

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024

1571: THE CHAIR OPENED THE MEETING: The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.05pm, and welcomed all in attendance.

1572: PRESENT: All Councillors were present except for Cllr Jack Evans, who sent an apology and a message saying that hopefully the new welcome to Fairbourne sign should be erected in 2/3 weeks' time.

1573: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: One apology

1574: COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Green – Golf Club

1575: SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR: The Chairman announced that Cllr Mrs Claire Troman had resigned due to family and work commitments. He asked the Clerk to write a letter thanking Claire for all her input during her work on the Council, and to advertise the position in the Fairbourne/Arthog Notice Boards. The chair also welcomed Helen Roberts who was attending to give a breakdown on the progress of the Christmas lights and festival.

1576: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON, Wednesday 3rd July 2024: The minutes were confirmed as correct Cllr Haycock and seconded by Cllr Mrs Woolley.

1577: Helen Roberts outlined the progress of the scheme to get Fairbourne lit up this Christmas and to have a festival similar to the festivals of old. This would hopefully involve all the young people from all three Villages, and all other residents interested, to make it an event to remember. Helen outlined the costs involved, the progress of the fund raising from donations received and a timetable of events. The Arthog Community Council had already pledged to pay for the electrical connection from the disabled toilets to an outside point and also pledged a further amount to be decided. Dependent upon whether the fitting of an electrical point from the disabled toilet proceeded, via Stuart Eves. Progress on that matter was unknown as the Fairbourne Amenities Trust was organizing this. However, Helen has been in touch with the certified electrician who is involved in other local towns and villages Christmas light connection and has been given a quote of £1800.00. Sean from the Food Station has worked with Helen towards getting this off the ground. Thanks to Sean and Helen.

1578: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 3rd July 2024: No matters arising.

1579: CLERKS REPORT:

- (a) Welcome Sign – Progress – Cllr Evans has said that hopefully this will be installed in 2/3 weeks' time. The sign has been secured from the Unit.
- (b) Fairborn Ohio – Progress – Nothing to date.
- (c) Sheep in the Village – No change, sheep still roaming.
- (d) Friog Hill Traffic Lights -No progress to date. The Clerk will ask again at the October partnership meeting.
- (e) Remembrance Day Wreath and date – reath ordered, signs and cones secured, police notified, Church notified, and road closure has been received. The wreath will cost £50.00 this year due to complaints last year.
- (f) Request for donation for Christmas Lights – The ACC will pay for the electrical connection once it has been signed off and approved.
- (g) SNP Meeting Cllr Langford/Clerk – The Clerk and Cllr Langford met with the SNP Wardens. Lots of ideas were discussed. It was left that the Wardens will come back asap, to let us know if a stand-alone Notice Board will be erected in the Arthog layby below the Village Hall.
- (h) Wall and shrubbery Network Rail Carpark – It has been acknowledged that this is a Network Rail issue. The Clerk will chase yet again.
- (i) Under Salt Marsh location filming – The Clerk outlined the possible benefits to the Village. There could be up to 80 crew, all needing coffee, bacon sandwiches etc. The Springfield has been booked. Filming will take place over a 10-day period. The film company will make a donation to the Village for all the help and assistance that has been given. Any donation received could be very well used to upgrade the Children's Play Park. This is a given if this comes to fruition.
- (j) Penrhyn Drive North – two youths from a property on Penrhyn Drive North were witnessed making a nuisance of themselves at a property in Llewelyn Drive. Residents be aware.
- (k) Shrubby on Arthog Hill. Cllr Roberts has had a word with the owner (David) to get the shrubby removed, it is becoming dangerous.
- (l) Overlapping cars on the Promenade. Unfortunately, it appears that CG do not have any funds to do anything about this at the moment. The Clerk will raise this matter again at the October Partnership meeting. This problem will probably cease during the winter months, but it would be good to have something in place for next Easter.
- (m) Parking place on Penrhyn Drive South cut into the sand dunes – Maritime and NRW are both involved. The ACC is waiting for a conclusion. The issue is whether planning permission should have been sought or not?

1580: TO DEAL WITH ANY CORRESPONDENCE OR PHONE CALLS: A new lease has been secured from CG for the additional land attached to the Golf Course. The lease is for 25 years. It had expired during 2023, because of Covid and various other reasons, ie a lack of all the paperwork relating to the lease, it had been forgotten. Cllr Puddick had enquired if a bench could be placed in Friog at the location of the old Phone Box and telephone exchange. A discussion took place and if permission can be secured from CG there did not seem to be a problem. Traffic management has been improved on Friog Hill.

1581: SPECIAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION: Nil

1582: PLANNING MATTERS: No new planning matters.

1583: FINANCIAL MATTERS: The Clerk confirmed that confirmation had been received for the second half of the Precept. The cheque book was circulated for a cheque to the value of £250.00 for L C Jones, grass cutting. The Clerk confirmed that the External Audit outstanding bill had been settled once a correct invoice had been received £310.00. The Internal Audit bill had been paid £396.00. The ACC will pay for the new defib box, £481.44, but a donation from a family has been paid into the current account. The monthly accounts had been circulated to all Councillors. All the bank accounts are in a good state. Permission was given to the Clerk to order the re-cycled boat and trailer that had previously been talked about and an additional picnic bench for the area at the shop to replace the broken bench that is in situ. The Clerk said that now HSBC has reopened she is hopeful that online banking will be set in place quite soon. The Clerk is still waiting to hear back from the Welsh Audit with regard to the current accounts. The pay rise awarded to the Clerk at the beginning of June is still being paid by cheque until internet banking commences, the HSBC Bank reopens after refurbishment and the Bank Manager returns to work. This should all happen in October.

1584: COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: Cllr Haycock pointed out that recycling collections are being missed from all areas in the three Villages. CG Councillor Louise Hughes commented about the proposal to build 18 houses specifically for Welsh speakers only. This was discussed and it was felt that CG could be liable to being called racist or discriminatory if this was to be voted in. Louise also reported that a resident in Bryn Coch had requested that the speed limit in Arthog be reduced because there is a lack of pavement in that area. This has all been discussed in years gone by and basically it will probably remain the same. This resident moved in 18 months ago and was aware of the speed limit at the time of moving in. The ACC is sympathetic but is unable to initiate change. Cllr Mrs Woolley announced the theme of the Christmas show this year. Cllr Narraway asked if others had received an email regarding the connection of fast full fibre. There is confusion as to whether connection has already started in Fairbourne. Cllr Narraway also said that he had been made aware of people using dogs and ferrets on the NRW land beyond the Golf Club. They said that they had been given permission by Cllr Jack Evans who has grazing rights on this land. The Clerk was asked to check with NRW as to the legal rights.

1585: REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

- (a) Fairbourne Partnership – Clerk – next meeting October
- (b) Golf Club Report – Cllr Roberts/Cllr Evans – Renewal of Lease 25 years
- (c) Fairbourne Amenities Trust Report – Cllr Roberts – Cllr Roberts said that the donations received during August had been outstanding, however, it was interesting to note that very little donation had been made in the Disabled donation box.
- (d) Cemetery Report – Cllr Thomas/Clerk – Hopefully work will start on the pathways within the next few weeks. A new headstone had been erected and paid for.
- (e) Flood Wardens Report – Cllr Puddick – A discussion took place about the closure of the flood gate on the miniature railway line opposite the hump just passed the Golf Club. Cllr Puddick said that some training needs to be given to the person nominated to close the gate. NRW say that they will close the gate should the need arise. However, someone in Fairbourne should also hold a key. Guidance was also sought as to when, exactly the gate should be closed.
- (f) Playpark Representative – Cllr Narraway. The Clerk thanked Cllr Narraway for all his work in erecting the new fence panels in the tennis courts. The Chairman also thanked Cllr Narraway. Cllr Narraway brought the Councillors up to date with regard to the repairs that he has made to the slide and shop and the rotating roundabout. The rubber matting has also been cleared of weeds.
- (g) Keeping Fairbourne Looking Smart – Cllr Narraway/Cllr Evans – No report.
- (h) Ditches and Waterways – All Councillors - No report.
- (i) Village Hall and Signs/Murals – Cllr Mrs Woolley. Cllr Mrs Woolley will commence work on the mural on the toilet as Cllr Narraway and Roger Duke had now painted the toilet walls.
- (j) Harbour Committee – No report.

1586: ANY OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

1587: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday October 2nd in Arthog Village Hall