COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE SYCAMORE TREE INN PUBLIC HOUSE ON

TUESDAY JANUARY 8TH 2012

1. ATTENDANCE

COUNCILLORS: G.W.BATES – CHAIRMAN

 B.KENNARD

 MRS. H MACLEHOSE

 MRS. J HORTON

 W.BELLIN

 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR R. THOMAS

 CLERK: JANE CORWIN

APOLOGIES: COUNCILLOR LEWIS

 COUNCILLOR AUSTIN

There was one member of the public present

1. Apologies were received from Councillor Lewis and Councillor Austin
2. Declarations of Interest: none
3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on December 11th 2012 had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was proposed by Councillor Kennard and seconded by Councillor Bellin that they be accepted. This was carried unanimously and the records signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman and Clerk.
4. Matters arising:

5.1 Little Hill: The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Vale Tree Officer and a copy of her reply had been circulated to Councillors. It was agreed that a decision should not be taken on the way forward with the issues involved until a breakdown of the estimate for further works had been obtained from Mr Anstee and the question of payment of the invoice for the survey carried out had been clarified. The Clerk will contact the Tree Officer again and ask if she would come out to the village to meet one of the Councillors on a one to one basis to discuss the various issues re Little Hill, including whether or not the stumps remaining after the removal of the dangerous trees actually need to be ground out.

5.2 Cardiff and Vale Health Board: the Clerk reported that she had sent the letter expressing the Council’s concern at the proposed reorganisation of Specialist Hospital Services across South Wales to and the potential impact of the possible closure of A and E facilities in Bridgend to the Review body, Alun Cairns, Jane Hutt, Andrew RT Davies and David Melding. A copy of the letter had been circulated to Councillors. As yet, no response has been received from any of the recipients.

5.3 The Big Fill: The Clerk had reported the potholes identified at the January meeting.

5.4 Fly Grazing: The Clerk and Councillor Thomas both attended the meeting in Cowbridge on December 18th, arranged by Alun Cairns and had both been impressed by the concern expressed by Superintendent Paul James about this issue. He gave extensive information about the actions being taken by the Police, in conjunction with the Vale and Bridgend Councils and Trading Standards, to manage the difficult situations that have arisen as a result of inadequate/inappropriate horse ownership. A number of prosecutions are pending and are due to be heard in court in the Spring. He gave the meeting the number of the Vale single point of contact which is 01446 700111. This is the line, manned on a 24 hour basis, to which incidents should be reported when they occur. He also gave his own personal mobile phone number which is 07584 771005 should residents feel that the issues are not being addressed.

5.5 The Chairman stated that he had passed on information about the post of School Governor to Llandow CC but had heard nothing further as to whether one of their councillors wished to be appointed to the vacant post.

5.6 Councillor Lewis has agreed to complete the Climate Change questionnaire.

5.7 Church Gate: The Chairman hopes that the Church itself will raise funds towards the installation of an electrical supply to the new lantern, which is now in place. They should also be able to arrange a working party to dig the trench for the cabling. After payment of the invoice for the repairs to the gate and the installation of the lantern, there is still £200 left in the budget, should this be needed.

5.8 Councillor Thomas reported that he had had a letter from Mark Tozer at the Vale about the possibility of amendments to the Village sign to reflect the Blessed Village status. The letter has been passed to the Clerk who will follow up the issue.

5.9 The Treasurer will comment on the HSBC issue concerning the transfers made incorrectly at the next meeting.

5.10 The Clerk has received a letter from the Vale concerning the setting of the Precept and will let them have the amount decided upon at the last meeting, namely 15p in the £.

5.11 The work on the bridge had been done by Mr Allman’s gardener. Some further tidying up would be beneficial but it was agreed that the area was much improved.

5.12 The Chair will remind Councillor Austin about the new plaque for the telephone kiosk.

5.13 It had been agreed that the village Christmas trees will be delivered later next time so that larger specimens will be available.

1. Clerk’s Report:

The Clerk reported that she had received the following correspondence:

- A list of advice surgeries to be held in 3013 by Jane Hutt. This will be displayed in the Notice Board.

- A copy of the Completion Certificate for the diversion of Footpath No 3 in Colwinston at Newlands Farm

- A Letter from the Vale of Glamorgan re the Precept which has to be notified to them by January 31st.

- List of Training Courses run by One Voice Wales for the Spring which has been circulated to members.

- An update on the Sustainable Development Bill, circulated to members

- Information on the nomination of individuals to attend the 3013 series of garden parties at Buckingham Palace.

- an email from the Consumer Council for Water, seeking a new local consumer advocate. The Clerk confirmed that she had sought clarification of the question as to whether the membership of bodies such as this is restricted to Unitary Authorities.

- emails re the appointment of members to the Advisory Panel on Substance Abuse and the Post of Chair of Career Choices Dewis Gyrfa.

- Details of Strong Roots Courses being delivered in 2013, which had been circulated to Councillors.

- Planning Application no 2012/01319 re a Games Room at The Old Vicarage Colwinston, to which there had been no objections.

-a copy of the Statement of Principles re the Gambling Act 2005, for the period 2013-2016, copies of which can be downloaded from the website licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

- an email from the South Wales Echo re the expansion of their community coverage on news events, photos etc in the local area. The Clerk will forward this to Councillor Horton to be passed on to the Village Hall Committee and to the Village website.

- an email from Steven Thomas, PCSO, confirming that there had been no crimes in the Village during December.

- a copy of the December/January Funding Newsletter from the Countryside Commission for Wales, via One Voice Wales, which may offer some opportunities for tree enhancement.

- Christmas Greetings from Janet Finch Saunders, shadow minister for Local Government and Communities and from the Boundary Commission for Wales, along with a newsletter and a change of address.

- a request for funding/support from the Urdd for 2013. This was recognised as a worthy cause but Councillors felt there were more pressing calls on the Council’s limited resources.

- the agenda and previous minutes from One Voice Wales for the meeting to be held in Cowbridge on January 14th. Councillor Mrs Maclehose will attend this meeting.

1. Clerk’s Time sheet/Expenses

The Clerk had submitted her timesheet and expenses for the period October 1st – December 31st 2012 to the Treasurer for payment. The Chairman will confirm the hourly rate to the Treasurer. The Clerk reported that she was content with the draft Contract of Employment and the Chairman will now produce a final copy for signature by both parties.

1. Treasurer’s report: The balances of the Council’s bank accounts as at January 5th stood at:

 Current account: £395.61 credit

 Deposit account: £8176.12 credit

 The Clerk will enquire about payment of the Christmas Grant from the Vale, which does not yet appear to have been received.

1. Any Other Business

9.1 Councillor Kennard reported that he had been accepted as a member of the Police Consultative Panel but unfortunately is unable to attend the January Meeting.

9.2 Councillor Mrs Horton felt that residents should be encouraged to clean culverts on their own land as a flood precaution, although it was recognised that culverts on the Highway are the responsibility of the Highways Department. Councillor Bellin said he had taken photographs of the flooded areas near Beech Park in case of future development plans for the site.

9.3 Councillor Thomas commented that the Welsh Assembly Government had said that the Vale of Glamorgan LDP from the previous administration was one of the better, more coherent ones submitted so far.

10. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday February 12th at 7.30pm