

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 16 July 2018

in Gladestry Village Hall

Present. Mr Melvyn Hughes (Chairman), Mr Derrick Carrington (Vice Chairman), Mr Ian Ball, Mr Gareth Croose, Ms Jane Bisby, Mr Viv Lloyd, Mr Joseph Alman, Cllr Michael Jones and Mr Kenneth Waugh (Clerk).

Observers: Mr Adam Barker and Mr Mark Johnson.

Preliminary Note. Prior to this meeting the Clerk had been contacted by Mr Adam Barker, the new owner of the building plot in Newchurch which is subject to planning application P/2018/0610. Adam asked if he could address the meeting to explain his proposals for the site, with particular reference to the disposal of sewerage. Councillors had been canvassed, and a majority had agreed to invite Adam to the meeting.

Cllr Jones excused himself from the meeting. Adam began by explaining that the original planning application had been for 3 dwellings, but now his revised application was for 2 dwellings, thereby creating more space for gardens etc. Having consulted some local residents, Adam had been made aware of concerns about the disposal of sewerage.. He said that his plans proposed the installation of a modern Environment Agency - approved system of sewage treatment and soak-away whereby outflow would be pumped away from residences and into land he owned above the site. This site had been subject to percolation testing, and approved. He added that he also proposed to dig a borehole in the same area.

This concluded Adam's presentation. Cllr Jones returned, and the meeting began.

1. Apologies. None necessary.

2. Minutes from the AGM held on the 21 May 2018.

Derrick proposed that the minutes of the AGM were agreed; Ian seconded, and Councillors approved. The minutes were then signed.

3. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 21 May 2018.

Jane proposed that the minutes from the ordinary meeting were agreed; Gareth seconded, and Councillors approved. The minutes were then signed.

4. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 21 May 2018.

- i. The village notice board was still awaiting a coat of varnish, and Viv volunteered to do the job.
- ii. The boundary issue concerning Powys CC and the Royal Oak remained unresolved. The Clerk had been informed by Powys that a meeting of relevant parties had now taken place, and that the Council would, eventually, receive a written report.
- iii. The gathering for the re-opening of the bell cote appeared to have gone well, and the bell is now rung each morning to signify the start of school.
- iv. Regarding the War Memorial, the Clerk had not received any update, but Councillors understood that work was now complete.
- v. The kiosk was **still** waiting for BT to reconnect the power supply, despite reminders from the Community Heartbeat Trust. Jane suggested that the defibrillator should be put in place, and a makeshift sign placed to indicate its new positioning. Councillors agreed that this was a good idea. Viv pointed out that some of the glass panels in the kiosk had previously been replaced with acrylic ones, and wondered if glass versions could be obtained. The Clerk said that he would explore the possibility, bearing in mind safety issues associated with such installation.

5. Planning.

Cllr Jones and Mr Barker excused themselves from the meeting.

P/2018/0610: building plot behind the Old Rectory, Newchurch. Ian explained that, as far as he was aware, only Janet and Mervyn Thomas had had concerns about this application, but now that they had received an explanation from Mr Barker, the new

developer, they now had no issues of concern. This was confirmed by Melvyn. Councillors discussed the aesthetics of the proposed design, but did not wish to make any written comments to the Authority.

P/2018/0603: extension to vehicle and equipment storage facilities at A.W.Hughes, Gladestry. Councillors had no comments to make on this application.

Cllr Jones and Mr Barker rejoined the meeting.

Jane introduced the subject of the chicken sheds at Church Farm, Michaelchurch. She said that the application which had been the subject of Council comment last Autumn had now been withdrawn in favour of the original application. She explained that work had commenced on site, but without the undertaking of conditional specifications regarding passing places, alteration to a footpath, etc. Melvyn said that this was a common occurrence in building work, when tasks may be undertaken in a different order to make best use of weather and construction demands. Councillors agreed that they didn't think there was a need to worry about any failures to follow planning and building regulation at present, but that the Council would keep an eye on the progress of the application.

Mr Johnson left the meeting.

6. Finance.

- i. The current balance is £2880.
- ii. Councillors noted the payments of £200 for the Clerk's salary, £36 for website costs in respect of General Data Protection Regulations, and £10 as the cost of a stopped cheque for village hall hire lost last year.
- iii. Grant applications. A recently received grant application from St Mary's Church, Newchurch was discussed. It was for £100 towards the cost of grass cutting in the churchyard. Jane proposed meeting the application in full; Derrick seconded and Councillors agreed to pay £100.00.

Councillors then discussed the application from St Mary's Church, Gladestry for £400 towards churchyard maintenance costs and the specific cost associated with work on damaged trees: a decision on the application relating to tree work had been deferred at the Council meeting in May, although an amount of £100 had been agreed towards the general costs of maintenance. After some debate, Viv proposed that a decision should be further deferred until the 2019-20 round of grant applications; this was seconded by Derrick. However, before Councillors voted on this, Jane proposed what the Chairman regarded as an amendment in that the Council should make a payment this year; this was seconded by Joseph. Melvyn asked that the amendment be voted on

first. Those in favour were Jane, Joseph and Ian; against were Derrick, Gareth and Viv. The Chairman's casting vote was in favour of the amendment. Viv's original proposal therefore fell. Melvyn then asked Councillors to suggest an amount for the grant; Ian proposed £150, seconded by Jane and agreed by Councillors, with abstentions by Derrick and Viv. With the previously agreed grant of £100, the Clerk was asked to send a cheque for £250 to the PCC Secretary.

7. Correspondence.

None received except by email.

8. Business matters.

- i. Gareth gave a feedback report from the School Governors' Meeting; this is attached as appendix 1.
- ii. Councillors had no comments on the Local Development Plan Consultation.

9. Next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Monday 17 September 2018 at 7.30pm.

Signed:

Dated:

A CHURCH IN WALES SCHOOL

Gladestry School is a Church in Wales voluntary controlled primary school with a distinctive Christian ethos and character. We greatly value that status and are committed to continuing the strong links we have with both the parish of Gladestry and the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. Our parish priest Revd Mark Beaton regularly takes collective worship in school while pupils also participate in worship at St Mary's Church on an occasional basis; this includes a Harvest Festival, a Nativity Service and a Christmas Carol Service. There was a leavers' service attended by departing pupils in Brecon Cathedral in June.

The church and churchyard itself provides a valuable teaching resource with pupils visiting throughout the year to research headstones, stained glass windows and to work in and enjoy the quiet garden.

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Playground and Garden

Thank you to all the pupils, parents and grandparents who have been helping to rejuvenate the garden area that was dug up when the new fence was put up earlier in the year; they have been working hard and the garden is looking much more welcoming. We are very grateful to the Community Council for the grant that they awarded us towards the cost of new gardening tools and plants. We will be planting some shrubs in the Autumn. We have also purchased two new parasols for the outdoor benches to ensure the pupils can work outdoors in the shade. We are also very grateful to the family and friends of the late Mrs Mary Jane Baynham whose donations in her memory have enabled us to acquire a lovely bench (the Peace Bench) for the quiet area.

Security arrangements

The school doors are locked during the day and window restrictors are fitted. Visitors can only gain access by ringing the front door bell and being admitted by a member of staff. The top gate into the playground remains locked due to its proximity to the road. Parents and visitors are asked to close the lower gate behind them on leaving or arriving at school.

Links with the community

The school enjoys strong links with the community. In its most recent report Estyn noted that “The school makes good use of the local community to enhance the curriculum. For example pupils made artefacts and set up a museum linked to a local landmark. This was opened to the local community”.

The structural links that exist with the ecclesiastical parish of Gladestry because of the school’s status as a Voluntary Controlled Church in Wales school are of enormous value to both the school and the community.

‘Welly Wednesdays’, local walks and other visits such as those to local farms and businesses all raise the profile of the school within the community and help to foster a sense of local ‘ownership’ of the school. Events that are open to the local community such as the Macmillan Coffee Mornings are extremely well supported by the whole community and not just parents or grandparents.

There is a strong local involvement in the running of After School Clubs, with parents and grandparents sharing their skills, enthusiasm and expertise.

Manufacturing Week also enjoys an enormous input from the families and friends of pupils. The Christmas Fair, attracts huge local support. Past pupils and their families are all invited to the annual FROGS barbecue or hog roast and some compete alongside pupils in the Yew Tree Bank Run.

The school is delighted to have received a wide range of visitors, and to have been encouraged to make visits to local services. Special mention should be made of the visits by Mark Davies, of the local Police, and Fire Officer Laura Saunders came to talk about fire safety.

GREEN for GLADESTRY

The Welsh Government introduced a colour categorisation scheme for schools.

Gladestry achieved a GREEN categorisation.

“A highly effective school which is well run, has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvement. These schools have a track record in raising the standards that pupils achieve and have the capacity to support other schools to do better.”

OPPORTUNITIES for EXERCISE and SPORTING COMPETITION

In addition to regular Physical Education lessons at school the following opportunities were provided:-

- Morning Moving (As part of the Healthy Schools initiative the day begins with exercise)
- Swimming for all ages during Spring term. After School sports club for KS2. • The Brook and Border netball tournament
- Sports Day.
- There are regular walks for Class 1 as part of Welly Wednesday.

MUSIC, DRAMA and DANCE

Mrs James continues to teach music and to prepare children for singing and recorder playing in concerts and church services. A number of pupils also take piano lessons. In addition the school offers an After School Music Club on Tuesday nights. The whole school has always produced fantastic performances at the Harvest Festival, Nativity play and rousing end of year concert.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2015-2016

September:

- Pupils from Netherton School, Dudley, joined class 2 for a trip to the Elan Valley
- Pupils from Netherton School, Dudley, joined us for dinner and then walked with Class 2 over Hergest Ridge
- Whole School Senedd
- We held a Macmillan Coffee Morning for the local community.

- Music with Mr Burrows from Newtown High School, John Beddoes Campus

October

- Netball team attended the Brook and Border Tournament at Radnor Valley
- Harvest Festival in the Church
- Class 2 spent the afternoon at Presteigne Primary School rehearsing singing for the festival concert.
- Mrs Biggs and Eco Gang went litter picking around the village
- Class 2 went Brook Dipping with the Wye/Usk Foundation
- Music with Mr Burrows
- Open Parents Evening
- Bulb Planting

November

- Music with Mr Burrows with a concert for class 1 and parents
- Class 2 took part in the Big Sing Concert at St. Andrew's Church, Presteigne – two performances
- FROGS Christmas Fayre, with carol singing from KADOS
- Class 2 went to watch Alice through the Looking Glass at JBC

Manufacturing Week

From 21st to 25th November there was an exciting week of industry and creativity when children, parents, grandparents, staff and members of the community shared their talents in a wide range of manufacturing activities. The displays were inspiring and the variety and quality of the products were remarkable. The school held a sale of products on the Friday evening which was very well attended and FROGS provided refreshments.

December

- Christmas Dinner
- Class 1 visited Gladestry Playgroup
- Christmas party at the village hall.
- Nativity play in the church.

January

- Class 1 go to the Wyeside to watch the Trolls film
- Tudur Rees led a dinner time Welsh club for class 2
- Class 2 make a visit to Oriel Davies as part of the 'Go and See Project'.

School Council

“School council are the team that provide help to the school and give feedback and ideas. This year’s school council held Whole School IT Days; Internet Safety Awareness Days; Assemblies; and

Messages of the Month. School council also have the job of sorting out worries and are known as

“Agony Ants”. We work our hardest to complete tasks. We set whole school days for the other pupils so that we can teach them important subjects and raise their awareness. We put up displays to express our ideas and thoughts about what should happen and what needs doing. School council

are here to help whatever the weather!”

Next year we plan to have Risk Taking Activities.

February

- Pc Mark Davies came to talk about bullying
- Mrs Biggs and Class 2 carried out the Big Bird Watch
- Fire Officer Laura Saunders came to talk about fire safety
- Tudur Rees led a dinner time Welsh club for class 2

Road Safety Officers

“There are two Road Safety Officers at Gladestry School. We hold assemblies and run competitions.

We make sure all pupils at Gladestry School know how to be safe”.

March

- The whole school attended an Ash Wednesday Service at church
- We show cased our Eco activities for assessment of our Plantinum renewal • Class 2 attended the Welsh Jambori at the Royal Welsh showground

In Good Health

All children take part daily in Morning Moving, waking up their bodies and minds. Healthy eating and drinking by pupils is promoted through the Healthy Schools programme, School Council initiatives and teaching and learning. Pupils have access to water throughout the day from the water filter in Class 1. Only healthy snacks are allowed in school. The School Council undertakes Healthy School lunch box surveys.

The Governing Body has appropriate arrangements to promote Healthy Eating and Drinking.

The whole school, including the boys' and girls' toilets, is cleaned thoroughly each evening.

April

- Spring Greens day for years 4 and 5

An Eco School

The members of the Eco Gang are passionate about animals and nature. They encourage others to save electricity, and often lead assemblies on various topics. The School was also awarded it's 3rd Platinum Award.

May

- Year 6 carried out a work scrutiny in both classes
- The whole school spent a very enjoyable sports afternoon at the Powells field
- A french botanist came to Outdoor Club
- We held 'New love for old toys' coffee afternoon
- Mrs Morris, Hattie Budd and year 6 walked over the ridge and back with a lovely lunch at the hergest Croft tearooms

June

- Year 6 went to the Leaver's Service in Brecon Cathedral
- PC Mark Davies gave a talk on drugs
- Whole school trip to Elan Valley, with the bus being kindly paid for by Mrs Evans
- Class 2 workshops with Powys dance
- Year 5 Transition days at Lady Hawkins School

July

- Transition days at John Beddows Campus, Newtown High School, Gweryfed High School and BuilthWell High School
- Gladestry School 'Went Live' for school meals with the Parentpay Cashless system
- Sports Day and BBQ
- Pirate Party hosted by the Lloyd family at Wainwen.
- Marvellous end of year concert

CURRICULUM AND TEACHING MATTERS

It is recognised that literacy and numeracy skills are essential in order for young people to achieve their potential. The Minister for Education and Skills has made raising standards of literacy and numeracy in schools a priority. Our aim is to develop imaginative and innovative ways of delivering the statutory curriculum through the LNF expectations. This includes moving away from a rigid hourly timetable, combining the teaching of one or more subjects in a thematic way, using Rich Tasks or using a series of whole days – in or out of school – to focus on a particular topic. Our approach is experiential, child-centred and wherever possible cross-curricular with a focus on development of skills.

The Literacy and Numeracy Framework and Digital Competency underpin the Foundation Phase framework, all the subjects of the NC, and the frameworks for PSE and RE. We use these frameworks to ensure a consistent approach to learning and progression and consequently it is embedded in all our planning.

Staff Development

All staff received annual in-school child protection and E-Safety training. In addition:

- Hilary Morris attended training in ICT, First Aid at Work and Successful Futures
- Kim Preece attended training in THRIVE and Attachment Awareness

As Cluster Chair, Hilary Morris is co-ordinating standardisation and moderation activities for school staff and for staff at the other cluster schools to ensure robust, consistent results. She continues to provide school-to-school support and head teacher mentoring.

Curriculum Development.

The School Development Plan 2016-17 identified the following priorities for development during the year:

- To provide opportunities for pupils to use a wider range of ICT across the curriculum
- To Implement and assess English and Maths curricula

- To ensure a consistent and robust approach to moderation within the school and the local cluster
- To ensure a closer correlation between end of FP outcomes and Year 2 test results
- To develop Gladestry Schools role in promoting and providing school to school input

Core subjects are regularly targeted for assessment and development; pupil profiles are assessed and taken to moderation meetings. Pupils' books have a Skills Ladder / Levels chart pasted in the back to record and monitor each piece of work. All pieces have planning, peer assessment, selfassessment plus teacher's comments and targets. The exact way in which a subject – or area such as health & safety – is to be developed will be decided during the previous year, so the most pressing needs can be addressed and new national or legal guidelines taken into account where necessary.

The 'School Development Plan' 2016-17 was the key management tool for deciding on priorities and strategies based on self-evaluation, inspection findings, performance management and local and national priorities. It has more details on targets for development, and how recent targets have been achieved. You are welcome to read a copy; one is published on the website.

The school provides a broad, balanced, relevant and challenging curriculum that meets statutory requirements and the needs of the range of learners and which ensures continuity and progression. It is being further enhanced by the philosophy of the Foundation Phase and the integration of the skills based experiential approach to learning. Long term planning involves curriculum maps and overviews for most subjects, which are then translated into more detailed half-termly and weekly plans and supplemented by lesson plans, where appropriate. Planning for both classes is recognised as being of a high quality with comprehensive links to the Literacy and Numeracy Framework and an emphasis on the interests and responses of the children in our Living Planning. Most planning is carried out in consultation with the pupils.

Another recognised outstanding feature of school life is that pupils are very involved in, and have responsibility for, their own learning, which ensures they have a high level of interest and motivation in the tasks they undertake. They are actively engaged in setting their own targets for improvement and understand what the success criteria are; they use the targets when undertaking relevant activities to evaluate their achievements. Their attitude to learning is extremely good.

Learners work very well both independently and with others and regularly raise their own questions to find solutions to problems; they carry out research and

investigations confidently and transfer skills appropriately. They frequently make choices, take risks and challenge themselves. They show good concentration and perseverance in the tasks they undertake; they take pride in their own and each other's achievements. Following the 2015 inspection, Estyn reported that: "Behaviour is very good in lessons and around the school. Pupils care for one another well and show respect for all members of the school community. Pupils work highly effectively, both independently and co-operatively."

During 2016-17 groups of pupils planned, resourced and delivered lessons for a whole week on a theme of their choice.

Additional Learning Needs (Special Educational Needs and More Able and Talented)

The school's ALN policy is available to read in school. Through the academic year the number of pupils registered with Special Educational Needs was 7. Hilary Morris is responsible for the overall running of the SEN policy and MAT register, and Lynne Twiddy offers valuable extra support to these children, both individually and within small groups. Julie Davies is the governor with specific responsibility for SEN and meets regularly with Hilary Morris.

Admission arrangements for pupils with disabilities

We are keen to ensure that the needs of each individual in the school, regardless of ability or disability, should be met as far as possible. The head teacher will discuss the needs of each pupil wishing to be admitted to the school with their parents/carers and with any other agency involved. The governing body is committed to planning for the needs of people with disabilities – whether pupils, teachers or visitors when making alterations to the school building, but in the meantime we have the flexibility to make arrangements to cater for particular needs, as far as we possibly can. The School Accessibility Plan is available to read in school or on the website.

THE YEAR FOR THE GOVERNING BODY

We say goodbye to Sandra Protheroe as a Parent Governor at the end of this School year and thank her very much for her steadfast dedication and support to the school. James Burnett-Stuart has been elected in her place and we welcome him to the team.

Governors must undertake regular training in order to support the school effectively. During the year the following courses were attended

Governor training:

| Governor | Training undertaken |
|-----------------|---|
| Hattie Budd | HWB, Dyslexia, Asking the Right Questions, |
| Julie Davies | Chairman Training, School Funding & Budget Workshop, Performance Data |
| Candy Foreman | Performance Data |
| John Milsom | HWB, School Funding & Budget Workshop |
| Hilary Morris | Successful Futures |
| Kim Preece | THRIVE |

Julie Davies and Candy Foreman also attended the ERW Annual Conference for Governors.

In their most recent report ESTYN noted that the governors support the school effectively, have a thorough understanding of the performance of pupils and how this compares with that of pupils in similar schools, and carry out a notable number of visits to classes to monitor lessons and to look at pupils' work. Governors also participate in out-of-school activities.

School Policies

The governing body regularly reviews all the school policies, to make sure that they are up-to-date and that they incorporate the latest statutory and educational guidelines. It also reviews the School Development Plan.

All school policies are available in school and some are on the website. The school's Publication Scheme lists every school document available to the public to read - from

the school prospectus to school policies. Minutes of governor's meetings are also available.

School Prospectus

The prospectus is updated annually, to include; changes in staff and governors; the latest school year calendar; up-to-date pupil assessment results; emergency procedures; collective worship and religious education; admission to school including accessibility plan for increasing access to the school by pupils with disabilities.

There is a copy of the prospectus on the website.

Parent Information Leaflet

We provide a parent information leaflet for new parents, welcoming them and introducing them to who's who within the school and giving a brief outline of what happens within our school.

Complaints

The governing body aims to ensure that any concerns or complaints are taken seriously, and are dealt with quickly, fairly and thoroughly. In order to do this, the governing body has adopted a Complaints Policy where procedures are set out in detail. You are welcome to have a copy or to read it in school.

THE YEAR FOR FROGS

FROGS 2016-17 Chairman's Report

The start of the FROGS year saw the re-election of all existing committee members and I was very grateful that everyone was willing and able to continue in their roles for another year.

FROGS and Gladestry Parent and Toddler Group had a successful week in the Community Charity shop in Kington with £475.30 being raised for each group. Both groups felt it was very beneficial and we have already booked our next week together.

The Christmas Fayre this year was held in a slightly different format to previous years. The children sold their beautiful handmade items in school on the Friday at the end of a busy manufacturing week and on the Saturday morning our Christmas Fayre Event was held in the Village Hall. Stall holders had been invited to our Christmas Fayre Event and the hall was full with a variety of items. KADOS (Kington

Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society), provided a wonderful Christmas atmosphere singing carols and Father Christmas was able to visit. Everyone commented what a successful event it had been raising £779.90. I am personally grateful to Julie Davies and Hattie Budd for their hard work and support before and during the event and also to Mrs. Liz Bowen for providing advice, facilities and lunch for the teams making Wreaths.

An evening with KADOS with Songs from the Shows was hosted by FROGS. This was a lovely family friendly event and was enjoyed by all who attended raising £175.00.

FROGS followed sports day in July with our annual BBQ at the village hall. This event was well attended, as always, raising £548.65. Despite a few technical difficulties, everyone enjoyed burgers, sausages, refreshments and the usual array of lovely desserts. The Yew Tree Bank run went ahead with its usual enthusiastic participation.

FROGS now have a Facebook page. This is a group page which is used to promote upcoming events, anyone can ask to be added to the group. We hope to make more of this resource in the future.

This year FROGS have funded many items including the a contribution towards the ticket cost and bus to go to the Pantomime also the bus to take Class 1 to see Trolls at Wyeseid and replacing the play bark in the playground. We are also pleased to continue further funding of ICT resources in school.

FROGS has had a successful year and we hope to build on this in the next school year with many events already planned. This is only possible, as always, with the support and generosity of parents, children, teachers, staff and members of the community.

Candy Foreman (Chair)

After School Clubs

During the year there were After School Clubs for KS2 children in art, music, ICT and sports.

The Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (The Act) removed the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements were introduced to enable parents to request up to three meetings in any school year with a governing body, on matters which are of concern to them. 10% of parents are needed to request a meeting. Information is available in school or on the Welsh Government website. As no requests were received, the Governing Body did not hold a meeting with parents in 2016/17