**COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE SYCAMORE TREE PUBLIC HOUSE COLWINSTON ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 10TH2013 AT 7.30PM

1. **ATTENDANCE**

Councillors:

G.W. Bates Chairman

E.H. Lewis Deputy Chairman

Mrs H. Maclehose

W. Bellin

Clerk: Jane Motte

One member of the public was present.

1. **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from Councillor Kennard, Councillor Horton and from County Councillor Thomas.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**  None

The Clerk had accessed templates of a register of Interest forms and had circulated these to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was agreed that these should be adopted. Forms were circulated to Councillors for completion and return at the January Meeting of the Community Council.

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the November meeting, which took place on Tuesday November 12th 2013 had been previously circulated by the Clerk and, subject to the removal of Item 12 which had been duplicated in error, were accepted unanimously as a true and accurate record. It was proposed by Councillor Lewis and seconded by Councillor Maclehose that they be accepted. The Minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman and the Clerk. These will be placed on the website in due course. A hard copy will be available if requested.

1. **MATTERS ARISING**

* Defibrillator: Mark Allen was present at the beginning of the meeting and explained that the new Welsh Hearts Charity is now fully established. They will provide a defibrillator for Colwinston in the second tranche to be given out, which is likely to be in January. It will be a Full Public Access type. A box may be needed to protect it from the elements but this cannot be locked for security as it has to be available at all times. The location needs to be decided. Mark Allen will email dates for training to the Clerk, who will pass these on to Julie Lloyd for inclusion in the Village Newsletter.
* Little Hill: The ash tree has now been removed but the stumps have not yet been ground out. The Clerk will pursue this further.
* Stile: nothing further has been heard yet about this matter
* Footpath at Hen Cartref: no time has yet been given for when a decision about the application will be made
* Footpath : both the path and the Car Park area have now been cut back by the Vale and it was agreed that they had done a very good job. The Clerk will ask Highways if it is possible for us to have a copy of the definitive plan of adopted Highways areas within the village, as this would be useful.
* Resignation of Councillor: the Notices advising the public of the vacancy for a Community Councillor were displayed as instructed by Electoral Services at the Vale from Tuesday 19th November to Friday December 6th. The Clerk received no requests for an Election from the public during that period and has reported this to the Vale. The Vale now requires the co-option of a suitable person without an election. The Clerk will put the next set of notices up inviting interested individuals to come forward by January 10th, for discussion at the next Council meeting.
* Salt Bins: The Clerk has asked the Vale Council to refill the bins in the village
* The Clerk wrote to the Master of the local hunt as agreed and has received a reply, containing an apology. The Clerk will pass the response to Councillor Horton.
* The damaged sign at the junction of Twmpath Lane and Heol Faen for the school has been replaced
* The new signs discouraging heavy lorries from entering the village have been installed.

1. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Waterton Lodge: nothing further has been heard as yet about this application. Councillor Kennard said he had spoken to the Planning Department at the Vale who said that it was in abeyance pending responses from consultees.

Other Applications: The Clerk had received details of a planning application within the village from the Vale as follows

2013/01116/FUL Hen Felin

Details were circulated to Councillors who had no comments/objections to make.

Local Development Plan:

A village meeting was held on Tuesday November 24th, attended by over 60 residents, to discuss responses to the Draft Local Development Plan. The Chairman explained the response that the Community Council planned to make which would clearly state a number of very valid reasons why Colwinston is not suitable for the large number of houses proposed for the site behind the school. Those present were in agreement with this view. Comments on the LDP must be submitted to the Vale Council by December 20th by means of completed Representation Forms. A supply of these forms was available for people to take away and it was agreed that it would help those residents who had been unable to attend the meeting if a drop in session could be arranged as soon as possible during daylight hours. This would enable particularly the more elderly residents to attend. Councillors would be available to offer assistance on the completion of the form.

Councillor Kennard will carry out final revisions to the document he has prepared which states the basis of the Community Council’s opposition to the LDP and a copy of it will be attached to these minutes. The Clerk will submit the Representation Form to the Vale both electronically and by mail in time for the end of the consultation period. A copy will also be sent to Terry Morgan so that it can be posted on the village website. Councillors have reminded residents again of the importance of completing and submitting the response forms.

1. **World War One Commemorations**

* Thankful Village signs: The Clerk has submitted an application to the Vale for a CASH grant towards the cost of the new signs. The grant will be for a maximum of 75% of the total cost of the project. The Clerk has been advised that it is possible to place and pay for the signs now to avoid being caught by a price increase, without this prejudicing the payment of any grant subsequently agreed.
* Planters etc- it did not prove possible for anyone to attend the recent meeting of Wick Young Farmers as it was held on the same night as the Village Meeting. The Clerk will try to rearrange this for early in the New Year.
* War Memorial: the Clerk had contacted Rob Harry of Green Circle Aggregates who own the quarry at Corntown and he said they would be willing to donate a large piece of stone which could be turned into a memorial. It was suggested that a couple of Councillors should make an appointment to visit the quarry in due course to select something suitable.
* Stone mason: The Clerk contacted Edwards memorials in Bridgend and discussed the plan for a new memorial in the village. Mr John Styles would be happy to come up to the village to meet councillors and discuss a possible design etc. The Clerk will pass the contact details for both Rob Harry and John Styles on to the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
* Councillor Belin deferred the presentation of the paper he and Phil Jones are working on about proposals for additional projects during 2014 until the January meeting of the Council.
* Councillor Lewis had spoken to Highways at the Vale and discovered that a licence will be needed at a cost of £50 for the placing of planters around the village and they will want to be assured that the Council has adequate Public Liability Cover. The Clerk will check this with Zurich insurance.
* Councillor Lewis will draft an article for The Gem to try to get hold of more photos and memorabilia from people/families with connections to Colwinston in the period around the First World War.

1. **CLERK’S REPORT**The Clerk reported that she had received the following correspondence:

* Report from PCSO Steve Thomas that there had been an incidence of burglary with money and alcohol having been taken. Persons have been arrested and enquiries are ongoing. There was also a collision between a vehicle and a wall in the village but when police arrived, the driver was not present. Enquiries are ongoing.
* Details of various training courses available to Councillors, which were circulated by the Clerk
* Information from various sources about the South Wales Health Services Review
* A copy of the updated version of the Standing Orders that Community Councils are recommended to adopt from One Voice Wales For review by date of next meeting
* Report of the Vale of Glamorgan Local Service Board forum held in Barry in October, circulated to members
* Information about the setting up of the Building Communities initiative, together with details of the recruitment of a Chair and Trustees for the independent Trust
* Request from the British Association of Local Historians re WW! Activities
* Report prepared by the Area representative to the Joint Local Service Board project for Cardiff and the Vale
* List of Events in the Vale for December and January
* Invitation to the official launch of the Welsh Hearts Charity
* Information on the proposed Revocation and Remaking of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005
* Various Public Appointment opportunities, circulated to members
* Details of the Wales Against Illegal Money Lending Initiative
* Letter from Barry Town Council about their meeting re the need for additional Burial Land to be identified in the Vale. The Clerk was unable to attend the meeting on this subject but asked to be kept informed.

1. **FINANCE REPORT**

Balances at the Bank as at 30/11/13

Current AC: £ 1463.99 CR

Deposit Ac: £8180.24 CR

The Christmas CASH grant is being paid to Councils very shortly

Invoices for payment:

The Clerk presented a claim for reimbursement of expenses she had incurred, totalling £49.61and it was agreed unanimously that this should be paid. The Chairman and Vice Chairman signed the cheque.

The Clerk reported that she had received Guidance on a Revised Model Financial Regulations for Councils. The Clerk gave copies to the Chairman and Vice Chairman, for discussion at the next meeting and will also copy them to Paul Griffiths who is the Internal Auditor to the Council.

1. **BUDGET 2014**

The Clerk had amended the draft budget, removing the costs of filling the Salt Bins. The Clerk has not yet received notification from the Vale of the sum that the Precept would raise theoretically and will contact them to ask if it is possible to set the Precept at 16.5p. The view of the meeting was that, if that were not possible, then the precept should be set at 17p to produce a small surplus for the year 2014-15.

1. **TRAINING COURSES**

The Clerk encouraged those present to attend the Code of Conduct course, if they had not already done this.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Maclehose requested a new tree to be planted by the Housing Association properties and suggested that a rowan might be suitable. The Chairman will have a look at the site.

The Clerk will contact the Cardiff Conservation Volunteers to ask if they are still interested in projects around the village, as nothing further has been heard since their presentation at a council meeting earlier in the autumn.

The member of the public present raised the issue of traffic survey cables that had been placed recently near the school. It was not known if these were connected to the LDP or could be the result of a request from the school on grounds of Road Safety concerns.

Councillor Lewis said that following the circulation by the Clerk of correspondence about the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission (Wales) Review, he had gone through the papers in detail. He had drafted a response calling for a root and branch review, to identify financial savings that could be made by reducing the overall number of Councillors. Apparently, the WAG is considering establishing its own Planning Body for Wales, as it doesn’t like the English Model. Councillor Lewis had circulated the final version of his response letter and Councillors were happy with this. The Clerk will send the letter on the Council’s behalf. Apparently, the WAG is considering establishing its own Planning Body for Wales, as it doesn’t like the English Model.

Councillor Lewis reported that he had been appointed to the Cardiff and Vale Community Health Council with effect from December 1st 2013.

It was agreed unanimously that a £50 donation would be made to the Shoebox Appeal if a request was made.

1. **DATE OFNEXT MEETING**

Tuesday January 14th 2014

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CHAIRMAN, COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DATE…………………………………………………………………….

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CLERK, COLWINSTON COMMUNTY COUNCIL

DATE……………………………………………………………………