

ROGERSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA A ZOOM MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY 3RD MARCH 2021

Members present: -

Chairperson: Councillor S. Mlewa

Councillors: S. Bowen, C Larcombe, N. Ireland, S. Jones, K. Hopkins, N. Upham, T. Jaynes, M. Bentley.

Apologies were received from: -

Councillors: Mrs A Bailey, Y. Forsey, C Evans, L Hearn.

It was agreed to take item 9.1 Welfare Ground - Disc Golf, prior to other agenda items.

9.2 Welfare Ground - Disc Golf

The Chairperson welcomed Alex Donne to the meeting and invited him to talk about his proposal for a disc golf course in the Welfare Grounds, details of which were circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Alex Donne talked about:-

- His career background information with the Police and current position as a NxtGen Officer.
- The equipment used and how disc golf is played.
- Health benefits of the game.
- How the game is suitable for all ages and abilities.
- Other areas that have public disc golf courses in Bristol, Stroud and Pembrey County Park.
- The funding bid put in for the supply and installation of the disc golf course.
- The proposal for the Welfare Grounds and possible locations for the baskets.
- Maintenance of the equipment.
- Signage advising of the flying discs.
- The game being free to members of the public with a possible hire charge for use of discs, which could be available from staff.
- The costs of discs, which are available online for members of the public wishing to purchase their own.
- The game encouraging more people to use the Welfare Grounds, thereby possibly increasing sales for the take away café.

The following was discussed:-

- The ground work that is needed to install the baskets.
- The ongoing maintenance, which was thought to be just strimming around the equipment.
- The baskets are made of galvanised steel and require no maintenance, and are suitable for the UK climate.
- Grass cutting machinery used by staff.
- Possible vandalism.
- Safety of other users of the Welfare Grounds and signage.

- Proposed locations for the equipment and size of area needed.
- The number of baskets/tees – 9
- The company who would undertake the installation. (Disc Golf UK).
- The company visiting the Grounds with the Head Groundsman to ascertain the best areas, and then submitting a plan for members to consider.
- Wardens hiring the discs via the hut.
- The possibility of league disc golf.
- Fields in Trust – it was thought as the baskets can be removed, there would be no covenant issues.
- The funding application, which has not been approved yet.
- Agreeing the course in principal.
- Cadets helping with the new community garden project.

The Chairperson thanked Alex Donne for attending the meeting and agreed to let him know members decision asap.

Members agreed:-

- To approve the proposal in principal (provided it is fully funded).
- That the company will need to visit the Welfare Grounds with the Head Groundsman to agree locations of the baskets, and submit a drawing/plan for members to consider.
- The matter can be finalised with members via email instead of waiting until the next meeting, if necessary.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

2. MINUTES

As the last meeting was held via Zoom, the following minutes were approved prior to publication on the website to comply with legislation: -
Full Council meeting 3rd February 2021

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.2 Bethesda Rise

The Clerk advised that no timescale for the planting of the area of land at Bethesda Rise has been provided by Llanmoor Homes. The Clerk will contact the company again and if no timescale is provided, this will be followed up with Newport City Councils planning enforcement officer.

3.3 Head Groundsman

Members were very pleased to hear of the continuing progress of Steve Davies recovery.

3.4 Dwr Cymru

The Clerk updated members on the water leak situation, which is still on going. The leak cannot be located and a new water main installation is delayed as consent is needed from Welsh Water. When the situation is rectified, costs will hopefully be recovered.

3.5 Lyndon Way

The Clerk advised members that he attended a meeting recently with Councillors Forsey and Evans, Newport City Homes and residents and progress has been made as follows:-

- Newport City Homes has agreed to put new storm drains (details were emailed to members).
- Newport City Homes will arrange for existing drains to be cleaned
- Rogerstone Community Council will arrange for the reën to be cleared and the briars cut back
- A suggestion for a secondary drainage scheme and gabion basket wall was made, however this would be a very expensive undertaking

Members discussed the following:-

- The two houses that already have a French drain and did not experience flooding.
- The new drainage to all properties, which is designed to prevent flooding.
- The cost of the secondary drainage scheme, which will probably not be required once the new drainage has been installed, and existing drains cleaned.
- Secondary drainage not being provided in other areas of Rogerstone.
- Regularly inspecting the reën and woodland and maintaining it to an acceptable standard.
- Funding possibilities.
- Timescales for the reën work and drainage.

It was agreed:-

- To carry out the reën work discussed and regularly inspect the area.
- Not provide secondary flood prevention at this stage, but monitor the effectiveness of the new drains once installed.
- Request a schedule of works and timescale for the drainage work from Newport City Homes.

3.6 Bee Hive – Allotments

The Clerk advised that comments received from allotment tenants adjacent to the plot where the bee poly tunnel will be erected were favourable. Therefore members approved the request subject to the Head Groundsman agreeing to the location on the plot.

3.7 Member Vacancy

The Clerk advised that an election for the member vacancy has not been called, therefore the position can be co-opted.

It was agreed that:-

- The casual vacancy will be advertised, with the closing date as 31st March 2021.
- The previous interview panel will be used – Councillors, Mlewa, Bowen, Dudley & Ireland
- The informal interview will be held via Zoom 14.4.21
- The successful candidate will be appointed at the May meeting.

3.8 Burial Board

Members discussed correspondence circulated prior to the meeting and new correspondence read out by the Clerk.

Following consideration members agreed that:-

- Proportional representation is still the Council's preference.
- The alternative voting suggestions made by Gareth Price were acceptable.

4. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk advised that he had met with Sergeant Paul Turner regarding off road motorcycle issues.

The following was discussed:-

- Methods for mitigating the problem.
- A frames/kissing gates/barriers.
- Locations that off road bikes are using.
- Sergeant Turner's suggestion that the area near the bridge at Jubilee Park would be a suitable location for a barrier.
- Agreement being needed from Newport City Council before erecting any sort of barrier, so no public right of way is hindered. (Sergeant Turner will approach Newport City Council for this).
- Rogerstone Community Council's staff needing off road access to Jubilee Park for tractors/grass cutting machinery etc., which would mean any barrier would need to be lockable.
- Funding of the barrier depending on the location.
- If the barrier is erected in the Jubilee Park area to benefit residents, funding may be available from the management company.

Members agreed in principle to access controls to be located on Community Council land if necessary, subject to Newport City Council approving the design of any barrier.

5. CLERKS REPORT

Members acknowledged the Clerks Report (emails are forwarded to members when received), and discussed the following:-

Jubilee Park Primary School

Members considered the funding request from Jubilee Park Primary School. The funds are requested for a project, which would ordinarily be funded by Newport City Council as the Local Education Authority (LEA), therefore members do not feel able to provide a contribution. Newport City Council have withdrawn the Concurrent Funding support to Rogerstone Community Council (£64,000 per annum), therefore the Community Council do not feel comfortable to use local residents council tax precept to fund something that Newport City Council are responsible for. Setting a precedent for other schools in the area to apply for funding was discussed and it was agreed that this could be an unaffordable precedent. Members agreed that funding requested for this project which is primarily the responsibility of Newport City Council cannot unfortunately be accommodated.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE

There was no additional correspondence to consider.

7. ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were approved:-

Wild About Rogerstone (CP)	
Trees	147.50
Tools	1008.01
 Newport CC	
Bins (half JP)	443.23
 Fuel Genie	
Fuel	90.16
 Nathan Evans Ltd	
Budget estimates	510.00
Xero fees	23.04
Xero fees	23.04
Monthly accounts (JP)	240.00
Monthly accounts (JP)	240.00
 TalkTalk	
Broadband & phone	57.54
 Screwfix	
Tools sundries – grounds	199.97
 Easyfit Tyres	
Van speed sensor fault repair	208.73
 Utility Warehouse	
Gas Tydu Hall & electricity Tydu Hall & outbuildings	567.55
Gas Tydu Hall & electricity Tydu Hall & outbuildings	-7.35 (credit)
 Eurooffice	
Stationary (JP)	113.74
 T. Hopkins	
Blower (JP)	261.65

8. PLANNING

8.1 Planning Committee members were in receipt of planning applications.

9. OTHER MATTERS

9.1 Welfare Ground - Disc Golf

Discussed earlier.

9.2 2021/22 Budget Estimates

Members discussed the budget estimates prepared by Nathan Evans Ltd. (circulated prior to the meeting).

Members approved:-

- The budget estimates 20/21 (Appendix 1)
- Appointing Lyn Llewellyn as internal auditor for the 20/21 accounts. (Members noted the 20% increase in fees due to new audit regulations, which may entail more work).
- Putting the Council accounts out to tender May/June 2021.

9.3 Facility Fees & Charges

Members approved the facility fee increases:-

TYDU COMMUNITY HALL

Rogerstone Resident Rate

Per Hour (2 hour minimum hire)

Off peak Monday – Friday up to 6pm (non-business) hire –

Hall - £4.90

Room - £3.65

Kitchen - £2.55

Hall, kitchen, room - £8.50

Peak from 6pm weekdays and all day weekends (non-business) hire - £9.65

Room - £7.15

Kitchen - £3.15

Hall, kitchen, room - £17.00

Business Rate x 2 the above.

Non Rogerstone Resident Rate

Per Hour (2 hour minimum hire)

Off peak Monday – Friday up to 6pm (non-business) hire - £5.45

Room - £4.00

Kitchen - £2.75

Hall, kitchen, room - £9.15

Peak from 6pm weekdays and all day weekends (non-business) hire

Hall - £10.40

Room - £7.90
Kitchen - £3.45
Hall, kitchen, room– £18.65

Members will review the prices after the hall has been open for 6 months to decide if any increased costs related to Covid precautions should be recovered via the fees.

TENNIS COURTS

Rogerstone Resident Charge

Adult – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour - £3.35
Child – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour - £1.75
Mixed – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour - £2.80
Racquet Hire (per hour) - £1.25
Racquet Hire Deposit - £2.30
Ball Purchase (Hire not available) - £1.25

Non Rogerstone Resident Charge

Adult – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour - £3.70
Child – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour– £1.90
Mixed – Tennis Court Hire Per Hour– £3.05
Racquet Hire (per hour) - £1.35
Racquet Hire Deposit– £2.50
Ball Purchase (Hire not available) - £1.35

SPORTS PITCHES

Rogerstone Resident Charges

Adult Sports Pitches & Changing Facilities
Football - £8.90
Changing facilities - £17.00
Grass wicket - £17.00
Artificial wicket - £17.00
Children's Sports Pitches (includes changing facilities if required)
Football - £7.95
Artificial wicket - £7.95

Non Rogerstone Resident Charges

Adult Sports Pitches & Changing Facilities
Football - £9.75
Changing facilities - £18.70
Grass wicket - £18.70
Artificial wicket - £18.70
Children's Sports Pitches (includes changing facilities if required)
Football - £8.80
Artificial wicket - £8.80

ALLOTMENTS & GARAGE SPACES

Per perch per annum (plots are between 3-4 perch) - £2.55
Registered disabled or senior citizen - £1.75
Garage spaces - £94.20 (Spaces not being re-let when tenancies relinquished)

9.4 Ty Du House Rent

Press & Public Excluded

9.5 Community Garden

Members were pleased with the progress and ideas for the community garden. (Information was circulated via email prior to the meeting).

10. MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT

Section 137

Members agreed to discuss the Section 137 payments at the October or November meeting of Council after the mid-term budget update.

Morrison's

A member suggested inviting Morrison's to a future meeting regarding their community support scheme.

Take Away Café at the Hut

Members approved the opening of the Hut in March subject to:-

- The opening times being advertised clearly on signage and being adhered too.
- The hygiene and insurance certificates being provided.

School Terrace - Fencing

Members considered replacing the fencing at School Terrace and the associated costs. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting, so that members can consider pictures of the location and the current fence along with proposals and costs for galvanised steel and chain link fencing.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on the 7th April 2021.