

## **MAELOR SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 7th November 2017

**Present:** Cllr. Mrs. W. Sime, Cllr. J. Blanchard, Cllr. P. Jones, Cllr. J. Griffiths,  
Cllr. Mrs. R. Bettis, Cllr. Mrs. Y. Lee-Jones, Cllr. G. Williams, Cllr. J. McCusker,  
Mrs. S. Rodenhurst, Mrs. L. Houston (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mrs. H. Dunne (illness) PCSO's Lynne Maurice and Michael Simister (rest day).

**1. Declarations of interest.**

There were none.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

**3. Matters arising.**

The Dog Warden's telephone number has been published on the MSCC Facebook page and the Dog warden service contacted regarding loose dogs in the Penley area. Visits will be made when time allows.

**4. Police report.**

Councillors considered the statistics presented. The new format is unclear and unhelpful.

**5. County Council matters.**

Cllr. McCusker reported that the situation regarding The Dymock Arms is ongoing, with a buyer being sought.

Councillors were urged to read the WCBC 'Difficult Decisions' document, available online. The County Borough Council needs to make savings, due to their budget being £52 million less than nine years ago. Decisions will be announced in the New Year.

As a direct consequence, there will be no more than three buses per day servicing the 146 route because subsidies are unaffordable. It may be possible to adjust the times of the buses.

As yet there is no decision regarding The Nags Head site, Bettisfield.

Fundraising for The Rainbow Centre minibus has reached half of the £9,000 target in order to receive match-funding from Comic Relief.

**6. Open Forum.**

No members of the public attended.

**7. Adoption of Mission Statement**

Deferred until the next meeting.

## **8. Website.**

Cllr. Bettis reported that all minutes are now published on the website in English. It was agreed that Welsh language versions would be provided from April 2017 onwards. An approach will be made to a Welsh-speaking Penley resident to ask if she might be able to help with translation for a fee.

The clerk will make regular reports on developments within MSCC.

## **9. Streetscene**

### **a) Penley**

Street lights on Ellesmere Lane have not been repaired.

Clerk to approach Police and Overton Community Council to arrange to loan a speed gun. It was agreed that training in its use would be necessary.

### **b) Bettisfield**

Cllr. Jones has contacted Darren Green re: potholes and Village Gateways, but is yet to receive a reply.

There have been some dangerously high speeds recorded by the VAS. Cllr. Jones will ensure that statistics are forwarded to the police.

One speeding motorist has forced others off the road in recent weeks. Residents have been asked to notify police if they can get the registration number of the vehicle.

## **10. Planning**

### **i) Applications:**

Appeal ref: H6955/A/17/3186707 - Big Green Farm, Penley

The Community Council did not object to the original application, but the number of houses has now risen to 15, so a letter of objection will be submitted.

### **ii) Decisions**

P/2017/0789 – Fairview, Cadney Lane, Bettisfield PENDING

P/2017/0778 – Cheshire Cheese, Penley – PENDING

## **11. Village Projects**

### **a) Penley**

Red telephone kiosk – awaiting a price to move it. Cllrs. P. Jones and G. Williams will obtain quotes from local builders. It was noted that lead-based paint may have been used on the kiosk and we must ensure this is well covered.

Cllr. Mrs. Bettis is liaising with Mr. Simon Ellis, Headteacher at The Maelor School to arrange a meeting to discuss possible development of a Community Playing Field on land between the Maelor and Madras schools.

### **b) Bettisfield.**

Bettisfield Playground – grant funding is being sought. Voting for the Aviva application is now open. £7,500 has been applied for.

The Donkey Field – hedging is being worked on, but it will take about a year to get it into really good shape.

**12. Meetings attended by Councillors.**

Penycae Community Council Consortia meeting – Cllr. Mrs. Sime summarised the main points of the meeting. Although there would not be a great advantage financially from being part of the consortium, it was agreed that MSCC should support the initiative.

**13. Formation of Finance Committee to formulate MSCC Financial regulations and oversee MSCC finances.**

Volunteers were sought to form the sub-committee to write the Financial Regulations and to oversee the finances of the Community Council. The committee will initially be Cllr. Mrs. Sime, Cllr. Mrs. Bettis, Cllr. J. Griffiths and L. Houston, Clerk. It is hoped that a representative from Bettisfield will also be able to join. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 16th November at 7:30p.m.

**14. Budget for 2018-19**

This will be considered at the first meeting of the Finance sub-committee.

**15. Payment of Bills:**

| Payee   | Amount                   | Proposed by | Seconded by |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Scottish Power<br>Street Light<br>electricity | 124.49<br>Chq. No 000792 | RB          | JB          |
| Mrs. L. Houston<br>Land Registry<br>search    | 41.99<br>Chq. No 000793  | WS          | JG          |
| Mr. G. Williams                               | 288.00<br>Chq. No 000794 | JG          | YL-J        |

Cllr. Mrs. Bettis has scrutinised the bank statements and found them to be in order.

**16. Income and Expenditure since the last meeting.**

| Treasurer's<br>Account |         |        |              |         |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------------|---------|
| Date                   | Credits | Debits | Paid to/from | Balance |
|                        |         |        |              |         |

|  |          |                          |   |                 |
|--|----------|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 29.09.17                                   |          |                          |   | 6,856.75        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000784<br>120.00 | Canal and River<br>Trust<br>Licence for<br>Donkey Field         | 6,736.75        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000785<br>60.00  | Canal and River<br>Trust<br>Management<br>fees, Donkey<br>Field | 6,676.75        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000786<br>60.00  | The Signtists   | 6,616.75        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000787<br>117.14 | WCBC- Quarterly<br>Street Light<br>Maintenance                  | 6,499.61        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000788<br>250.00 | W. Woodman<br>Repairs to bus<br>shelter,<br>Bettisfield         | 6,249.61        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000789<br>62.65  | J. Blanchard,<br>Planters                                       | 6,186.96        |
| 3.10.17                                    |          | Chq. No 000791<br>103.18 | Roadware<br>Litter Bin  | 6,083.78        |
|  |          |                          |   | <b>6,083.78</b> |
| <b>Business Instant<br/>Access Account</b> |          |                          |   |                 |
| 29.09.17                                   |          |                          |   | 877.82          |
| 9.10.17                                    | 0.03     |                          | Interest  | 877.85          |
| 24.10.17                                   | 7,529.84 |                          | VAT Refund  | 8,407.69        |
| 02.10.17                                   |          |                          |   | <b>8,407.69</b> |

**Total available funds**

**14,491.47**

**Committed Funds**

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Penley Village Hall        | 220.00          |
| Election expenses May 2017 | 2,500.00        |
| Bettisfield Playground     | 1,000.00        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>3,720.00</b> |

**BALANCE**

It was agreed that match funding for the playground be increased to £3,500.

The money set aside to cover Election expenses could be put back into the budget since no bill has been received.

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**17. Response to 'Review of Community and Town Council Sector in Wales'**

The Chair asked that all councillors respond to this review. The proposed amalgamation of community and town councils is purely to make savings and no consideration will be given to the loss of local identity.

## 18. Correspondence.

| From                                     | Subject  | Action  |
|--|--|---|
| Caroline Tudor-James<br>Community Agents | Suggested contribution of<br>£250 towards Community<br>agent scheme. | Councillors asked for more<br>information on how this<br>would be used.             |
| Rainbow Centre                           | Request for donation<br>towards mini bus.                            | JG proposed and JB<br>seconded a donation of<br>£500. 6 in favour, 1<br>abstention. |
| Quote for signs                          | 'The Cadney' and woodland<br>in Penley                               | Agreed to order The Cadney<br>signs and wait for the<br>others.                     |

## 19. Councillor vacancies in Penley

Mrs. Sheila Rodenhurst explained her affiliation to the village of Penley and her wish to contribute to its development. She was co-opted as a councillor for Penley and duly signed the Acceptance of Office proforma.

## 20. Any Other Business.

- The Chair requested that the list of councillors be updated.
- The January meeting is scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> January, but it was agreed to move this to 9<sup>th</sup> January as some councillors would still be on holiday.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9:50p.m.