

MINUTES, 9th November, 2021

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 Regulations. No member of the public requested access.

1. **Attendance:** SC-K, JH, TH, NR, ST and SW
Residents: 1

Meeting commenced at 7.05pm.

SC-K informed the meeting of the death of Dr June Thomas. He reminded the meeting of her frequent attendance at meetings, her staunch support and her influence for good in all the activities within the village. All present agreed that she will be sorely missed.

2. **Apologies:** IB
3. **Declaration of Interest:** None.
4. **Previous Minutes:** accepted as a true record. Proposed SW, seconded TH. **Approved unanimously**
5. **Matters arising:** Clerk reported that CCS Cleansing Department had swept the stones and detritus clear of the roads after the request from RCC. Also reported that highways department had started to flush the drains and gullies with water. A resident had been on hand to direct the clearing party to the totally blocked drain in Middleton / School Lane. Clerk explained that blocked drains were the responsibility of Highways Dept and clearing stones as a result of flooding is the Cleansing Dept.
6. **Chairman's Items:**
- (i) Letter of Complaint by a Resident: The complainant was participating in meeting during discussion. Letter had been sent to all Councillors prior to meeting. SC-K went through each of the ten points raised one at a time. The resident felt that RCC had dealt with a situation concerning the National Trust differently than his concern. SC-K explained that it was felt that the two incidents were not comparable as the NT one dealt with illegal overnight parking of motorhomes in the NT Car Park whereas his concerned Planning issues. It was explained that RCC became involved in the Footpath issue because RCC was informed of risks being taken by MOPs walking up Pitton hill on the road, and Rights of Way are part of the CC mandate, whereas council doesn't get involved with land disputes. Niblo's Lane is not RCCs concern. The Resident complained that the Clerk had not commented as per the RCC decision of "No Comment" on the CCS website regarding his planning application. It was explained to the resident that No comment is used when the CC's position is neutral, as it is recorded on the website. However, RCC can make other comments that were part of the discussion. It was pointed out to the resident that other comments that had been made about the planning application by SC-K were in his status as a private citizen and not Chair of RCC It was nothing to do with RCC. Regarding the request for planning applications concerning gates elsewhere in Gower, the resident was informed that RCC does not have these records but that he should apply to the Planning Department of CCS if he still requires those details. SW proposed a formal letter be written and agreed by all RCC Councillors and then sent to the resident. Seconded by SC-K Agreed Unanimously.
- (ii) Newsletter Up-date: Clerk was pleased to report she had had an offer of assistance from Gill Boulding in putting the Newsletter together. There had also been offers for articles and RB had offered to do some more quiz sheets.

7. **Highways:** Nothing to Report

8. **Footpaths and Rights of Way:**

Bridge across Paviland Path has been repaired.

9. **Planning:**

a. **2021/2535/FUL – Field in Pitton:** Covered in Chair's Item above

b. **2021/2759/PNT – HMCG Communication Antenna** There was much discussion over this application. The CG Station is in a very sensitive part of the environment and a tall mast would detract from the visual amenity. This proposal seems to suggest that the layout is quite different from the present and the mast is significantly taller than the present one. All Councillors acknowledged that the communication was essential for the safety of people in the area. However, the question was raised, "Why can't it be combined with the equipment already sited at Pitton Cross Camp site?" It was agreed that the Vodafone Mast there is itself probably going to be replaced, but plans have not yet been formally submitted. No-one present at the meeting knew if the two types of communication are compatible with each other, but it was proposed by SW that before RCC makes any comment, MCA should be approached to ask if the two systems are compatible. Seconded by TH. **Approved Unanimously.**

10. **Questions or Comments from Members of Public**

SC-K asked Resident if he had any comment to make? He also asked if was satisfied with RCC's response to his letter. The resident said that he was happy with things that had been said. The resident then said that he was concerned about the horses on the cliff as it had been reported to him by an MOP that one of the horses looked really sick. He said he was concerned about the dead ragwort still on the cliffs, reminding Councillors that the plant is deadly to horses. Clerk asked if he had reported to NT.

11. **Finance**

(i)RFO gave a report of financial position [Balance stands at £2894.28] He gave details of each entry – all Councillors had copies of the financial position.

(ii) Paid donations of £300.00 each to St. Mary's Church and Pitton Chapel

(iii)Requested permission to pay the renewal of RCC Domain Name (£16.00) to J King

(iv)RFO instructed to pay Clerk's salary. JH to do payroll.

(iv)RFO went through budget allocations and progress in expenditure. He reported that the financial position is as expected at this time of year. He reported that he had sourced a metal sheet to put in the Middleton bus Shelter at £88.69, as opposed to a Noticeboard costing £247.92. SC-K proposed buying one sheet in the first instance. Seconded by JH; **Approved unanimously.**

12. **Any Other Business**

Resident asked to make a further comment. He reported that an elderly resident had had difficulties getting her car out of her driveway because of traffic problems, especially in the summer. Could RCC help in any way? The short answer was, "No, RCC has been advised in the past that it cannot authorise the placing of mirrors to assist drivers." This then led to a discussion about the speed limits through the villages. After much discussion, it was decided that RCC would conduct a referendum, asking the villagers, via a voting paper in the Newsletter whether they wanted a 20mph limit in the villages and where should it start.

JH gave an up-date on Defibrillators in the village as the organisation, Cariad, no longer looked after or serviced them. It was noted that the cabinet for the one on the VH was in a poor state, with a very rusty door.

ST said that the NT were organising a Beach clean on 29th December, starting at 10.30am. mince pies provided.

The Virtual Meeting closed at 20.16pm

Date of next Meeting: 14th December 2021