

Minutes of a Remote Meeting of St Harmon held on Wednesday 1st November 2023

Present: Cllr S Lewis, M Williams, D Lowde, D Davies, L McPhee
Cty Cllr C Johnson-Wood

Apologies: Cllr A Mills

Absent: Cllr K Mills, C Davies

Declarations None

SH 105/23 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2023 were deferred as the meeting was inquorate for approval.

SH 106/23 Information from Minutes

None.

SH 107/23 Public Speaking

None.

SH 108/23 Correspondence

a) Jane Dodds MS – Public Transport in our Communities

The following response was received from Jane Dodds MS:

“Over recent weeks many residents from across Mid and West Wales have written to me to express their frustration with the loss of services and, in particular, the loss of the Flecsi Bwcabus service. I share everyone’s concern and frustration about the deterioration of public transport.

I spoke recently in a debate in the Senedd on protecting and investing in bus travel.

Since my election to the Senedd, the provision of reliable, affordable, and accessible public transport has been a recurring theme in my work. Too many of our communities are left isolated when bus services are reduced or withdrawn, with a huge impact on individuals and local businesses.

I have also been critical of how the Welsh Labour Government has responded to the challenges the bus industry has faced following the pandemic, and have called for urgent clarity around future funding and legislation for the bus industry.

I will continue to stand up for the investment needed in public transport, in particular our rural communities who are so often neglected. If there are any other matters where I can be of assistance, please get in touch at any time.”

The Clerk had forwarded this to John Senior. This was noted.

SH 109/23 Planning Applications

None.

SH 110/23 Finance

- a) Salary – £353.78 - approved
- b) HMRC – £59.00 - approved
- c) Ebay – Christmas Lunch Items - £283.29 - approved
- d) Pantydwr Show – Programme Advert - £40.00 - approved
- e) A Mills – Banners Over 60's Lunch - £60.64 - approved
- f) Community Hall – Aug & Sep - £36.00 - approved
- g) Bank Reconciliation
- h) Powys County Council ROSPA Check - £72.00 - approved
- i) Zoom – One-Third Contribution - £47.96 - approved

SH 111/23 One Voice Wales – Community Focus Group – Biodiversity – New Representative.

Cllr A Mills had been agreed as the representative for this group. As Cllr Lowde is part of the “Peoples Plan for Nature” initiative and has a particular interest in nature, Cllr Mills felt he would benefit from being the Council’s representative on the One Voice Wales group.

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Lowde as Council representative.

SH 112/23 IT Sessions

Cllr Lowde fed back to members on the initial sessions. There had been a few initial problems, which were now ironed out and the sessions are running smoothly. He felt that for future training sessions, a commitment to attend all sessions would be required from individual participants.

SH 113/23 Storage Facility

Cllr Williams had been in contact with a supplier with regards to purchasing a shed in place of the containers. The price for a 30 x 15 shed was quoted at £10,000, there would also be a fee for planning permission and drawings. It was agreed this was too much to be funded from the Bryn Titli Fund.

The Clerk suggested purchasing a Storage Container. The Chair stated that the Community Hall Committee, did not want an additional container on site, however would be happy if the smaller Show Committee container was removed and replaced by a new container. Members felt this was a good option.

Resolved: to write to the Show Committee to ask them to remove their existing container which would be replaced by a new container which could store their marquees and equipment. This would then be the property of the Council.

SH 114/23 Community Events – Christmas Lunch

Cty Cllr Johnson- Wood confirmed her agreement to pay for the banners. This was gratefully received.

The Chair fed back that 20 residents had registered for the dinner. Members were encouraged to advise local residents of this event.

She reported that the Hall Committee had offered to help set up the hall. It was agreed to allow the Hall Committee to run a fundraising raffle at the dinner.

Resolved: to run a fundraising raffle for the Community Hall at the dinner.

The Clerk reminded members to take photographs at the event for submission with the Bryn Titli returns.

SH 115/23

County Councillors Report

Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood apologised for not being available for the Dinner on 7th December or the Council meeting, this was due to work commitments.

She was having problems getting in contact with Mary about the mobile Post Office. She would keep trying.

Welsh Water continue to carry out investigations within the area and she will keep the Council posted of any updates.

The Chair thanked Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood for her report and attendance.

SH 116/23

Other Matters

a) Connecting Communities

Cllr Williams confirmed he had delivered his flyers within the community.