



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), Sue
Muddeman (SM)
Clerk: Lauren Walters (LW)
Responsible Finance Officer: Steve Walmsley (SW)

Minutes

Rhossili Village Hall and via Zoom

Tuesday, 9th January 2024

Meeting commenced 7:15pm

- 1. Present:** Councillors – IB, GB, LAN (via Zoom), MK, SM,
RFO - SW (via Zoom)
Clerk – LW
In attendance 1 member of the public
- 2. Apologies:** NR TH
- 3. Declaration of Interests**
None
- 4. Minutes of last Meeting:** 12/12/2023
GB proposed minutes as accurate, SM seconded and all approved. Minutes were duly signed by chair.
- 5. Representations from the Public**
None
- 6. Action list** reviewed and updated by all council members and updated by clerk.
- 7. Finance**
 - 7.1. Finance & current finance commitments - reports from Finance Officer.** The current reserves stand at £6,277 with an expected remaining spend, for this financial year, of £2,693.
 - 7.2. Budget and spending proposals - To receive and agree on budget proposals for 2024-25.**

7.2.1. **2024-25 Budget Proposals – Expenditure.** All the proposed budget lines were considered. Budget proposals considered and changed when compared to the 2023-24 budget included:

- RCC training fund to be increased to £500.
- Vocaleyes subscription reduced £200.00 – take up to be considered separately.
- Engagement fund to be increased to £600.
- Website hosting and support to be increased to £240 to include HWB costs.
- General running costs increased to £300.

It was decided to retain the donations of £300 to both Church and Chapel.

ACTION: LW to write to see how the donations would be spent.

All the proposed expenditures in the precept budget were then voted on and agreed.

7.2.2. **2024-25 Budget Proposals – Income (Precept)**– Rhossili has one of the smallest precepts in the financial year 2023-24 when compared to other similarly sized community councils on Gower. It was proposed that the precept request be raised from £5000 to £6,500. This was voted on and agreed.

7.2.3. **Donations to Church and Chapel** – The RFO reminded the meeting that the 2023-24 donations of £300 to both the Church and Chapel should be made. This was agreed.

7.3. Other financial items

7.3.1. **Sharing Files** – It was agreed that RCC should have access to a Microsoft shared OneDrive to allow councillors to view RCC files. The Clerk will investigate the most effective method of purchasing Microsoft software.

7.3.2. **Statutory Councillor allowances.** These allowances, of £156 per councillor, are to meet some of the expenses incurred when working from home. There are also 3 allowances available for the Chair, Vice Chair and Responsible Finance Officer of up to £500.00. All councillors need to let the Clerk know (in writing) if they do not want to take up their allowances. RFO to produce an email template for councillors to use if needed.

7.3.3. **Pension contributions for the Clerk.** These need to be put in place from the commencement of the Clerk's employment.

8. Hwb Update

8.1 MK outlined the new content that had been published on the website, including a wellbeing blog by GB. The new Book of the Month feature has added its second post. New content for the Recipes feature is being drafted and MK encouraged those present to submit favourite recipes.

9. Forward Planning – discussion of what we are planning in the village. Events etc.

9.1 RCC Communications Strategy – MK & SM have put together questions on 3 topics: RCC communications, D-Day commemoration, and Speeding. They are currently piloting the questions in Higher Pitton. The questions will then be forwarded to other members.

9.2 Annual Magazines were delivered in both paper format and electronically. RCC wanted to express their gratitude to Charlotte for designing the newsletter.

RCC has agreed to plan 2024's newsletter and will discuss dates.

9.3 Council emails have been distributed and posted on the RCC website. RCC councillors are to log in to new email.

ACTION: All RCC councillors to login and start using new email by the end of the week.

LW to publicise details of new emails to Rhossili residents.

9.4 D Day commemoration update

9.4.1 WW2 exhibition to be held in the village hall and RCC will be asking for memorabilia in the Rhossili WhatsApp chat. Hall has already been provisionally booked for the event. A call for volunteers to help with D-Day celebrations will be put on the Rhossili WhatsApp chat and other social media.

9.4.2 RCC to donate money towards bacon rolls for D-Day celebrations.

GB proposed £150 – budget to be agreed on next meeting.

ACTION SM to explore D-Day costs.

9.4.3 Poppy seeds are currently being organised.

ACTION – NR to discuss poppy seeds with the National Trust.

9.4.4 SM has spoken to two local restaurants about providing fish and chips for the event.

9.4.5 MK outlined some potential elements of the concert being planned by Mairwen Kirk. Venue is anticipated as being RVH although St Mary's Church is a possibility. MK also proposed that regular meetings of the core people involved in planning the different activities should be established to ensure effective coordination across the day.

ACTION: LW to put together a draft timetable for the D-Day celebration.

9.5 There have been issues with recycling in Rhossili. LAN will be asking other CC's for details about their recycling schemes

10. Planning Applications – review and produce comments

10.1 High Priest Rhossili Swansea SA3 1PJ

Demolition of existing single-storey extension and replacement two-storey rear extension, installation of three rear roof lights and new access with gates – currently being considered.

ACTION: GB to check with other residents for any planning objections.

ACTION: LAN to speak with the owner about pathways.

10.2 Caravan Park Renewals – no comment from RCC.

11. Footpaths and Rights of Way – review comment and action

11.1 None to discuss

12. Roads and Pavements - review comments and action

12.1 RCC has not heard back regarding issues with School Lane – LW will chase for a response.

13. National Trust

13.1 None to discuss

14. Chair's Items

14.1 Thanks duly noted to TH and the team for arranging Christmas trees for the village and taking them down.

15. Any Other Business

15.1 Speedwatch meeting being held in the first week of February via Zoom. LAN & SM to attend the meeting.

16. Representations from the public

16.1 None

17. Date of next RCC meeting

17.1 13/02/2024 at 7:15pm

Meeting ended at 9:15pm