**COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL JEM DRAFT**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE SYCAMORE TREE INN COLWINSTON ON TUESDAY JANUARY 13TH 2015 AT 7.30PM

1. **ATTENDANCE**

Councillors:

G. Bates Chairman

E.H. Lewis Vice Chairman

Mrs H Maclehose

Mrs. C. Roach

B.Kennard By Skype ??

W.Bellin

Clerk: Councillor Roach took the Minutes in the absence of the Clerk.

One member of the public was present. **APOLOGIES**: Apologies were received from Jane Motte

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

The Clerk reported that the Standards Committee had met on December 16th and that she had subsequently received copies of letters to individual Councillors from Christopher Hope, confirming that they have been granted Dispensations to speak and to vote on the Redrow planning application for the land to the rear of St David’s School. The dispensations run until the next Local Government elections. The position is therefore that Councillors Bates, Lewis, Maclehose, Horton and Roach may all speak and vote, while Councillors Bellin and Kennard may speak only.

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting, which took place on Tuesday 9th December 2014 had been previously circulated by the Clerk and were accepted unanimously as true and accurate records. It was proposed by Councillor ?? and seconded by Councillor ?? 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: I’VE HEARD NOTHING FURTHE FROM MARC OR FROM DAVE RE BRAINS??
* Untaxed Vehicles: I’VE CHASED THE PCSO YET AGAIN BUT HAVEN’T HEARD BACK FROM HER AT THE TIME OF DRAFTING THIS.
* Post Office Services: The Clerk has heard nothing further about the restoration of PO services to Cowbridge since the last meeting. HAS THERE BEEN ANYTHING IN THE GEM THAT I MIGHT HAVE MISSES – WE GET THE LLANTWIT VERSION
* Footpath: Officers from the Vale have been seen in the field to the rear of Hen Cartref AND?????
* Following discussions about the possible amalgamation of areas – such as The Vale with either Bridgend or Cardiff- Councillor Lewis proposed that a letter should be sent to the Local Government Democracy and Boundary Commission to ask if they have any plans to review the numbers of electors for each Community and/or County Councillor. He will draft and circulate a letter in due course. I HAVEN’T DOME ANYTHING ABOUT THIS YET – I THINK ED SENT ROUND A COPY OF THE CONSULTATION PAPER FOR COUNCILLORS TO COMMENT ON BEFORE HE DRAFTS A LETTER.
* Village Newsletter??
* Works on the Well??

ANYTHING ELSE ARISING FROM THE DRAFT MINUTES??

1. **RESHAPING SERVICES AGENDA**

Whilst interesting in principle, there was little indication of how such changes might be financed in the Vale, other than by Town and Community Councils increasing their precepts, which might not be popular with the public, unless it was matched by a corresponding reduction in the element of the Council Tax charges for the Vale itself.

The time frame for this, whilst clearly urgent, is not known in sufficient detail for it to be a factor in the determination of the precept for the CC next year. It was suggested that a letter should be sent to Jane Hutt AM to say that the salient point of the financing of this initiative other than by the precept seems to be being ignored at present. It was agreed to discuss this again at the January meeting.

I’VE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER ABOUT THIS ISSUE

1. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Land at the rear of St David’s School

* Councillors Bellin and Kennard declared personal interests in this matter and confirmed that they have dispensations to speak on the subject but may not vote. All other Councillors have dispensations to speak and to vote – see Minute 3.

The Clerk had received an email from the Vale Planning Department on December 22nd, giving 21 days to respond to the amended application from Redrow. The Chairman had been in touch with Rob Hathaway as agreed at the previous meeting and he provided 2 additional documents focussing on the drainage/sewage issues. These have been sent in to the Vale as further support for the objections contained in the Community Council’s response to the original application last summer. It is expected that the application will be heard by the Planning Committee on January 15th.

ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS????

**Other Applications:**

2014/01353/FUL The Paddocks- erection of a porch

DOES THIS NEED TO BE DISCUSSED ANY FURTHER IN VIEW OF THE LETTER CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS??

**Local Development Plan:**

There has been no further action re this since last month

The Ystradowen Village Action Group circulated a newsletter summarising their activities so far.

1. **WORLD WAR ONE COMMEMORATIONS**

Redrawing of Plans: The Clerk had received the redrawn plans from Deryck Evans and had submitted these to The Vale. It is hoped that the formal permission will be received shortly.

Thought need to be given to the finishing off of the area immediately around the memorial. The Chairman will speak to a resident about how this might be achieved and the likely cost. Once the work has been completed, Councillor Maclehose will plant rosemary bushes around the area. ANY DEVELOPMENTS WITH THIS??

The Chairman will ask John Lloyd for a quote for supplying some more new planters.??

1. **CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that she had received the following correspondence:

* Details of various posts on Public Bodies which had been circulated to Councillors
* Details of various training courses run by OVW taking place over the autumn.
* A copy of the Draft National Transport Plan 2015, circulated by One Voice Wales.
* A copy of the Vale of Glamorgan Draft Local Transport Plan and details of how responses may be made.
* A copy of the Minutes from the Stakeholder Reference group meeting held on December 8th.
* A Copy of the amended Chapters 8 and 13 of the 'Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – A Practitioners’ Guide (2011) - Amended December 2014, from One Voice Wales. The note form OVW says ‘’ **These amended chapters are extremely important** and it is recommended that you study them carefully and report to your Councils on any changes you need to make to current governance and accountability arrangements. You should be aware that the audit regime for our sector is being strengthened and many of these requirements will be assessed both at the internal and external audit stage.’’ The Clerk will report further at the next meeting when she has had an opportunity to read through the new chapters.
* Details of a new Bus service linking Llantwit Major/Cowbridge and Talbot Green starting in January. The Clerk had passed this on to the village website.

1. **Finance Report:**

Balances of the Council’s accounts as at December 31st were:

Current Account: £ 2349.38 credit. The Precept payment from The Vale was received on December 31st

Deposit Account: £ 3184.63 credit

Invoices for Payment:

£531.99 to J.Motte for the Clerk’s salary from 1/9/14-31/12/14

£30.48 to J Motte for expenses incurred in the role of Clerk.

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the revised pay scales to the Chair and Vice Chair and it was agreed unanimously that these should be adopted. The agreement covers two years and as a result the Clerk’s hourly rate increases to £10.527 with effect from 1/1/2015.

??THERE MAY BE ANOTHER CHEQUE(S) RE THE REDROW APP.

These payments were approved unanimously

* The Clerk had received a letter of thanks from the Seniors Club for the donation towards their Christmas lunch.
* The Chairman will enquire if the Shoebox Appeal has taken place this year. ??ANYTHING TO REPORT

Draft Budget for 2015/16:

The Clerk had received the formal letter from The Vale about the precept for the 2015/6 year. The amount which would be raised by a £1.00 levy has increased slightly to £278. A revised Budget for 2015/6 had been circulated to Councillors and, on that basis, the total Precept required is £5170.00, which then produces a figure of 18.60p.

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN NOW IS THAT THE BUDGET NEEDS TO BE FORMALLY ADOPTED – SUBJECT TO ANY LAST MINUTE ADJUSTMENTS

1. **TRAINING COURSES**

No courses had been attended.

The Clerk had circulated details of the new round of training courses available for the Spring.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
2. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

* The next meeting of the Community Council will take place on Tuesday February 10th 2015 at 19.30pm in the Sycamore Tree.

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CHAIRMAN, COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DATE…………………………………………………………………….

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CLERK, COLWINSTON COMMUNTY COUNCIL

DATE……………………………………………………………………