

OLD ST MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall, Newport Rd,
Old St. Mellons at 7.00pm on Thursday 12th September 2013

Present:

Chair: Cllr D Rees

Councillors: Cllr R Blackmore (RB)
Cllr S Johns (SJ)
Cllr D Stroud (DS)
Cllr S Williams (SW)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs N Evelyn-Gauci (NG)

In Attendance : Mrs Nicola Winstanley RFO (NW)

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr A Davies
Cllr R James
Cllr L Phillips
Cllr J Rogers

2. Declaration of interests

DR declared an interest : St. Edeyrns Churchyard, Ty'r Winch Playing Field, item 8.2
SW declared an interest : item 12.2

3. Police Matters

It was noted that Inspector Crowley is the new inspector for the area.

4. Members from outside bodies

4.1 Mr Paul Egan – One Voice Wales

The Chair expressed congratulations on Mr Paul Egan's appointment to Deputy Chief Executive and Resources Manager of One Voice Wales.

To the members of the public the Chair had informed them that Mr Paul Egan has been invited along to give the Community Council more information on how OSMCC can reduce their rates by suggesting we have a Hall Management Committee.

Mr Paul Egan started by saying the Llandough Community Council is similar to ours in size and the hall was in a terrible state and in poor condition but the community did not want the hall returned to the Council for control, so 10 years ago a charitable trust was established.

The community paid for advice and it was decided for the hall to remain as a charitable trust but would need five councillors as members and they would act as principal trustees. The five councillors could change but the trust would always need five members.

Once this was established the Hall Management Committee (HMC) – as a charitable organisation – could apply for grants, offering more opportunities for successful funding from e.g. lottery, or Welsh Government possibly obtaining a loan. In the case of Llandough they were able to obtain grants and refurbish the hall; they had a large sign made which attracted many potential hall hirers.

For OSMCC to have a Hall Management Committee (HMC), firstly we would be required to sell the Hall to a charitable trust and would need legal powers to do this. Once the legalities are completed the running of the hall will be solely managed by the new Committee – a charitable trust. The OSMCC Committee would no longer have any control, this could mean that the running of the hall may not be done how we would like it to be run, another drawback is that we can no longer claim back VAT. On a plus note the local Community could feel more involved because in order to keep it running, raising of funds are required.

The new HMC would be required to have minutes, they will need to keep financial accounts and accounts will need to be audited. They will be required to employ staff to maintain the hall, which the OSMCC may employ or transfer the responsibility to the HMC. Legal advice would have to be paid for by the OSMCC. Having said that, there would be a possible saving of up to £5000 on our rates, as the Community Hall will be run by the HMC – a charitable trust.

The five principle councillors as trustees will have an interest in making sure they get the best out of the building. This would also mean that they would have to lease the building from OSMCC on a 'peppercorn rent' otherwise funding will be greatly generated not making the hall viable. The running costs, hall bookings will all be done through the HMC.

It was also noted that for the initial start up the HMC could ask the OSMCC for funding.

The Chair thanked Mr Paul Egan for his time and he left at 7:30pm

It was noted the Clerk to write to Mr Paul Egan and request the legalities of this transfer.

4.2 Mr Paul Hussey – Gala Lights

Sent apologies but will be sending some information by email.

4.3 Mr Denis Cooper – Summers Funeral Directors

Sent apologies.

5. Minutes – to approve as a correct record of the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2013

Apologies from Cllr Blackmore was omitted.

6. Matters arising from the minutes of 11th July 2013

6.1 Applications for the pre purchase of graves – discuss.

It was resolved : It was agreed that anyone outside the boundaries of Old St. Mellons or those who do not worship at St. Edeyrn Church will not be able to pre purchase graves.

6.2 Village Hall reduction rates – set up a Hall Management Group

See item 4.1

6.3 Litter to Ty'r Winch field – litter bins if purchase Caretaker to empty?

It was resolved : Chair to send link to Clerk to price for 2 litter bins.

6.4 First World War: Then and Now : Heritage Lottery Fund – update.

It was noted that due to a large number of applications this funding has possibly been withdrawn, Chair will be checking.

6.5 Installation of telephone line for WIFI capabilities.

It was noted that the RFO had looked into this and found the cheapest to be Talk Talk who provides free installation and a monthly cost of £25.00

It was resolved : RFO to purchase subject to final costs.

6.6 Cardiff Conservation Volunteers.

It was suggested that these volunteers could tidy up Ty'r Winch playing fields where the group of trees near the entrance has a lot of weeds in the area.

7. Local Residents

Under Standing Order 84 the meeting may be adjourned for up to fifteen minutes for a public session. Each member of the public may speak only once and may express observations only. Members of the Council should not enter into any discussion. The Chair may limit an individual's speech to provide equal opportunity to all members of the public.

It was noted that during the last meeting a suggestion to obtain names from the War memorial had still not been received. SJ noted that she will be doing this.

If the Pavilion is to be refurbished will there be access for the disabled. It was noted there is an update see 13.8

Concern over the outside light near the path is not working, it was noted the caretaker had already been informed.

It was noted that the door to the kitchen off the small hall does not close.

Is it possible that a few of the business directories could be left by the noticeboard for visitors and hall hirers? It was agreed.

8. Highways and Planning

8.1 Application no :13/01309/DCO retention of canopy, St. Mellons Garage.

No objections.

8.2 Application no : 13/01206/DCO one detached house incl access for existing house, at Cefn Eurwg Druidstone Road, Old St.Mellons Cardiff CF3 6XD

It was noted to send a letter of objection.

8.3 Application no : 12/02192/DCO 13 dwellings west of Began Road – appeal

It was noted to send a letter of objection.

9. Finance

9.1 SLCC pay rates 2013/2014 salary scale and rate of pay for Clerk and RFO
Defer to next meeting.

9.2 Home working allowance for Clerk and RFO
Defer to next meeting.

9.3 RFO and Clerk hours
Defer to next meeting.

9.4 Fridge for kitchen
Correspondence received from OSMVA requesting a fridge was received.

It was noted that they are welcome to pay for their own fridge and perhaps keep it locked. It was stipulated by the OSMCC that if OSMVA are to buy their own fridge it would have to be a new one and self defrosting, also it would need to be retained in the bar area, for health and safety reasons it can no longer be retained in the kitchen.

9.5 Approval of the Annual Return following the Audit

It was noted that there are no issues.

It was resolved : Annual return approved proposed by DS and seconded by SW.

The chair and everyone agreed that the RFO has done extremely well.

9.6 Caretaker – contract

It was noted that the contract has been signed by the caretaker.

9.7 RFO handed to all Cllrs present, a list of comparison of costs for installation and line rental from four companies for the installation of telephone line and broadband at the village hall. The company showing best value was Talk Talk.

9.8 RFO provided to all Cllrs a summary of receipts and payments to date and forecast spend. At present the Community Council is forecast a surplus of £2480.

9.9 Clerk and RFO overtime and expenses were approved.

10. County Councillor Report

10.1 New community comprising to 1020 new homes meeting between developers and planners – update.

It was noted that this has still not gone to the planning department yet.

10.2 CCCP/00141 - Although not on agenda chair read out the internal changes to the Coach House public house.

No objections received.

11. Working Party Reports

Nothing to report.

12. Newsletter

12.1 Newsletter update.

The newsletters were well received.

12.2 Business Directory update.

It was noted that there were 200 extra directories delivered to residents that do not live in the immediate area.

Also noted that the next publication will be around February 2014

13. Correspondence Received

13.1 Welsh Language Communities Alliance

It was noted that this correspondence from OVW were looking for Community Councils to become a member.

13.2 Play Equipment – Ty'r Winch Road

It was confirmed that Cardiff Council is responsible to maintain the equipment stated.

13.3 Funding Bench for Ty'r Winch Field & Roll of Honour Plaque

It was noted that OSMVA suggested funding a bench, OSMCC stipulated that this must be a hard wood bench, and would OSMCC be funding the installation costs and maintenance. DS to speak to OSMVA as to ascertain if there is an upper limited to how much they are willing to pay.

It was resolved : it was agreed that a roll of honour plaque will not proceed.

13.4 LDP letter to OVW

It was noted that OVW had written to Cardiff Council with concerns over the LDP - Chair read out letter.

13.5 Scams – Age UK – something for website?

Noted : copy of this letter to go on noticeboard.

13.6 South Wales Fire & Rescue – changes to stations

Noted : that Cardiff will not be undergoing any changes.

13.7 St Edeyrns – available rows

It was noted that the available rows to go ahead and contractors to speak to Summers Funeral directors.

13.8 SITA trust fund

It was noted that OSMCC were not successful.

13.9 Website funding

It was resolved : It was noted that the funding for this website has been received, but after the first year there will be a subscription to maintain website. All agreed to go ahead.

13.10 Community council elections – review of recharge rates

Noted : Postponed by Cardiff Council.

13.11 OSMVA – TT request to main hall

It was resolved : To maintain the use of the small hall, main hall is available only when not in use, priority goes to potential hall hirers.

13.12 Consultation on designated persons – public services

Document needs to be completed by OSMCC - Chair will look into this.

13.13 DFS – Children in Need

It was noted that DFS were looking to hire the hall for their Children in Need day, Clerk had suggested charging a small fee of £15.00 in return of advertising the OSMCC.

It was resolved : All agreed.

14. Items for next meeting

- 14.1** Working Party to meet to discuss : Baby changing facility, outside lighting, repairs to toilets and door from small hall to kitchen.
- 14.2** Traffic condition to Church Road, Ty'r Winch Road.
- 14.3** Cardiff Crusaders Football Club – winter time table.

*Cllr Dianne Rees
Chair to the Old St. Mellons Community Council*

PREPARED