

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: Tom Higgs

Acting Responsible Finance Officer: Steve Walmsley

Minutes

Tuesday 14th March 2023 7.15pm

1. **Attendance:** Councillors – IB, TH, MK, LAN, GB,
ST (via Zoom) & NR (via Zoom)
Residents: 0
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Declaration of Interests:** GB for item 15i.
4. **Minutes of last Meeting:** TH proposed as a true record and IB seconded.
5. **Presentation from Gordon Howe**
IB welcomed Gordon Howe. Gordon was on the council from 1983 until 2001. He came to the meeting to advise on how to deal with planning applications in our area:
 - Planning system UDP development plan
 - Gower AONB design guide
 - Look down the weekly list to see what is important and might impact
 - Try to be constructive with comments
 - List comments in order of importance
 - Privacy very important as is loss of light
 - Keep planning feedback short within A4 page
 - Dark Skies initiative now a growing consideration
 - Gower Society employs the skills of planning consultants where necessary. They are also prepared to use specialist solicitors.
 - Enforcement notices – council must respond to them
 - A guide for householders, shows whether planning is required.

The Council thanked Gordon for his valuable insights.

6. Matters arising

6.1. 20mph campaign

- 6.1.1. GB has registered RCC with thanks for 20mph. GB informed of an App on a mobile phone to measure traffic speed.

Action: IB to speak to Alan Ferris

6.2. Clerk Appointment

- 6.2.1. Advert is now live on the new Rhossili CC website and One Voice Wales (OVW).

7. Action List review

- GB kindly offered to complete training survey for One Voice Wales
RCC approved the S6 Biodiversity report draft that MK had also kindly completed.

Action: MK to submit to Rachel Carter for feedback.

8. Finance – Report from Financial Officer

- 8.1. HWB Grant now complete and waiting for last payment – reported to be very successful.
- 8.2. SW has updated asset list to include equipment bought via Hwb grant. This will be updated further to include the new printer.
- 8.3. Meeting room cost to be clarified.
- 8.4. It was agreed the following payments be made:
 - 8.4.1. IB proposed and GB seconded the annual subscription to OVW.
 - 8.4.2. Training fees from OVW (LAN) – IB proposed, GB seconded.
 - 8.4.3. Jamie King be paid £110 for website hosting – IB proposed, GB seconded.
 - 8.4.4. Election charges are £165 – IB proposed paying and LA seconded the payment.
- 8.5. It was noted that the annual Audit costs for 2020-2021 have increased from £156 to £413.

Action: Cost of RVH room hire to be clarified (SW)

Action: Reason for audit cost increase to be queried (SW)

9. Hwb update

RCC is now formally responsible for Rhossili Community Hwb. MK and GB to be part of sub-group to manage Hwb. Advisory Network also being established.

10. Bus service

- There are a number of factors, including lack of drivers causing the unreliable service – this is being looked into further.

- **Action: IB to look into further**

11. Working with the National Trust

- Alison Probert from NT has offered the opportunity for RCC to work with them on three projects in the village:
 - o Lighting on the possible upgraded WC in the car park
 - o A possible new permissive foot path past The Lookout
 - o The condition of the lane between the hotel and the bay bistro which leads down to the beach.

12. Blood Test Service

- GB spoke about the withdrawal of the blood test service at the Gower Medical Practice, and the importance of retaining this service for the area.

13. Correspondence

- 13.1. Emails from Jeff Payne re cooperative collection. Agreement that Council is supportive and willing to help in-kind but unable to contribute financially.

Action: MK to reply

14. Footpaths & Rights of Way

N/A

15. Planning

- 15.1. Meadow Side – *GB left the meeting*. RCC expressed concern with over development on a property which has already increased in size dramatically. Questions were also raised about the impact on privacy for the neighbours.
- 15.2. *GB returned to the meeting*. Rose Cottage – the vernacular of the building is not in-keeping with the other Rhossili properties. The scale and massing is disproportionate and out of keeping with Rhossili vernacular. Increased building size will cause over shadowing on neighbouring properties.

Action: TH to respond as Acting Clerk

16. Questions or comments from Members of the Public (Invited by Chair)

None present.

17. Provisional date of next meeting: 10th April 2023

Meeting Closed at 21.45