

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 15 November 2021
at 7.30pm in Gladestry Village Hall

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

1. Apologies. No apologies necessary.

2. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 20 September 2021

Melvyn proposed that the minutes from the meeting were agreed; Derrick seconded, and Councillors approved the minutes, which were then signed.

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 20 September 2021.

i. Signage for the public lavatory. The Clerk informed the meeting that the PCC had put up two signs directing users to the toilet facility at St Mary's church; one was on the village notice board, and the other was on a post by the kiosk. They were rather small. Derrick mentioned that he understood these signs were a temporary measure, to be replaced by more obvious signage at some time in the future.

ii. Signage at the Stanner junction. The Council had still not received any response to Melvyn's follow-up. In view of this lack of communication, Viv suggested that, as this Council had fulfilled its obligations to both Powys and the wider community, no further action should be taken. The Clerk offered to write to Highways to make clear that this was the Council's position on the matter.

iii. Algae in the Gladestry Brook. Jane informed us that the algal bloom was not sewage related, but rather a form of diatomaceous growth, and that the relevant environmental body was aware of the situation.

4. Planning.

Applications 21/1557 and 21/1708 had previously been circulated to Councillors: no adverse comments had been received.

5. Finance.

The current balance is £1955. Since the last meeting, a grant of £200 had been made to St Mary's Church, Gladestry towards the running costs of the toilet facility; and a payment of £250 had been made to the Clerk for salary. Expected expenditure will be the audit costs, annual insurance costs, the fee for the play area inspection, and the Clerk's final quarter's salary.

A budgetary control sheet was issued with the agenda.

The Clerk advised Councillors that next year's precept request was due to be sent to Powys. He advised that the budgetary carry over would be in the region of £1900.

Councillors identified the following extraordinary costs that may occur next year:

boiler upgrade for the village hall; costs associated with technology to enable meetings to be attended on-line; and election costs as 2022 is a local election year.

Powys estimate that the cost of a contested Community Council election running with a contested County Council election is in the region of £500; a Community election running on its own can cost approximately £2500. Councillors decided that a responsible approach would be to ask for an increased precept for next year.

Councillors therefore asked the Clerk to request £ 3500 for the 2022-23 financial year.

6. Correspondence.

Apart from the emails listed in the agenda, the Clerk had received a letter of thanks from Sue Mullin, St Mary's, Gladestry PCC Secretary, for the grant towards the running costs of the toilet facility.

7. Business matters.

- i. Precept request: dealt with under "Finance".
- ii. Play area inspection report. The Clerk had circulated the report to Councillors, and had also sent a copy to Hattie Budd of the Village Hall Committee. The Clerk had also sent out an email he had received on claiming grants for play areas.

iii. Dolau school. This school was the subject of closure by Powys CC; closure was being strenuously challenged by school governors and the local community, who were seeking the support of other communities throughout the area. Councillors asked the Clerk to submit a letter to Powys in support of the school.

iv. Second homes consultation. Councillors deemed that no action was required on behalf of the Gladestry Community.

v. Parent and Toddler Group grant application. Melvyn proposed that the application was approved in full; Jane seconded the proposal, and all were in favour. The Clerk Was asked to make a payment of £158.37.

vi. New business. Viv informed Councillors that he had had a conversation with Hattie Budd about correspondence Hattie had received in relation to a proposed footpath from the main road, across the field, to the village hall; and asked if anyone on the Council knew anything about it. The Clerk said that he remembered this subject cropping up when the initial planning application for houses on Barn Meadow was being discussed. Derrick added that Powys Highways had raised the issue as there was concern about construction traffic and then added residential traffic on the road from the site entrance to the junction by the green being a threat to the safety of the schoolchildren on their way to and from the school and the village hall. The Clerk added that he was unaware of this new correspondence, and that he would seek information from Hattie. *

8. The next meetings will be on Monday 17 January 2022 at 7.30pm.

Signed

Dated

* The Clerk has spoken to Hattie, who confirmed that she had received said correspondence from the developer of the planned site on Barn Meadow. The aim was as outlined above: that a footpath would be created from the road by the village notice board, across the field to the gateway to the hall where the oil tank is situated. This path would be fenced to prevent stock access. The path would remove the need for the schoolchildren to navigate the roadway from the green to the hall main gate.