**CAREW COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Carew Community Council meeting held on 12th March 2025.

**Present: -** Cllr Simon Hosker-Hicks (Chair), Cllr Julia Williams

Cllr Madeleine Bland (Vice Chair) Cllr Steve Williams

Cllr Marina Griffiths Cllr Trevor Goodman,

County Councillor Vanessa Thomas Cllr Alison Folder.

**Apologies for absence** - Cllr Marcia Allen , Cllr Linda Dennis, Cllr Sarah Benbow.

**In Attendance** - PCSO Emma Hayward.

**Requests for hybrid/remote attendees –** There were no requests for remote attendance.

**Declarations of Interest –** County Councillor Vanessa Thomas, Cllr Simon Hosker Hicks (Planning section )

Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

**Minutes of the February 2025 meeting -** It was proposed by Cllr Bland and seconded by County Councillor Thomas and all present agreed that the minutes were a true record and they were duly signed.

**Matters Arising:-**

* Confirmation received from PCC that they acknowledge receipt of the Precept for £30,000.
* **Milton Wooden Bridge-** Following local enquiries it seems the bridge at Milton Play area is the responsibility of the Community council to repair. Following discussion it was agreed to take photographs of the bridge. Clerk to check the Lease for greater clarification.
* **Finance & Governance Toolkit & Code of Conduct -** Following discussion it was agreed to look at the Finance section of the Toolkit and notes made for the forthcoming end of year accounts/audit. It was considered that this self-assessment Toolkit will prove invaluable in conforming to Governance and Accountability criteria.

**The Code of Conduct** was discussed and all present agreed that this should be accepted and adopted as it stands and Chair has kindly added some shortcuts to go alongside the document.

* Rhian Young from the Monitoring and Standards Office has emailed to say she is able to provide group Code of conduct training either face to face or online. Mutually convenient selection of dates were discussed. Rhian Young has had a similar request from another Community Council so may be able to combine this if a Teams/Zoom or face to face meeting is agreed upon.
* **Dual Authorisation for BACS payments –**  Cllr Steve Williams felt he may be able to undertake this and Clerk to pursue with Barclays Bank the necessary change of mandate. County Councillor Thomas to continue to authorise BACS payments until the new arrangement in place.
* **Community Council Website update -** Clerk continuing to gather information to put on the website. The need for incorporating photographs of Councillors on the website and at next training session Clerk agreed to discuss this with the website company. Also to discuss is the link from the Community Council facebook page to website and vice versa.
* **West Williamston Phone Box -** Confirmation awaited by Zurich insurance for the quotation for the fitting of the new door. Chair agreed to chase this up and send to Clerk.
* **Exercise Equipment update -** Confirmation received that there is a 120 kgs weight restriction. Following discussion the site for the new outdoor exercise equipment in Milton Play Area will be at the estuary end facing into the Park. No further queries were identified and this equipment should now be purchased. Clerk confirmed that she had received the signed Funding Agreement from PCC for the Enhancement Grant along with the other documents for claiming the grant.
* **Small grants/donations policy -**  Clarification discussed on the criteria for sending out the policy to organisations. It was agreed that local organisations in the Parish wishing to access grant/donation would need to apply completion of documents on the website carewcommunitycouncil.gov.uk. Smaller requests for grants/donations from National organisations and charities will be discussed at the May and November meetings and awarded if funds from the budget allow. One request for donation with accompanying paperwork has been received for £200 from Carew senior Citizens committee towards this years Christmas dinner. It was agreed that this will be discussed as per schedule at the May meeting.

**Planning -** Planning - NP/25/0079/FUL - Reconstruction of shed adjacent to Chapel & construction of ramp within cemetery - Pisgah Chapel, Cresswell Quay, Cresselly. County Councillor Vanessa Thomas declared an interest and withdrew from discussion. Following discussion and deliberation of the planning application and accompanying documentation there were no adverse comments and no obvious grounds for refusal identified. PCC to be asked to approve this application.

24/1093/PA Variation condition 2 Milton manor 2 detached residences previously approved (23/0993/PA) Variation Design to Plot A - Addition of Basement, small utility extension added, fenestration amendments Minor Variation Design to Plot B - lounge wing rotated towards west (Clockwise) to create access to rear (east) garden. Cllr Hosker-Hicks declared and interest and withdrew from discussion. Following discussion and deliberation of the documentation relating to the variation application and accompanying documentation there were no adverse comments and no obvious grounds for refusal identified. PCC to be asked to approve this variation .

**Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales report -** This document and Review of Community Arrangements were discussed and the small variations noted. It was noted that these new arrangements would come into force in 2027.

**Review of budget -** To date outgoings in line with the expected expenditure for this time of year.

**Remuneration for Community Councillors.** In line with guidance from Remuneration Panel the following Councillors were remunerated with £156 - Cllr Simon Hosker-Hicks (Chair), Cllr Madeleine Bland (Vice Chair), Cllr Marina Griffiths, Cllr Julia Williams, Cllr Steve Williams, Cllr Trevor Goodman, Cllr Alison Folder.

Councillors unable to attend the meeting - Cllr Marcia Allen , Cllr Linda Dennis, Cllr Sarah Benbow will be sent their cheques separately.

County Councillor Vanessa Thomas declined to receive this payment and will confirm this in writing to the Clerk.

**Correspondence & invoices for payment**

Documentation, emails and communications sent to Community Councillors

* Draft Regional Transport Plan
* OVW Electoral Review Programme 2025
* PCC Local Flood Risk Management Plan
* OVW Cost of Living Crisis Project Team Newsletter
* PCNPA - Notification of non-immediate effect Article 4 (1) Direction for 28 day use of land for camping, caravans and/or mobile homes. County Councillor Thomas provided further information on this which was noted.
* OVW Cost of Living Crisis webinar Thursday 6th March 7-8 pm. Noted
* Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report 2025-26 sent by IRPW and OVW
* Police & Crime Plan 2025-2029 along with four short You Tube videos that go with this Plan .Noted with interest.
* Zip file containing 8 different documents relating to Digital Guidance from OVW. Noted.
* Latest Development notes from OVW - Assets Register, Meetings Administration , Organising a successful event. Noted with interest.
* OVW Draft Pembrokeshire Area Committee meeting on 13th January 2025. Next meeting is on Thursday 27th March 2025 6.30pm at Haverfordwest Town Council . It was noted there is a facility to join this webinar remotely via Teams.
* OVW & Planning Aid Wales - Councillors noted this .
* Repair Café Wales - 5 year plan . On discussion Chair suggested setting up a Facebook page to look ascertain local interest in this . Clerk reported there is a Repair Café in Tenby.
* AGM of OVW on 11th March has been **CANCELLED.** Noted.
* Road closure notice -

Deer Park Lane, nr Carew Cheriton – from its junction with Stephens Green Lane, west to its junction with the access leading to Upper Welston Farm for 17th March - 2 days.

Alternative Route - Stephens Green Lane, The Ridgeway, Upper Lamphey Road, Sixth Lane, Dill Road and Deer Park Lane. This has been put on the Carew Community Council Facebook page

* PCC - Working better Together Tuesday 25th March 2025 with a link to register .Clerk has registered for this meeting.
* Clerk’s Salary £222.55 paid by Standing order. West Wales Systems for Hall Wifi £48.52 paid by direct debit.
* Easywebsite set up fee for £300 (inc VAT) has been paid by GoCardless direct debit
* Also the domain name payment for £36.96 (inc VAT) has also been taken by the same method. All present agreed to these two payments.
* Received - Permit application for new Ashes Area Tablet for Mr P Badham (£106) I which has been acknowledged and authorised by the Clerk
* Communication from Barclays Bank regarding reduced rate of interest on the Business Account. From 13th May rate will now be 1.25% (previously 1.35%)
* Barclays Bank also wish to return the Barclaysafe wallet to the Community Council . Clerk has asked that this be sent directly by special delivery.

Bank Account Balances - Current £12199.34 Deposit £776.11

* Invoices for payment :

Membership of One Voice Wales - £325. (BACS)

HMRC PAYE Nov 2024 to end March 2025 (inc) £245.65 (chq)

Gerald Hicks Memorial Ground half year rent from Carew Estates £750 (BACS)

It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths, seconded by Cllr Bland and all present agreed that these three payments be made.

**Policing Matters -**

PCSO Hayward informed the Community Council of a recent burglary in one of the villages in the Parish. CID investigating the matter. The need for vigilance and reporting suspicious activity and also the observance of home and property security reinforced. She also informed of the Tenby, Saundersfoot and Narberth Police Facebook page which might be of interest .

The joint Meet & Greet with County Councillor Thomas continue, walking through villages in the Parish .

PCSO Hayward made the Community Council aware of the Great British Spring Clean initiative and discussion ensued on a local litter picking event. Chair agreed to make a poster for the Community Council Facebook page. Date agreed on Saturday 5th April 2025 at 10 am meeting at the Carew Memorial Hall. The old Redberth Road from Sageston identified as an area for litter picking.

The 20 mph road signage is being pursued and Clerk confirmed she had informed the Contact Centre of PCC on this matter. County Councillor Thomas gave Clerk the name of person in charge of such matters at PCC and Clerk to pursue this matter further.

Chair and all present thanked PCSO for her report.

**County Councillor Report**

Chair thanked County Councillor Thomas on her efforts with PCC to keep the Carew Toilets open until October and hopefully for longer. County Councillor Thomas outlined the discussions she had to secure this.

County Councillor Thomas had made enquiries into the bridge on the Common Land at Redberth as it is in need of repair. This was mentioned in the Action Plan of 2008. However County Archives do not have any information on when the bridge was erected . Chair agreed to contact local business to see if they might be able to help with the cost of repair/replacement perhaps in return for small advertising panel on the bridge.

Bus Shelter in Redberth - County Councillor Thomas had been in communication with Building Maintenance who agreed to look into this further. She will provide updates when available.

County Councillor Thomas had been informed of road closure in Whitehill on 25th March. Clerk had not received this information and when received Clerk will send to Chair to include this on the Community Council Facebook page.

County Councillor Thomas informed that the PCC Council tax budget has been set at 9.35%.

Chair and all present thanked County Councillor Thomas for her report.

**”What’s Been Happening”, General discussion and items for agenda for next meeting**.

* VE day 8th May 2025 - Cllr Griffiths asked if there was anything further the Community Council could do other than join the Carew Cheriton Control Tower in their commemoration of this event. With the date fast approaching it was agreed to put this on the agenda for next meeting.
* Notices in telephone boxes in Redberth, Milton, Carew and Whitehill for the litter pickers to be placed. All Councillors to check the litter grabbers and hoops still in the phone boxes .
* Chair to look into painting of the Whitehill Phone Box. Paint has already been purchased.
* Christmas 2025 - Cllr Griffiths had been approached by a resident on what activities for Christmas by Community Council are likely. Provisional suggestions were Lantern Procession or a Play. For agenda April meeting.
* Abandoned household goods and bikes in Carew Park discussed and this will be kept under review.
* Fish and Chip Van outlet in the Memorial Hall Car Park Fridays 5.30-7.30 - Clerk to contact them for the agreed financial reimbursement for the rent of the car park as agreed in a previous meeting.
* Clerk informed of further enquiries with Dwr Cymru operative on their fence on the Milton Marsh Walk. He has agreed to escalate this matter for action. Councillors noted that the broken fence has nails protruding and are a hazard.

Milton Marsh Walk cutting back of tree branches - Chair agreed to look into this matter.

* Chair informed of further enquiries regarding the Clerks Salary Review . It was agreed that a date for meeting to discuss this further when the new NALC rates are approved be arranged .
* In addition to the above items for the Agenda previously noted - items as per Diary Schedule are :-

Review of the list organisations & FB pages/websites in the Parish

Flemish Chimney.

**Date and Time of next meeting -** Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7 pm in the Committee Room of Carew Memorial Hall .

Date reminder - Litter picking Event Saturday 5th April 2025 at 10 am at Carew Memorial Hall.

Chair thanked all for coming and declared the meeting closed .

SIGNED: - …………………………………

DATE:- …………………………………….

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