

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EAST WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY
ON THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2020 AT 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr J Williams (Chairman)
Cllr R Day *
Cllr C Hopkinson
Cllr D McIntosh
Cllr I Wilkinson
Cllr M Taylor

*Present for part of the meeting only.

APOLOGIES: None received.

The Clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark)

The chairman referred to the recent untimely passing of our Chairman, Cllr Geoff Soar and all members observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect. The clerk advised that she had written to Geoff's widow Pauline to pass on the condolences of all members and to express how much Geoff did for the community during his time on council and how much he would be missed. It was agreed that some form of memorial for Geoff be discussed when we next meet in person.

The chairman also referred to the recent resignation of Cllr Anthony Ratcliffe after many year's service on the council and wished him a very happy and long retirement in his new motor home! The clerk would send a letter thanking him for his 12 plus years' service and stating how much he would be missed.

42/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

43/20 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2020 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

44/20 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

45/20 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning application was considered:

- a) **20/0134/PA: Two storey extension to the rear of the property at The Manse, East Williamston, SA70 8RU.** It was agreed to support this

application and it was believed that there was Japanese Knotweed present on this site which it was hoped would be dealt with appropriately.

46/20 **UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS TO 31ST MARCH 2020**

The following financial information had been circulated:

- a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £30,250.80 in the Current Acct, £3,099.41 in the Deposit Acct, £27,139.41 in the Park account and £196.66 in the Jubilee Park Acct.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £31,490.95 (gross) and expenditure of £23,891.12(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 financial information above be agreed and accepted.**

47/20 **UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS TO 31ST MAY 2020**

The following financial information had been circulated:

- a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £37,655.00 in the Current Acct, £3,099.41 in the Deposit Acct, £27,148.48 in the Park account and £209.10 in the Jubilee Park Acct.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £9,677.42 (gross) and expenditure of £1,909.16 (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 financial information above be agreed and accepted.**

48/20 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a) Mrs J Clark – April, May, June salary | £680.94 |
| b) PAYE for April, May, June | £169.80 |
| c) PCC Lease for land at Broadmoor and Pentlepoir | £152.00 |
| d) BW Scourfield – internal audit report for 2019-20 | £72.00 |
| e) Zurich Insurance premium for 2020-21 | £2,911.27 |

49/20 **TO RECEIVE REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR ACCOUNTS 2019-20**

The report had been circulated with the agenda and the Town Clerk referred to the following points for council to note:

- a) A sum of £234.20 VAT had been recovered from HMRC against a payment related to the car park near the village hall which is run as an independent charity and therefore Council would have no legal interest or ownership. The Clerk was advised that the land in question was in the ownership of the Council and therefore the VAT had been legally reclaimed.
- b) The Council had planned to spend £28,478, funded from the Precept and taking £2,969.72 from reserves, however in reality, net spending was £17,908.45 and the sum of £7,599.83 had been added to reserves. This may appear high, but Council has earmarked a large proportion of reserves for various matters including the holding of elections which the Council would have to pay for and replacement of play equipment.

RESOLVED: **That the report of the internal auditor be accepted, and the points raised were noted.**

50/20

TO APPROVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ON ANNUAL REPORT ON ACCOUNTS 2019-20 AND TO AGREE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT PARTS 1 AND 2

The Accounting Statement for 2019-20 had been circulated along with the Governance Statements Parts 1 and 2. After careful consideration the figures were accepted and approved, and the Governance Statement completed.

RESOLVED: **That the Annual Return and the Annual Governance Statement be approved.**

51/20

QUOTE FOR RENEWAL OF ADVANTEDGE ONLINE ACCOUNTS SOFTWARE - 3 YEAR CONTRACT.

A quote had been received for the 3-year renewal of the above contract at a cost of £108.00 (inc VAT).

RESOLVED: **That the quote be accepted.**

52/20

UPDATE ON PLAY PARKS

East Williamston: Members commented that the Jubilee Park and play area both looked excellent and many good comments and remarks had been made by both visitors and residents about the quality of the maintenance. There was, however, a large hole in the concrete in the car park at the Cold Inn end which will need filling. This will be investigated and Cllr I Wilkinson and D McIntosh would inspect and remove any rotting items of play equipment. The play park remains locked to the public due to Covid 19.

Pentlepoir: This park is also looking very well maintained and continues to be locked to the public. The clerk advised that the fence would be painted very soon.

Broadmoor: The park is looking well maintained and is also still locked to the public.

53/20 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Very few emails had been received from other organisations apart from emails regarding Covid 19 related matters from the County Council which had all been forwarded to Members.

54/20 **REPORT OF CTY CLLR JACOB WILLIAMS**

Cty Cllr Jacob Williams submitted the following report:

The county council was investigating complaints relating to noise generated by the East Williamston wind turbine in certain conditions, described as a vibration-type rumble.

Cllr. Williams had been informed that the traffic calming proposal for Pentlepoir, which will see a mini roundabout installed at the A478 junction with both Templebar Road and Station Road, and a pedestrian crossing, has been subject to design work and been submitted to Welsh Government for 2020/21 'Road Safety Grant.' The request has also been included in the county council's 2020/21 'Highways Minor Works Programme' which has now been approved, though without any funding allocated pending allocation of the Road Safety Grant, which had been delayed by the Welsh Government due to Covid-19 matters. The scheme will proceed when full funding is confirmed. Cllr. Williams was pleased with the update however regretted how long this had taken to get to this stage.

55/20 **ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS**

The following matters were raised:

- a) A member raised that there are a lot of potholes from lorries travelling to and from the turbine and lots of very old trees have been cut down apparently for no need. He considered it to be causing severe damage to the environment. It was commented that a lot of trees in the area have ash die-back and have not been cut down in relation to the installation of the turbine.
- b) It was raised that a local car dealer has an excessive number of vehicles for sale. The clerk was asked to check with planning.
- c) A privet hedge at the property 'Archways' opposite Templebar Road is overgrown over the pavement causing an issue for pedestrians. The clerk to contact PCC regarding this matter.
- d) Cllr D McIntosh advised that the EW Community Hall has been closed since lock-down commenced and the committee are carrying out some cleaning and maintenance work. They have received a grant of £10,000 to assist with dealing with the financial impact of the closure. He is unsure when it will re-open.
- e) There is some Ash die-back on trees opposite Hawthorn Cottage near the village green. These will be monitored.

- f) It was reported that PCC are cutting the grass on the Common but have stopped cutting the grass towards the churchyard. It is anticipated that we will do this ourselves this summer, but it may be included in the maintenance contract in future.

56/20

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

No date was set for the next meeting until further advice is received from Welsh Govt regarding the holding of meetings.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed..... Chairman..... Date

Signed..... Clerk