

## **OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Village Hall,  
Newport Road, Old St. Mellons on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

<b>Present</b>	Councillor	Mrs G Jones (Chairman)
	Councillors	Mrs D Brown Mrs A Davies Mrs P Jenkins Mr L Phillips Mrs D Rees Mrs J Rogers Mr. D. Stroud.
	Clerk:	Mrs C Ryan

Before the meeting officially commenced, the Chairman informed all those present, that Mr John Fishpool, caretaker at the Village Hall had recently passed away and that his funeral was held today. A minutes silence was observed.

### **1. Apologies for Absence.**

Councillor Mr M Briggs

### **2. Declaration of Interests.**

Councillor D. Rees - St Edeyrn's Churchyard  
Councillor D Rees – Playing Fields  
Councillor A Davies – St Edeyrn's Churchyard  
Councillor A Davies – Alley Gating Footpath 14 Ty'r Winch Road  
Councillor A Davies – item re Western Power Distribution Income  
Councillor A Davies – Playing Fields  
Councillor P Jenkins – 106 Monies in relation to Beechtree Park

### **3. Police Matters.**

There was no police presence.

Letters have been sent to thank the Police for their presence at the Remembrance Services and secondly to enquire if the sponsored bikes are still in use in the village.

Issues raised from the recent PACT meeting included Anti-social behaviour at The Dell, drinking at the Playing Fields and parking at St John's College area.

The Community Council need to agree on a representative to sit on the PACT meetings panel in order to represent the Community Council. It was agreed that the Chairman would represent the Council along with the Vice Chairman in her absence.

### **4. Minutes of the meeting of 17th September, 2009.**

At the last meeting, Councillor Brown actually mentioned the issue of 106 money at the end of the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interest received from Councillor D Rees – re Playing Fields

3. A resident experienced youths “*actually attempting to cut down trees*”  
**PLANNING** – Details of Planning application for McDonalds:

Application No: A/09/00202/E

Date: 05/10/2009

Type: Full

Applicant: McDonalds Restaurant Ltd

Address: 1 Cardiff Gate Retail Park, Pontprennau

Details: Replacement signage, refurbishment of fascias, freestanding signs,  
1 height barrier, 1 Estate sign, 3 Banners, 1 customer order display

9. Salts bins *are to be installed by 31<sup>st</sup> October.*

10. Two Incidences of *dogs.*

The Minutes were agreed and signed, subject to the amendments being incorporated.

## **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

### 5/5 St Edeyrn's Churchyard

Councillors Rees and Davies declared an interest

The Clerk has not received a response from the 3 contractors contacted. Alternative contractors to be contacted.

### 5/10 Media Group

Community Council information to be put up on the new board at St John's College. A vote of thanks were given to the volunteers who had erected the boards.

### 10. To Receive Working Party Reports.

#### Village Hall

Due to the recent death of the previous Caretaker, a temporary caretaker has been appointed. An advertisement for the vacant post will be put in the forthcoming Newsletter.

#### Media Group

The Community Council web site needs to be updated with relevant information. The Group will meet to discuss further.

#### Library Visit

The Portacabin library at Lisvane is due to close as there is a new building to be erected. Councillor Rees will update the meeting with the actual date of closure.

### 11. Bulb Planting

All bulbs have now been planed and a vote of thanks was given to the W.I. for their work on the area outside the Village Hall.

### 12. Dates for the Diary

Remembrance Sunday – the Chairman thanked all Councillors for their attendance. And Councillor Rees for paying for the photos taken for the forthcoming Newsletter.

8. Audit at St Edeyrn's Churchyard – due to the tight financial constraints on this years budget, it was agreed to look at this in April 2010.

## 12. Parking at Wern Fawr Lane

The Clerk has written to King Sturge re the lack of progress in resolving this problem. Councillor Rees referred to the Public Transport Travel Plan pack, which is available. It is a measure to encourage change in travel procedures to cut down on use of cars for travel. Councillor Stroud informed the meeting that 1 large business will be moving from the Business Park in the New Year.. 179 Parking spaces should become available from ~~early next year.~~

## 6. Local Residents.

It was agreed to the adjournment of the Council meeting for 15 minutes to enable residents to express their views or ask questions on issues within the powers, duties and functions of the Council. Issues raised to be considered by the Council.

## 7. Highways and Planning.

**09/01870/E** Full Planning Permission **Expected Decision Level:** DEL  
**Received:** 29/10/2009 **Ward:** PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS  
**Case Officer:** Daryl Jones  
**Applicant:** Mr & Mrs S Parry, 89 Hastings Crescent, Old St Mellons  
**Agents** Reuben Evans Architect, Robgill, Peterston Super Ely  
**Proposal:** Ground floor side extension to garage, raising of ridge height with Insertion of dormers  
**At:** 89 Hastings Crescent, Old St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 5DJ

**09/01803/E** Full Planning Permission **Expected Decision Level:** DEL  
**Received:** 13/10/2009 **Ward:** PONTPRENNAU/OLD ST. MELLONS  
**Case Officer:** Daryl Jones  
**Applicant:** Mr & Mrs Croad, 10 Old Hill, St Mellons, Cardiff  
**Agents** Geraint Davies Associates, 17a Heol Ifor, Whitchurch, Cardiff  
**Proposal:** Two Storey side extension  
**At:** 10 Old Hill, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 5SU

The Council raised no objections to the above Planning Applications.

## 8. Finance matters and payment of Creditors.

### FINANCE

Current Account as at 01.11.2009 **£1994.45**

Transfer from Deposit Account 19 November 2009 **£2000.00**

**Total** **£3994.45**

Payee Chq No	Service or Goods	Amount
<u>DD</u>	Cardiff C.C. Rates	489.00
D.D	Powergen Electricity – Village Hall	30.00
D.D.	Powergen Electricity – Playing Field	10.00
<u>Cheques</u>		
Nat West	Voucher Statement Fee	3.25
D Stroud	Keys & Locks for Pavilion	26.59
British Gas	Heating charges for Village Hall	180.64
		2824

P Barnett	St Edeyrn's grass cut	215.00	2825
Dwr Cymru	Water rates	269.62	2826
Ted Hopkins	Service mower	106.09	2827
Ted Hopkins	Call out charges	75.90	2828
D Jones	Keys, wreath	43.70	2829
Mrs G Jones	Wasp spray and flowers for Councillor Davies	10.47	2830
R Kimber	Cleansing orderly	72.00	2831
S Hull	Groundsman	Salary 128.00 Expenses 72.75 Additional hours 70.40	
		271.15	2832
G Lewis	Caretaker	2 weeks employment 20.00	2833
J Attard	Cleaner	100.00	2834
C Ryan	Clerks Fee	£233.46	
	Postage	6.24	
	Rental Telephone & Broadband	£18.00	
	Telephone calls	5.20	
	Mileage	5.50	
	Use of personal equipment allowance Jan - Nov	165.00	
	Stationery – Accident & Cleaners books	13.71	
		447.11	2835
<b>Total expenditure</b>			<b>£2370.52</b>
<b>Capital Reserve at 19.11.2009</b>			<b>£8636.21</b>
<b>Income since last meeting</b>			
<b>Hall Letting</b>			<b>415.00</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>£ 415.00</b>

## 9. To receive reports from County Councillor's Rees and Rogers.

- Residents had been consulted re the fly tipping in the Dell area. A team had been in to clean the area, but it was a very heavy amount of fly tipping to be dealt with. Graffiti had also been cleaned off. A new chemical is to be used to deal with the worse areas and other areas will be painted over.
- The project for the regeneration of Old St Mellons Church has identified the repairs of the original gates and railings, and also clearing of old vegetation. This should alleviate the security of the area and give a physical improvement to the lane. This is due to be implemented by April 2010. It is also proposed to install a second kissing gate at the top end of the lane.
- The proposed activity along Newport Road has not taken place – awaiting legal processes.

## 10. To receive Working Party reports.

### Media Group Working Party

Councillors need to submit their final proposals for the Newsletter by Monday.

The web also needs to be up-dated. Group to meet.

There has been no further response from the initial Waterstone Homes enquiry.

### Village Hall Working Party

A temporary caretaker is in post due to the death the previous caretaker. The vacancy will be advertised in the Newsletter.

There have been issues with the cleanliness of the hall and the cleaner. The Clerk has written to the Cleaner to clarify issues.

Toilet window – obtaining prices for the repair/replacement, and will hopefully not be too expensive.

The Clerk has purchased an Accident Book.

Consider liaising with Old St Mellons Village Association re funding for improvements at the Hall.

User groups are not leaving the Hall in good condition after use. Need to write to them reminding them of their responsibilities after use of the Hall.

### Playing Fields

There is an issue of the build up of grass cuttings at the Playing Fields. It was suggested that a mini skip be hired to collect the cuttings and remove them from site. One of the trees had also been identified as being in a dangerous condition with dead branches hanging down. These could be removed when the skip is hired. The tree canopy by the sub station should also be cut back in order that bushes around the area have room to grow. Again, this can be done at the same time as the skip is hired.

Rats have been spotted in the Playing fields. The Community Council has no expertise in dealing with rodents and there is no Policy in place either. It was suggested that we contact the County Council Rodent department to check what our duties are and what support we can get in dealing with this issue. A policy on Waste Disposal at the Playing Fields and Village Hall, needs to be formulated. Clerk to write to the Council's waste Management department for advice.

### Finance Working Party

The Group identified a need for more revenue.

It was suggested that an advert for the Village Hall be put in the Marshfield Mail, as there was some suggestion that their Hall may be closing in the future.

Further suggestions included:

- The cost of running the Hall should be put into the Newsletter so that residents can see where money is being spent.
- Clerk to contact Council re Rate Relief.
- Advertise the hall on the web and on school notice boards etc.
- Flyers round the village and also new St Mellons, advertising special rate offers.
- Informal talks with Old St Mellons Village Association re suggestions on how to create more revenue.
- Clerk to write to electricity suppliers re energy conservation suggestions.

It was agreed that the Group would ascertain competitors rates for other village halls e.g. Marshfield in order that we can compare.

Need to put contact details on the Notice Boards for people to book the Hall, i.e. Councillor Stroud and the caretaker.

## **11. One Voice Wales**

As Councillor Briggs was absent for the meeting, it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

## **12. Carillion Container**

It was agreed that the Clerk would e mail Mr Moseley re availability of a container and the matter would be discussed further if one was available.

### **13. Orchard Project**

The Chairman was unable to attend this meeting but had rung and also e mailed requesting that they keep us informed. The Vice Chairman had actually received an e mail stating that there would possibly be 1 tree available if we were interested to which we replied that we would.

### **14. 106 Money**

A response to our request had been received.

Items not agreed included work to the Tennis Courts, security fencing and Mill Lane. Agreed items included jogging footpath and a children's play area.

The total sum of £67,658.97 has been agreed, with £36,234.04 agreed for the Playing fields and Ty'r Winch Road, with the remainder possibly being spent at Beech Tree Park.

It was agreed that the Community Council should respond to this offer, by saying that the items requested followed consultation with residents and detailed their ideas for the expenditure.

It was noted that since February 2009 there had been no correspondence regarding the 106 Money, until the letter received today.

A heated discussion took place, in which the Chair had to intervene, calling the whole meeting to order and asking that the meeting move on.

A Councillor, suggested that the Community Council should be working together to agree the use of the funds for the Community as a whole.

On the last page of the letter from the Council, they asked for suggestions for items of play equipment for the Village. It was requested that any Councillor who had a suggestion let a member of the Playing Fields Working Party know.

### **15. Alley gating**

Councillor Rogers had recently contacted the Alley gating Officer and had been told that the Order had been approved at a cost of £5313, funded by the Community Safety Fund. The additional cost included fencing adjacent to the small graveyard at Ty'r Winch Road. The gates will be locked at all times and only keys issued to residents who are adjoining the lane.

The Chairman referred to a map of the area from 1845 where the land was classed as Arable land and taken as a right of way. A resident had suggested that the land was owned by the Community Council and nowhere is it stated that it is owned by the County Council. The Clerk will write to the Council to query this.

### **16. Correspondence received**

- 1 Letter from resident regarding the problem with vandalism in the Playing Fields. It was suggested that a key code device be installed, but this was discussed and agreed that the issues would not be resolved by installing this. It was noted that dependence on the gate keepers has ensured that the best system has been implemented.
- 2 An e mail received from a resident complaining that the minutes for September had not been displayed on the web site. This has now been done. They also expressed disappointment that the PaCT meetings have been moved from the Village hall and that

they didn't feel it was an issue to use the Hall as the large Hall would be open anyway so the caretaker would not need to open up. The Chairman confirmed that she in fact actually opened the small Hall as it would not be practicable for people to enter the small Hall through the large hall as it would be in use and service users would object to that happening. There was also an issue of entering via the large Hall, as the Fire Certificate states that the external door to the small Hall must be open when the Hall is in use, so someone would have to open it anyway. The Chairman also stated that the last meeting which was held at the local Pub was well attended with possibly more attendees than is usual when held at the Village Hall.

- 3 An e mail had been received about the presence of mice and rats in the Playing Fields. It may be that the presence of the old grass cuttings in the park may be encouraging these animals. When the mini skip is hired and volunteers asked to help clear the cuttings, it was proposed that the resident who had written the e mail, also be invited to help as well so that this problem can be resolved.

The Chairman had also taken legal advice about the availability of the Comments Book. This does not need to be made available during the meetings, only at the Village Fete and other specific meetings at the discretion of the Chairman. Also, the Correspondence file was only available for Community Councillors to read, again this decision was reached following legal advice given to the Chairman.

#### **17. Items for Next Meetings**

Budget

Containers

One Voice Wales

#### **18. Date of Next Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at 7.30p.m.