

**Minutes of a Remote Meeting of St Harmon Community Council held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
February 2022**

**Present:** Cllr D Lowde, L McPhee, S Lewis, D Jenkins, M Williams, A Mills, P Hunt  
Cty Cllr D Evans

**Apologies:** None.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Aaron Mills to his first meeting of the council.

**SH 21/22      Declarations of Interests**

27/22 a      Cllr L McPhee

27/22 b      Cllr L McPhee

31/22      Cllr D Jenkins

**SH 22/22      Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November, 2021 were approved and signed.

**SH 23/22      Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were approved and signed.

**SH 24/22      Information from Minutes**

**a) SH 14/22 Committees**

Cllr Jenkins had stated at the last meeting that although the Audit Wales report had referred to a Playground Committee, no committee had ever existed. The Chair had identified minutes from 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018 which referred to the Playground Sub Committee meeting.

**b) SH 16/22 Notice Board**

The Chair had received no response with regard to the unused notice board at the Community Hall. Cllr Lewis informed members that the key to this board had been lost by a former council member. The Chair will approach the Hall Committee about removing this board.

**c) SH 20/22a Pant y Dwr Play Area**

The Clerk had looked into obtaining soil to fill in the ground shrinkage area but had been advised that gravel was a better option. She asked the Council for its preference.

**Resolved:** to carry out the repairs with soil.

**SH 25/22      Public Speaking**

**a) Ms K Hart – SH 27/22 - 21/2308/REM**

Ms Hart addressed the council with regard to the above planning application.

She objected to this application on the grounds of the impact this will have on her residential and business properties. She is also seriously concerned over the environmental impact on the local area and river. There are also concerns over the additional HGV traffic generated by this development.

The Chair thanked her for her address.

**SH 26/22**

**Correspondence**

**a) Pantydwr Football Club**

**The following response was received**

“As you will be aware Barclays shut the bank in Llandrindod and they only open limited hours through Covid in Builth. Alan is a voluntary treasurer who has a full time job. He has been on many occasions to get the matter sorted and is working as hard as he can to get this completed.

Once completed as I have previously said we will return the money to you. I’m not sure what more we can do as we are doing all we can to get it sorted. “

Cllr Jenkins reiterated his comments from the last meeting and stated that the council must have these monies refunded by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 as the council would have to prove value for money to Audit Wales. He felt the group had had sufficient time to refund the monies, although he was reluctant to take legal action. The council must take this matter seriously. Cllr Jenkins offered to draft a letter for the Clerk to send out.

Cllr Williams felt the group had had sufficient time and suggested they be asked to address the next meeting on this matter, he felt the council had been more than fair so far.

**Resolved:** to write to the group asking for an immediate refund of the monies which must be refunded by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Also ask a representative to address the council at the next meeting.

**SH 27/22**

**Planning Applications**

**b) 21/2250/FUL**

Grid Reference: **E:298426 N: 270222**

Proposal: Engineering operations involving installation of 11 no. underground holiday let units (hobbit homes), parking area, water treatment plant together with all associated works. Site Address: Land Near Llwyngwilym, Rhayader, LD6 5NS. Cllr McPhee declared an interest in this application and left the room whilst discussions took place.

Although there were no objections the Council would wish the ecological concerns raised by PCC to be met prior to approval being given.

It was also noted that there are anomalies within the paperwork and clarification is required as to whether the units are one bed or two bed and are for 2 or 5 people.

It is also not clear where the water from the hot tubs will be dispersed. Clarification on the above matters would be requested.

**Resolved:** to respond as above.

**c) 21/2308/REM**

Grid Reference: **E:** 298047 **N:** 269201

Proposal: Section 73 application to vary conditions 2 and 3 of planning approval 20/1115/FUL, for design changes and to allow the building to be used for up to 5,000 free range organic broilers (poultry) - Site Address: Ffosmascal, Rhayader, Powys, LD6 5NR. Cllr McPhee declared an interest in this application and left the room whilst discussions took place.

Cllr Jenkins reminded members of the council's previous objections to this application and felt these should remain in place.

Cllr Mills was concerned about the environmental impact this application would have on the river, concerns which have been highlighted the NRW and PCC Ecology Department.

The effect on neighbouring properties was also discussed.

**Resolved:** to reiterate previous objections and express concern on the environmental impact on the rivers and the effect on neighbouring properties.

**SH 28/22 Grant Applications**

None.

**SH 29/22 Finance**

a) Salary - £324.10 – approved

b) HMRC - £81.20 – approved

c) Notice Me.Org – Notice Board - £200.28 – approved

d) Bank Reconciliation:

<b>Reconciliation</b>	<b>@</b>	<b>27.01.22</b>
Balance @	30.12.21	38683.56
Plus Receipts		6279.00
Less Payments		1319.78
Total Balance		<b>43642.78</b>
<b>Breakdown:</b>		
<b>Council</b>	c/f	14959.93
Plus Receipts		6279.00
Less Payments		1152.88
Balance		<b>20086.05</b>
<b>Bryn Titli</b>	c/f	23723.63
Plus Receipts		0
Less Payments		166.9
Balance		<b>23556.73</b>

#### SH 30/22 **Community Broadband Scheme**

Following the last meeting and the open meeting held with Broadway Partners and local residents the Council was asked to decide if they wish to progress with this scheme. The Clerk mentioned that 20 residents had already registered their expressions of interest with her.

**Resolved:** to progress with this scheme in conjunction with Broadway Partners. The Clerk will notify those residents who have expressed an interest of this decision.

#### SH 31/22 **Written Notice of Motion – Cllr S Lewis**

Cllr Jenkins asked the Clerk if this matter fell under the Code of Conduct. The Clerk felt it did and would recommend a declaration of interest. Cllr Jenkins went on to state that he believed he could still make representations to the council prior to discussions taking place.

Cllr Jenkins began by reiterating what he had said with regard to this at the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and commented that as the outcome of any decision following this motion would make no difference to his position on the council and he saw no point in this matter being placed before the Council.

He confirmed he will be finishing his term in April and had no intention of standing for re-election in May.

He stated that his record is well known to the residents of St Harmon and it is a very good record. He had achieved a lot along with his colleagues and listed some of the achievements including traffic calming measures, site visits and he had no doubt what he had achieved over 5 years.

He commented that certain members of the council had done “zilch” and had not bothered to attend inductions or training despite being offered by One Voice Wales. Peter, David, Linda and himself had attended training.

He concluded by stating “it is said that I am unsuitable as a councillor, if anyone is not suitable for the community council, then it is that person.”

The Chair intervened at this point and stated that was enough from Cllr Jenkins and that if he continued he would ask the Clerk to place him in the waiting room. Cllr Jenkins commented he was leaving the meeting anyway.

Cllr Jenkins declared an interest in this matter and left the room whilst discussions took place.

In view of the previous comments the Chair requested a recorded vote on this matter.

Cllr Lewis presented the following motion and requested a recorded vote:

As a motion requiring written notice formally submitted to the proper officer, I propose that the Council take a vote of no confidence in Cllr Donald Jenkins as a Community Councillor of St Harmon Community Council following the content and outcome of the Audit Wales investigation and subsequent public interest report.

In favour (Cllr S Lewis, D Lowde, L McPhee, M Williams, A Mills.) Abstain (Cllr P Hunt.)

**Resolved:** the vote of no confidence was carried by 5 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

Cllr Jenkins did not return to the meeting.

**SH 32/22**

### **Councillor Induction Training – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The Clerk reminded members of the legal requirement for the Council to produce and publish a Training Plan following the elections in May. One Voice Wales is offering modules for councils at a cost of £320.

The initial module recommended is the Induction Module and a provisional date of Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 has been booked. The Clerk

suggested that this session be shared with another one of her community councils therefore reducing the cost to 50%.

**Resolved:** to arrange Induction Training for 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 along with another Council.

**SH 33/22**

**Cllr A Mills - Introduction**

Cllr Mills thanked members for his welcome to the council and hoped he could add value to the council and community.

He has several ideas to be considered by members with a focus around community participation and involvement which could take the form of community surveys and engagement days or surgeries. He felt that community engagement could be useful to establish what the community wants and would assist with budget setting.

Members look forward to working with Cllr Mills.

**SH 34/22**

**Marteg Messenger**

The Chair is aware that Cllr Hunt is currently working on the Marteg Messenger which was previously funded via the Bryn Titli Fund. He asked Cllr Hunt about the next issue.

Cllr Hunt is currently working on the next issue and requested the funding of this from the Bryn Titli Fund. It was agreed to set a budget of £60 for this issue.

The Clerk will send some information to be included about the Community Broadband Scheme for inclusion. Other members were asked to send relevant information to Cllr Hunt within the next 7 days.

**Resolved:** to allocate a budget of £60 for the next edition.

**SH 35/22**

**Community Hall Report**

The Chair had circulated the minutes of the Annual General Meeting previously.

He also reported that the Hall will be fully open in the very near future.

**SH 36/22**

**County Councillors Report**

Cty Cllr Evans continues to send regular PCC updates to the Clerk for the attention of members. He has also been working on current highways issues on behalf of the council.

Cllr Evans has also been in contact with Abbey Cwm Hir Community Council to ask them to discuss the Community Broadband Scheme at the next meeting. He felt joint working with St Harmon Community Council would be idea.

**SH 37/22 Other Matters & Information**

None.

**SH 38/22 Resolution – Confidential Matters**

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as there would be disclosure to them of confidential information relating to contractual, legal and personnel content

**SH 39/22 Confidential Matters (Legal, Personnel, Contractual)**

**a) Recreation Field Tenders**

The Clerk informed members that one tender submission had been received from Mr M Hird for £275.00

**Resolved:** to award the grass let to Mr Hird.