**01/25**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LLANSTADWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY 2025 AT THE MISSION HALL, HAZELBEACH AT 7.00PM.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Diggle (Chair)

Cllr B Evans

Cllr H Dyer

Cllr P Roberts

Cllr S Thomas

Cllr G Wilson

**APOLOGIES:**  Cllr J Lloyd

Cllr E Pugh

The Clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark-Davies)

**01/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr S Thomas declared that he is a member of NTC and is also related to the former clerk to the Burial Board.

**02/25 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The chair advised that he had attended a remote meeting of the OVW Pembrokeshire Area Committee but had nothing to report.

**03/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2024 were proposed, seconded, and agreed as a true record.

**04/25 MATTERS ARISING**

The following matters were raised:

1. Minute 167/24 a) The clerk advised that she had spoken to Rev Chadwick about the location of the grit bin, and he was going to make enquiries with church members.
2. Minute 167/24 c) The clerk advised that she had contacted three contractors with a view to repairing the leak at the toilets and had also requested the necessary form from PCC to carry out the work. The clerk was asked to follow up her enquiries with the contractors and with PCC for the form.

**05/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

**02/25**

**06/25 UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

a) Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £624.05 in the Current Acct, £17,739.36 in the Saver Acct and £10,894.92 in the United Trust Bank acct.

b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £19,184.10 (gross) and expenditure of £18,835.54 (gross).

c) The Financial Budget Comparison showing the Budget set, the actual income and expenditure figures and the balance remaining under each heading.

**RESOLVED: That the above financial information be accepted**

**07/25 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

a) Mrs J Clark-Davies January salary £299.60

b) PAYE for December £74.80

c) Cleaner’s wages for January (4 weeks) £305.20

d) SSE – electricity for Christmas lights December 2023. £404.17

e) Octopus Energy - electricity for toilets December £25.21

Members queried the electricity account for the Christmas lights for 2023 and agreed that photographs of the usage from each meter be sent to SSE.

There was also a discussion on the payments made to the cleaner since the toilets were closed in December. It was agreed that she be paid in full for a further month and if they are not operational by the end of February that she be paid 50% of her normal pay until the toilets are re-opened.

**08/25 TO CONFIRM DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2025-26**

The clerk advised that the Council Tax Base for band D properties had been received, and it was a good deal lower than last year due to a reduction in the second home premium by PCC and a reduction in the number of second homes within the community. The new figure of 418.48 at the current precept of £40.00 per household would only equate to an income of £16,739.20 which is less than the current year’s precept income of £17,258.48.

After a lengthy debate it was agreed to raise the precept to £55.00 per household which would equate to an income of £23,016.48 plus other income, making a total income of £24,446.40 against a proposed expenditure total of £27,930.00. It was agreed that cutbacks be made in expenditure where possible, including closing the toilets for the winter months.

**03/25**

The clerk was asked to put information on the website about how the precept is spent.

**RESOLVED: That a precept of £55.00 per household be requested for 2025-26.**

**09/25 QUOTES FOR REPLACEMENT BENCH FOR JORDANSTON VILLAGE**

In view of the current financial situation, it was agreed that attempts be made to repair the damaged seat rather than buying a new one.

**RESOLVED: That the existing damaged bench be repaired if possible.**

**10/25 PLAY PARK INSPECTIONS FOR DECEMBER**

The December reports had been received and circulated. There were no added items this month and it was agreed that as soon as the ground is drier, Members would visit each play area and make good all low-risk items.

**11/25 UPDATE ON BURIAL BOARD**

The chair had circulated a financial report in order the justify the precept request of £5,000 from the Burial Board. The Grievance procedure was almost complete and OVW were awaiting responses from interviewees. Once received a full report would be drawn up and circulated.

**12/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no planning applications to consider.

**13/25 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence had been received:

a) OVW COVID Day of Remembrance - noted.

b) OVW List of training dates for Jan – March 2025. – noted.

c) HDUHB Stakeholders Group – noted.

d) HDUHB Independent Member (Community Opportunity) – no action.

e) Boundary Commission for Wales – Review of Senedd Constituencies – councillors were unanimous in their rejection of the Boundary Commission's proposals for the Senedd elections and tasked the chair to write a response to the consultation.

f) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Govt - Consultation on Reforms to the Compulsory Purchase Process and Compensation Rules – members to respond as individuals.

**04/25**

The clerk was asked to circulate the email from Dragon LNG regarding their community visits to residents.

**14/25 ANY OTHER INFORMATION**

The following matters were raised:

1. There were low hanging branches and bushes on the Waterston Road which were owned by Egnedol. If they do not cut them back, then PCC will be advised.
2. A local resident had complained about the excessive water on the road by the Vicarage on Church Road. This has already been reported to PCC; however, it was agreed that a site visit be requested with PCC.
3. Members commented on the fact that some lay byes in the area had been completely resurfaced by PCC. The clerk was requested to ask Cllr Paul Miller why this work had been carried out.
4. The pavements on the road from the Old School into Waterston were overgrown with bushes and brambles – report to PCC.

**15/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at Hazelbeach at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed……………………………………. Chair……………………………. Date

Signed……………………………………………………. Clerk