

## Minutes of a Remote Meeting of St Harmon held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Present:** Cllr S Lewis, D Lowde, A Mills,  
Cty Cllr C Johnson-Wood

**Apologies:** None

**Absent:** Cllr M Williams, D Davies, K Mills, C Davies

**Declarations** None

**SH 92/23 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 were approved and signed subject to an amendment.

**SH 93/23 Information from Minutes**

None.

**SH 94/23 Public Speaking**

None.

**SH 95/23 Correspondence**

**a) Cty Cllr Jackie Charlton – Connecting Communities**

I will be delighted to consider the proposals and have spoken at length with John Senior and Patrick Adams about this and other transport issues.

Both Patrick and John are aware of the Transport and Mobility Working Group in Powys CC where we are looking at and addressing all transport issues.

These are very challenging times for public transport but we are committed to achieving as much as we can for our communities with ever diminishing funds.

This was noted.

**Resolved:** to send a copy to John Senior, Cty Cllr C Johnson-Wood and James Evans

**b) James Evans AM – Connecting Communities**

“Thank you for your email and forwarding me details on this project. I am in favour of all such schemes that look to increase the level of our public transport provision. We are particularly disadvantaged in rural areas with lack of public transport and it has been a worrying trend this past few months where Welsh Government seem to be cutting the support to bus operators at a time when such investment should be increased. Many existing services are being cut as a result, and other services becoming unreliable because I am told there is a driver shortage.

I would be interested to see sight of the response from Powys County Council. I have been battling for a service in Trecastle (west of Brecon) for over a year now but to date, Powys CC and Welsh Government have not come up with any solutions.

If there is anything I can help with to make this project a reality, please let me know. I will continue to put pressure on Welsh Government and the Minister Lee Waters MS to increase bus provision in our area. It would be beneficial if the Community Council were to write to Lee Waters MS directly in this regard. His email is [Correspondence.Lee.Waters@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Lee.Waters@gov.wales).

I will await to hear from you with Cllr Charlton's response. "

This was noted.

**Resolved:** to send a copy to John Senior, Cty Cllr C Johnson-Wood.

**c) Jane Dodds MS – Connecting Communities**

"Thank you for your e-mail where you put your proposed project 'Connecting Communities' to me. I read this of great interest and I would like to provide my full support to your project.

I have contacted my two Liberal Democrat Colleagues in Powys, Cllr Gareth Morgan and Cllr Glyn Preston to work with me and have suggested a joint letter be sent to the Welsh Government Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MS with this proposal.

As soon as the Councillors have responded, I will draft the letter and share this with you.

If there is anything further that you would like me to put to the Minister on this – please do let me know.

Thank you again for raising this with me – I look forward to working with you.

If there is anything I can do for you in the meantime on this, or any other matter – please do not hesitate to get in touch. "

This was noted.

**Resolved:** to send a copy to John Senior, Cty Cllr C Johnson-Wood.

Cllr A Mills confirmed that the printed leaflet had now been distributed within the community to encourage residents to support this proposal by writing to the Portfolio Holder for a Greener Powys.

The Clerk had forwarded the leaflet to neighbouring community councils and responses had been received confirming their support.

d) **PCC – Standard Committee Appointment**

Notification of the appointment of Cllr Steve Deeks-D’Silva to the Standards Committee. This was noted.

SH 96/23

**Planning Applications**

None.

SH 97/23

**Finance**

a) **Salary – £353.98 - approved**

b) **HMRC - £88.40 - approved**

c) **Powerprint – Connecting Communities Leaflet - £65.00 – approved (from Bryn Titli Fund)**

d) **Bank Reconciliation**

<b>Reconciliation</b>	<b>@</b>		<b>30.09.23</b>
Balance @	31.08.23		55921.41
Plus Receipts			55921.41
Plus Receipts			55921.41
			55921.41
Less Payments	Salary	353.78	
	HMRC	88.60	
	SLCC Subs	91.60	
	Expenses	113.55	
	Show Grant	689.64	
	Little Lambs Grant	1500.00	
	Community Hall Grant	1500.00	
	HMRC	100.00	
	Powerprint	65.00	
	<b>Total</b>	4502.17	51419.24
Total Balance	31.09.23		51419.24
<b>Breakdown:</b>			
<b>Council</b>			19617.31
<b>Bryn Titli</b>			31801.93

**SH 98/23**

**Co-option Applications**

One application was received from Linda McPhee.

**Resolved:** to appoint Linda McPhee as member for St Harmon Community Council

**SH 99/23**

**Financial Regulations Review**

Members reviewed the current Financial Regulations

**Resolved:** to re-adopt these.

**SH 100/23**

**IT Training**

Cllr Lowde had headed up this project and had liaised with the trainers on behalf of the Council. The following training sessions have been arranged and participants have been notified:

9.30 to 12.30 hrs on Friday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>      Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>

17.30 – 20.30 hrs on Thursday Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>      Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>

Cllr Lowde reported that there is one space free on the Friday morning sessions, the Clerk will advertise this on the Facebook page.

Cllr Lowde was thanked for his work on this project.

The Clerk asked about the funding of the Community Hall bookings for these sessions. The trainer felt that it may be possible for them to fund these. If this is not the case the Clerk suggested that the hall fees be funded from Bryn Titli.

**Resolved:** to fund this hall hire fees if the trainer is unable to cover these.

**SH 101/23**

**Storage Facility**

Cllr Williams had been asked to obtain a quote for a suitable shed, 30 x 15m, however, he was not at the meeting. The Clerk will chase this up.

The Chair had spoken with the Community Hall Committee who would be in favour of a shed being erected subject to being fully involved in the planning and discussions.

**Resolved:** to defer this matter to the next meeting.

It may be possible to access Lottery Funding for this building.

The Clerk had received an email from the Show Committee about purchasing a new roof for the old marquee. This was discussed at length.

**Resolved:** Clerk to contact the Show Committee to establish their exact requirements and a cost for this item. This will then be considered at the next meeting.

**SH 102/23**

**Christmas Lunch**

The Chair had finally obtained a reply from Ty Morgans who confirm that they can provide a lunch for £18 per head. The Council had previously agreed on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, however, Ty Morgans were unable to do this date. It was agreed to ask for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Once the date is confirmed, Cllr A Mills will design a banner to be sited in both communities to advertise the event. A generic banner stating first Thursday in December would be included to extend the life of the banners.

Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood offered to fund the cost of the banners. Members thanked her for this kind offer.

Resolved: to confirm the date of the Over 60's lunch, order banners and produce reply slips for local residents with a request for £2.00 per person.

## **SH 103/23**

### **County Councillors Report**

#### **a) Water Supply Issues**

Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood had contacted Welsh Water following issues raised at the last meeting and received the following response:

“Thank you for your email of the 11 September 2023 about the supply interruptions residents in the villages of St Harmon and Pant Y Dwr are experiencing.

I am sorry that you have needed to bring this to our attention and can fully appreciate the inconvenience these interruptions can cause. I also appreciate that this is a large area, and this will affect many residents.

Due to the number of problems in the area, we will be carrying out a full analytical assessment of the water network, this will involve checking pressures, but also any air valves that may be defective, we will look to replace as a priority to improve the reliability of the supply.

Notifications are sent to our customers if we have a burst main in the area and if the supply is to be interrupted. We do aim to restore the supply as quickly as possible, although we need to make sure we are working in a safe and timely manner. There may also be occasions where we are made aware of emergency works, and in these situations, it is not always possible to notify customers before the supply is lost.

When we are planning works, we will endeavour to keep customers in supply by placing water tankers in strategic places. We also offer a Priority Services Scheme, where we deliver water to vulnerable customer in the event of any delays with restoring the supply.

The area in question is fed via a water pumping station which relies on a steady electricity supply, we will also ensure this pumping station is working at the best level it can.

Again, I am sorry for the issues raised, but please be assured that we are working on a long-term solution, to ensure that disruptions are kept to the minimum.”

#### **b) Mobile Post Office**

Cllr Johnson-Wood had contacted Mary about this matter and is due to meet with her shortly. She will report back to the next meeting.

Cllr Johnson-Wood asked if members had any other current issues. She is happy to deal with these.

The Chair and members thanked Cllr Johnson-Wood for dealing with this matters.

**SH 104/23**

**Other Matters**

**a) Community Broadband**

Cllr Lowde had been made aware that Broadway Partners had now been taken over. The Clerk had been made aware of this via Nantmel Community Council.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 due to the Clerk's annual leave.**