

Ilston Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 29th July 2024

At a meeting of Ilston Community Council, at the Barham Centre, Parkmill on Monday 29th July 2024 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. N Hollett, Cllr. D Ponting, Cllr. R Church, Cllr. N Huffer, Cllr. S Mobbs, Cllr. S Pleydell, Cllr. I Brown and Cllr L James

In the Chair: Cllr N Hollett

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr. B Beynon, Cllr. C Bates, Mr P Sizer – Clerk

2. **Declaration of personal interest**

There were no declarations of interest stated

3. **Consider representations from members of the public.**

Andy Bowie – asked that traffic saving measure and mirrors be placed at the bottom of the hill – directly opposite the exit. Some discussions had taken place before.

ACTION – let Andy know that local authority won't do this and discuss with land owner

4. **Approve minutes of monthly meeting held on 30th May 2024**

The minutes and the annual minutes were accepted as a true representation of the meetings held on the 30th Mayh 2024. Cllr. Pleydell proposed and Cllr. Brown seconded a motion they are correct.

5. **Matters arising**

The clerk reported he had received the commentary to email around the Community regarding St John's Church, however, a date is now required for the assistance at the Church. Possibly an autumn date could be set.

ACTION POINT Mr Sizer.

Cllr. Church was reporting the steps at Parkmill to the Local Access Forum meeting being held in July and will report back. Cllr Church has investigated but not heard anything back yet.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Church

The Iron Man race will be taking the same route as last year and Cllr Church had attended meetings on this event. The route and timings had been confirmed for the event on the 14th July 2024. No negative comments received apart from the organisers should consult to see what else is taking place at the same time . Cllr Church will also raise with the Council the consequences of events taking place. A date has already been agreed for the 2025 event as being on Sunday 13th July 2025

ACTION POINT Cllr. Church

Meet your Councillors – Cllr. Brown to arrange a date, advise the Clerk who can email out to all in the Community. No date yet set but will be arranged prior to the next meeting and potentially hold the event in the Gower Inn in October.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Brown and Mr Sizer

The Clerk had received the lists of residents in the Community on the Electoral lists from Cllr. L. James and would start contacting everyone as soon as possible.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

Signage at Three Cliffs Beach – Nothing to report on this matter, however it was agreed to ask Christopher Stone if potentially he would put on the gate on the way to Three Cliffs or else as a standalone sign on the main viewing point to Three Cliffs. Could it be classed a temporary sign?

ACTION POINT Cllr. Church

Pennard School had designed anti-litter signs which were discussed and brought up later in the agenda.

Flood Plan for the area. Cllr Brown had produced a draft which has to be approved by the Council as soon as possible. The Flood Plan was approved and comments made. Thanks were offered to Cllr. Brown for all his work on this matter.

Contact with the residents in Ilston who might need support from Care and Repair and or Age Cymru will be contacted once the updated emailing lists have been formed. Carried over to the next meeting.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer & Cllr. Huffer.

Sandy Lane – the debris has been removed at the bottom of the road. Cllr L James will keep in touch with the Community Council regarding her efforts to improve the lane at the higher levels. The top of Sandy Lane is in very poor condition now and there is disputed ownership of the lane. A question was asked if the lane could be taken into community ownership?

ACTION POINT Cllr. L James

The Clerk advised he had received a response from Swansea Archives and they would be interested in any old agendas and minutes of Ilston Community Council where they would be stored safely. These can be forwarded to them once sorted. Anything important can be passed on to the Archives department. The Community Council hold records back to 1982.

ACTION PLAN Cllr. Ponting and Cllr. Church.

WIFI/Broadband/Nicholston – Cllr. Beynon stated that he had been in contact with Openreach and they would be happy to support fibre cabling provided a minimum of 20 residents contacted them to request such a facility. Cllr. Bates offered to contact residents in the area and allow them to contact Openreach directly. There has been no update on this matter.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Bates

The Clerk had contacted Highways about the road signs but had received no response from them. he had sent another email to the department but still no response.

6. **Swansea Community Review**

The Chair thanked Cllr. Huffer on his work on this matter and the support he had received from other Councillors. The precis of the report had been put on the website and sent to the community. Handouts had also been given out but there was insufficient time to consult with the community to receive their input. There was a discussion about how long it will take for a decision to be made. Other CC's on Gower had also sent in comments but the Council were wondering how effective they had been. The matter will be discussed again in September. There had been some concerns from a Penmaen resident to the proposals. It was requested that Cllr. Huffer precis the next steps and advise if there was anything that could be done before the September meeting. **ACTION POINT Cllr. Huffer**

7. **Consider planning applications**

There was an application from Rose Cottage in Perriswood to change the cladding on the outside of the of part of the building from timber into zinc. There were no objections.

8. **Consider financial statements**

Since last meeting payments made to:
Clerk for 2023/2024 expenses £29.39
One Voice Wales £38.00
One Voice Wales £101.00
Zurich Insurance £167.44
ICO Direct Debit £35.00
Interest received £10.77

After these payments and interest received, the balances of the bank accounts stood at:

Current £4123.62
Deposit £2891.87
Total £7015.49

Payments due:

Clerk Salary (four months) £801.47
PAYE/NI for Clerk £234.05

Cllr. Church also produced an invoice from Gower Arts Centre with regard to the three signs on "Leave only footprints" in the sum of £435. It had been agreed at the May 2024 meeting to cover the costs of these signs which everyone felt were of an excellent standard and would be fitted as soon as possible.

Reynoldston Community Council (RCC) has paid SLCC the sum of £105.00 to cover the Clerk's annual membership. The agreement between the two

Community Councils is to share any mutual costs of the Clerk. RCC propose to send Ilston CC an invoice for 50% in the sum of £52.50

Cllr. Pleydell proposed making these payments which was seconded by Cllr. Brown and accepted by all present.

9. **Grant requests**

There were no requests for grants

10. **Data Protection**

The Clerk had received communication from One Voice Wales regarding "Multi Location meetings: Timetable of Actions" which he felt was being met by the Council.

It was agreed to hold off on the changes of email addresses until more information had been received regarding the future of the Community Council.

11. **Service Agreement at Three Cliffs**

The clerk had continued contact with City & County of Swansea. There was now a delay as the Council wanted confirmation from BT that the proposed changes from analogue to digital in 2025 or later would not be an issue. There had been no further news from City & County of Swansea on this matter.

12. **Traffic Report**

The Clerk had submitted a complaint to the ombudsman but apparently CC's can't take a complaint via this route. The Council feel they may have gone as far as they can with the Council

It was felt an approach to One Voice Wales might be an alternative route the Council may seek guidance from them. Cllr. Pleydell to contact Paul Egan at OVW
ACTION POINT Cllr. Pleydell

It was also then discussed that we could potentially ask the local MP Tonia Antoniazia if she can help with this in due course after we had heard back from One Voice Wales

Another possible route would be to redraft a letter to Highways as Highways have offered to meet.

Other points raised included

General speeding in Penmaen and the crossing the road in Penmaen by the Chase

Kilvrough is 40 mph which is much too fast for this stretch of road bearing in mind the width of the road.

Concerns about the speeding and dangerous driving in Parkmill

It was agreed that Cllr Ponting would summarise the points of concern and send this to the Head of Highways.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Ponting

It was noted that response targets are linked for the Local Authority are linked to the appropriate mailbox on the website so it should be sent to this as it will be monitored

13. **Reports from members**

Concerns from Penmaen residents about lack of collection of rubbish by the Council. Often parts of the collections were not completed on the Friday and left to either the Saturday or the Sunday to be collected.

As a practical solution – the Council are considering getting its own skip for dumped rubbish – the Heritage Centre is happy to host this just for the summer. Cllr Church will arrange this.

Cllr. Mobbs proposed accepting a cost of £150 which was seconded by Cllr. Ponting. The Council thanked Cllr. Church for his kind offer.

Cllr. Ponting had also sent an email to Carl Watkings of City & County of Swansea to ask if are problems with litter and if so to let us know

Cllr. Mobbs reported annoying noise from a drain outside her house. Cllr. Mobbs will contact Highways to report the problem.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Mobbs

DP – Penmaen car park. NT should put up signs saying no overnight parking The Council asked the Clerk to make contact with the National Trust.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

14. **Receive correspondence**

The only item noted by the Clerk was the contact from One Voice Wales regarding the “Multi Location meetings” which has already been discussed.

15. **Clerks Update**

All documents for 2023/2024 have been scanned (a major operation) as all original documents have to be sent to the Audit Wales offices and residents are entitled to inspect the accounts and documents in July (although no one ever asks to do so).

The documents were hand delivered to the Cardiff offices on the 11th July.

Barclays have been a nightmare to get Clerk added as a signatory and access online etc.

Started back on 8th May, only approved 27th June and approval letter sent to Roy at old Clerks address.

Clerk has made four visits now to Barclays in Swansea to sort out and numerous phone calls. I am in process of logging a complaint with Barclays Bank about the poor service etc.

The Clerk had now received the card required for on-line access and instructions. The Clerk proposed that any payments form the 1st August onwards would be made by him as the RFO and would be confirmed by

either Cllr. Ponting or Cllr. Church as they became available. It was agreed to adopt this new policy.

The Clerk was having his first on-line meeting on Wednesday 21st August for his CILCA qualification, but it would be very difficult to complete everything by the deadline of the end of February with such a late start to the course. The Clerk had taken the liberty to start all the units in advance and had completed about 66% of them so far but waited for approval of the trainer if they were correct or not.

The Clerk required all Councillors to state if they would be claiming any Members Allowances this year and he would bring the necessary documentation to the next meeting in July. Due to his absence in the July meeting, he will bring this to the September meeting.

The Clerk could not find signed copied of the Members Declaration of Acceptance as Councillors and he again will bring necessary documents to the next Council meeting.

16. **AOB at discretion of chairman.**

Cllr. Brown is moving from Parkmill in the near future, but he would still be able to remain on the Council.

Time and date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 26th September 7.00 p.m.