

ST BRIDES MAJOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH JUNE, 2023

AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH, SOUTHERNDOWN.

PRESENT: Cllr. A. Parry (Chairperson), Cllr. A. Morgan, S. Edwards, A. James, B. Lewis, S. Evans, H. Rosenberg, E. Hayhurst, M. Wynne Jones, Vale Cllrs C. Stallard, J. Protheroe, Vale D. Gibbs, S. Evans, PCSO. S. Rich and 28 members of the public.

Cllr. Parry opened the meeting by welcoming Deborah Gibbs from the Vale Council together with the members of public to the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr. R. Stephens, S. Roberts
2. **POLICE REPORT** – In the absence of both PC Jamie Williamson due to other duties, and PCSO Angela Stone who is on holiday, PCSO Sian Rich was in attendance. She reported there had been 3 crimes:

Public order offence in Southerndown

Public order offence in St. Brides Major

A dog dangerously out of control in a public place Ogmre by Sea.

In addition to anti-social behaviour in Rivermouth Car Park 8 calls relating to 7 incidents these are for noise, drugs and fire report.

Other places 4 calls:-

1 was a vehicle on fire near Portobello. Not sure if this is anti-social behaviour or engine problem.

Noise report from Brig a Don which is believed to be car stereos.

Minor bump and few concern calls.

Sian reminded that Operation SNAP is now live. Members of the public can submit video and photographic evidence relating to driving offences (<http://gosafesnap.wales/>) The result of action taken will be reported back to the complainant by the officer appointed. A question was asked if there was a way of recording the trends of various offences and for these to be reported in the monthly reports? These are checked by the police to see what area or what offences occur on a regular basis. This is to be discussed with PC Williamson in the next meeting and he is aware of the question.

3. **DEBORAH GIBBS COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER**

Introduction of Deborah Gibbs (DG) from the Vale of Glamorgan.

Debora Gibbs gave thank for the introduction and explained her title. DG explained that whereas she is employed by the Vale of Glamorgan she is co located at Barry Police Station to be able to review calls and action necessary. Within Community Safety for the local area her team are responsible for a wide range of issues, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, prevention of terrorism and also reviews CCTV so a wide range of responsibilities.

During the summer months there is Operation Elstree, the Vale's summer safety campaign. A meeting is held once a week with all emergency services, fire police, ambulance, coast guards, RNLI and any other services available. DG chairs the weekly Operation Elstree meetings. Events planning is discussed to look at what services would be required.

- DG explained that she had been requested to carry out a review of work being undertaken at the Rivermouth Car Park, in Ogmore by Sea. This is a new project and DG explained there had been an active review over the half term at the end of May, with Enforcement Officer there all week but during the Thursday and Friday additional staff were employed. The following information was received from the 26th May , until the 1st June.

ENFORCEMENT	NUMBER
Warning notices	2,550
Penalty Charge notices	31
Fires/BBQ extinguished	39
TRANSPORT TEAM	
Vehicles driven through Ogmore by Sea	45,456
Accessed the Carpark	12,332
POLICE	
ASB	2 *
FIRE	
	1

*The anti-social behaviour incidents were 31.05.2023 Vehicle at 3am with the second on the 1st June, which was of playing loud music. There is CCTV in the area and upon receipt of a complaint, the footage is reviewed.

DG also advised that the average speed in Ogmore during that time ranged between 31 – 33 mph.

- There has also been an increase in the number of reports of fires in the area, but DG had been unable to meet with the fire service to discuss these findings, but this is in her diary to do so.
- The ANPR barrier is still not working, but the contractors have now been contacted to supply a date when this work can be carried out for the barrier to become operational. The new barrier will have CCTV attached which will enable the review of number of vehicles at the car park at any one time and if necessary, action could be taken.

Cllr. Parry thanked Deborah for the information and advised that questions could be raised.

QUESTIONS (Q) AND ANSWERS (ANS)

Q Is it the same contractor being used?

ANS It is believed it is the same company due to contractual commitments. Updates on this are done daily.

Q What CCTV is operational in Ogmore by Sea?

ANS There is on the toilet building in the Rivermouth Car Park.

Q Does the Vale have any plans to fit any further cameras in Ogmore by Sea?

ANS Not at this time, as it is very difficult to have permission to do so, as it needs to be proved that this is necessary. DG also explained that the camera at the Rivermouth can be operated to cover the whole car park depending on reports being received. The camera is operational 24 hours a day and can be monitored by both the police at Barry and the security firm in Cardiff. Confirmation was given that the camera is fully functional at present.

Q A query was raised regarding fires, and if these were barbeques which were not out of control?

ANS DG stated she could only respond to the information given to her. Some photographs had been received which would indicate they were a lot larger than barbeques. Contact with the Fire Service is awaited to discuss action which could be taken by them.

Q Originally when the parking system was initiated the opening times were 7am – 8pm. When advertised the times changed to 7am – 11pm. It was said that the letter/drug equipment and bottles are left during the late evening.

ANS DG stated she did not control the car park but would take the comments back to the department in the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Leaflets were available on the evening demonstrating the correct departments to contact, together with telephone numbers and email addresses. The Community Council will place these on the noticeboards and website.

QA resident opened his question with the statement that he hoped action would be taken even though there have been promises made in the past. He stated that if anti-social behaviour is reported, no feedback is ever given, and hence residents don't bother to report it.

ANS The PCSO confirmed it would be 101 and explained that due to resources, priority is given to more complex issues and officers are deployed to other areas. Enforcement Officers are present, with some police backup, but again, she stressed the importance of Operation SNAP and photographic evidence provided. If reports are made with this information, they can be dealt with over a period of time, not necessarily at the time of reporting. Confirmation of the result is fed back to the complainant.

Q Had the contractors been paid the fee of £74,000?

ANS DG stated that information was not available to her.

STATEMENTS MADE BY THE PUBLIC

- A member of public stated that at a meeting regarding the carpark residents were assured that action would be taken very quickly. He had a letter dated from two years ago saying that by the summer holidays, the barrier would be operational.
- Cllr. Parry responded stating that the frustration for the residents is shared by the entire Council and the difficulty there has been to see through this initiative which is a first in the Vale and is being used as a “blueprint” for other car parks. A member of the Community Council stated that the frustrations in the area have been sent to the Vale Council and they have been acknowledged.

A member of the public asked that the Vale Council respected the public by not making unrealistic promises. He stated that the level of anti-social behaviour has increased over the last three years. The driving standard has declined and with the speed that some of these cars are traveling will, at some stage, caused a fatal accident. One vehicle spun the wheels so fast, it left tyre marks on the top of the car park. He did state that the officers whom attended the car park the previous week had been very active by putting warning notices on the cars stating that the car park was closing at 11pm. He also produced photographs showing soil damage after fires had been lit.

It was his feeling that promises were being made, but never fulfilled.

A member of the public from Southerndown stated that the anti-social behaviour is a problem for that area as well, with youths travelling on the roofs of cars on the public highway of Beach Road. DG stated that Southerndown is another area which is discussed and reiterated the importance of reporting incidents as the more reports received the wider the knowledge for discussion. PCSO stated that these would be covered under Operation SNAP if accompanied with registration numbers and/or photographic evidence. A member of the Council stated that this is the message received from PC Williamson every month.

A resident of Ogmere by Sea stated that they had reported a fire at the Rivermouth to which a fire appliance attended who had decided that the fire was under control, in that there was a responsible adult in attendance. The question raised was with the By Laws states No fires why are they being allowed to continue? Also with wild camping, sheep are being driven away from their grazing areas and some are straying onto the road.

The Chairperson then stated that only three other questions would be addressed at this stage, but suggested that she would try to arrange a further meeting with representatives from all services before the next Community Council meeting on the 10th July.

One resident stated that the installation of the barrier is not going to be the answer to all the problems as if the car park is closed, people will park on the Main Road, and walk down. She felt that it is visible enforcement that is required. Local enforcement has been an issued the Community Council has raised on several occasions with the Vale Council.

A suggestion was raised by a member of the public residents be given paper to write down their concerns for which they required answering. This was done, and collected when the public left the meeting.

Thanks were again to the public for their attendance and a reminder that the Community Council meet every month on the second Monday and public are always welcome. Notices for an extra meeting will be placed on Facebook, Noticeboards, and prominent areas.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES 15TH May, 2023

Fencing plan set out by Commoners Association – Cllr. Morgan clarified that he would look into the Right of Way. This is not a matter for the Commoners. This was noted, and Cllr. Morgans' report had been circulated to all Councillors.

Letters to Vale of Glamorgan and Land Agent to support resident's concern re The Field, Southerndown – Clerk confirmed emails had been sent to both, but no replies received.

ACTION: Further emails to be sent.

Vale Councillor to approach Vale Council on the residents' behalf of residents. Vale Cllr. Prothero stated that she had referred this matter to David Hunt the Heritage Maintenance Officer and he confirmed that it is a pedestrian right of way and he would arrange for his rangers to survey the quality of the road. He was also asked about the gate which was suggested to be unsafe and he has requested a survey to be carried out by the maintenance officer. A member of the public requested a timeline for this work to be carried out and Vale Cllr. Prothero stated she would enquire into this as soon as possible.

Walk to take place by Cllrs. Re positioning of banner – Cllrs. Stephens, Edwards and Roberts – The designated areas were identified and banners in position.

Grant application form – Cllr. Hayhurst – To be discussed later in the meeting.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES DATED THE 15TH MAY, 2023 With the variation regarding the fencing plan the minutes were propped and seconded as true records.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Andrea John from Ogmore by Sea regarding fly tipping in the top of Norton Hill. It is believed that the tyres, were as a result of a clean-up of the area. Clarification of this is to be obtained and if not, contact with the Vale would be made. This area is owned by the Duchy of Lancaster and the issue should be raised to them.

Community Grants. The two main grants that the Council could apply for are the Strong Community Grant and the Shared Prosperity Grant. This was received from Vale Cllr. Jo Protheroe from whom the email was received. Cllr. Protheroe explained this had been raised in the Vale Council and that further information would be received in due course. Nicola Sumner Smith has offered to attend a meeting and discuss the grants. The offer was gladly accepted.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance Forward	£16,816.78
Cheques paid within period since last meeting	
Cheque No 102415 M. Stevens	£ 400.00
Cheque No 102417 D. Brunsdon Salary	£ 376.10
Direct debit E.On £63.00	£ 63.00
E.On £63.00	£ 63.00
TOTAL PAID OUT	£ 902.10
Precept received from Vale of Glamorgan Council	£ 7,648.00
CLOSING BALANCE	£23,562.68
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	£16,799.04

It was questioned as to why two payments were made to E.On every month. The Clerk advised that this was for the two stations, one at the Monument at St. Brides Major and the other in Ogmores by Sea for the lighting of the Christmas tree. She explained she had spoken to E.On and had agreed a change in contract. At present, a fee of £2 per day as a standing charge which of course, equates to the £62 per month plus the VAT on top. This has now been changed, and as it was a reduction, the Clerk stated she had agreed to this subject to the meeting that evening. It has now been placed on a different contract which is 56p per day as from the following day.

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT

D. Brunsdon Clerk

Salary	£341.10
Rent	£ 20.00
Telephone	£ 15.00
Richard Gower	£ 80.00
Mark Stevens	£ 70.00 Cutting grass by War Memorial
Mark Stevens	£400.00 Burial Ground
B. Lewis Chairman's allowance	£500.00

It was proposed and seconded that these payments be made.

7.1 BUDGET REVIEW – Cllr. B. Lewis advised that he had emailed the budget out to all the Councillors but had also printed some copies off. Going back to our meeting in January, when it was agreed that we reduced the Precept down to £16 per household which is an income of £23,000. The fixed costs per annum which is the admin, insurances, burial ground, website, bus shelters, clock subscriptions is a total of £17,000. On top of that we look at our additional costs which is the mowing in Ogmores by Sea, St. Brides Major and Southerndown which is an additional £1,500 per year. The Christmas trees and lighting is an further £2,000, donations we are looking at a further £1,500 per year, courses, IT equipment comes at out £5,550 brings the total up to £22,600 which technically, brings the figure up to the £23,000.

Previously £5/6,000 was used for projects. It was agreed to use the monies which have accrued over the past years for the projects. Cllr. Lewis proposed that a figure of £10,000 be transferred to the savings account, and ring fenced for the Grant Application proposal with the difference coming from the current account. The grant scheme is a one year only project to use the surplus funds. A question was raised as to how that figure will be split and Cllr. Lewis explained that it will be dependant on grant applications received. It was felt that if the grant scheme was advertised every organisation would have an equal amount of time and questions in order that their application be considered.

The timescale was another question raised, as it was felt that if a project which is being currently worked upon, there may not be the time to wait. There is an agreed deadline of September, for the applications.

A question of Community Council projects as to whether they would still go ahead. An example of the Pond at St. Brides Major and the catches for the Bridal Path gates. It was stated that these projects would be outside in the grant scheme. A further Councillor stated that monies should still be made available for Community Council run schemes.

It was stated that the Community Council already have a donation policy and that the grant application will not be the only source of obtaining monies.

The Chair asked if a slight adjustment be made to make sure sufficient monies are available for projects generally every year to maintain the environment but also allows monies for projects? It was also agreed that perhaps not all applications will require the maximum of £3,000.

It was then stated that there is a buffer of £7,500 and this could be used as the year passes, and this could be used for projects for the Community Council.

A question was raised regarding the scoring system of the Grant scheme. Information on this will be circulated prior to the next meeting and discussed at the July meeting.

Agreement of the £10,000 transfer to savings account was proposed and seconded.

7.2 DONATIONS –

2 Requests have been received this month, both for local projects.

- St. Bridget's Church, St. Brides Major. Cllr. Edwards declared an interest in this matter.
The Church is holding an Open Day on the 24th June. Tours will be given around the Church followed by tea and cakes. The request is for assistance to buy engraved pens to be handed to the visitors at a cost of £200. It was proposed and seconded that a donation of £100 would be granted.
- A request has been received from the Southerndown Cricket and Social Club to assist with the repairs of a boundary wall at a cost of £850. The lease, to which they have been granted, includes maintenance. After a discussion regarding this, it was proposed and seconded a donation of £425 was granted. The lease with Dunraven is that maintenance of the ground and boundaries be the responsibility of the Cricket Ground and this can be seen as being correct.

As question was raised by a member of the public as to whether the Cricket Ground would not be seen as a Community Asset, as it is used by many people from all the surrounding areas.

It was agreed that this matter could not be discussed at the present time, but that if they would like to formulate a plan, they could then report back to the Community Council.

A further question was did the Community Council publicise a list of concerns supported by them? It was stated that the Community Council has supported the Cricket Ground at Southerndown for several years and has in turn funded a substantial amount of donations. The Community Council is only responsible for the burial ground, the War Memorial, the clock on the tower at St. Bridget's Church and bus shelters in the area. In addition to this, in order to maintain the areas, additional grass cutting is paid for by the Community Council.

8. VALE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT – Cllrs. C. Stallard J. Protheroe Cllr. Stallard advised that during the meeting she had discussed the Speed Watch with a member of the public and felt that if a meeting is to be held to discuss the problems in Ogmore by Sea, it would be

an opportunity to raise this. This was agreed and Cllr. Stallard will have applications form on that night. It is hoped that volunteers will come forward for the litter pick which is scheduled.

9. REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

9.1 BURIAL GROUND – Cllr. R. Stephens – Nothing to report.

9.2 REPORT FROM SOUTHERNDOWN – Cllr. S. Evans stated that concern was still being raised with regards to the damaged wall at Southerndown. Also concern regarding the amount of litter in the village and the fact that one bin has been overflowing for several days.

Letter to Vale Council regarding increased litter collection, larger bins.

9.3 REPORT FROM WILD OGMORE – Cllr. E. Hayhurst – Progress is slower than expected, but this is due to the very dry weather.

9.4 FRIENDS OF THE HERITAGE COAST – Cllr. S. Edwards – Nothing further to report

10. SPORTS PAVILION UPDATE – Cllr. S. Edwards – Nothing further to report

11. RIVERMOUTH CAR PARK – Covered in the visit by Deborah Gibbs. The Chair also stated that the Task & Finish Group has achieved its' aim and this item will cover the issues raised on the car park.

12. BATHING WATER REVIEW – Cllr. M. Wynne Jones has received a reply from the Welsh Government, which he read out in the meeting. It stated there was no regulated number of bathers required for the area to be designated for the Safe Water Award. It has agreed that Ogmere by Sea is to be awarded the Safe Water Award with the water being tested on a regular basis. Thanks was given to Cllr. Jones for his work on this matter. It has been reported that Southerndown has lost this award, but it is due to a lack of toilet facilities.

A representation should be made to the Vale Council details asking what action should be taken to clarify this as soon as possible.

Letter to be sent to Vale Council.

13. GRANT APPLICATIONS – The majority of this has already been addressed. The public/organisations/community groups will be invited to request funds for a specific cause an application form will need to be completed and if need be a drop in session could be arranged in order to assist. Maximum of £3,000 to cover 4 projects and 1 councillor will be assigned to the project in to assist and also be able to report back to the Community Council. Funding is non recurrent funding and one question is requesting information how the project will continue without future funding. The application has been tied in with the donation guidelines held by the Community Council. The key thing is that the public know about this opportunity.

Applications will have to be received by the middle of September, giving time for these to be reviewed, and initial meeting arranged and then discussed fully in the October meeting. A scoring system will be operated and Councillors would be invited to join the panel.

The decision of 4 grants being issued was a decision made by Chair and Cllr. Hayhurst in which will reduce the initial problems which could arise. Also, if no application meet the criteria, the monies will not be spent.

Initially the projects will be assessed within the guidelines of the donation guidelines then the scoring of each project will be undertaken and each will be on assessed on individual merit.

A further question was asked as to whether some groups will be disappointed and feel disgruntled that their project has not been successful? The criteria will be published and if not meet, the funds will not be available. Feedback will be given to all applicants.

The scoring sheet will be shared with the whole council shortly.

14. PLANNING –

APPROVALS

Application No. 2023/00329/FUL

Location : 9 Channel View, Ogmores by Sea

Proposal : Vary condition 1 of 2018/00947/FUL – The development shall begin no later than five years from the date of this decision – Proposed rear extension.

Application No. 2023/00194/FUL

Location : 2 West Farm Close, Ogmores by Sea

Proposal : Installation of a raised deck with glass balustrade and alterations to fenestration.

NEW APPLICATIONS

Application No. 2023/00559/FUL (HUD)

Location : 86 Crompton Way, Ogmores by Sea

Proposal : Converting the existing roof to accommodate a new bedroom with a bathroom and study. Inclusion of a sea facing recessed dormer.

Application No. 2023/00556/FUL (HUD)

Location : 26 and 27 Crompton Way, Ogmores by Sea

Proposal : Proposed single storey side garage extension for 2 adjacent properties

Application No. 2023/00522/FU (HUD)

Location : St. Andrews House, 21 West Farm Road, Ogmores by Sea

Proposal : Proposed roof and primary façade alterations, ground floor rear single storey extension and driveway alterations to include new access and triple garage.

15. UPDATE ON WARD GROUPS

15.1 ST. BRIDES MAJOR GROUP – Mark Stevens the contractor for the Council sent a letter received at the start of the meeting requesting an increase in the hourly rate for his labour and also increase in the cost of maintenance of the Church. Hourly rate will be increased from £20 to £22 and the cost of mowing the burial ground to £220 which is £180 a present. Depending on the season, the grass is cut once minimum and some months twice. This was proposed and seconded, increase to take place immediately.

15.1 OGMORE BY SEA Ogmore by Sea Councillors have been meeting with the Ogmore by Sea Village Hall Association and it has been arranged to host a Fun Event 24th June. This is for the community to join together with projects going forward. There is entertainment being organised with the Ogmore by Sea Choir and Tom Evans taking part. Support from the Community Council is required for the payment of Tom Evans of £150 and the cost of the printing being borne by the organisers. Proposed and seconded.

16. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHAIR

The hinges on the gates on the bridleway gates has been discussed previously and payment for these agreed by the Council. Photographs are to be sent to the Vale Council for funding otherwise it was previously agreed due to the danger of the gates, the Community Council will pay.

Cllr. Evans stated she would be representing the Community Council in the AGM of the Samaritan in Bridgend. The Samaritans in Bridgend have been in existence for 50 years.

Suggested that a letter be sent to Deborah Gibbs to thank her for attending the meeting and ask her to look for the timescales for the barriers to be fitted right from commencement of the decision and itemise the problems causing the delay in the operation.

The Clerk reported that she had been approached by a resident in Ogmore by Sea for the bus shelter to be maintained as the paint work is in a very poor condition. Cllr. Morgan has agreed to assess the condition of the bus shelters and report back next meeting.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING 10TH JULY, at 7pm

Meeting closed 21.31pm