

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of February 2023 monthly meeting held online, on Monday 6th February 2023

Present: Cllrs Caroline Haley (Chairman), Jill Gibson, Stu Gray, Jackie Prest, Danny Young (County Councillor); Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C’llr Tamsin Turner.

Declarations of known interest

None.

Approval of the minutes of the January 2023 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as an accurate record and held by the Clerk for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’llr Jackie Prest, seconder C’llr Stu Gray).

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present.

Matters arising

Commemorative Rowan tree on triangle of land at top of Front Street. Members noted that the granite plaque had now been installed.

P.C.C. ‘Keep well keep warm’ campaign. Members were informed that a community leaflet had been printed and distributed by Members, notifying of the Free Winter Warm Packs available. Positive feedback had been received from residents, and it was known that several people had benefitted from the offer.

Noticeboard in Middle Street. The relocation of the noticeboard to inside the bus shelter had been completed, and necessary repairs carried out.

Dog-fouling. The red paint to highlight incidents of dog fouling to aid reporting and to alert members of the public to the messes on footpaths and grass so they don’t tread in it, had been obtained, distributed to Members, and was now in use. Members were advised that emails and photos were continually being sent to the P.C.C. dog-fouling reporting team with individual cases noticed, as had been requested by them. C’llr Caroline Haley advised of supportive feedback received from residents on the efforts of the community council in an attempt to tackle the problem.

Memorial bench sponsorship scheme. A draft of the proposed document to be used for members of the public interested in such a scheme had been circulated by the Clerk. One area of consideration concerned the amount that would be payable by participants. Members agreed a level equivalent to approx. 60% of the total cost felt reasonable. Clerk to re-work the final paragraph to include an explanation of the reason for time-limiting sponsorship agreements. This then to be circulated for comment. Agenda item for March to, hopefully, finalise and adopt the document.

Planning matters

Applications

22/0807/PA - Outline Planning Application for Residential Development; Land Off West Street, Rosemarket, Milford Haven, SA73 1JH – A response had been submitted supporting the principle of development, but asking for careful consideration to issues connected with development density and avoiding potential adverse amenity issues for neighbouring properties.

22/0831/PA - Proposed Change of Use from Garage to Holiday Accommodation; Ty Bach Wynel, 11, West Street, ROSEMARKET, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1JH – no comments.

Correspondence

- 01) P.C.C. – Initial response regarding request to consider registering triangle area of land at the top of Front Street – noted. Clerk to contact Neil McCarthy at P.C.C. to chase progress on the matter.
- 02) P.A.V.S. – Confirmation of receipt of grant application for picnic bench – noted.
- 03) O.V.W. – Invitation for nomination for the ballot for a Member to attend King’s Coronation Garden Party – C’lr Caroline Haley was nominated. Clerk to arrange submission of nomination accordingly.
- 04) Playground Repairs Ltd – Inspection Report – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 05) PCC – driver feedback data from speed-activated signage - Clerk to request data to be downloaded and forwarded quarterly.
- 06) Milford Haven Neighbourhood Policing Team – notification offering to do an accompanied evening patrol around the Village. C’lrs Caroline Haley, Jackie Prest and Danny Young had carried out the patrol along with the Police Officer. This had been very informative. They had been advised to encourage the reporting of all incidents of suspicious and criminal activity, including anti-social behaviour via 101 (unless an emergency) or via email, in order for people to recognise that reporting was important and valued. A Police and community engagement event on 21/04/23 at Rosemarket Golf Club was subsequently being planned. This would be organised and hosted by the Police, but with community council support. A possible Community Speedwatch scheme had also been discussed. This would need at least three volunteers from the community who were prepared to undergo training, etc. It was not necessary for the volunteers to be community council members. Members undertook to consider this and assess the likely support in the community. C’lr Jackie Prest suggested that it could possibly be mentioned at the forthcoming Police and community engagement event.

Accounts

Payments

Playground Repairs Ltd (Goalpost painting and nets)	:	£360-05
Playground Repairs Ltd (Playground sign)	:	£361-14
Tom Greenwood (relocation and repairs to noticeboard)	:	£115-00
EP Monumental Masons (Granite plaque)	:	£850-00
Clerk (reimbursement for line marking paint)	:	£ 66-95

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lr Caroline Haley, seconder C’lr Jill Gibson).

Discussion of / update on initiatives at The Beacon

Memorial and *Happy to Chat* benches. These had been removed, the finishes re-done, and the benches re-sited by Norman Industries. The plaque had also been renovated. Replacement of the bench security fixings was currently in hand with Norman Industries. Members were impressed with their response to the problem, and their swift and effective handling of it.

Goalposts. Painting of the goalposts had been completed and nets affixed to them. However, shortly afterwards, the nets had been vandalised, with the fixings ripped off, and one of the nets dragged across the play park and dumped on the memorial bench. Fortunately, the net itself had not been damaged. Both nets had been removed for safe-keeping and had now been replaced by Infinity Play Ltd. using cable ties. It was hoped that these would be more difficult to remove.

Inclusive roundabout and basketball hoop. Members were informed that the Youth Advocate had been very supportive of the proposals. C’lr Caroline Haley had also contacted the care home regarding the proposals to explore the possibility of financial support and received a positive response. C’lr Caroline Haley had subsequently scheduled a meeting to discuss the matter in more

detail. Clerk to circulate remaining quotations for the roundabout and basketball hoop installations when received, and then arrange to submit a grant application to the National Lottery Community fund as soon as possible thereafter.

Picnic bench. Members noted that the Outdoor Connections grant application had been submitted, and the outcome was awaited.

Grass-cutting regime, Lower Beacon. C’lir Jackie Prest felt that the grass-cutting regime for the Lower Beacon should be altered for the forthcoming season, to have the grass cut in July, before the school holidays (instead of in the Autumn). She felt that this could possibly go some way to counter the adverse effects of dog-fouling in the area. C’lir Jill Gibson disagreed and felt that this was unlikely to bring about any improvement and that educating dog owners was more important. She also felt that the change might result in a perception that the community council was downplaying the importance of biodiversity enhancement.

After extensive discussion, Members resolved to adopt the change on a trial basis for this year only, and carry out grass cutting at the Lower Beacon in July, before the school holidays (proposer C’lir Jackie Prest, seconder C’lir Stu Gray). Agenda item to be tabled for March so that possible ways to encourage biodiversity in other ways this year in particular, could be considered to counteract the earlier grass cutting at the Lower Beacon.

Playground operational Inspection Report. Members noted the report recently received, and which included a list of items of potential risk. Most of these were low level, but a small number were categorised as Low / Medium. Item to be included for discussion within ‘The Beacon’ agenda item for March to discuss an overall strategy for addressing items identified on the reports. In the meantime, Clerk to ask the playground inspectors for an indication of price for rectifying items categorised as low / medium.

Discussion of defibrillators

The Clerk confirmed that both defibrillators remained ‘in date’.

Members thanked C’lir Jackie Prest for checking the defibrillators and cleaning the cabinets.

Thanks were also mentioned for her son’s work in fixing one of the cabinet doors, which had not been opening freely. C’lir Jackie Prest undertook to continue checking the defibrillators on a monthly basis.

It was noted that both cabinets could be opened without a code, though the Middle Street one did require pressing the ‘C’ and then turning the handle. It was also noted that both defibrillators were listed on The Circuit database.

Having spoken with several residents, C’lir Caroline Haley suggested that the community may appreciate information on the defibrillators, something to keep handy at home in case of emergency. For example, reminder of where they are, how to access them etc. Members agreed and subsequently decided to arrange circulation of a leaflet to the community to provide information on accessing the defibrillators. C’lir Caroline Haley undertook to draft a leaflet for this purpose, and make enquiries regarding useful information to include.

Discussion of possible support for Coronation celebrations in May

Members discussed the various possible ways to approach the matter, although no approaches had been received to date from any individuals / groups interested in organising an event.

The possibility of offering to sponsor a community event laid on by The Huntsman was discussed, and it was felt that this was an opportunity to create an inclusive community event. C’lir Danny Young offered to initiate discussions with The Huntsman about a possible event. Agenda item to be tabled for March for any necessary discussion.

Update regarding open vacancy on Community Council

There had been no applications to date.

Discussion of problems with littering along Bastleford Road and generally around the Village

Another incident of littering involving the dumping of cat litter had occurred that morning. It was mentioned that the litter had been bagged in pale pink nappy sacks. This was now happening regularly. No information had been obtainable from P.C.C. regarding the previous incident reported. It was agreed for the Clerk to research surveillance camera options, which it was thought might be of assistance in identifying the culprits. Clerk to also seek advice from P.C.C. about the possibility of putting up some temporary warning signage about the matter.

C'Ilr Caroline Haley undertook to go with green bags, collect the dumped material, and bag it up for subsequent collection by P.C.C. Clerk to arrange to ask P.C.C. to arrange collection once advised that the bags were ready for collection.

Regarding the general problem of littering around the Village and surrounding lanes, Members felt this was an ongoing and an increasingly significant problem. Members volunteered to continue to undertake litter picking around the community area as and when possible.

Discussion of grass-cutting regime for Lower Beacon

Dealt with in 'initiatives at The Beacon' above.

Any other business

Members highlighted a number of recent incidents of anti-social behaviour and vandalism in the Village, with concern increasingly being expressed by residents. Matter to be tabled for discussion in March.

The meeting concluded at 9-10pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 6th March 2023.