

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF MOSTYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

18 January 2021

1. (A) To record attendance

Councillor Sarah Calvert, Ian Davies, Allison Gladwin, Bob Hazlehurst, County Councillor Patrick Heesom, Dave Seddon (Vice Chairman), Debbie Seddon (Chair) and Vera Williams.

(B) To record apologies

David Roney – non-attendance.

Public Gallery: 1 resident was admitted to the meeting.

2. To record any declarations of interest

Agenda Item 7a – The clerk left the zoom room and did not take part in the discussion.

Please refer to item 10 for any declaration of interest concerning financial assistance.

3. To approve minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Bob Hazlehurst and Seconded by Cllr. Vera Williams and would be signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the last minutes.

November minutes Item 6, Page 2 No response from streetscene regarding an additional waste bin in Mostyn play area.

November minutes, item 12, Page 3 Cllr. Dave Seddon reported there was going to be (a later than planned) governors meeting, and he would raise the matter about future payment for pitch fees for the sports hub at that time. Cllr. Debbie Seddon had spoken with the Head Teacher and no further requests of payment are required at this present time.

5. Chair's Communications - a thank you to those involved in the Christmas trees/lights for the villages.

The Chair thanked all those involved with the Christmas tree and lights. The clerk was requested to write to Mostyn Estates and the lighting engineer on behalf of the community council.

6. To receive an update on Councillor Vacancies from the Clerk.

The clerk advised vacancy notices have been circulated and are on the website and yet there have been no expressions of interest.

7. To receive, consider and approve the community council budget for 2021/2022 and set the precept accordingly. 7a. To review the Clerk's salary for 2021/2022.

The clerk, in advance of the meeting (alongside the Chair) had prepared and circulated a draft budget for 2021/2022 for councillors' consideration. The cost centres were discussed.

Cllr. Debbie Seddon reported the skateboard park she has been informed has a shelf life of less than 3 years, Mr Richard Roberts of Aura has provided a quote for £30,000 for a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) (NB. A new surface would not be required) Cllr. Debbie Seddon proposed an increase of £2,500 in the ring-fenced reserves to £7,500 this was seconded by Cllr. Calvert. This decision was unanimous.

The clerk explained the precept is the community council's main source of income, other than the annual VAT reclaim and bank interest.

Cllr. Calvert asked if there is an emergency can council use general reserves. The clerk confirmed general reserves can be called upon.

All councillors present agreed to the current precept not being reduced nor increased this year.

RESOLVED: The clerk was requested to submit the Precept request to County for £32,000 for 2021/2022.

7a. The clerk's salary review 2021/2022 The clerk left the meeting.

Members discussed the clerk salary, and the Chair proposed an increase from Spinal Column Point 17 to 18. £23,836 pro rata for 12 hours per week. The home office allowance and expenses would increase from £75 to £80 per month and the pension contribution was agreed at 3%.

The clerk would be notified by the Chair before the February meeting.

8. To receive any feedback on the community survey / action plan from Councillors.

The clerk reported no further feedback from any councillors. Members discussed as it had been two years since the last survey considering repeating this again. As the response rate from residents was low, we need to consider how best to do this in the current climate i.e., paper and / or online survey?

It was suggested the clerk would enquire with One Voice Wales about surveys / engagement and this would be an agenda item in February.

In summary, the community council has responded to residents' requests via establishing the community sports hub in Mostyn, funding the summer playscheme 2021 safely despite COVID restrictions and continuing to fund improvements to play areas. Two advice drop ins had taken place by Cllr. Debbie Seddon and attendance had been low.

9. To receive an update on Street Lighting and a letter from Mr Darell Jones.

The clerk had circulated a letter dated 27 November from Mr Darell Jones, Operational North & Street Lighting Manager at Flintshire County Council to all Councillors for their information.

Flintshire County Council are requesting information such as a lighting inventory list, accreditation details of our contractor in this case Deeco Lighting engineer Mr Gareth Edwards and any contract between the contractor and the council.

The clerk reported she had requested this information from Deeco and was still awaiting receipt.

The clerk added that ongoing maintenance and inspection of the lights was important going forward as at present there is no contract in place.

The clerk and Councillor Bob Hazlehurst will start to obtain some quotes for the latter and bring back to a future meeting once received.

10. To receive, consider and agree financial assistance from groups and organisations for 2020/2021

The clerk had circulated a spreadsheet in early January to each Councillor summarising information of each group, including beneficiaries, their income/expenditure, and activities.

Each application was considered by members and the following allocations made:

Cerebral Palsy £50

Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme £500
(DOI - Cllr. Halzehurst)

Mostyn Monday Club £300

Mostyn and District Gardening Club £250

(DOI - Cllr. Hazlehurst)

Community Centre £1,500 understanding it is exceedingly difficult no incomings but still outgoings. Proposed Debbie Seddon who stated there are few community projects and the community centre helps keep people connected. This was seconded by Cllr. Calvert.

(Cllr Vera Williams, Cllr. Bob Hazlehurst (Chair), Cllr Dave Seddon and Cllr. Patrick Heesom did not participate in this decision as Trustees of the community centre).

Christ Church Mostyn £200 (NB. An exception this year in the circumstances, very late submission of the application and the cheque administered in January 2020 which was not presented at the bank until Autumn 2020) The clerk was asked to note this in the letter to Mr John Burton so that it is not repeated in future years.

Mostyn Arts and Crafts £250

Mostyn Phoenix £500 which has 30+ members.

Hebron United Reformed Church £200 - On this rare occasion a completed form had not been submitted by Hebron United Reformed Church, some Councillors were aware of personal circumstances of a close bereavement and decided given the exceptional circumstances awarded the same as the previous year. Proposed by Cllr. Patrick Heesom and Seconded by Cllr. Vera Williams and unanimously agreed.

All financial assistance agreed by those councillors in attendance.

RESOLVED: The clerk to administer the financial allocations and write to each group, thanking them for their work on behalf of the community council.

11. Streetscene Matters

County Councillor Patrick Heesom was requested by the Chair for an update on resurfacing work in the area. He understands this would be early Spring 2021. The clerk was requested to write to Mr Steve Jones, Head of Street Scene to request this is implemented as soon as possible, following ongoing enquiries from residents. Discussions had previously taken place about alterations in the road to assist with traffic calming but nothing has come to fruition, so it was suggested to make further enquiries on this matter too.

Abandon standing orders

Councillor Patrick Heesom had circulated information on a campaign protesting about "The Red Route" which he described as being a disaster for Mostyn and the Western End of Flintshire. The Red Route would run from Northop to the English Border and Cllr. Heesom claims the new road should be scrapped over environmental and local concerns. Representations can be made to the public enquiry.

Reinstate standing orders

Cllr. Heesom added money has been allocated for A548.

Summary of other issues raised:

Cllr. Ian Davies has raised an issue of poor internet connection in rural areas.

A large amount of rubbish to be reported at Hafod Y Dol and The Cob.

Acknowledgement of some rubbish collection delay problems – manning issues. Residents pleased with new rubbish bags for residents in Rhewl.

Cllr. Williams understood some traffic calmers are now not looked upon favourably by County.

12. To discuss Playground improvements including Mostyn Skateboard park

Refer to agenda item 7.

13. To decide on a location for the Rhewl Defibrillator

Councillors agreed it was difficult to find a suitable location at present. After considerable discussion, it was thought the Christmas tree location by the grass verge near Bryn Tyrion would be useful affixing lights near the notice board. Councillor Hazlehurst would make further enquiries and report back at the February meeting.

14. To receive an update on the Community Sports Hub

Currently the alert level tier 4 means that unfortunately provision of this service has temporarily ceased until further notice.

15. Approval of accounts for payment and to receive the bank reconciliation. 15 a To receive the report from BDO auditors and notice of conclusion of audit.

A typing amendment was made to the bank reconciliation which leaves the current account and deposit account with a balance of £46,156,19 as of 30 September 2020.

JANUARY	PAYEE	DETAILS	VAT	AMOUNT
SO	K.Roberts	Salary/Home office Allowance		576.78
SO	K.Roberts	Nest Pension (employers and employee's contribution)		47.84
DD	Scottish Power	Street Lighting - Electricity	4.5	94.5
101725	FCC	Play Equipment		2,500
101726	Rhys Jones	Installation Defib Cabinet - Mostyn		210.51
101727	K.Roberts	Annual ZOOM Licence (reimbursement)	35.08	143.88
101728	HMRC	PAYE		144.00
101729	Mostyn C Church	Financial Assistance (FA)		200.00
101730	Hebron United RC	FA		200.00
101731	Estuary Cars	FA		500.00
101732	Mostyn C Centre	FA		1500.00
101733	Mostyn Gardening Club	FA		250.00
101734	Mostyn Arts & Crafts	FA		250.00
101735	Mostyn Phoenix	FA		500.00
101736	Mostyn Monday Club	FA		300.00
101737	Cerebral Palsy Cymru	FA		50.00

The January accounts were approved by Cllr. Williams and Cllr. Calvert.

15a. The clerk had circulated the BDO report and issues raised for councillors information.

In addition to a minute reference amendment, carrying out a recommendation by the internal auditor prior to a future financial year. A matter of general reserve being held was highlighted as they were identified as high. The latter has been addressed when looking at this year's budget and highlighting areas and ring fencing some reserves for example play equipment investment, defibrillator continued lighting renewal and member allowances.

16. To receive an update from The Welsh Audit Office about the new 3-year audit cycles for the T&CC.

The clerk reported this was the last year BDO external auditors from Southampton audit the accounts for community councils. The Welsh Audit Office will now embark on a basic transactional audit for Mostyn Community Council commencing 2021/2022.

17. To discuss communications and engagement and receive a draft policy for consideration.

Councillors discussed ways of communication with residents and decided to make further enquiries with One Voice Wales and place this item on the February agenda. The policy would not be taken further at this point.

18. Planning Matters (A) Applications (B) Decisions

(B) Port House – Refused. No new planning applications received at the time of agenda distribution.

19. To receive items for the 15 February agenda.

Review of risk assessment document
Defibrillator
Community Engagement

Abandon Standing Orders – not on the agenda.

Cllr. Allison Gladwin commented there is existing consent for 4 caravans at The Old Tavern, Coast Road. Some concern about its future.

Currently the Glan Y Don site is under negotiation there are old cars / caravans there and it is beginning to look unsightly.

Cllr. Vera Williams reported concerns that Wales is dragging its feet with the 70+, 80+ age group coronavirus injections. Cllr. Hazlehurst suggested checking factual data on official government websites.

The clerk was requested to flag up this matter as a concern from the Community Council with Hannah Blythyn AM.

The meeting closed at 8.48pm.