

OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Village Hall,
Newport Road, Old St. Mellons on Thursday 21 October 2010 7.30PM.

Present

Councillor Mr L Phillips - Chairman
Councillors Dr M Briggs
Mrs D Brown (Dept. ~10.25PM)
Mrs A Davies
Mrs P Jenkins
Mrs G Jones
Mrs D Rees (Arrived ~7.55 PM; Dept. ~9.30PM)
Mrs J Rogers (Arrived ~ 7.55PM; Dept. ~9.42PM)
Mr D Stroud

Meeting closed ~10.45PM
Acting Clerk: Dr. M. Briggs

1. Apologies for Absence.

Mrs C. Ryan (Clerk) - holiday

2. Declaration of Interests.

Councillor G Jones - St Mellons Church; Village Scout Group
Councillor A Davies OSMVA member; Tyr Winch Rd Playing Field (proximity to residence); Village Hall Nursery (know parent); St Edeyrn's Church (hold burial plot)

3. Community Safety & Security

PACT meeting 1 Nov 10 held in Village Hall
- New local Inspector assigned – Inspector Flowers
- Request made for nominations for PACT panel (traditionally Chair would represent OSMCC)
Special PACT/site meeting had been held to discuss gating/closure of walkthrough from Allen Close to Wern Fawr Lane. Only local residents in Allen Close had been informed and not other residents in immediate vicinity who may also have wished to put forward their point of view, for example from Wern Fawr Lane & Ty-To-Maen Close. As local residents had previously fought to keep the walkthrough open it was agreed that local residents should have been informed.

Action: Letter to be drafted and sent to Tom Chell (Alley Gating Officer) cc Kate Berry to request that both OSMCC and a wider area of residents are informed of meetings/discussions that will affect/be of broader interest to the Community.

Report of Accident: A child had injured their finger in part of the main front door to the Village Hall which appears to have been damaged/forced at some point. The caretaker has made a temporary repair. The accident has been recorded in the Village Hall accident book. The incident will be followed up by the Playgroup (formal route) and by the Village Hall Working Party (VHWP) with a view to implementing recommendations to prevent such an incident occurring again. It was recommended that the VHWP also inspect other hall doors and consider photographing them for an archive.

4. Minutes of the Meeting 16 September 2010

2 Minor amendments were made
2 Declaration of Interests
Spelling- St. Edeyrn's Churchyard
3 Community Safety and Security
Line 4 - Delete 'and Jenkins'
4. Minutes of the Meeting 15 July 2010
Para 4 Line 2 – abstained should read against
10 To receive Working Party reports
Playing Fields Line 1 – “The Chairman” and Cllr Jenkins (addition)
Village Hall – Para 4 Line 1– “The Alternative WI” should read “Singing for
Pleasure”; Line 3 – “all residents” should read “ an approved group”
The Minutes were agreed and signed, subject to the amendments being incorporated

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

16 September Full Council meeting

“106 Monies” – Proposal has been made to establish a pond area to encourage wildlife in an area already prone to waterlogging. Due to start Spring 2011 and will not include public artwork or play equipment. Residents will be consulted and notices posted on OSMCC Notice Board in Beech Tree Park.

25 September Extra-ordinary meeting re: Planning application by St John's College

Letter has been sent to Cardiff County Council Planning Office expressing the views of residents that were presented and a copy distributed to residents of Beech Tree park.

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. Christmas Newsletter 2010-11-15

Good progress has been made in defining content by the Media Working Party (MWP) and all Councillors were encouraged to seek advertisements. The MWP will circulate requests for articles and content to specific Councillors with a request to return copy by 1 Nov 2010 to allow Cllr. and Mr. Jones to format and submit to the printers. All Cllrs. Were requested to deliver the newsletter in a timely fashion with a target date of 5 Dec 2010 (subject to confirmation). Carol singing – proposed 17 Dec 2010 in Village Hall. Cllr Jones agreed to contact local church(es) for musical accompaniment and to liaise with the Scout group for access to the hall. Cllr. Jenkins agreed to purchase selection boxes for the children. Cllr Davies agreed to seek donations of mince pies. All Cllrs. Were requested to donate 'mulled wine'. The Village Hall Xmas tree has been donated in recent years by Carillion (M4 contractors) but for 2010 OSMCC will need to consider purchasing a tree.

The date of the annual bulb planting was also confirmed – 6 Nov 2010 10.30AM Tyr Winch Road Playing Field.

8. Key Distribution

Sets of keys have been cut to enable all Cllrs. to have access to the Village Hall and the Clerk's office. Cllr Stroud will keep a record and distribute the keys at a future date. Cllr Rees returned a key to Cllr Briggs for the village notice boards.

9. Highways and Planning including dog fouling

Dog fouling in Ty-To-Maen Close was raised as a persistent issue with owners ignoring polite requests to clean up. Similarly Cllr Brown has previously has to contact Cardiff County Council regarding dog fouling in Beech Tree Park to arrange for a clean up. Cllr Davies has requested more 'No Fouling' notices. In the general discussion it was agreed that there is little that can be done apart from recommending that residents call '101' and the 'Council Dog Warden' (who will contact owners if given a name/address and has the power to impound dogs if caught in public areas). Cllr Rees suggested an article on the dangers of dog fouling in the newsletter may be appropriate and highlighted a scheme in Llantrisant whereby volunteers maintained 'private' bins for dog excrement. Planning documents were previously circulated regarding the proposal for a 150 dwelling development in the land between the A4232 and Llanedeyrn village. The proposal was opposed by the Council

Action: Submit a holding objection based upon the following:

- ***Not a sustainable site in current form***
- ***No lighting or footpaths***
- ***Separated from main Pontprennau development by a main road***
- ***Not connected to Old St Mellons – very narrow lane; insufficient road infrastructure; anticipated increase in traffic etc***
- ***Species protection – area with native hedgerows and significant biodiversity***
- ***Lack of local schools***

Further detail to the objection can be added at a later date.

10. Finance matters

Held over until the Clerk returns

11. To receive reports from County Councillors Rees and Rogers

- Canopus/Duncan close resurfacing to start 5 Nov 2010
- Pelican crossing Tyr Winch Road
- Cardiff Council Biodiversity plan – extra sites include OSM and Pontprennau with some interesting discoveries including dor mice in hedgerows and otters
- County Cllrs will submit request for resurfacing of Kimberley Park/Mill Lane/Blackbirds Way (response to question from Cllr Jones on mechanism to submit such request). There has already been some remedial work in other local areas.
- Grit container has been requested for Hastings Crescent
- Cardiff Council is reviewing refurbishment of Council property in Ty-to-Maen Close.
- Meeting will be arranged regarding the 'Dell area' as part of a renewal programme.

10. To receive Working Party reports

Playing Fields

A meeting had taken place with Andy Kendall, former president of Cardiff Naturalists Society to formulate a plan to make the Playing Fields more environmentally radical with the plants etc. and to encourage more wild life. It was agreed that an invitation should be given to Mr Kendall to join the Working Party.

Village hall

Some complaints have been received regarding the general cleanliness of the hall. Recommendation to ask cleaner to increase hours from 4 to 6 per week and to help identify which hall users are causing the issues. Cleaner will also be requested to try to clean on Fridays (PM) prior to weekend hires.

Vote on the above carried 4 to 3; 2 abstentions

Action: to approach cleaner on the above

The Table Tennis Club are continuing to use the hall at various 'odd hours' including periods when the playgroup is in the hall despite having been requested to vacate the hall before the playgroup arrive.

Recommendation: To ban the table tennis club from the Village Hall before 8 AM.

Vote on the above carried 5 to 0; 2 declared abstentions

Action: To inform Table Tennis Club

Distribution of keys to non-designated keyholders continues to be an issue with hall users. Will be addressed when all hall users are sent a reminder of hall use policy in the near future.

Fence/boundary between the hall and Llandaff Square requires repair to prevent a dog access the hall grounds. This is still out to tender.

WI Singing for Pleasure group will be treated as a 'normal' hall hire from now on and subject to standard rates.

Media Working Party

Lettering on OSMCC village notice boards. This is fading and peeling and is deemed unsuitable. However the vendor has stated (email communication to Cllr Brown) that the format and wording is as agreed, that new lettering would not be free of charge - £36 for 3 sets and £96 if supplied and fitted.

Action: Clerk to review original order to verify content.

13. Correspondence

All correspondence was circulated prior to the Council sitting by the Chair.

An enquiry from Elfed Rees regarding an accident that befell his wife on the Village Hall stage will require a response.

Cllr Rogers will submit questions formally through the Clerk

14. Items for next meeting

Review accounts and audit status

AOB/General discussion:

Clarify when playing field tree survey is due. Cllr Rees raised condition of a yew tree in St Edyren's Churchyard which may need attention.

Some external maintenance may be required around the Village Hall such as painting edge of steps and resurfacing some paths. **Action: Refer to Village Hall working party.**

Cllr Jones raised the Church Xmas Market and requested permission to advertise the event on OSMCC notice boards. Chair agreed to this and suggested that content be

forwarded to the Media Working Party.

Scout Xmas Post – concerns were raised over security at request to place a post box in the Village Hall and that they may be better placed in local businesses where they will be under closer observation.

15. Date of next meeting

Thursday 18 November 2010

16. Employee Status

Caretaker has raised that his payslip does not contain a breakdown of his pay.

Action: Discuss with Clerk content of payslips

Cleansing Orderly – in response to enquiries from Cllrs and observations from residents the necessity for maintaining the position was discussed. In light of a new more focussed cleansing regime by Cardiff County Council it was proposed that the role may now be superfluous and so the opportunity to make the role redundant should be investigated.

Vote on