Reliability – there was a discussion regarding a number of delays to the service and Cllr Traherne asked the Council to keep logging any complaints

Cllr Moody Jones wished to thank Cllr Traherne for his help in getting some clearance of the footpath running to St Georges which was now passable again.

The Chair thanked Cllr Traherne for his update.

**329 Public Session**

* A representative from Peterston Connect read a statement regarding their concerns over the manner and timing of the cutting of the riverbank and other grassed areas between the two bridges. He wished to remind the Council of the current policies of the Welsh Assembly and the VoG Council regarding this. He went on to confirm that Peterston Connect were willing to work closely with the Community Council and other interested parties in order to set up a management plan to ensure appropriate cutting.
* Two members of the public wished to comment on the impassable pavements on the road to Groes Faen given the hedgerow growth and also the dangerous condition of the public footpath on the field behind the hall.
* One member of the public felt that the bank opposite The Sportsman’s pub had been cut too late as it had got very messy

**330 Matters arising from Public Session**

Riverbank/Grass verge cutting- Cllr Moody-Jones declared his interest as a member of Peterston Connect. A number of Councillors commented on this matter and believed it was important to get the balance right between keeping key areas of the village looking tidy and protecting wild flowers and the ecology of the village. It was proposed by the Chair that a small group of Council, Peterston Connect and other interest parties get together to finalise a specific management plan that could be implemented with no confusion. The representative from Peterston Connect and the rest of the Council were happy with this suggestion.

*AP – Clerk to put together meeting of group.*

The Chair also wished to remind Cllr Moody-Jones to put up the agreed warning sign re the Monkshood.

*AP – Cllr Moody-Jones to insert poster to noticeboard or nearby area*

Groes Faen Pavement – *AP Clerk to contact landowner and ask for hedges to be cut back*

Public Footpath – Cllr Traherne stated that there would be no requirement to have a tarmac footpath but to contact the Rights of Way officer to indicate problems.
*AP Clerk to contact VoG Rights of Way officer*

**331 Update on playing field lease**

As explained in point 328.5 the reviewed Heads of Terms was expected back from the VoG very shortly.

**332 To consider response to letter from Mr Chris Powell re flail mowing**

It was agreed this matter had been dealt with in point 330.1

**333 To consider possible projects incl discussion on Virador Grant**

The Chair explained that a grant of up to £20k was available from the company Virador Credits. Two possible projects had been previously identified for this grant:-

1. Purchase of equipment in order to help maintain the village independently
2. Pathway around the playing fields

There was a discussion of each option. The Clerk explained that the VoG had given a rough estimate of £25-30k for a stone dust pathway. It was concluded that the purchase of equipment brought many additional implications e.g. storage, insurance etc. and may be premature given that the Council do not understand what its future role will be.

The pathway however seemed more of a finite project that had been supported by the Community in previous consultations and it was confirmed that stone dust surface was relatively maintenance free.

It was proposed by Cllr Cadwalladr and seconded by Cllr Petre that the Council apply for a virador credits grant for £20k for the pathway. This was agreed by all.

*AP – Clerk to obtain required quotes and letters of support in order for the grant application to be entered before the November deadline.*

**334 Consideration of School grant application– post visit to the School**

At this point Cllr Jaques declared his interest as the Council representative of the School Governing Body.

Cllr Moody-Jones who was one of the group who visited the school reported that the Faith Garden was very impressive but he did still have concerns over the land of a detailed management plan for it. Cllr Petre proposed that the Council wait until the new head is in place in the autumn and then speak to him and via Cllr Jaques the Governing Body regarding the maintenance plans. This was seconded by Cllr Moody-Jones and agreed by all.

Action – Clerk to add to September agenda and make contact with the school.

**335 To consider any additional measures that could be put in place re reduction in Speeding**

 The Chair reminded the Council re the Speed watch scheme and flashing speed sign.

 After a detailed discussion re footpaths, speed signs etc. It was proposed that a letter of complaint and suggested actions be drafted by the Community Council and distributed to villagers and school parents. Then any persons in agreement could sign the letter and the Community Council would arrange for Cllr Traherne to deliver all the letters to the leader of the VoG Council.

*AP Cllr Morgan to draft letter for distribution in early September*

**336 To receive the minutes of the Council Meeting held on May 11th 2015**

The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated by the Clerk and were accepted unanimously as a true and accurate record. It was proposed by Cllr Cadwalladr and seconded by Cllr Jaques that they be accepted. The Minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman.

**337 Matters Arising from these minutes**

Paragraph 317

Cllr Parry asked that this be added to the September agenda, with the Community Council working with the school to put on a Christmas performance.

*AP Clerk to add to agenda*

Paragraph 322.1

Cllr Parry confirmed that the VoG Village of the Year Awards were on Thursday and she and Cllr Pearson would be attending.

Paragraph 321.4

*AP Clerk to investigate the sale of the recycling bags further*

Paragraph 322.5

*AP – Clerk to chase the company who were coming to examine playground gate and also memorial gate*

Paragraph 325.2

Cllr Parry confirmed the Churchyard tap had been installed and was working

**338 Clerk’s Report**

The clerk’s report was reviewed.

Treatment of Allotment

After a short discussion it was agreed that the work on the empty allotment needed to be completed along with strimming of the pathways.

*AP Clerk to contact the Lawn & Weed Company and the Vale of Glamorgan Parks department re possible treatment.*

Additional works on the Churchyard

After a short discussion it was queried on whether the Council had enough money to do this work this year. *AP Clerk to provide details of Churchyard budget and actual costs and then decision to be made on works*

*Phone box Painting*

After a short discussion it was agreed that the current state of the phone box needed to be improved and that this was a reasonable quote.

Cllr Morgan proposed that the quote of £250+materials be accepted and the work be approved; this was seconded by Cllr Jaques and agreed by all.

*AP Clerk to contact contractor*

Authority for expenditure

All expenditure was agreed and cheques were signed by two councillors

**339 Planning Matters**

 The Clerk confirmed that the Pwll y Min Farm application to renew planning permission had been approved that day. There were no additional comments on planning applications.

**340 Correspondence**

These were reviewed and acknowledged.

**341 Councillors Reports**

These were reviewed.

*AP – Clerk to chase Mrs Lynne Williams re condition of the riverbank land she owned.*

**342 Health & Safety matters**

There were no additional Health & Safety matters to discuss.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

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

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