

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 20 March 2023 at 7.00pm
in the village hall.

Present. Mr Ian Ball (Chairman), Mr Ed Jones, Ms Beck Lloyd, Mr Viv Lloyd, Mr Melvyn Hughes and Mr Kenneth Waugh (Clerk).

Observers. Ms Lorna Steel, Mr Mark Johnson, Mr Derrick Carrington and Mr Bob Terry.

Prior to the Ordinary Meeting, there was a presentation on rural broadband from Mr Reece Simmons of Broadway Partners PLC. Reece provided an overview of what his company was doing in conduction with the Government's Gigabit Vouchers scheme in the provision of broadband connectivity in rural area such as the Gladestry Community. A copy of his PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the website in due course.

1. Apologies. Mr Joseph Alman and Ms Julie Davies offered their apologies for non-attendance.

2. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16 January 2023

Ed proposed that the minutes from the meeting were agreed. Beck seconded the proposal and Councillors approved the minutes, which were then signed.

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 16 January 2023

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. Planning.

Planning application 22/2200/REM Barn Meadow/Yellowjack, Gladestry had been issued to Councillors prior to the meeting; no comments from Councillors had been received by the Clerk.

Planning application 22/1098/REM Stonehouse, Gladestry: an update from Powys Planning had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting. Melvyn commented that he believes that the cattle shed in question was built under “Permitted Development”, but that it contravenes the statute as it has been erected too close to the highway; and that the entrance also fails to meet Highways legislation. There is also the ongoing issue with work on the Listed Barn Conversion which it seems was done without the requisite planning permission and which is subject to a planning variation which may not be appropriate.

Councillors asked the Clerk to make comment to the Planning Officer on these lines.

5. Finance.

The Clerk had provided up to date statements of account with the agenda. The current balance is £2012. Payments made since the last meeting were two lots of bank charges of £5.00 each; the annual insurance premium of £238.00 to Zurich Insurance; and a grant of £160.00 to the Parent and Toddler Group.

Approval for the payment of the Clerk’s final salary payment of £300.00 plus annual expenses of £36.95 was given by Councillors.

Please refer to the Schedule of Approved Payments at appendix 1.

6. Correspondence.

No correspondence other than by email was received.

7. Business matters.

a. Highways. Ed had met with a representative of Powys Highways to discuss a number of issues raised by Councillors and Community members, as follow:

the road through Llan-y-Felin was decayed because of rain water run-off from the Ridge. Powys would create a culvert to take water to the drainage system and into the Brook, and then resurface the road where necessary;

the hedging work undertaken at Hengoed had been inspected and all aspects were above board;

the lane from the bridge towards Stonehouse was decreed to be in a poor state and will be resurfaced;

the Colva road reported as susceptible to flooding because of a blocked culvert will be dealt with; and

the road in the area of the Bwlch has been brought to the attention of Highways as it, too, is in need of resurfacing work.

b.. New Clerk. The new Clerk is Ms Lorna Steel, who was introduced to Councillors at the meeting. Lorna will take up duties on 6th April.

c. Affordable housing in the Community. It is not currently known what the demand for affordable housing is in the Community. The Council is in favour of more affordable housing being built, and will support planning applications which further this type of development.

d. Street lighting in Gladestry. The proposed changes suggested by Powys to reduce the number of effective lights in Gladestry had been looked at by Councillors, who had sought the opinions of households likely to be most affected by the changes, namely residents of Meadow Vale and 2, Afon View. As a result, the Council agreed with the removal of lights at those addresses, and the reinstatement of the lamp by the village notice board.

e. Defibrillator for Newchurch. Ian informed the meeting that he had arranged for the necessary electrical supply work for proposed new defibrillator and cabinet in Newchurch with the financial help of a benefactor. Ian had costed the provision of a defibrillator and cabinet at approximately £1700 plus VAT, but it was possible that Calon Hearts could provide a grant of some £300 and VAT may be reclaimable. Ian asked whether or not the Council would be prepared to make a grant towards the costs; Ed proposed a contribution of £500, which was seconded by Melvyn and agreed by the meeting.

f. One Voice Wales membership renewal. The Clerk explained that he found membership useful, and felt that Lorna would also benefit from the services offered by OVW. particularly in her first year in the post. Melvyn proposed that payment for renewal should be made; this was seconded by Viv and agreed by all.

g. Colva grant application for a new notice board. The application was for an unspecified amount towards the £1200 cost of the example notice board shown in the application. Councillors decided that it would be helpful and cost effective to obtain some quotes for a board from some local craftsmen, and Ian and Viv undertook to obtain said quotes.

h. Nominated second user for the Council internet bank account. The Clerk advised Councillors that at present the agreed procedure was that the Chairman was the nominated second user, and asked Council at consider whether this should apply at the change of Chairmanship due at the next AGM in May. Councillors agreed the give this their consideration.

I. King Charles Coronation Lottery Funding. Councillors agreed that they would not be making any grant application.

j. Survey for play area design. Councillors agreed that the Village Playground Committee, having undertaken all the work involved in getting to this stage, should be the ones to decide on the final design. The Clerk was asked to inform the Committee of this, and to wish them well with remainder of their project.

k. Biodiversity report. The Clerk was asked to complete the required report on behalf of the Council.

8. The next meeting will be the AGM on Monday 15May 2023 at 7.00pm, followed by the Ordinary Meeting.

Signed

Dated

Appendix 1

SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS

188 MINS

The following payments were approved for payment at the Council Meeting held on 16 January 2023:

£78 to One Voice Wales for annual membership for 2023-24.

£336.95 to the Clark for final salary and annual expenses

I certify that the above approved payment reconciles with the bank statement seen by me.

Signed:

Dated:

Position: