

St Brides Major Community Council
Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 9th December 2024 at All Saints Church, Southerndown.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Cllr A Morgan (Chair), Cllrs S Edwards, B Lewis, M Howell, A Parry, A James, S Evans
I Hughes (Clerk), PCSO Angela Stone, VOG Cllr J Protheroe

Apologies: Cllrs H Morris (Vice Chair), R Stephens, M Wynne Jones. PC Williamson

The Chair welcomed Cllr M Howell to his first meeting and thanked Cllr Evans for her kind invitation to join her after the meeting at her house for a social event.

2. Declarations of Interest

No new declarations were raised.

3. Police Matters

PCSO Angela Stone provided an update in the absence of PC Williamson.

During the month there were five crimes reported with two of them being linked. They were PBO/threatening behaviour, burglary, theft from a licenced premise and an AWOL from the Armed Services. Cllr Edwards enquired whether there had been any local Church burglaries recently. PCSO responded in that there were two burglaries from local churches and explained that the Police had put on extra patrols. "Lamping" is still ongoing within the area and PCSO Angela Stone asked for everybody to be vigilant to this.

4. Minutes of previous meeting: 11th November 2024

These were **resolved** to be a true and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising

5.1 Church Clock: Cllr Stephens has spoken with Smiths of Derby and they have provided information detailing grants available for the work from April 2025.

5.2 Sports Pavillion: The leak in the kitchen area has been fixed and a consultation meeting on the use of the pavilion is being planned for the New Year.

5.3 Defibrillators: The box to install the defibrillator has been purchased at the cost of £495 and will be sighted in the bus shelter opposite the Farmers Arms.

5.4 Christmas Trees: Purchased and in placed. Thanks to all who facilitated their placement.

5.5 War Memorial: Thanks to both Mark Stephens and fellow councillors who carried out remedial work on the memorial.

5.6 Annual Report: The Annual Report was presented to the meeting where it was generously applauded. The distribution will be in several outlets across the community. The thanks from members was given to Cllrs Parry and Morris for their efforts in producing this report.

5.7 Benches: It was agreed that there was a need to install or replace four benches; two at the War Memorial, one at Pitcot Pool and one at Ogmores Village Hall. It was agreed that we would move these items to the New Financial Year.

5.8 Casual Vacancy – Ogmores by Sea Ward: If anybody is interested in the vacancy, they should be directed to apply in the first instance to the Clerk.

6.0 Correspondence

See appendix 1

7. Planning

7.1 Applications Received

Three applications received:

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|-------|-----------------|--|
| (i) | Slon Cottage | No Comment raised |
| (ii) | Three Cups | No comment raised |
| (iii) | 9 Heol Yr Ysgol | Comments to be fed back concern the overdevelopment of the plot and the potential for excess vehicles in an already congested road |

8.Finance

8.1 Financial Report

See appendix 2

The Clerk will be introducing a number of additional financial controls for future use by the council which will cover periodic verification of accounts etc. The Chair asked the Clerk to schedule these into future meetings.

8.2 Budget Review

The next tranche of precept of £8800 is due in December. With several planned items and contingencies the year end closing balance is estimated at £20000.

8.3 Approval of Payments:

See appendix 3

Cllr Edwards will speak with Emma ??? to obtain final copies of outstanding invoices for the Camino project.

8.4 Scribe Accounts Package:

It was agreed to set up the Scribe monthly charge as a Direct Debit.

8.5 Finance Working Group:

A meeting of the Finance Working Group took place to ascertain the level of precept for 2024/25. The main points were that the first cut produced a precept of £42000. Whilst this increase is larger than previous years there are a number of commitments which justify this level. Further work will be carried out before a final figure is presented to the council.

9. Grant Projects.

All grant projects with the exception of Camino are completed and our financial commitments fulfilled.

10. Website

The web site is live and training has been completed to support council amendments.

11. Burial Ground

11.1: Discussions will be held with our current contractor to consider the best way of maintaining the burial ground. Cllr James to lead. Cllr James there was one outstanding charge to be invoiced for a burial.

Cllr Parry provided an update on her dealings with the Barry Police in regard to the burial of the 15th Century bones discovered on Southerndown Beach. It was agreed to identify a suitable area within the burial ground for the internment and proceed in the New Year.

12. Biodiversity & Environment

12.1 River Quality: Cllr Parry explained about the grants available via National Resources Wales (NRW) to help improve water quality in local rivers. There are a number of bodies working on this topic to improve the quality of the River Ogmore from source to sea. It was agreed the Cllr Parry proceeds to lead on this.

13. Reports from Members

13.1 Southerndown

Cllr Evans attended a webinar on Amphibians which was very informative, Cllr Evans informed the meeting of the forthcoming Big Bird Watch in January 2025. The recent fireworks display at

the Cups resulted in dangerous parking on the main road. It will be raised at the next meeting when the Police representative will be in attendance.

There will be a Christmas Carol service at All Saints Church on 20 December 2024.

13.2 Ogmore by Sea

There will be a concert in the Ogmore Village Hall on Saturday 14 December 2024. There will be a choir from St Brides School and will commence at 4:00 pm.

13.3 St Brides Major

Cllr Edwards attended meetings with the local quarry company and with Friends of the Heritage Coast, nothing of note.

Ogmore Choir are singing in St Bridget's Church on Thursday.

15 Any other business

- (i) There is a defective light on the lane by the school, Clerk to liaise with VOG Cllr Protheroe to action.
- (ii) A request has been received to consider a request to the All Saints Church Roof Fund. To be considered for next meeting.
- (iii) VOG Cllr Protheroe provided an update on VOG items:
 - a. A VOG newsletter will shortly be issued to all VOG constituents
 - b. VOG money has been allocated to carry put a mapping of mobile phone coverage through the VOG area
 - c. A Fresh Food Pharmacy will be open in Wick this weekend to provide food for those in need
 - d. VOG budget discussions for 2025/26 are being finalised, early indications are that allocations for money will remain tight
- (iv) **The Chair thanked the members for their input during the previous twelve months and wished all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

16. Date of Next Meeting: January 13, 2025

The meeting closed at 20:46 hours.