

RHOSSILI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Council: **Chair** – Ian Button (IB), **Vice-Chair** – Gill Boulding (GB),
Council Members: Tom Higgs (TH), Maggie Kirk (MK), Lesley-Anne Nolan (LAN), Nicola Rees (NR), Sally Thomas (ST)

Acting Clerk/notetaker: Gill Boulding

Acting Responsible Finance Officer: Steve Walmsley (SW)

Minutes

Rhossili Village Hall and via Zoom

Tuesday, 14.2.23. Meeting commenced 19.17pm

1. Attendance: Councillors – IB GB, TH, MK
Acting RFO - SW
Residents – (2 via Zoom)
2. Apologies: **NR ST LAN**
3. Declaration of Interests: MK + TH both raised possibility of interests in relation to planning applications to be discussed.

- #### 4. Minutes of last Meeting: 10.1.23

Minutes had not been available prior to the meeting –

Action: GB to resend for approval.

- 5. Matters arising:**

- i.Safe Driving Campaign (previously 20 mph campaign)

Discussion of differing views in the community regarding speed limits. Agreed to rebrand as safe driving campaign and canvas views using Vocaleyes.

Agreed to continue Speed strips and speed camera applications and investigate costs and commitments needed from Volunteers etc.

Action: IB to pursue/GB to share information from LAN about this

- ii. Water fountain – this was discussed with owners of Bay Bistro who were keen – but as a business they were unable to apply for the grant. NT could not site the water fountain either as their outside tap is used for multiple purposes.
Discussion around Swansea CC installing a fountain adjacent to the toilet block.

Action: LA/GB to continue to pursue.

- iii. Precept – has been submitted to Swansea CC.

iv. Bus service – GB has contacted Rebecca Evans who has asked Adventure Travel Cymru for performance data.

Action: GB to continue to collect local data from residents and follow up

v. Emergency Phone – Peter Beynon to be contacted about this. Rob Stewart, Swansea CC leader is now involved.

Action: TH to pursue

vi. Lights on WC's – TH contacted Wynne Davies CCS – who offered advice on lighting but correspondence from Martin Ridgeway at CCS claims no funding is available. We will pursue this further.

Action: Continue investigating this issue. TH

vii. Planning applications – discussion of how RCC's comments need to be more effective. Training options were discussed. Eg. Attendance at <https://planningaidwales.org.uk> courses although these are not all participative.

Actions:

LAN to contact retired planning officer.

Contact Gordon Howe IB

Resident to be approached for recommendations of who to speak to at City and County of Swansea MK

Planning training – continue to investigate - GB

6. Training:

TH IB and LAN have all attended courses since last meeting – some mixed reviews. Aim is for all councillors to attend one course by end of this financial year.

OVW bursary has been applied for and granted.

Action: Chase OVW invoice for 22/23 - GB

7. Finance

Agreed to bring this item earlier in future meetings.

The precept had been agreed in January to remain at £5,000. The expenditure budget was reviewed and set. New budget lines agreed for Training and Community Engagement; existing budget lines reviewed and agreed. All agreed that rental for hall use by RCC needed to be reinstated.

The need to improve zoom access in RCC meetings was agreed and use of monitor and community lap tops for RCC meetings to be investigated for next meeting.

Donations to St Mary's and the Chapel were agreed for 2023/4 but a request sent to both for information on how our donations are used. This information will determine if future donations will continue beyond this financial year and at what level.

Action: (GB)

Discussion of the community engagement fund to be allocated from the budget and the invitation to the community to offer ideas and vote on how this would be used using Vocaleyes, to be initiated at the Hwb workshop on February 27th.

Use of Mailchimp - do we continue to use it – is it redundant?

Action: IB MK to update Mailchimp

8. Hwb Update – RDP Hwb finishes at the end Feb and RCC assumes ownership, with Hwb subgroup and advisory network meetings to be established. Evaluations of Hwb events suggest these are going well. Additional participants are required to meet targets. RCC website will be revamped to include photos and brief biogs of councillors. There will be a section on planning applications.

Each person to send a photo of themselves. Plus a sentence or two – what your interests are and why being a member of RCC is important to you.

Action: GB. To ask all councillors to send these to MK by end of Feb.

Forthcoming events:

16.2.23. Ask my GP- Talk by Gower Medical Practice assistant manager Lynne Palmer

22.2.23 7.00pm the secrets of successful video calls

23rd February – two separate training sessions running back to back, first is for editors of the Hwb and second is for councillors/RVH on using Vocaleyes.

27th Feb 7 pm – Your community Your say workshop. Topics to be put to attendees agreed as those currently on our Vocaleyes page (<https://vocaleyes.org/vocaleyes/group/index/id/13137>).

As many councillors to be present as possible please. RCC will formally adopt the Hwb at this event.

9. Clerk/RFO appointment.

Agreed that a clerk who could be present rather than working remotely would be preference, with similar flexibility re virtual attendance as offered to councillors. 24 hours was agreed as a realistic and fair working time to fulfil both clerk and RFO roles. Discussion of attractiveness of clerk position in small village.

Actions: MK to Ask Paul Egan – for feedback on advert.

MK to readvertise – use existing networks for now. Ian proposed/TH seconded

10. Chairman's items

To mark the Coronation of King Charles IB suggested reinstating key benches.
Community opinion will be sought via Vocaleyes.

Village – mud on road – this had been raised by a resident earlier in January- NR visited the resident to discuss the issue further and ST took photos of the road which had improved significantly due to rain. No further action taken but situation will be monitored.

Rubbish – The amount of rubbish on the road between Scurlage and Rhossili was discussed. Volume of traffic would preclude a community litter pick on road due to safety risk –

Action: write to Council/Richard Lewis/ Francesca Lewis – regarding litter pick.
GB

National Trust plans – GB had brief discussion with Alison Probert from the NT, prior to tonight's meeting about potential collaboration on village improvement plans. Two topics were discussed:

Permissive path in village to improve safety for pedestrians and repair stone wall.

Upgrade of WC block in car park accessing Brilliant Basics funding.

Update at next meeting.

11. Planning

1. Gower Cottage – no comment to be made

- Demolition of the existing detached garage and construction of a new detached garage with the stone from the existing garage salvaged and utilised to build the new garage walls, the new garage is intended to have space to park 2 cars, bicycles and storage of leisure and garden maintenance equipment, construction of wildlife pond in front garden and provision of planting and seating on the south facing side of the cottage. 

Gower Cottage Rhossili Swansea SA3 1PH

Ref. No: 2023/0154/FUL | Received: Fri 20 Jan 2023 | Validated: Fri 03 Feb 2023 | Status: Being Considered

2. Great Pitton Farm – no comment to be made

- [Replacement agricultural building with associated works - Discharge of condition 4 \(scheme of tree planting\) of planning permission 2022/1314/FUL granted 29th July 2022](#) 

Great Pitton Farm Rhossili Swansea SA3 1PH

Ref. No: 2023/0168/DOC | Received: Mon 23 Jan 2023 | Validated: Mon 23 Jan 2023 | Status: Being Considered

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14.3.23

Meeting ended 21.46 pm