

MAESYCWMMER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Maesycwmmmer Community Council held remotely on Thursday, 25th February 2021 at 7:00p.m.

PRESENT

Councillors: Miss J Rao, Mrs M Harries, Mr C Williams, Mr R Woodyatt, Mr D Cocks.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs R. Kedward (Clerk), Cllr V James.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr A Jones, Cllr A Joynes.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

1688. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 27th November 2020 were confirmed as a true record.

1689. **ROAD SAFETY, POLICE and COMMUNITY LIAISON**

The Police were not in attendance at the meeting. A report had been requested and the Clerk agreed to forward it on to Councillors upon receipt.

Cllr Woodyatt asked the Council to consider inviting Mr D Earey to the next physical meeting to discuss the possibility of his acting as a road safety consultant for the Council to recommend future schemes and assist in making informed decisions.

1690. **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr C Williams noted the response from CCBC regarding the Council's street lighting concerns. He raised the question on whether anything could be done on social media to encourage people to report instances such as car and house doors being tried, trespassers in gardens etc. Although these things are happening regularly, they are not being reported to CCBC or the Police and therefore the official response is that there are no issues in the village as a result of the streetlights being turned off.

Cllr James agreed and revealed that the issue regarding lack of night-time lighting is a constant subject of discussion within CCBC and the Labour Party and despite many members objecting to the policy it is proving difficult to achieve changes.

Cllr James reiterated that phone calls can be registered by the Police and CCBC, and even if they don't act upon individual instances, each call will be added to the crime statistics for the area.

It was agreed that a post be added to the Council's website, urging members of the community to report any instances of crime and safety concerns to the Police and CCBC.

1691. **CIL EXPENDITURE**

The Clerk produced a report on all CIL income received to date, plus expenditure already agreed:

<u>CIL Income</u>		
30/06/2017	£	1,012.50
30/06/2018	£	23,642.17
30/06/2019	£	23,695.14
30/06/2020	£	22,726.17
	£	71,075.98

<u>CIL Expenditure</u>			
Outdoor Gym	£	15,000.00	Reserved
Skate Park	£	30,000.00	Reserved
Bench - Main Road	£	4,654.81	Reserved
Defibrillator	£	1,442.00	Spent
	£	51,096.81	

There was an amount of £19,979.17 remaining and after consideration, it was unanimously agreed that £19,000 would be donated to Maescwmmmer Primary School to help with the provision of Chromebooks for pupils. The amount of £979.17 would be kept as reserves.

1692. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS OPTIONS**

The Clerk circulated various design and costing options for new Christmas lights. 11 new lampposts were to be adapted at a cost of £3,300 and it was decided that option 3 was the most popular option, with 2 extra red lights to start and finish the display at either end. The Clerk agreed to work further on this and get a finalised plan to view at the next meeting.

1693. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported that a number of documents had been forwarded to Councillors by email and requested that Councillors contact her if any action was required.

1694. **REPORT OF THE CLERK, MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES.**

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator was due to arrive any day and Cllr Harries son in law had very kindly offered to fit it to the OAP hall.

The Clerk reported that Anna Lewis WHQS had been in touch with a start date of 15th March for works on the outdoor Gym.

The Clerk raised concerns regarding the running of this year's playscheme. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that due to there being so many uncertainties and variables surrounding Covid-19 restrictions the only option would be to suspend the scheme for another year. The Clerk agreed to formally write to the Community Centre Committee to inform them of the decision.

Cllr Rao reported that she had chaired a virtual T&CL meeting and would circulate reports shortly. Her next Joint Liaison Committee was to be held on 31st March.

1695. **FINANCE**

The Clerk produced a report for payments. This was considered and payments approved and signed on the monthly payment schedule.

The Clerk produced the risk assessment for 2021, this was considered and approved. The Clerk produced the asset register for 2021, this was considered and approved.

The Clerk reported that the current balance was £92,354.67, less CIL funds of £71,075.98 = £21,278.69.

The Clerks contract had not yet been reviewed (as required in April 2020) due to Covid-19 restrictions. It was reviewed and agreed to increase salary in line with National Association of Local Councils' salary scale LC1 level 9 up to March 2021.

1696. **PLANNING**

Case Ref 21/0089/FULL

The Rise, Summerfield Hall Lane - Erect ground floor extension, re construct roof to create first floor accommodation and internal and external alterations – NOTED.

1697. **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Cllr James voiced his concerns that in current circumstances, some people have become less caring about their communities and are damaging the local area and negatively impacting on safety and this is something that needs addressing.

Cllr James enquired about the possibility of establishing a neighbourhood watch meeting to enable more constructive work around community safety.

The Councillors agreed that this is needed now more than ever with the current street light concerns.

It was decided to think about this and continue discussions at the next meeting.

Cllr James revealed that as part of CCBC's next year's budget, a community empowerment fund for each ward of around £5000 had been proposed.

He was not sure on the criteria yet but asked for input from the Community Council on how this could be spent.

It was agreed that this be added to the agenda for next month's meeting to give Councillor's time to think of ideas.