

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 16 September 2019
in Gladestry Village Hall

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

1. Apologies. Ms Jane Bisby and Cllr Michael Jones sent apologies for their absence.

2 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 15 July 2019.

Melvyn proposed that the minutes from the meeting were agreed; Ian seconded, and Councillors approved the minutes, which were then signed.

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 15 July 2019.

i. Kiosk. Viv asked whether there had been any costs associated with the painting of the kiosk. The Clerk said that there were none as the paint had been supplied free of charge by the manufacturer, PPG Architectural Coatings, in association with Community Heartbeat Trust. The Clerk understands that the paint colour is Post Office approved red.

ii. Village Hall refurbishment. Viv informed Councillors that Lottery funding had been agreed and that redecoration work should commence soon.

iii. Signage for the public lavatory. Derrick indicated that the Parochial Church Council is still to agree on what is deemed appropriate.

4. Planning.

No new planning applications had been received since the previous meeting.

5. Finance.

- i. The current balance is £2958, the second instalment of the precept having been received.
- ii. Councillors approved the payment of £250.00 for the Clerk's third quarter salary payment due on 5 October; and noted the payment of £467.43 as the agreed grant to Gladestry School.
- iii. A copy of the budgetary control sheet was issued with the agenda.
- iv. Known future expenditure will be the cost of the audit, annual insurance and Clerk's final quarter salary payment. Known income will comprise the final precept payment.

6. Correspondence.

Other than the email correspondence listed with the agenda, there was no correspondence to report.

7. Business matters.

- i. Dates of Council meetings. No changes to current dates were suggested.
- ii. Lady Hawkins School War Memorial project: emails previously circulated. In brief, the school had sought help with funding landscaping work around its new war memorial. Councillors discussed the request; in particular, they took account of the Council's position on funding requests from outside organisations, and the recent grant towards the maintenance of the Gladestry War Memorial. As a result, Melvyn proposed that no contribution should be made; Viv seconded the proposal, and all Councillors agreed. The Clerk was asked to write to the school to explain the decision.
- iii. Audit. Councillors had been sent a copy of the annual audit report, which had given a "Qualified" rating based on the Council's decision not to use written Standing Orders or Financial Regulations (on the basis that these were understood to be only recommendations from the Wales Audit Office and were deemed unnecessary by Councillors in the running of a very small community Council like Gladestry). The Clerk had, earlier, asked for the statutory reference for the auditor's assertion that there was a legal requirement for Councils to have such Orders and was awaiting a reply.

Councillors were unhappy with the rating and asked the Clerk to pursue the legality of the situation, and report back to the Council.

- iv. Defibrillator and CPR training. The Clerk advised Councillors that he had followed up on the preliminary research undertaken by Jane and had asked the British Heart Foundation, St John Ambulance and Cariad if they could provide training in the village and, if so, at what cost. The BHF, as with Jane, did not respond; St John had no trainers in the area so could not help; and Cariad could do the training for £50 plus travel expenses of their trainer travelling from Swansea. This latter cost was roughly equal to what the training supplier, Anubis, previously used by the Council, would charge.

Melvyn mentioned that he knew of a First Responder in Whitton who may be of help in delivering training, and offered to contact him and then pass relevant information to the Clerk. Councillors agreed a budget of up to £150, the cost advised by Anubis, and asked Melvyn and the Clerk to liaise and take forward said training.

- v. Signage. A resident had suggested that a sign to direct drivers to the village hall car park may help to prevent congestion in the village now that the pub was open and attracting vehicular traffic. Although some of the pros and cons of having directions were discussed, it was pointed out by Melvyn that any decision was the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee; Councillors agreed, and also agreed that the Council would take no action on this matter.
- vi. Speeding vehicles through the village. This was another subject raised by a resident asking for consideration of action by the Council. The Clerk provided a brief resume of previous Council considerations from 5 years ago, when the Council reluctantly decided that its preferred option of a live speed warning sign was beyond its financial position. Various other options available were discussed, and the Clerk was asked to contact Powys CC to check what it could do to assist with speed humps, refreshing road signs and road painting, or provision of other methods to attempt to slow the small number of, often local, drivers of differing types of vehicles who are disrespectful to the Community in choosing to ignore current restrictions on speed.
- vii. Village hall play area. After bringing the state of poor repair of some of the items and fencing in the play area to the attention of Powys CC, the Clerk had received a communication, shared with Councillors, from the County Council explaining that from April 2020 responsibility for the play area would be transferred to the owner, i.e. Gladestry Village Hall. In the meantime, Powys undertook to do repair and/or replacement work to leave the area in a good condition for handover. The Clerk was asked to write to Powys to acknowledge the offer of repair etc with thanks, and to advise Powys that all responsibility rested with the Village Hall Committee.

viii. Melvyn raised the subject of the new “Bryngwyn Riding Centre” sign that had been positioned at the Stanner junction with the A44 and the B4594 as it was felt that the sign interrupted the driver’s line of sight at what is a “Give Way” junction. The Clerk was asked to contact Powys CC to check the statutory requirements of the signage were fulfilled.

ix. Derrick advised that he would be attending a presentation on the “National Development Framework Proposals” in October, and would report back to the Council.

8. The next meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Monday 18 November 2019.

Signed

Dated