

MINUTES 23rd, June, 2020

RHOSSILI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Council: Chair - Steve Campbell-Kelly (SCK), Vice-Chair - Ian Button (IB), Tom Higgs (TH), Jeff Higgins (JH), Nicola Rees (NR), Sally Thomas (ST) and Steve Walmsley (SW)

Remote Council Meeting, carried out by video conferencing on the internet due to Restrictions on meetings caused by Coronavirus Lockdown.

Attendance: Council: SC-K, IB, JH, TH and SW.

Meeting commenced at 7.10pm, hosted by SW

1. **Apologies:** NR and ST
2. **Declaration of Interests:** None notified
3. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Minutes of 9th June meeting approved; to be signed by Chair after the papers had been 'quarantined'.
4. **Matters arising:** None notified
5. **Chairman's Items:**
 - (i) **Coronavirus Regulation Changes:** SC-K began by giving a summary of the content of tonight's meeting and what was hoped to be achieved over the next three weeks. He highlighted some of the changes to WAG Coronavirus Regulations that will impact on the community, whether it be in retail, tourism or education, to name a few. SW felt that it was important for RCC to "have a view" so that councillors could answer relevant questions from residents immediately.
 - (ii) **Local Report:** It was agreed that illegal parking of cars had made life more difficult for the village, and had raised the level of conflict – SC-K reported the latest two incidents of nails, screws etc being found in quantity on the road and deliberate paintwork damage to a parked car are now being investigated by SW Police. These incidents have reflected badly on Rhossili and were condemned as unwanted and unnecessary by the councillors.
Last week-end the NT removed the barriers to their car park Although the move was unadvertised, the news spread quickly and the car park has been well-used since then. Traffic problems in the village were alleviated by this action and RCC and most residents are grateful to the NT for doing this. However, there are still public health issues whilst the public conveniences remain shut. There is no information about opening of NT Shop and catering truck.
Clerk to contact CCS for information regarding the opening up of the toilets and any precautions being taken.
It was noted that some holiday accommodations have been occupied, contrary to the present Regulations and Councillors registered their disappointment.
 - (iii) **Forthcoming Regulation changes:** The next WAG Review will be on 9th July. It is likely that there will be more visitors as the 5-mile limit is likely to be relaxed after 13th June, and some shops other than essential will be able to open. However, social distancing and other Regulations will still apply. There was a lot of discussion surrounding the subject of how the Councillors feel as individuals about the coming relaxation of Regulations. IB gave some details of how tourism and

camp-sites are affected; SC-K reported that The Gallery is intending to open, by appointments only to start with when he has PPE in place in the first week in July; TH spoke about what concerned him and SC-K read from notes given to him by NR prior to the meeting as she couldn't attend. JH voiced the opinion that, when the regulations changed, most people in the community would want facilities to be open, to cope with the expected increase in visitors, and Councillors all agreed. It was noted that the difference in Regulations between Wales and England had made things difficult, especially as hotels, pubs, cafes etc have no clear information as to when they can open. It was felt that the overwhelming majority of residents that Councillors had spoken to would welcome visitors but many had some reservations. JH raised the question, "How do we reduce the conflict?"

- (iv) Next steps: It was decided that more information was needed so SC-K delegated Councillors to find out information from people involved in the various areas of activities in the villages. He would canvass Retail businesses; IB to canvass Hospitality and self-catering providers; JH will find out what the VH Trustees are considering; during the scheduled "Trustees zoom meeting". SW will seek the views of the Support Group and get feedback from the community members that they are helping to support. The Clerk will contact CCS about the opening of the Public Conveniences. Clerk suggested a Newsletter or Mailchimp once it was decided on the RCC position. This was agreed and SC-K and the Clerk will work on this, with a draft sent out for consideration as soon as possible.

SC-K asked all Councillors to make sure that they had all the information they needed ready for the next Meeting. The Clerk is to forward draft communication before the meeting so that a communication can be approved at the meeting and then be sent out.

6. Finance:

- i) SW reported that Audit paperwork would be submitted to the Auditors within the next few days.

The Virtual Meeting closed at 8.02pm

Date of next Virtual Meeting: 30th June, 2020 at 7.00pm.