

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 19 November 2018

in Gladestry Village Hall

Present. Mr Melvyn Hughes (Chairman), Mr Derrick Carrington (Vice Chairman), Mr Ian Ball, Mr Gareth Croose, Ms Jane Bisby, Mr Viv Lloyd, Mr Joseph Alman and Mr Kenneth Waugh (Clerk)

1. Apologies. None .

2. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 17 September 2018.

Jane proposed that the minutes from the ordinary meeting were agreed; Ian seconded, and Councillors approved. The minutes were then signed.

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 17 September 2018.

i. Kiosk. The Clerk reported that, despite his efforts and those of Community Heartbeat Trust, BT had still not reconnected the power supply to the kiosk containing the defibrillator. The Clerk said that he would attempt to secure supply by going directly to BT.

Viv said that he had been in contact with Peter McKenzie about the renovation of the kiosk, but work had not yet begun; Viv will contact Peter again.

ii. The boundary issue concerning Powys CC and the Royal Oak remained unresolved. The Clerk had, once more, sought an update from Powys, but had not even received the courtesy of a reply: he would try a further email and enlist the help of Cllr Jones.

iii. Church House Farm, Michaelchurch. The Clerk reminded Cllrs of the Powys response to the enquiry sent after the last meeting. Nothing further had been received on the subject. Gareth gave an update on the current state of works as he saw them, and expressed concern about the passing places that had been created as he thought they were too small to accommodate the large lorries that used the road for

construction work and for servicing the chicken sheds. Cllrs asked the Clerk to write to Powys Planning and Highways to seek clarification that works were of the required standard.

iv. Complaint to the Ombudsman. Melvyn reminded Cllrs that the complaint received by the Ombudsman was not to be investigated, confirming the note placed on the Gladestry website.

4. Planning.

No new applications or correspondence had been received.

5. Finance.

- i. The current balance is £ 3394.
- ii. Councillors approved the payment of £200 for the Clerk's salary, due before the next meeting. The website administrator asked for approval to install Google Analytica to help him monitor and improve the effectiveness of the website, at a cost of £36. Viv proposed that this was done; Derrick seconded the proposal, and Cllrs voted in favour. The Clerk was authorised to make said payment of £36 to Upper Bridge Enterprises for the installation of the software. Cllrs noted further expected expenditure for the year of approximately £220 for insurance and £250 for audit costs. A final precept payment of £1000 is due to be received in the New Year.
- iii. A copy of the budgetary control sheet can be found as an Appendix to these minutes.
- iv. The Clerk informed Cllrs that he should receive precept request details from Powys in the near future. Cllrs discussed the amount that should be requested, taking into account the projected end of year budgetary position; known expenditure in 2019-20; and factored in likely expenditure via grants and local community projects that the Council could support. See Annexe.

As a result of the discussion, Derrick proposed a precept request of £3000; Jane seconded the proposal, and Cllrs voted in agreement. The Clerk was therefore instructed to make a precept request of £3000.

6. Correspondence.

None received.

7 .Business matters.

- i. Audit report. This report had previously been sent to Cllrs for consideration prior to the meeting, along with the Clerk's suggested response where there were areas of disagreement with the auditor's findings of fact. The Clerk gave a brief overview of the concerns he had, as well as areas of agreement with the report. After this discussion, Derrick proposed that the Clerk's letter of response should be issued to the Auditor General for Wales; Jane seconded the proposal, and all Cllrs were in favour.
- ii. Health, Active and Outdoors project. Cllrs briefly discussed this document from Powys, and decided that no further action was required.
- iii. Since the agenda had been issued, the Clerk had been contacted by a resident about the street light by the village hall no longer working. He said that he had contacted Powys about it, and had been informed that their records showed the light to be switched on, as had been requested by us when street lighting had been considered last November (minute issued to Cllrs at the time); Powys also stated that there had not been any request to turn off this light. The Clerk had, therefore, asked Powys to rectify the problem.

Melvyn then mentioned that, whilst driving at night, he had had a near miss at the junction of the A44 and the B4594 (Stanner) when a lorry turned right off the A44 into the lane occupied by Melvyn's vehicle. Melvyn said that this was due to the lack of street lighting there. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Powys Highways (and those responsible for trunk roads, if appropriate) with a view to seeking the introduction of lighting.

- iv. Jane mentioned the poor state of the road between Colva and Hengoed, due to a number of large potholes. The Clerk was also asked to bring this to the attention of Powys Highways, with Jane being the contact/liaison point.

8. The next meeting will be on 21 January 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Signed

Dated

Annexe to the minutes of 19 November 2018:

rationale for the 2019-20 precept request.

Councillors were mindful that the Council would be carrying forward a reserve of approximately £3500. In coming to the decision to request a precept for the following year of £3000, they took account of expected expenditure, over and above the normal year on year items, as follow:

Grants. Contribution to the village hall redecoration and refurbishment costs £8000.

Contribution to the costs of improvements to the play area.

Increase to regular grant commitments.

Contribution to the Active Community Fund. For example, help with costs associated with the 50th anniversary of the Offa's Dyke Path.

Technology. Provision should be made for the replacement of the Clerk's laptop.

Miscellaneous. CPR training costs.

Clerk's salary increase.