

MAELOR SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held online.

Wednesday 10th January 2024 7:00 pm

Present: Cllr. J. Griffiths (JG) Chair, Cllr. A. Raey (AR), Cllr. Keith Owen (KO), Cllr. S. Rodenhurst (SR), Cllr. Nick Ringrose (NR),

In Attendance: John Gallanders Clerk (JOG)

Apologies: Cllr. M. Edge (ME), Cllr. J. Blanchard (JB) , Cllr. J. Tomkinson (JT)

01.01 Declarations of Interest.

No additional declarations of interest

01.02 Welcome: Cllr (JG) welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2024 and hoped everyone had a good and healthy Christmas and New Year.

12.03 Police Update: PCSO Dean Sayer in attendance

The monthly update from (DS) had been circulated prior to the meeting. Content noted.

Updated annual crime figures highlighted that across the whole of Wrexham Rural crime was down 22%. In the Rural One area that includes Penley and Bettisfield the reported crime figures were down 27%.

There was nothing specific to report on any crime.

There will be an update in the February 2024 meeting regarding current speed enforcement results.

Cllr (KO) reported that the Go Safe vehicle was located between Overton and Penley on the A539 recently.

01.04 County Council Update: Apology from Cllr John McCusker

Points to note:

Cllr (JM) arranged for the WCBC Flood Officer to visit Bettisfield recently. The feedback has highlighted a number of gullies and culverts that are overflowing but due to the high-water level it was not possible to use a 'drain Cam' to assess if there were blockages or just an issue with excess rain.

It was noted that the drains around the Chapel area are very shallow with a low runoff angle – this will not help with drainage and will result in backflow and flooding.

Cllr (AR) highlighted one incident of a septic tank overflowing and potential raw sewage in the flood water.

Action: Photos to be provided to create a file of flood incidents that may impact on any future planning applications.

Redhall Lane – Cllr (JM) is liaising with Planning Officers

Refuse Collections- there are still ongoing issues in Bettisfield with 'random' collections, leaving some households without a collection, even when they are next door to one that has been collected.

There are also issues with the refuse wagons having their side flaps open when going around corners spilling refuse into the hedge row.

Action: Cllr JM to raise with relevant WCBC Officer

01.05 Open Forum – No members of the public in attendance.

01.06 Minutes 5th December 2023

Amendments: No amendments. Proposed acceptance by Cllr. KO, seconded by Cllr. NR.

01.07 Matters Arising:

12.03 'Abandoned' vehicle – Penley school layby. Cllr (KO) reported that a WCBC Enforcement Notice for removal had been on the vehicle but now longer visible. This would give the owner x days to remove.

If the owner does not remove it, the vehicle will be treated as abandoned and WCBC will remove.

Action: Clerk to seek clarity from Cllr JM re timeline for action.

Clerk reported that there has still not been any response from Canal and River Trust re the car parking and access issues.

Action: Clerk to make telephone contact to ensure that any possible action re parking and access can be undertaken before the spring.

01.08 Village Projects

Bettisfield:

Planters: Cllr (AR) reported he had contact from a resident who would be prepared to look after a planter by their property (The Brambles). Cllr (JB) message to report that the planters around the Chapel could be removed. One person on the Community Survey indicated they would be prepared to look after a planter.

A list of planters to be retained linked to residents' names to be provided for February meeting.

Survey: Due to apologies for the pre-meeting a separate meeting will be convened for Bettisfield Members to look at the results of the survey. A feedback report will be provided to community members.

Roads: Cllr AR reported on a number of potholes and flooding issues- It was noted that many of these issues may not be resolved until the drier weather.

It was noted the importance of ensuring that WCBC recognise that there is only one road in and out of Bettisfield and although it is not an 'A or B' class it should have the same status to ensure access for residents and in the event of an emergency.

Donkey Field: Full discussion at February meeting after Bettisfield Members have met.

Penley:

Village signs: Three outstanding signs that are having new fittings added will be available shortly. Thanks to Cllrs (JG) and (KO) for putting up the first batch.

New Noticeboard: Cllr (KO) suggested that the additional Community Noticeboard proposed for near Llanerch Panna should be made from recycled plastic.

Action: Photo of the noticeboard by the layby to be provided to the Clerk to seek quotes for a similar unit.

Pavement and Zebra Crossing: It was noted that the temporary works to the footpath is now breaking up as well as the replaced surface on the zebra crossing. Rainwater is still ponding causing the issues and leaving deposits of mud and sludge.

Action: Clerk to contact Wes re the actions identified in last years walkabout and the deterioration of works undertaken.

20 Mph flashing sign: It was reported that the flashing speed sign opposite Maelor School and junction of Penley Hall Drive has not been working since before Christmas.

Action: Clerk to notify Wes Waters.

Big Green Court lighting: The works have still not been completed in line with the Planning permission approval. In addition the landscaping works have not been completed.

Action: Clerk to contact relevant Lighting Officer in WCBC

Penley Defibrillators: Cllr (NR) is the 'Guardian' and is making regular checks which are logged onto the Circuit website that indicates they are available in the event of an emergency. New stickers have been added to indicate contact details.

There is a problem with the drain by the Phone Box which is causing flooding inside.

Action: Clerk to contact Wes Waters to arrange for the drain cleaning.

Planters: Full discussion as to which will be kept, and which will be removed.

Action: Cllr KO to identify residents that are willing to continue to maintain and which need removing.

Rainbow Foundation: It was noted that there will be two community meetings for the RF to give information about their historical project. Cllr (JG) will attend and report back on any potential links with MSCC.

Meeting with CE of WCBC: it was noted that this is long overdue.

Action: Cllr JM to request progress.

01.09 Correspondence-

Email from a Bettisfield resident regarding flooding and potholes. The contents have been noted and the Clerk will respond.

Service Level Agreement – Play inspection contract with WCBC

The cost of the monthly and annual inspection has increased by £20- new price £305 + vat. Clerk reported that a comprehensive inspection is undertaken, and minor repairs conducted by the Inspector and written reports provided.

Members indicated the good value for the service and agreed to renew the SLA.

Proposed Cllr (SR) seconded Cllr (KO)

Precept: Acknowledgement from WCBC that the precept request from MSCC for £24,096 has been approved based on 741 properties.

01.10 Finance:

The list of invoices for payment had previously been circulated. 12 invoices approved – total £2169.24.

Proposed Cllrs (SR) seconded Cllr (KO)

Audit Commission – all information requested has now been provided.

Annual Grants – Clerk proposed that the MSCC grant distribution moves from March to February meeting to ensure all payments etc are cleared before the end of year. Members were also asked to put forward any potential organisations for a grant.

Members agreed to action.

01.11 Governance: The Statutory Notice was circulated in both Penley and Bettisfield before Christmas. No member of the public has applied. One resident from Bettisfield had indicated an interest on the community survey.

Action: The Bettisfield person will be contacted, and the Chair will make contact with a couple of people who have shown an informal interest.

01.12 Planning:

No new applications

Penley Mill House, Lion Lane, Penley – awaiting feedback on submission made by MSCC

Heartland Farm- Noted that the applicant has withdrawn their application

01.13 Communications: No report.

Action: Clerk to circulate copy of last years Annual Report

01.14 Meetings attended by Members:

Welshampton Parish Council: Cllrs (NR) and (KO) attended the meeting to discuss the Heartland Planning application.

01.15 AOB

Cllr (SR) raised concerns over the look of the new fence at Maelor School- this was noted and could be taken up with the school.

01.16 Date of Next Meeting – 6th February 2024, 7.00pm online.

Meeting closed at 9:05 pm.