

ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at the Village Hall, Rosemarket on Monday 04/06/07

Apologies : C’lr June Crook.

Present : C’lrs Tony Young, Barbara Summons M.B.E., David Barraah, David Wildman, Evelyn Poar, Rhys Jones, Alan Taylor (Chairman); Peter Horton (Clerk).

Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting

These were agreed as written (Proposer C’lr David Wildman, seconder C’lr Evelyn Poar).

Minutes of the May monthly meeting

3, The Beacon. The minuted record of C’lr Barbara Summons’s comments about the planning application on land at 3, The Beacon was omitted.

The sentence ‘C’lr David Wildman confirmed that the planning sub-committee had recommended that a design brief be requested as part of any permission granted’ was added.

With these amendments, the minutes were agreed as written (proposer C’lr David Wildman, seconder C’lr David Barraah). Signing of the minutes was deferred until the next meeting to allow the corrected version to be printed

Matters arising

Proposed bio-energy facility at Blackbridge. Members had looked at the proposals, and were concerned at some aspects of these. It was felt that some questions still remained unanswered about the type of fuel proposed, etc. However, no action was proposed at this time.

Discussion of Odd-Job Man post

The Chairman informed Members that the Odd-Job man had been unable to attend the meeting due to other work commitments, and had sent his apologies. Members were informed that he had provisionally been instructed by C’lr Alan Taylor to omit grass-cutting alongside the entrance to the Beacon to the side of the old playground, due to problems with some verbal abuse from a local resident.

C’lr David Wildman asked why P.C.C. should not be asked to carry out grass-cutting at Gulleys Lane, as it is a public right of way. It was pointed out that this also applied to Back Lane. It was pointed out that, while the local authority has an obligation to ‘keep open’ all public rights of way, this would not necessarily include regular maintenance. Members also discussed briefly the area around the top of The Beacon. The question was raised as to whether or not the Community Council should be spending its money on maintenance of this area. Members agreed to carry out a site inspection prior to the July meeting, with the matter to be placed on the agenda for further discussion following this site visit. It was also agreed that the agenda item should include a further discussion of the exact remit of the Odd-Job Man post.

Discussions of speeding problems in Community area

C’lr David Wildman informed Members that he had been approached by a number of local residents concerned at perceived excessive traffic speeds in a variety of locations.

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However, a number of these locations were in 60mph speed limit areas. C’llr Alan Taylor felt that a distinction should be drawn between actual speeding and unsafe driving. Members discussed various possible measures that could be undertaken, including requesting more warning signage, etc. It was also pointed out that some of the problem areas were thought to be in Johnston Community Council area. Members were read a letter received from Mr. John Price of P.C.C., asking Members to identify areas in Rosemarket Village where there was perceived by Members to be a problem with excessive traffic speeds. Members agreed locations in the village where they considered that inappropriate traffic speeds occur. These were marked on the plan. Clerk to return this to Mr. Price. The suggestion was aired of possibly using chicanes to slow down traffic – a measure that had apparently been successful elsewhere. C’llr David Wildman felt that some evidence of actual speeding would be required before P.C.C. would consider funding any measures to combat it. He suggested that an item be placed in the forthcoming ‘In Touch’ drawing attention to the problem, which was agreed. It was also agreed that the Clerk should write to Johnston Community Council, explaining that complaints have been received from a local resident (Mr Jones, Westbury Cottage Church Road, Johnston), about speeding problems in the Johnston Community Council area (specifically, in Church Road, going over the hump backed railway bridge).

Discussion of Beacon gates

C’llr Alan Taylor mentioned that, due to complaints by Mr Phillips about alleged unauthorised access, contractors had decided to use the north access to get access to the Beacon. Because of this, they had replaced the existing gate there with a larger one. This had apparently been done on their own initiative. The Clerk read to Members a draft note of complaint drawn up by C’llr Alan Taylor to P.C.C. for Members’ comments. C’llr David Barrah felt it likely that this had been a genuine error, due to a misunderstanding over ownership. C’llr David Wildman agreed that they should have spoken to the Community Council prior to changing the gate. C’llr Barbara Summons commented that P.C.C. should have told their contractor to carry on using the original access rather than listening to Mr. Phillips. C’llr Tony Young mentioned the length of time the grass cutting had been done, and felt that this set a precedent that could not be ignored. However, he acknowledged that the actions of the contractor in not wishing to continue using this access in the face of opposition were understandable. C’llr Young then suggested that the Community Council, as representing all the local residents, should leave the grass on the Beacon uncut, and see if anyone else in the village complained. C’llr Alan Taylor felt it unacceptable that the Community Council should leave off cutting the grass because of this dispute. He mentioned some legal precedents from other parts of the Country, in which it was confirmed that claimed private ownership of land did not negate an established public right of access. He felt that it was most necessary to establish the public right to use the route. C’llr David Barrah said this was not necessarily the case, and that the Community Council could choose to drop the issue altogether. Alternatively, Members could pursue a right of way claim, but not the ownership of the lane. C’llr Alan Taylor felt that the right of access issue should be pursued, and that ownership, while not a matter of immediate concern, was a separate issue. C’llr David Wildman felt that the Community Council would be neglecting its duty if it left the right of way issue unresolved. C’llr David Barrah wanted it clarified that the Community Council was only

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pursuing the right of way claim at this time. This was agreed, though Members were not willing to rule out a possible future ownership claim to the land. The Clerk read to Members the notes accompanying the rights of way registration claim forms received from P.C.C. Members examined the forms, and discussed the most effective way to get them completed satisfactorily. It was agreed that Members would take away personal copies of the forms, and make lists of local residents who could potentially be of assistance. The matter to be placed on the agenda for next month for detailed discussion about progressing the claim. Members also agreed that Odd-Job Man should, for the moment, leave out grass cutting on the disputed right of way, but cut all the other areas. C'lr Barbara Summons mentioned the emptying of the rubbish bin on The Beacon, and asked for this task to be added to the Odd-Job Man's job description.

Discussion of Community website

C'lr Alan Taylor reported that, despite initial difficulties, the Government Cabinet Office had altered their regulations to allow the website name more or less as requested. This was to be 'Rosemarket-wcc.gov.uk'. Members were informed that a hosting package would now be required, costing £59-99 / annum including VAT. E-mail addresses would be included in the package. It was pointed out that only certain service providers can provide hosting for '.gov' domain names, and C'lr Alan Taylor suggested Claranet, based on cost and previous experience. It was pointed out that the domain name is registered for two years, but can be taken away if the website is not established within a reasonable space of time. C'lr David Wildman was unsure if the establishment of the website was necessary at this time, though he agreed that it may well be needed in the future. C'lr Alan Taylor proposed that the matter be expedited to establish the website, even if it was merely listed as 'under construction'. C'lr Tony Young could not see the point of this. C'lr Alan Taylor listed the facilities provided as part of the package, including the e-mailing facility. C'lr David Barraah was unsure who would design the website, and this was left unresolved at this time. C'lr Alan Taylor said that it might be possible to transfer the existing information from C'lr David Wildman's existing site, or to create a completely new one. Members agreed to pay the £59-99 per annum for the next two years (proposer C'lr David Barraah, seconder C'lr David Wildman). C'lr Alan Taylor reassured Members that there would be no further expenditure required until the expiry of two years. C'lr Evelyn Poar suggested that the information from Planed might be able to go on the website. This was followed by a brief hypothetical and unresolved discussion about what might or might not be included on the website when up and running.

Discussion of proposed community council boundary changes

Members considered the draft proposals received by post from P.C.C. C'lr David Wildman outlined the draft proposals insofar as they would affect Rosemarket Community Council. This included all of Sardis village moving into the Burton Community Council area, and a reduction from eight to six Members in Rosemarket Community Council. C'lr Barbara Summons was concerned at the trend for Rosemarket Community Council. She felt that the Community Council should be looking to gain, not lose, areas. C'lr David Barraah felt that the changes brought about no improvements. Members were generally uncertain about the merits of the proposals, but acknowledged

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that this was based on only a cursory examination of the proposals, and without detailed knowledge. It was agreed that the matter would be tabled for further discussion in July, and that Members would consider the draft proposals in detail in the meantime.

Discussion of chain of office

It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange the necessary engraving work in conjunction with C'lr Alan Taylor.

Correspondence

- 1) P.C.C. – Request for information on where Members would like to see speed monitoring carried out in village area – discussed under separate agenda item.
- 2) Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority – Consultation on 2008/09 draft Risk Reduction Plan – passed to C'lr Alan Taylor for perusal.
- 3) P.C.C. – Notification of forthcoming temporary road closure at Thurston Lane, for B.T. work – passed to C'lr Evelyn Poar for noticeboard.
- 4) P.C.C. – Consultation on draft proposals for Community Council Periodic Electoral Review – discussed under separate agenda item.
- 5) P.C.C. – Consultation on new licence application for The Huntsman – noted.
- 6) Menter Iaith Sir Benfro – Invitation to forthcoming AGM, to be held on 20/06/07 at 8pm, at Plas Hyfryd Country Hotel, Narberth – noted.
- 7) P.A.V.S. – Volunteer Bulletin – Passed to C'lr Barbara Summons for noticeboard.
- 8) W.A.G. – Brochure publicising achievements of Objective One scheme – noted.
- 9) P.C.C. – Reply to letter about surface water problems at Bastleford Lane – noted.
- 10) Clerks & Councils Direct (3 copies) – Magazine – distributed to Members for circulation.

Accounts

There were no accounts for approval this month.

Plans

Applications received.

07/32/PA (Agricultural building, Stonewell Cottage, Sardis; Applicants Mr. & Mrs. M. Virgo) – No objections raised.

07/80/PA (Two storey garage and annex, Chapel House, 29 Middle St; Applicants Mr. & Mrs. Gudan) – Recommendation of a requirement that the garage must remain in the same ownership as the house as part of any permission granted.

Refusal of planning permission issued.

06/794/PA (Bungalow, rear of Dragons Breath, Sardis).

Planning consents issued.

06/1530/TF (Tree surgery, Cheriton, Front Street, Rosemarket).

06/1556/PA (Residential development, 3, The Beacon, Rosemarket).

06/1626/PA (Alterations, extensions, double garage, Stonewell Cottage, Sardis).

Any other business

One Way system for Rosemarket. Matter to be placed on agenda for July.

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Westaway Park. Members were informed that a mess had been left adjacent to houses in Westaway Park, due to children building dens there. P.C.C. had been there to clear up. However, the underlying problem of the den was apparently unresolved.

Skip for village cleanup. Matter to be placed on agenda for July.

Dovecote. Members were informed that C'llr David Wildman was going to London to pick up a Green Apple award on Monday from David Bellamy, for work carried out on restoration of the Dovecote. Matter to be placed on the agenda for July to discuss what to do with the award locally.

Public Forum

No Members of the public were present.

The meeting concluded at 9-20pm. Next meeting, Monday 2nd July, 2007, 7-15pm.