

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NEYLAND TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2020 AT BETHESDA CHURCH HALL AT 7.00PM.

PRESENT: Cllr W McGarvie (Mayor)
Cllr P Davies
Cllr S Hancock
Cllr M Harry
Cllr P Hay
Cllr G Lawlor
Cllr S Churchill
Cllr B Phelan
Cllr A Pollard-Powell
Cllr J Sutton
Cllr P Wonnacott

APOLOGIES: None received.

The Town Clerk was in attendance (Mrs J Clark)

2443 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

2444 REPRESENTATIONS FROM PUBLIC

No public present.

2445 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2019 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record.

2446 MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were raised:

- a) Minute 2422 It was suggested that provision be made for VE Day75 events within the Town Improvement budget.
- b) Minute 2424: Christmas Together lunch - a letter of thanks had been received from the organiser along with all relevant information which would be circulated to all councillors.
- c) Minute 2429: Cllr Adam Pollard-Powell offered to prepare an appropriate response on the S6 Duty of the Environment (Wales) Act.
- d) Minute 2439d): Cllr Pollard-Powell advised that the pond at Honeyborough Green had been cleared but was very silted up and would need a digger to dig it out. This would be investigated.

2447

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PRECEPT MEETING

The minutes of the Precept meeting held on 19th December 2019 were proposed and seconded. They were agreed as a true record apart from the following amendments:

- a) Minute 2442 a) Add in that the total earmarked for Elections is £5,000.
- b) Add point d) stating that £3,000 be earmarked for the play park.
- c) It was noted that the anticipated balance as at 31st March 2020 would be approx. £8,500 once earmarked reserves are deducted.

2448

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PRECEPT MEETING

Cllr G Lawlor stated that he did not wish to accept the draft budget in its present form as he felt that the Mayor should not receive any expenses for his/her year in office and that he/she should only receive the £1,500.00 Mayoral allowance which is, in effect, an honorarium for taking on the role. After a lengthy and heated debate Cllr Lawlor asked for a special meeting to be held to discuss payments to councillors but this was not accepted as the Budget had to be agreed at this meeting so that the Precept request could be forwarded to PCC by the due date.

It was therefore proposed, seconded and agreed by 5 votes to 3 (with 4 abstentions) that the Budget for 2020-21 be accepted.

RESOLVED: That the Budget for 2020-21 be accepted and that a Precept of £66.00 per household be set, equating to income of £88,916.52.

2449

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted the following report:

- 27th Nov Planning Meeting
- 30th Nov Presented cheque for Christmas Dinner at St Clements
- 2nd Dec. Council Meeting
- 8th Dec Christmas Miscellany. Very well attended and supported by most organisations in the Town. Refreshments supplied by Neyland Co-op and prepared by the Ladies of Zion Presbyterian Chapel. I would like to extend my thanks to all who took part and made it an enjoyable evening. I would also like to thank the three Cllrs and their wives who supported the Miscellany.
- 11th Dec Attended the U3A Dinner at Hubberston which raised a considerable amount of money for Charities.

03/20

- 16th Dec Took part in the Santa Visit to Neyland. Another excellent event for Neyland. Well done to all that helped organise it and worked on the evening.
- 16th Dec Attended Haverfordwest Town Council Carol Service
- 19th Neyland Town Council Precept Meeting. Very poorly attended.
- 22nd Dec Started the Santa Run and presented Medals/.
- 22nd Attended Carols by Candlelight at Bethesda Chapel

Cllr G Lawlor thanked the Mayor and everyone who helped out, for attending the Santa Fun Run on 22nd December 2019

RESOLVED: That the Mayor be thanked for his report.

2500

UPDATE ON ACCOUNTS

The following financial information was circulated:

- a) The Bank Account Reconciliations Summary showing a balance of £71,796.28 in the Current Acct and £680.28 in the Saver Acct, the Mayor's Account of £1,457.60 and Twinning Account of £1,262.10.
- b) The Financial Statement – Cashbook showing income of £118,567.26(net) and expenditure of £70,201.90 (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 financial information above be accepted.

*Cllr B Phelan left the meeting at 8.05pm.

2501

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY GARDENS

Cllr J Sutton provided an update on this matter advising that he has not had an opportunity to prepare a bid for funding but that he would be meeting with the Town Clerk over the next few days to work on the application. He added that it was hoped that the hedge would be cut back by the end of February.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Sutton to meet with the Town Clerk to complete the application for funding for the Community Gardens.

2502 SHARING COSTS OF REGISTRATION OF BURIAL BOARD LAND WITH LCC

The Clerk advised that the members of Llanstadwell Community Council had inquired whether this Council was prepared to contribute 50% of the cost of registering the burial board land at the Cemetery that was not currently registered.

RESOLVED: That this Council pays 50% of the cost of registering the unregistered land at Honeyborough Cemetery.

2503 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Discussion on this matter had been requested by Cllr M Harry who specifically referred to the Precept demanded by the Neyland & Llanstadwell Joint Burial Board which he considered was much higher than it needed to be. He proposed that the management of the Burial Board be reviewed by an external body or organisation such as PCC

RESOLVED: That council agree that the management of the Burial Board be reviewed by an external body or organisation.

2504 PCC'S COMMUNITY WORKS GRANT

Information on this new grant for small highway projects had been circulated and it was agreed that it be discussed at the February meeting when Members could put forward possible ideas.

RESOLVED: That this matter be discussed at the February meeting when members could put forward ideas.

2506 ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY GOVERNOR AT NEYLAND CP SCHOOL

Due to the disqualification of Cllr Lawlor for failure to comply with mandatory training requirements, a vacancy had arisen on the Governing Body of Neyland CP School and nominations were requested.

RESOLVED: That no nominations be put forward at this time.

2507 CONSULTATION ON INCREASE IN PLANNING FEES

A consultation has been issued which seeks views on proposed changes to planning fees. The consultation proposes amending the existing fee levels for planning and related applications, as well as introducing a fee for Certificates of Appropriate Alternative Development. Responses are requested by 13th March 2020.

Cllr W McGarvie offered to respond to this consultation on behalf of Council.

RESOLVED: That Cllr W McGarvie to respond on behalf of Council.

2508 **UPDATE ON ACTION PLAN**

As there were several items that had been dealt with and others still on-going, the Clerk agreed to produce a list of these and other matters which were awaiting action for the next meeting. The Action Plan will be discussed at each meeting until further notice.

RESOLVED: That a list of items from the Action Plan that have been dealt with and on-going items be prepared for the next meeting.

2509 **WALK NEYLAND TRAIL**

The Clerk advised that she had received a proof of a promotional leaflet with costs of design and print for 500 or 1000. It was agreed to proceed with this leaflet and that it was hoped that some local businesses would sponsor it to help with costs. The clerk to put a post on FB requesting sponsors to get in touch. Cllr P Hay and the Clerk to prepare the text for the leaflet. Cllr A Pollard-Powell suggested producing a phone App for the Walk as well.

RESOLVED: That work on this leaflet be progressed and sponsorship be found if possible.

Cllr P Hay and the Town Clerk to prepare the text.

2510 **POLICE MATTERS**

Nothing to report.

2511 **YOUTH MATTERS**

Nothing to report.

2512 **REPORT FROM CTY CLLR SIMON HANCOCK**

Cty Cllr Hancock had nothing report due to the Christmas and New Year break.

2513 **ACCOUNTS TO PAYMENT**

Accounts totalling £2,398.05 (gross) were approved for payment.

2514 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk submitted the following report:

1. I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and hope that all Members had a good break over Christmas.
2. I have been asked by Llanstadwell Community Council if Council is prepared to pay some of the costs of registering the land at the Cemetery which is not already registered. I am not sure what the cost will be but probably £100 - £200.
3. I have been contacted by Jenny Seaton who has been asked by Paul Miller to find out our requirements for items for display on the walls of the new Hub, in the meeting room, which will have to be shared with the U3A and Neyland Football Club. I have advised that we will require to have the three Mayor's Boards on the wall of the meeting room, but I am not sure what else Members would like displayed on the walls, particularly photographs. I think it may be appropriate to start putting the Mayor's portrait on the wall again, starting from this year, as we did in 60 High Street. Please let me have your comments/suggestions.
4. I am still awaiting a response from BT regarding the use of the phone box on the High Street for a defibrillator. I have reminded them today.

The Town Clerk was asked to find out how much space was available at the Hub for display purposes as it was suggested we have the Queen's pen and signature on display along with the current Mayor's portrait.

2515

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

The following matters were raised:

- a) Cllr Jo Bevan advised that there would be a 'Community Lunch and Advice Day' organised by CAB with other bodies and organisations present to give advice with a free lunch included. This would be held at the Mosaic Café on 5th February. The Clerk would assist with publicising this event.
- b) Cllr S Churchill drew attention to an organisation called 'Community Energy Wales' which involved groups pooling resources to purchase energy at a cheaper rate. He would prepare some information for the next meeting.
- c) Cllr Jo Bevan provided information on Food Banks, the Community Fridge and the Fair Share scheme.

2516

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 3rd February 2020 at 7.00pm.

Signed.....MayorDate

Signed.....Town Clerk