

**Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of Martletwy Community Council**  
**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm at Lawrenny Village Hall**

**Note:** With the agreement of all parties involved these proceedings were recorded

**Present:** Cllr Liz Williams (Chair); Cllr Victoria Evans (Vice-Chair), Cllr Bruce Carlisle, Cllr Jason Crowther, Cllr Phil Eynon: Lizzie Lesnianski (Clerk). **Apologies:** Cllr Phil Davies

**Declarations of Interest:** None

**25/013: Minutes of the previous meeting:** Cllr Eynon stated there were factual errors. Cllr Williams (the Chair) stated Cllr Eynon should have raised any queries previously. The Chair considered the minutes to be an accurate record of the last meeting and signed and dated two copies.

**25/014: Matters arising:**

**a. One Voice Wales – AGM Motion:** The Clerk confirmed she continued to work on the wording of the motion. It must be sent in towards the end of June. She will forward the motion to One Voice Wales before the deadline.

Cllr Clements arrived at the meeting.

**25/015: Planning:**

**a. Applications Received:**

**i) 25066/PA: Jericho, Martletwy, SA67 8AS.**

Comments: Cllr Eynon commented the statement attached to the application was misleading. It states the work has not started and this is not correct. The statement also states the build cannot be seen from the road when it can. The statement also includes the statement that the new application is the same as other conversions on the property. It was agreed by the council that to their understanding no planning had been approved for any of the other conversions on site. It was understood there was a planning application approved in 2005, but this lapsed before the work commenced. The original building is small. The building in this application is much bigger and higher. The negative visual impact on the local area was also considered a major issue.

Decision: The council do not support this application.

**ii) 25/0052/PA: Oakley, Martletwy, SA67 8AP**

Comments: Cllr Eynon stated he felt the new shed would be better than what is there now, but the shed seemed very large proportionately for the land area.

Decision: The council support this application.

**iii) 25/0102/PA: School House, Martletwy, SA67 8AS (retrospective)**

Comments: Cllr Eynon reiterated he is disappointed this is yet again a retrospective application. All councillors present agreed with his statement. Crowther was seriously concerned with regard to this application, in addition to it being retrospective. He has a recollection of being told the school house building is of some significance, having been built by some notable architect back in its day. So far a considerable amount of damage has been done to the original fabric of the building. This application will destroy the special qualities of the building. Cllr Crowther felt the 9ft box sash windows were an important part of the character of the building and should have been retained. This would appear to have been done without planning consent. It was noted the original elevation is shown on the plans and it is visible the damage done to the architecture of the original building.

All councillors expressed their disappointment this was another retrospective planning application.

Decision: There was no majority decision. The vote was split. Two councillors voted to support the application but were not happy it was retrospective. Two councillors voted against supporting the application. One councillor abstained.

**iv) 25/0196/PA: Land at Newhouse Farm, Canaston Bridge, SA62 5UN**

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Discussion commenced regarding this item. Cllr Eynon raised the issue of visual impact on the wider community and whether the site was too close to the highway and local dwellings. There was also a concern with regard the noise impact on the close and wider community. The sheer quantity of concrete required for this project was also an issue. As the discussion continued Cllr Clements suggested the member's reach out to the planning agent, and the applicant, to see if a public meeting could be arranged, and also a meeting with the community council. It was agreed that the Clerk to request an extension to the consultation period from the planning authority, and also to contact the planning agent for the applicant to arrange a meeting with community council members.

**b. Application Notice Received:** None reported for the agenda for this meeting.

**c. Other Planning Matters:** Nothing presented for the agenda for this meeting.

**25/016: Highway Matters**

**a. Highway Maintenance Issues – Councillors reports:**

i. Cllr Crowther reported the nasty pothole on the side of the highway surface by the entrance to Waddock on the left-hand side as you come up the hill needs work as it is particularly bad.

ii. Cllr Carlisle reported an issue between Vallen and Furze hill. The overgrowth from the verges is across the highway and lorries and tractors are colliding with it.

**25/017: Finances:**

**a. Financial Report:** Clerk presented the financial report for the period 9<sup>th</sup> May until 8<sup>th</sup> June and went through the details presented. Opening combined balances £12,419.24. Total Receipts £6.07. Total Payments £616.89. Closing combined balances £11,808.42. The Clerk asked councillors if they had any questions. None were raised. All in favour of approving the report. The Chair signed and dated the report.

**b. Invoices and Remittances:** Zurich Insurance - £253. Annual Premium. Clerk explained Zurich had changed the system and the community council were no longer able to proceed with their previous existing policy, and had to set up a new renewal. This happened during the Clerk's leave. On return the Clerk liaised with the Chair to get authorisation and approval of the new premium. No questions arose. The Chair signed the documentation. N-power £9.41 for Landshipping – councillors approved the payment.

**c. Audit:** The Clerk presented the completed Annual Return, along with the Internal Auditor's comments and signature. The Clerk ran through all the figures before giving councillors time to look over everything. The Clerk read out the internal auditor's comments to all. The councillors also took time to read through the Annual Return. The Clerk confirmed the council had already approved the financial reports and figures at the Annual meeting. The councillors were all in agreement the Annual Return should be signed. Cllr Williams, in her capacity as Chair, signed the Annual Return. The Clerk will get it ready to send to the Audit Office.

**d. VAT Update:** The clerk reported receipt of written correspondence from the VAT office following the claim, asking for the copy of a bank statement. The Clerk emailed a copy as requested on 5<sup>th</sup> June. Now awaiting any further update from the VAT office.

**e. Bank Signatories:** The clerk reported she is working on updating the bank mandate form to include those who are not currently signatories and to remove those who are no longer councillors. It is not straightforward. The clerk also reported on Nat West's Community bank account. This looks as though it is what the community council needs, and includes the facility for authorisations. The clerk is hopeful this may be the way forward, but she stated she feels it is important to get the mandate correct first so they can swap it over. No questions arose from her report.

**f. Clerk Salary Report:** The Salary Report was emailed to all councillors and a majority approved it prior to payment at the end of the month.

**25/018: Community:**

**a. Community Events:**

i. Summer Event: Cllr Williams mentioned there had been discussion with Cllr Evans with regard to a summer event at Landshipping slipway on 16<sup>th</sup> August, weather and tide permitting. Cllr Williams asked if anyone had any thoughts. Cllr Williams suggested a BBQ. Cllr Evans will email the resident

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at the slipway to ask if we can borrow their equipment. Cllr Williams and Cllr Evans will work together to organise this event.

ii. VE Day picnic: Cllr Williams reported on the VE Day picnic. It was attended by some 30 residents and was a lovely event. Cllr Evans and the clerk both agreed. Prior to the event Cllr Williams had put up bunting along the fence, Cllr Crowther had delivered wooden benches, donated locally, and Cllr Carlisle had mowed the grass. Some local residents who had attended brought some tables. Many people brought food to share. Cllr Williams thanked Cllrs Crowther and Carlisle for their assistance.

iii. Community Christmas Trees: The clerk will reach out to the Lawrenny contact to see if they would like to participate in the Community Christmas Tree initiative.

**b. Community Initiatives:**

**c. Grant Application Opportunities & update:** Cllr Clements thought perhaps she had sent something through. The Clerk will have another look, but confirmed she had not seen anything she thought would fit the criteria for the community council in a time frame which was possible to achieve.

**25/019: Community Council Policies:**

**a. Annual Report:** The clerk continues to work on this. The clerk confirmed she is trying to find time to do this within close reach of the hours she is contracted for. The end of year accounts, annual meeting and annual return have taken up a great deal of time in recent months. It will be completed as soon as there is time.

**b. Training Policy:** Cllr Evans reported the update is almost complete. Awaiting a few extra details, including dates of training in the last 12 months.

**25/020: Councillor/Clerk Training:**

**a. Training with One Voice Wales:** Cllr Evans reiterated all councillors should be doing training to fill the gaps in their training. Cllr Eynon stated it was not always easy to sign up for a specific time and date due to work commitments changing. The Clerk confirmed that most online events would probably remain accessible up to 48 hours prior to the event so councillors should hopefully be able to attend events with a week's, or perhaps a few days' notice if the event is not fully booked. This would enable Cllr Eynon, and other councillors to book onto training closer to the date. The Clerk confirmed to Cllr Evans her training booking had been deferred.

**b. Joint Training with other councils:** Clerk confirmed she is talking to Uzmaston, Boulston and Slebech CC and will be in contact with One Voice Wales.

**25/021: Meetings Attended by Community Councillors/Clerk:** None reported.

**25/022: Correspondence Received:**

**a. Long Course Weekend (LCW):** Cllr Williams confirmed the local community had received maps pertaining to the courses over the three days of LCW. It is also available online. Confirmed it is the weekend of 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. It mostly effects Tenby and Saundersfoot. Clerk to try to upload map to social media and the website.

**b. Hywel Dda Health Board:** Clinical Services Plan Consultation. Cllr Evans confirmed she had responded personally. There was discussion with regard to the disappointing situation regarding local hospital health care. It was agreed it was disappointing they were contemplating removing some services completely. The Clerk confirmed there was an online session on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June if anyone wished to attend. The Clerk will try her best to attend.

**c. Keep Wales Tidy:** Email received 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Cllr Williams confirmed the email was to discuss whether the community council had noticed any litter issues as they have not worked around Martletwy or Lawrenny in recent times. If there is an appetite for working together Keep Wales Tidy could discuss the supply of litter picking equipment. Cllr Williams has emailed a response and Keep Wales Tidy will attend and also offer training, as well as equipment. All agreed Cllr Williams should put together some dates and get in contact with Keep Wales Tidy. Cllr Carlisle offered his assistance. Cllr Evans reiterated the idea to put litter picking equipment in the defib kiosk at Landshipping. A

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general discussion ensued regarding events. It was agreed that fewer events with more people may be a good idea. Cllr Eynon suggested bins might improve the situation. Cllr Evans commented that a lot of litter appears to be ejected from moving vehicles as it is always in the hedges.

**25/023: County Councillor Report:** The newsletter has been delivered with the help of Cllr Davies. Just a few more to deliver. Cllr Clements spoke to many residents on the way round. Most seemed content. Within the county council there has been some political unrest. There was a vote of no confidence in the deputy leader last week regarding Welsh language comments. Her group abstained from voting. There is discussion regarding a 7.5% increase on council tax, which will continue to leave a savings required of a further £21million. Cllr Clements confirmed she is giving up the Chair at Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, but will remain on the committee, in order to focus her attention elsewhere and within her ward.

**25/024: Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025. Venue to be confirmed. Due to apologies it was agreed to move the meeting to later in the month. This will also shorten the time between the July and September meetings. Cllr Williams suggested moving the meeting to the Martletwy play area weather permitting. Clerk to book hall as a backup.

**Meeting closed:** 8:32pm.

**Signed:**..... **Date:**..... **Position:**.....