**DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING**

**Thursday 4th April 2019**

Present

JM, LB, JH, JL, HR, PJ, MW, PT, SK, JB, SGn, SO, BG, SH, PW, SGr, DO, JH, LA, CMH, CH, GJ, SB, GE, EB, JB.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were given by PMc, AS, JJ, DP, GM, S?

The Chair opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to so many (26) and was particularly pleased to welcome a number of new people.

He then went on to thank EB for baking and for serving the coffee and cake.

He then advised the meeting of the sad passing of Cliff Roberts and checked with Jean that the flag would fly at half-mast – she confirmed that it would.

It was highlighted that the previous Minutes and tonight’s Agenda had been posted on both village websites and the Memorial Hall notice board. This was well received. In order for this to continue in a meaningful way, permissions were sought from all attending about names being given in full/initials or not at all in these public documents through the sign-in form.

Following ideas raised at a previous meeting it was agreed that we might try dividing the evening into 2 parts as per the agenda. Feedback was invited direct to the Secretary.

1. Sign of Previous Minutes
   1. Matters Arising from Meeting of 9th August 2018

*Traffic Calming*

GE reported back that in the absence of any actual reports of damage and/or speeding, there was little the Police/Council could do. Equally, it is hard to impose a 20mph limit. However, some self-help might be possible and the erection of ‘public notices’ might be a way forward. A meeting with the Highway Officers could be arranged by GE.

Minutes accepted and signed.

* 1. Matters Arising from Meeting of 31st January 2019

*Welcome Sign*

The Chair reported that Planning Permission approval would be granted for the sign subject to our agreement that the bottom of it is no higher than 25cm above the tarmac. The meeting voted overwhelmingly in favour of this requirement. The Authority SNP will be so advised.

A recommendation for a builder was sought and GR Fencing was recommended by GJ. **CH** to get a quote for the works.

*Handover*

All outgoing committee members have given a thorough and helpful handover which has been much appreciated. Of particular value has been GM, JM and JL’s assistance with the first Car Boot Sale of the year.

*Request for Ideas*

HH expressed her thanks for all the suggestions received so far for future activities for the Community Group. A list was available to facilitate ongoing discussions.

*Contacting the Committee*

There is now a dedicated email address and mobile phone for the Community Group which will be checked regularly by the secretary and forwarded as appropriate.

The contact details are:

[helenhawkins.rgc@gmail.com](mailto:helenhawkins.rgc@gmail.com) 07535 775630

*Hearing Loop*

The Rowen Memorial Hall committee have discussed this and are looking into it.

*War Memorial Sculpture*

This will be explored further by JB & EB.

*Public Toilets*

PMcF has secured written confirmation from the Council that the cost of the fascia boards is in this year’s budget. We will then be free to paint the outside.

There was some concern expressed about the possibility that the community might take over the running of the facility but at this stage nothing will be decided without further examination.

JH to explore further options and report back to the Committee.

There then followed **open dialogue** at which the following was discussed:

**Multiple Groups and Committees** – LB asked why are there so many groups involved with village life, and that they did not always appear harmonious relationships. The Chair explained they have different mandates and remits. However close cooperation is sought at all times.

PW requested we consider giving £260 to support her work with **Open Access Play sessions**. These will foster greater ties to the village for young families and support child development. There are 30 children in the catchment area and she has secured funding for 2 sessions; this money will provide a third.

The idea was put to an indicative vote and passed without objection by the majority present.

**Village History** Record keeping. A listening project. JB, HH and HR to explore this further.

MW pointed out that **Walk No8** may now need reviewing as it contains some inaccuracies and he should contact Mark Crane, the author of the notes.

**Bunting** – there was considerable interest in making and hanging bunting in the village, and not just for use at Carnival. We have the material and after it was suggested that we might pay to have them made, several offers were made to do that for the village.

Some people would prefer that the bunting was not hung throughout the summer but they were in the minority. The key is that the material used is robust enough to survive long-term exposure to the elements.

SGn, SGr will make the bunting but first PW will confirm the length needed.

It was suggested that any costs be shared with OGC, CC and RCG.

**Christmas decorations** – the idea was to have a tree with lights located centrally.

It was discussed and when put to the vote, the majority agreed to pursue the idea, with two against. To be carried forward by the Committee.

**Taly Bont Cenotaph** – HR pointed out that the engraving of some of (our) fallen was weathered. It was agreed to ask the Community Council if they would undertake the works (WHO? – GE)

CT flagged the parking problem in the **village car park**. Access might be difficult for a fire engine at certain times. It was made clear that some families might own 3 cars these days, and this was not envisaged when the estate was built. Further pressure arises from the tenants of the garages. It is understood that the car park surface is scheduled for new tarmac.

This will be further discussed by the Committee.

BG flagged up that the **fire hydrant** in the village centre needs attention – ?paint, clear vegetation?, parking in the vicinity are all issue that need considering. To be added to the next Agenda.

JL queried the Agenda item to do with **contributions to the Memorial Hall**; he pointed out that the MH Committee do not make charges for local groups conducting local activities. The Chair acknowledged that point and would raise it later that evening.

Time having elapsed, the meeting concluded. The Committee remained behind to undertake business matters.

The following is a brief set of action points arising from the Business Meeting:

**Skills Audit** - The Chair reinforced his request for the members to provide a list of their considered skills and experience so that a gap analysis can be made but more importantly the right person(s) can be tasked with jobs going forwards.

**Storage Space in Memorial Hall** – a cupboard will be made available for us to use. CMH advised that whilst SD had been delegated the job of tidying the Hall, there had been no brief to deny us storage facilities. HH/EB to liaise with SD

**Car Boot Sales**

EB has 6 Hi-Viz jackets we can use

CH offered two walkie-talkies for the day

SB said that LB was a qualified in First Aid and her shifts on the 27th would allow her to offer that service for which we are very grateful.

It was thought it might be constructive to visit the Taly Bont CBS and see how they ‘do’ things. (CH / HH / EB to coordinate)

MJ - Bookers delivers food/drinks to Cefyn Cae and she offered their bulk service terms for the CBS – EB / HH to liaise with MJ on this

Car Parking – as we have decided to follow the existing format whilst learning the ropes, there would be some Car Parking for Blue Badge holders on the grass but thse would be restricted in number. Additionally there is a practice of the general public being allowed to park on the grass – this will be reviewed after 27th.

Action – HH would put together a rota using the volunteering offered tonight.

**Bunting** – GJ will follow up with the Carnival Committee to seek a sharing of costs. PW needs to be reminded that she is to advise on the length needed.

**Croeso Banner** – LA will get a quote

**Benches** – HR had asked about obtaining more benches for placing around the village – JB & EB to follow up.

**Toilets** – JH to take forward and eventually prepare a Cost/Benefit Analysis for consideration by the Committee

**Christmas Lights /Tree** – GJ / LA will ask Will ? whether he would donate a tree.

*[Ed – since the meeting the Chair has spoken with Ty Gwyn and they are very excited to help if they can (?power source)]*

**Policy Review** – HH to give JH what we have and JH will review and report back. CVS may have template docs for us to use.

**Insurance** – CH asked whether we wanted to insure the flagpole (cost £350) and the Welcome Sign (cost £450) now it looked like the latter would go ahead. There was agreement to do so despite there being a £250 excess. CH to ask for a quote from A-Plan brokers.

The I**nsurance** policy requires confirmation that the Officers are fit to serve: CH will circulate a declaration for signing.

There was general approval at the annual premium secured by the Chair this year which saves £100 over last year’s premium.

**Donation to Memorial Hall** – It has become clear that PMcF’s initial email was somewhat premature. Following a meeting between CH/JB and CMH/PMcF/SD on [?], it became clear that past practice involved the RCG making a donation to the Memorial Hall for the use of the Hall and field. It has been agreed to retain the status through this year and see how profitable the CBS are through the summer before deciding on what to donate. However, some inflation-linked increased has been felt appropriate.

**Flag Pole**

GM has kindly offered to retain the key and lower the flag when appropriate. The Committee expressed our thanks for this kind offer.

A maintenance schedule has been passed over to the new Treasurer, but GM has agreed to continue this for us.