

MINUTES OF NOLTON AND ROCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT VICTORIA HALL, ROCH

6 November 2017

Members Present

D. Smith (Chair), J. Hancock, M. Canton, R. Thomson, A. Peach, A. Ricketts, Cllr. J. Adams

Clerk - A. Jones

1317 Apologies

J. Gale and M. Harries

1318 Minutes of the previous meeting

Approved; proposed R. Thomson seconded A. Ricketts.

1319 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **New bench / old bench progress** - Cllr. Adams hoped that the old bench would be removed on Thursday 9 November 2017.
- **4 Hilton Crest** - no update.
- **Yellow lines at Nolton** - no update.
- **PALC / One Voice** - following further conversations with local clerks and One Voice, the Clerk concluded that joining One Voice is likely to be worthwhile, especially with regards to the free legal advice on offer and the fact that PALC were now disbanding. D. Smith was also in support of membership and Cllr. J. Adams also echoed that it would be nice to have the support going forward for what is a relatively small fee of £75.50. All in favour to join.
 - Clerk to contact One Voice and arrange membership.
- **Creation of a new footpath by Old Post Office in Church Road, Roch** - D. Smith reported on the levels survey that had been carried out by PCC and provided copies of the survey map. The physical survey itself attracted a fair amount of attention, all of which was supportive, which was great news. D. Smith pointed out that the proposed route as set out in the survey map stops a little short of where he had hoped, as this land belongs to Sue Berry's neighbours. D. Smith was meeting with them in the morning to discuss the plan and whether they would be at all interested in agreeing to extend the footpath across their land. PCC supplied their revised costings at £13,500 using their contractors, excluding the cost of drainage or a boundary fence / wall. However, it is hoped that the drainage will be funded by PCC as it is in need of upgrading. It is also hoped that a fence might form a reasonable boundary as it would be substantially cheaper than a wall. J. Hancock raised the concern that any fence would have to be slatted and robust, otherwise it would be a costly exercise having it mended all the time. It was also discussed by the Councillors that Pembrokeshire College may be interested in this exercise from a training experience for their students. R. Thomson agreed to enquire with the relevant people at Pembrokeshire College in this regard.

The issue of funding was also discussed. It was agreed that the total cost of the project with a fence at full price was likely to be around £20,000. D. Smith discussed Safe Routes in the Communities who provide funding to local authorities to improve ease and safety of travel around communities. Safe Routes are currently speaking to Sue Lewis at PCC who is in the process of putting a bid together. Roch School are also involved. D. Smith is to approach Sue Lewis to see if

there may be any funding possibilities. D. Smith is also to write to Mason Brothers who use the route on a regular basis and have been generous previously. R. Thomson mentioned that there may be lots of smaller grants available, some around £1000 / £1500, which may be worth looking at if needed. D. Smith agreed that grants around this amount may be worth looking at. He will also see what PAVS can provide from their search and would be attending the funding fair on 15 November 2017 in this regard. D. Smith also reiterated the support from local businesses, knowing that the school, church and Roch Castle are keen for the project to be completed and will be meeting with Paula Ellis at Roch Castle to detail the plans.

- Action: R. Thomson to approach Pembrokeshire College re the fence construction. D. Smith to meet with the relevant neighbour to discuss the footpath extension; meet with P. Ellis of the Retreats Group; contact Sue Lewis re Safe Routes funding; write to Mason Brothers; and attend PAVS funding fair.
- **Solar speed signs and traffic calming** - D. Smith has written to three suppliers for quotes so far. A company called 'Message Maker' responded with two options - a static sign or an active sign; the active sign tells you the speed you are driving at. The static sign is slightly cheaper, but both signs are in the region of £3,000 (+VAT) with a solar panel / battery pack. The price is cheaper with a mains unit. Although R. Thomson and M. Canton both discussed their preference for signs that actively tell you your speed or light up red / green if you are over / under the speed limit, D. Smith expressed the concern that these signs may have the opposite effect with racers trying to clock up their speed. A. Peach sympathised with this concern. A. Peach also thought that if both options were shown to have the same effect on speed then we should go for the cheaper option. In terms of power options, it was discussed that mains power may be difficult to obtain as the subcontractor responsible for the nearby street lights is unwilling to allow access and there are no residential houses nearby. R. Thomson raised the possibility of a transformer in a field which Cllr. J. Adams agreed to look into. Alternatively, the internal battery lasts approximately two months without a solar trickle charge.

Funding possibilities were again discussed. D. Smith gave an overview of his discussions with Awards for All: rather surprisingly no one has ever applied for funding for speed signs previously and it is therefore a bit of a grey area. D. Smith was however encouraged to apply with a good persuasive case for community benefit etc. It was agreed that supporting letters from the school, church and castle would be beneficial. The full grant of £10k could be applied for.
- Action: Cllr. J. Adams to look into power options for the signs and D. Smith to start putting a case together.
- **Funding a purchase through precept increase** - the Clerk gave a brief overview of her conversation with One Voice earlier that week. The conversation confirmed that there is no legal requirement to obtain a referendum nor is there any legal restriction as regards to the percentage of the increase. However, it is of course good practice to explain and consult with all residents prior to a large increase.
- **Nolton defibrillator** - both R. Thomson and M. Canton worked tirelessly these past couple of weeks to secure funding to purchase two AEDs for Nolton Haven. The campaign has been so successful that R. Thomson withdrew the application to South Hook and has now closed the online donation. One AED is to be installed by the beach behind the headland in a dedicated cabinet with signage, and the other on Nolton Reading Rooms. D. Smith echoed the sentiment of all Councillors in congratulating them on their tremendous effort. CARIAD are hoping to install the AEDs this coming Friday or the following Friday. R. Thomson hoped that the first community training will be in place

before Christmas. It is hoped that training will be offered twice a year and held in Nolton Reading Rooms.

- **Planning Subcommittee** - Clerk reported that J. Hancock is happy to be on the Planning Subcommittee.
- **Roch Gate Motel** - Clerk reported on the letter received from PCNPA in response to her initial letter re this matter following October's meeting. The letter dated 30 October 2017 states that the matter (Alleged Breach: Unsightly and dangerous state of building) has now been allocated to Nicola Gandy, Team Leader - Development Management who will investigate whether a breach of planning control has occurred and will aim to carry out said investigation within 12 weeks. Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that building control are also involved.

1320 Declaration of interest

A. Peach declared an interest in respect of the new footpath by the Old Post Office as the proposed route goes through land which belongs to A. Peach's mother-in-law, Sue Berry.

1321 Planning

The Clerk reported on the approval of planning decision for PCNA NP/17/0011/FUL concerning the installation of a telecommunication base station opposite Church Road, Roch.

1322 Finance

- **Bank form** - D. Smith and A. Peach signed the bank form to allow the Clerk to access online payments.
- **Invoices paid** - Clerk reported that two invoices have been paid in branch: Wales Audit Office (£198) and Alchimica Building Chemicals for the new bench (£272.40).

1323 Correspondence

- **Donation request** - a donation request has been received by the Clerk from St Mary's Church, Roch. It was agreed by all to donate £100 to the church.
- **Thank you** - Clerk read out the thank you letter from Nolton Chapel following receipt of their donation cheque.
- **Appointments Panel** - Clerk read out the letter from PCC re Community Councillor representative to join the Appointments Panel and circulated the relevant literature. Any interested Councillor to contact the Clerk if they would like to apply.

1324 Meetings attended by Councillors / forthcoming meetings

- **Code of Conduct Training with Claire Jones, monitoring officer on 4 October 2017 (D. Smith and R. Thomson attended)** - R. Thomson gave a brief overview of the training, which he found useful as a new councillor, however there wasn't anything particularly unexpected or out of the ordinary. D. Smith also echoed the same sentiment; the main thing is to have the right moral approach to everything.
- **PLANED 'Fit for the Future' on 2 November 2017 (D. Smith and Clerk attended)** - D. Smith and the Clerk gave a brief overview of the event which was an active session encouraging attendees to think about the role of community and town councils; their purpose, how they operate, aims, weakness, strengths and what are the main concerns that need to be addressed to be 'Fit for the Future'. This overview led into a more general discussion about the growing likelihood of

community councils taking on more responsibility which hitherto had been under the funding of county councils; such as toilets and libraries.

- **Planning training workshop on 10 November 2017** - Clerk reminded the Councillors of the upcoming training. J. Hancock stated that he was hoping to attend, but may be away.
 - Action: Clerk to confirm with J. Hancock re attendance later in the week and obtain an extra ticket if required.

1325 Other items

- **Councillors confirm / amend current contact information** - the Clerk had noticed that the details and contact information for NRCC currently online and in the notice boards was out of date. The Clerk had amended the details and asked those in attendance to mark up the sheet provided with any further amendments.
 - Action: Clerk to upload the updated information online and put up in notice boards.
- **Nolton and Roch Community Action Plan 2018** - D. Smith gave an overview of the last Action Plan carried out in 2012 in conjunction with PLANED. The purpose of an Action Plan is to effectively provide a community document setting out what is important to the community and a plan of what they want to achieve; which can also provide very useful evidence for grants and planning. As the last one was some 5 years ago, D. Smith proposed to repeat the process and importantly provide more notice to the community to come along and make a contribution. Although the last Action Plan was specifically for Roch as only one person from Nolton turned up for the meetings, it was hoped that the turnout for any subsequent Action Plan would be higher. At least 6+ people from Nolton are required to form a 'Roch and Nolton' Action Plan. It was agreed by all that this would be well worth pursuing as a joint Action Plan. D. Smith hopes to hold the next Action Plan in April 2018 which provides plenty of time to actively encourage a wide demographic of the community to come along.
 - Action: D. Smith to meet with PLANED to start the process.

1326 PCC report

Cllr. J. Adams had nothing further to add.

1327 AOB

- **Nolton Haven beach road erosion** - R. Thomson and M. Canton mentioned that the storms of the past month have eroded the road on the left hand side opposite the Mariners which is now in need of urgent repair.
 - Action: Cllr. J. Adams to look into it.

1328 Items for the next agenda

None.

Meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Next meeting: 7.30pm on 4 December 2017 at Nolton Reading Rooms, Nolton

Signed

Chairman