

ORDINARY MEETING – MONDAY 7th OCTOBER 2024
NOTE OF PROCEEDINGS

In attendance: Cllr Liz Williams (Chair); Cllr Bruce Carlisle (Vice Chair); Cllr Jason Crowther, Cllr Phil Davies, Cllr Victoria Evans, Cllr Phil Eynon; Lizzie Lesnianski (Clerk)

Apologies received: Cty Cllr Di Clements

Declarations of interest received: None.

With the agreement of all present these proceedings were recorded.

Decisions made (by Agenda reference):

Minutes of Previous Meeting: All councillors present agreed the minutes were an accurate reflection of the recording and the minutes were approved and signed.

Planning:

1. Applications Received: a) 24/0455/FUL – Parkview, Lawrenny, SA68 0PW

Councillors confirmed they received the consultation email.

The only comment raised by councillors was the need to change the corrugated iron and cladding to stone and slate as preferred in previous applications.

If the application were to remain as per the application, the decision whether to support the application or not was split 50/50 between council. If the corrugated and cladding were swapped for stone and slate, council would unanimously support the application.

Finance:

a. Invoices & Remittance:

i. SLCC Wales – subscription payment. Approved.

ii. One Voice Wales. Training x2. Cllrs Carlisle and Williams. Unanimously approved.

b. Financial Reports:

i. *Bank Balances:* Clerk presented Bank Balance Report. No questions were raised. All in favour.

ii. *Draft Precept Budget 2025/2026:* The Clerk presented an initial draft Precept budget for discussion. It was suggested and agreed a small sum should be included in the budget for both Biodiversity projects and Community events. It was also recognised the monthly hours of the Clerk should be increased. A majority of councillors felt the Precept should be increased in line with inflation to allow for expected price increases. Clerk to present amended budget to councillors to consider and hopefully for approval at November meeting.

c. **Clerk Salary:** Clerk presented Salary Report for September. Unanimously approved.

Community

a) **Fencing:** Cllr Carlisle confirmed work on the fence at Martletwy undertaken.

b) **Events:** Cllr Carlisle confirmed the annual community firework evening will once again take place on Tuesday 5th November. Cllrs Crowther and Williams volunteered to assist with parking, as did the Clerk. Cllr Evans will help if available. Cllr Crowther suggested walkie talkies for use at the two positions on the hill.

9. Community Council Policies:

i. **Planning Response Policy:** Clerk confirmed recent discussions with non-interested parties, including a local planning consultant, unconnected to Martletwy Community Council, had given a deeper understanding of the community council's role in local planning issues. She stated that as a community Council, Martletwy have no authority with regard to planning applications or alleged breaches. They are a local consultee only. The Clerk had therefore prepared an alternative draft

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Planning Response Policy to that previously presented. Both drafts had been emailed to councillors prior to the meeting. Council discussed the council's role. Cllr Davies concurred with the view MCC have no decision making authority with regard planning applications or breaches. Cllr Davies also confirmed Pembrokeshire County Council's planning department are issuing their own policy in the next few months. After further discussion Councillors agreed they would like to see the outcome of the local authorities new planning response policy before making a final decision. As an interim the council agreed via a majority to adhere to the newest version of the policy. The new policy confirms community council have no jurisdiction and should always signpost concerns raised to the relevant planning authorities. Planning breaches would be removed from the agenda. Clerk asked for a show of hands, 5 councillors voted in favour of this action.

ii. Meeting Policy: Further to last month's discussions it was agreed the community council should be able to remain fluid within its remit as a public body. It was concluded there should be a minimum of 8 meetings per annum. The policy regarding no meeting in August was upheld. Clerk to reissue.

iv. Biodiversity Plan. Clerk confirmed this had been concluded and sent to all councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors had no questions or changes and adopted the plan.

14. Date of next Meeting: Monday 4th November at 19:30. Venue to be confirmed.

The rest of the meeting comprised of matters arising and usual community council business.

Meeting Closed: 20:44