

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 AT THE EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY HALL AT 7.00PM**

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**PRESENT:** Cllr D McIntosh (Chairman)  
Cllr I Wilkinson  
Cllr C Hopkinson  
Cllr J Williams  
Cllr P Strydom

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr R Day

**Also in attendance:** Mr Colin Perry who attended as an observer.

The Clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark-Davies)

**137/23      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**138/23      MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

**139/23      MATTERS ARISING**

The following matters were raised:

- a) Minute 126/23a) The batteries for the speed signs were delivered but are not in use yet.
- b) Minute 126/23b) Nothing further from PCC regarding speed limit on Cold Inn.
- c) Minute 126/23 c) PCC offered to supply pipework to extend the drainage system.
- d) Notices of Co-option were displayed and one application received.
- e) Minute 135/23b) IW is looking for a solution to the issues with the tyres for the flail mower.

**140/23      FINANCIAL UPDATE TO 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

The following financial information had been circulated:

- a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £11,350.38 in the Current Acct, £3,136.37 in the Deposit Acct, £14,312.47 in the Parks account and £4,099.27 in the Jubilee Park Acct.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £23,467.75 (gross) and expenditure of £32,233.42 (gross).

c) The Financial Budget Comparison showing the Budget set, the actual income and expenditure figures and the balance remaining under each heading.

**RESOLVED:** That the above financial information be accepted.

**141/23** **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

a) Mrs J Clark – December salary	£273.60
b) PAYE for December	£68.40
c) Google monthly subscription	£1.59
d) A & C Aggregates 20mm down loose and 20m clean loose	£507.71

The invoice for A& C Aggregates to be paid from the JP acct.

**142/23** **NALC/SLCC NATIONAL PAY AWARD FOR 2023-24**

Information had been received on the new NALC/SLCC pay award which had agreed a flat rate payment of £1,925.00 (for full time employees) for those on scales below point 43 and an increase in the hourly rate for the clerk (on point 26) to £18.10 per hour from £17.10 per hour for 20 hours per month as from April 2023. The amount of back-pay to be paid is £694.00 (gross) and the monthly gross pay will be £362.00 paid from the December payroll.

**RESOLVED:** That the pay award be agreed at £18.10 per hour for 20 hrs per month which equates to £362.00 (gross) per month.

That the amount of backpay to April 2023 is £694.00(gross) to be paid in the December payroll.

**143/23** **DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2024-25**

The Clerk had previously circulated a budget report showing estimated income and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 which gave an estimated figure of £38,854.27. Draft budgets were agreed but no final figure arrived at due to the expenditure on play parks being unknown at present. The Council Tax base has not yet been received from PCC so the final budget will be agreed at the January 2024 meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the draft figures be accepted and that the final budget and Precept be set at the January 2024 meeting.

**144/23** **UPDATE ON PLAY AREAS**

**East Williamston** – the swings need attention, multi play unit fastenings need to be tightened and the astroturf is falling away and needs urgent attention.

**Pentlepoir** – urgent work needed on obstacle course, hanging ropes – possibly removed. Log walk u bolts missing and log floating about.

**Broadmoor** – obstacle course top bar badly rotten and mini multi play boards are quite dangerous. Plus there are some overhanging trees – ask PCC about possible ash die-back. We only lease this land so should not be responsible for trees. The future of Broadmoor will be carefully considered at the next meeting due to the poor condition of equipment. A full survey needs to be carried out with a carpenter to assess the condition of the equipment.

145/23

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The following correspondence had been received:

- a) Police & Crime Commissioner – Policing Budget Consultation – noted.
- b) Boundary Commission for Wales – Review of Community Arrangements for Pems. – noted.
- c) Welsh Local Govt Assoc – Road Safety Strategy Consultation – noted.
- d) Welsh Govt – Section 137 Expenditure limit for 2024-5 – noted.
- e) OVW Cost of Living Crisis Team – noted.
- f) PAVS – Health & Well-being Newsletter – noted.
- g) Mid & W Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Draft Community Management Plan – noted.
- h) OVW Newsletter - noted
- i) PS Terri Harrison – ‘Same Resident’ Event (Arson Reduction) -noted.
- j) Welsh Govt – Local Govt Finance (Wales) Bill – noted.

146/23

**REPORT OF CTY CLLR JACOB WILLIAMS**

Cty Cllr Jacob Williams submitted the following report:

*In a brief update to previous months' updates in the neighbouring ward, Cllr Williams stated that the Co-operative Group had confirmed that it was their intention to carry out patch repairs to the very bad potholes on the road surface near the community hall and Kilgetty surgery, and that they planned to carry out the full resurfacing job in the new year.*

*Cllr Williams had been informed of plans to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A478, which would start approximately halfway between Kilgetty roundabout and Pentlepoir, and end at Pentlepoir's 20mph zone. This was intended to be a speed limit 'buffer zone,' following the recent downgrading of the Pentlepoir 30mph zone to 20mph. Cllr Williams noted that, before Wales' blanket downgrade, the differential in speed when entering the community was 30mph (i.e. traffic went straight from a 60mph road into a 30mph zone) whereas under the proposals the differential would be 20mph (i.e. going from a 40mph zone into a 20mph zone) so wondered why 40mph had been selected instead of 50mph. He said he could also see no logic in the 40mph 'buffer' being so long, on a relatively straight road without any visibility impairment, with absolutely no development or even field accessways off it, nor*

*any accident record to speak of. He had made known his objections to the proposal, but said he imagined PCC would steam ahead regardless.*

*Now that anthracite is almost impossible to get hold of, concerns had been raised with Cllr Williams regarding the sheer weight of ashes left after burning coal alternative products, and how they could be disposed of in the black bag collections. The resident was concerned that they were disposing of so much of it, and that it was so heavy, they were at risk of going over PCC's grey bag collections limit. After making enquiries, Cllr Williams was told that PCC has a scheme whereby, if a coal fire or stove is the property's main source of heating, the householder may register with prior arrangement for the collection of an additional black bag into which only ashes should be placed, up to a limit of 15kg. The bag should be clearly marked "COAL ASH" and will be collected on the same day as (and in addition to) the normal black bag collection. Cllr Williams thought it was worthy of being brought to wider attention.*

*In sundry matters, the Kingsmoor Road sign at its junction with the A478, had been knocked off its posts. Cllr Williams took away the loose sign to the council's highways depot, and had expected it to be reinstated by now, however he was hopeful it would be done soon. A resident had complained about the gathering of leaves on the pavement near the Pentlepoir play area, which was duly attended to by PCC's maintenance team, to whom he extended his thanks.*

147/23

**ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

The following matters were raised.

- a) A Council/Hall Association dinner will be held in the New Year. Cllr P Strydom's wife has offered to do the organising and a date was set of Sat 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- b) The new local PCSO would like to attend a meeting to introduce herself to us. It was agreed to invite her to a future meeting.

\*Mr Colin Perry left the meeting at this point.

148/23

**CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATE FOR CO-OPTION**

Mr Colin Perry had been interviewed prior to the meeting, and after a short discussion it was agreed that he be co-opted. The Clerk will send him all the necessary paperwork over the next few days.

**RESOLVED: That Mr Colin Perry be co-opted to council and he will attend the January 2024 meeting to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**

**All other relevant documents to be sent to Mr Perry in the meantime.**

149/23

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 at 7.00pm.

Signed.....Chair.....Date

Signed.....Clerk