

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020
in Gladestry Village Hall

Present. Mr Derrick carrington (Chairman), Mr Ian Ball, Mr Viv Lloyd, Mr Melvyn Hughes and Mr Kenneth Waugh (Clerk).

1. Apologies. Ms Jane Bisby, Mr Gareth Croose and Cllr Michael Jones sent apologies for non-attendance.

2 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 20 January 2020

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

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 20 January 2020.

i. The Clerk advised that he had responded to a request from the British Heart Foundation for the number of people in the community who had been trained in CPR and AED use. Radnor First Responders had sent a “thank you” letter after receiving the donation from the Council.

ii. Village Hall refurbishment. Viv informed Councillors that although internal redecoration work was complete, work on the floor in the bar area had thrown up a potential problem as the contractor informed that the floor was damp, and would cost more to deal with than the original estimate. Investigative work is being undertaken.

iii. Signage for the public lavatory. The Chairman had nothing to report on this outstanding item.

4. Planning.

No new planning applications had been received since 20/0227/HH at Brilley had been circulated and posted on the website; this application had not attracted any comments.

5. Finance.

i. The current balance is £3175.

ii. Councillors approved the most recent payment £244.75 made was Wales Audit Office.

iii. Councillors authorised payment of £250.00 salary and £114.25 annual refund of expenses to the Clerk.

iv. A budgetary control sheet was issued with the agenda.

6. Correspondence.

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

7. Business matters.

- i. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Councillors had been issued with draft copies of these documents. Melvyn proposed that both be adopted by the Council; Viv seconded, and Councillors all agreed.
- ii. Wales Audit Office consultation. The Clerk advised that he had responded to the consultation by suggesting a lower tier for Councils with an income of under £20,000 pa who should be audited every three years by a paper return and only in the fourth year meet with an auditor from Wales Audit. He said that he would keep Councillors informed of the outcome from the exercise.
- iii. Play area inspection. The Clerk informed Councillors that he had received an inspection request pro forma from Powys for the year 2020-21. Councillors were aware that responsibility for the play area was due to be handed over by Powys to the local community, but that no formal handover had yet taken place. The Clerk offered to contact Powys to ascertain the position regarding responsibilities before arranging for an inspection, and to also check the insurance position with regard to Council liability.
- iv. Kiosk and defibrillator. The Clerk informed Councillors that he had recently experienced difficulty opening the kiosk door on his check of the defibrillator required by the British Heart Foundation's Circuit database, on which we are now registered; the door had to be prised open because it was jammed, and the Clerk had left it wedged open so that access could be facilitated. Ian volunteered to check for problems.
- v. Feedback from the Powys CC and Local Clerks Engagement Meeting held at County Hall on 11 March 2020. The Clerk had attended this event at the request of Councillors. The subjects discussed were: Covid 19 and the Powys's contingency planning; flood resilience and the current situation in Powys; the County's budget position and the proposed 4.8% council tax increase; and biodiversity within the County.

The Clerk advised Councillors that he would circulate the minutes from the meeting when he received them.

- vi. Resurfacing work in Gladestry. The Clerk had already raised the issue of lack of and best use of communication by Powys with the relevant officer, and had received a response to acknowledge the points raised.

A Councillor mentioned that he had heard a rumour that the work had been done “under warranty” by the contractor, and the Clerk was asked to check the veracity, or otherwise, of the rumour.

Councillor expressed concern that, if the work was not a result of previous warranty, that it was unnecessary, and that the issues of speeding in the village previously raised with Powys could have been addressed by repainting the speed restriction signs. They also stated that there were other roads in the community that required attention as a priority, and wondered how decisions were made on which works to undertake. The Clerk was asked to convey the views of the Council to Powys Highways

- vii. Covid 19. Councillors discussed how the Council should react to the current pandemic. The Clerk had copied them in to information he had received from a variety of sources – Welsh Government, Powys CC, the local Health Board, Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations and the Kington Surgery. Our website administrator would be copied into all this relevant and expert advice, which would be published on the Gladestry Website, with an email “heads up” sent through its emailing list. Councillors were aware that local network groups such as WI and Monday Cafe, although not currently meeting because of the advice not to, had made arrangements to keep in touch with members of the community in order to offer assistance as required. Councillors agreed that they would do the same. It was agreed that there was little else that the Council could offer in terms of practical help or advice, and that it, too, was subject to that same advice.

8. The next meetings will be the AGM at 7.00pm followed by an Ordinary Meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 18 May 2020..

Signed

Dated