

MINUTES OF NOLTON AND ROCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ONLINE - DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

12 APRIL 2021

Members Present

A. Peach, J. Gale, J. Hancock, M. Harries, D. Smith, D. Weale, Cllr. J. Adams
Clerk - A. Jones

1677 Apologies

M. Canton and R. Thomson

1678 Declaration of interest

J. Hancock declared an interest with respect to the CLT and the potential land involved.

1679 Minutes of the previous meeting dated 1 March 2020

Proposer J. Gale, seconder D. Smith.

1680 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant** - A. Peach confirmed that he met with the Clerk and a number of community members at the Victoria Hall the previous week and had a really productive meeting. We are now in a position to meet a member of the community who has offered her help with design and planning in order to take the idea a step further before going out to the community for feedback. A. Peach, M. Harries and the Clerk hope to meet with her over the next couple of weeks. J. Gale asked about whether allotments may also be something that could be looked into. All agreed that this might be a project that flows nicely in the future from the community garden that has been started down that side of the field.
 - Action: Clerk to arrange a meet up at the hall.
- **Nolton and Roch Community Land Trust** - D. Smith confirmed that there has not been much progress since the last meeting. Cllr. J. Adams is hoping to get D. Smith a meeting with PCC finance and housing to find out the extent to which PCC can give active support. D. Smith is also hoping to meet with the landowner and Ateb soon. Cllr. J. Adams confirmed that he put a number of questions to PCC and although he is yet to receive all the information, so far it has confirmed that a lot of funding for Solva came from the council housing account (a stream set up by UK Govt for LA's to buy land and build their own council houses). However the Solva scheme is a bit of a hybrid as there is also money from the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant involved. Tiers Cross have a funded scheme too. Both Cllr. J. Adams and D. Smith are very interested in having further conversations with PCC housing about all this, noting that the common factor in the schemes above has been that the land involved was PCC owned rather than private.
- **Roch Motel junction - missing 'slow' on road** - J. Adams thought that the markings through the village had been remarked. He'll double check to see if the 'slow' is back.
 - Action: Cllr. J. Adams to follow-up.
- **Community garden** - update at next meeting.
- **Updates from the Victoria Hall / Nolton Village Hall and Reading Room** - M. Harries confirmed that community halls are likely to remain closed until the end of the month at least, very little interest at the moment.

- **Speeding traffic coming down from Newgale into Nolton Haven** - Cllr. Adams has passed this information to PCC but no further update as yet. He will also follow up on parking concerns with Highways now that the car park is charging, it was noted by Councillors that cars have been parking on yellow lines and obstructing the road.
- **No parkings signs in passing places on the Welsh Road** - Cllr. Adams has passed this information to PCC but no further update as yet. D. Smith again confirmed that the signs should make it clear that these spaces are passing spaces and not for parking.
- **Japanese knotweed in the green lake, Nolton** - M. Harries confirmed that the seasonal treatment often starts in June. If the knotweed is on private land they can pass the details on. Possible National Trust or National Park land.
 - Action: Clerk to confirm the exact spot and landowner with M. Canton.
- **Newgale road developments** - Clerk confirmed that a PCC press release last week stated that more investigative work re the road will start w/c 5 April. Specialist machinery will be taking soil and road samples and the information gathered will allow engineers to identify technical issues to refine the preferred route and design for the road element of the project. Work is also underway to identify other important proposals for Newgale. These include improving footpath and cycle routes, enhancing the rich flora and fauna of the valley, maintaining access to the beach for existing users and speaking to those likely to be most directly affected by sea level rise and more frequent flooding.
A consultation and engagement website will be launched in the coming months, providing the latest details on the project and a way for the public to have their say. Pembrokeshire County Council and consultants are looking forward to hearing the views of local communities and interested parties to help shape and refine proposals for Newgale. Clerk emailed the contact email given to ask that NRCC please be kept informed of all activity as we had not been notified of any of these developments.

1681 Planning

- None.

1682 Finance

- **Account balances and budget** - deferred to next meeting when donations will be considered.
- **OVW Membership 2021/2022 renewal - £175** - all resolved to renew membership.
- **Requests for donations** - Friends of Roch donation request received. The Councillors were asked to encourage any organisation who would like to be considered for a donation to please email the Clerk.
- **2020-2021 Audit received - appoint internal auditor for audit purposes** - Bevan Buckland confirmed that are able to undertake the 2021 audit on a similar price point to last year, with an increase of £10 (£190 plus VAT) - all agreed and resolved to appoint Bevan Buckland.

1683 Correspondence

- **Digital Pembrokeshire - Broadband Programme: Broad Haven Project Area** - Cllr. J. Adams attended a meeting last week about this, which covers Nolton. Essentially, Welsh Govt are providing communities with vouchers to improve access to high speed broadband - the vouchers are worth £3k for a house and up to £7k for a business. As many as possible within a community can express their interest and place those vouchers to engage a company, which will give the company an idea of the level of sign up they would have putting in new fibre from cabinet to these houses. Cllr. J. Adams noted that although there has been improved fibre to Nolton Haven there are issues with certain properties and those in more rural outlying settings. It was noted that Roch would also benefit from

improvements and Camrose has very poor speeds. This is an exciting development for our community. Cllr. J. Adams will update NRCC in the next couple of weeks on the next steps.

- **Remote Meetings After May 2021** - The Clerk confirmed that The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 will make it easier for meetings to take place through a variety of arrangements, including multi-location meetings where all individuals are attending virtually and hybrid meetings.
- **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: annual report 2021 to 2022** - the Clerk recommended all Councillors review the new report. There is no change to £150 payment as a right. (gov.wales/independent-remuneration-panel-wales-annual-report-2021-2022)
- **The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021** - the Clerk confirmed that the followed changes which may affect NRCC come into effect from April 2022:
 - 1. From April 2022 community and town councils will have a duty to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements.
 - 2. From 5 May 2022 community and town councils will have the power to pass a resolution to become eligible to exercise General Powers of Competence. Welsh Government will consult on eligibility prior to introduction.
 - 3. From 5 May 2022, community and town councils will have a duty to consider training from 5 May 2022 for councillors and community council staff, and publish the first training plans by November 2022.
 - 4. The power of well-being is due to be repealed once the general power of competence comes into force on 5 May 2022.

1684 Meetings attended by Councillors / forthcoming meetings

- One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) remote joint event on 13 May 2021 - £45 (plus VAT) (<https://www.slcc.co.uk/event/ovw/>). If any Councillor is interested please let the Clerk know.

1685 Other items

- **Raising littering awareness in the community and / or removing and re-siting bins** - there was some discussion concerning the recycling site at Ocean Drive. M. Harries confirmed that we have received a formal approach from PCC concerning the potential removal of the site. NRCC are very aware of the constant rubbish and mess left at the site and the distress this also causes for the residents of Ocean Drive and all agreed that they would be supportive of it's removal. D. Weale asked whether the general waste bin could then be re-sited in the village, perhaps at the top or bottom of Pilgrims Way, where it would be used by those walking their dogs etc. A. Peach confirmed that the recycling site has been full of all sorts in recent weeks and the general waste bin there has been overflowing as it is too much in sight of the main road and is not serving the community as well as it could be.
 - Action: M. Harries to speak to PCC about the recycling site options and moving the general waste bin.

1686 PCC report

- Nothing more to add.

1687 AOB

- **Catering units sited on Newgale campsite and a new 'slush and desserts' unit on Newgale (Pebbles end)** - M. Harries raised the concern on behalf of a number of members of the community concerning the two large catering units operating on Newgale Campsite, which appear to be open 7

days a week. The Councillors refer to the Certificate of Lawfulness given for planning application NP/19/0297/CLE Proposal: Use of campsite land for stationing of single mobile catering unit (for sale of hot & cold food & non-alcoholic drinks from 7am to 11pm) from beginning of June (weekends only) and 7 days a week from beginning of school holidays until September each year for use of occupiers of campsite only. It is also the understanding of NRCC that there is now also a slush and desserts catering van located by Pebbles Cafe.

There was some discussion amongst the Councillors who all agreed that they do not in any way want to stop local people from making a living, indeed they want to encourage it and would potentially support further planning applications for the unit on the Campsite so that it may operate from April (a more accurate reflection of the season now), however, they want to bring these units to the attention of PCNPA for the benefit of the whole community and the surrounding environment. Any units need to be carefully managed to ensure that the situation does not get out of hand before the busier summer months arrive and that there is a fair playing field for all those operating close by that do abide by their planning / licensing terms.

It was also noted that the overall impression and look of the catering units on the campsite this year and more so the slush and dessert unit are unfortunately rather unsightly and unsympathetic to the location - there is also particular concern about the additional single-use plastic waste that may be created by the slush and dessert unit.

- Action: Clerk to draft a letter to PCNPA setting out the above points.
- **Returning defib equipment** - M. Canton raised a concern prior to the meeting with the Clerk that it took some time to locate Nolton Haven's defibrillator equipment after the tragic incident on the beach earlier in the month where a man lost his life. R. Thomson has since confirmed that it would be a great idea to label all the defibs and associated parts to help ensure the safe return after use.
 - Action: Clerk to write to headquarters offering thanks and informing them that the equipment has now been labelled with location and telephone number.

1688 Items for the next agenda

The National Trust would like to come and present to NRCC at our next meeting about their plans for the Southwood Estate. All agreed to defer May AGM.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Next meeting: 4 May 2021

Signed

Chairman