

## ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**1023: The Chairman Opened the Meeting:** The Chairman, Cllr Eves opened the meeting at 7.10 and welcomed those attending. He was pleased to note that all had, to date, avoided any Covid 19 problems.

**1024: Present:** Cllr's Eves, Roberts, Woolley, Cllr (Mrs) Woolley, Cllr (Mrs) Salt, Cllr (Mrs) Darvill, C. Cllr Louise Hughes and the Clerk Angela Thomas

**1025: Apologies Received:** An apology was received from Cllr (Mrs) Stott

**1026: Councillors' Declaration of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

**1027: To Receive Any Special Announcements:** The Chairman asked for approval for the Clerks Wages to be increased to £3492.00, i.e., £251.00 per month commencing March 2021. Proposed by Cllr Eves seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Salt.

**1028: To Confirm Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020:** The minutes were approved by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Salt.

**1029: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.** There were no matters arising. The current Chairman thanked the Clerk for continuing to work all through the Covid 19. The Clerk thanked the Chair and the Councillors for the comments and said that at the end of the day she was, like everybody else, working for the good of the residents of Fairbourne.

**1030: Special Items Brought to Attention:**

- (a) **The Accounts for 2019-2020 were discussed.** The accounts had been approved by the GC Internal Auditor Bleddyn Rhys and had been signed off. They, plus other documentation was then sent to BDO after being signed by the Clerk/RFO 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The Councillors approved the accounts as being a true and accurate reflection of that financial year. Approved by Cllr Roberts and Seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Salt. The Chair Cllr Eves counter signed the Community and Town Councils in Wales Annual Return for the Year ended 31st March 2020. BDO will now be notified that the accounts have been approved by the ACC.
- (b) Election of Chairman for 2020-2021. The Vice Chairman Cllr Roberts stepped into the position of Chair. He duly thanked the departing Chair Cllr Stuart Eves for all the sterling work carried out during his tenure, which included staying in position until the September 2020 meeting due to Covid 19. Thanks, were also expressed by all Councillors present. Cllr Eves thanked all for their help during his time in office.
- (c) Election of Vice Chair: Cllr Eves nominated Cllr (Mrs) Salt for the position of Vice Chair, who accepted the nomination. Nomination approved by Cllr Woolley and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Woolley.
- (d) Election of Officers/Representatives: All Councillors present holding officer/representative roles agreed to stay in position. Cllr Woolley - Harbour Committee, Cllr Eves and Roberts - Golf Club Committee, Cllr Eves and Roberts - Fairbourne Amenities Trust. Confirmation from Cllr (Mrs) Neville – Play Park, Cllr Thomas – Cemetery and Cllr Haycock – Pigeraff, will be sought at the next meeting.
- (e) Councillors were asked to re-familiarise themselves with the following: Code of Conduct, Model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Duly carried out. Approved by Cllr Eves, seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Salt. Also discussed: The Local Resolution Controls for Community and Town Councils. The assets register was again checked and confirmed as accurate.

- (f) Councillors were asked to consider again the Risk Assessment, both internal and external controls to be considered. It was discussed. Approved by Cllr (Mrs Woolley) and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Darvill.
- (g) Councillors were asked to read and act where applicable on the ROSPA Play Park inspection. All aspects were discussed. Approved by Cllr Eves and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Salt.
- (h) Councillors were shown the renewed Certificate of Liability and Insurance Documents for the year 2020-2021. Verified by Cllr Eves and seconded by Cllr Roberts.
- (i) The Clerk confirmed that all employment matters relating to HMRC and Contract of Employment were up to date.
- (j) The Fairbourne Project Board was affiliated to the Arthog Community Council by a unanimous vote. Approved by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Eves.
- (k) A decision was made to apply for Road Closure and to order a wreath for Remembrance Day, assuming there are no changes in Covid Regulations.
- (l) The implication of Covid 19 to the Villages of Arthog, Friog and Fairbourne were discussed.

### **1031: Clerks Report and**

**1032: To deal with Any Correspondence:** The Clerk reported that she had already asked for a Road Closure form from GC and ordered a wreath for Remembrance Day as time was running out. It still had to be confirmed that the new Vicar would be available for the service always assuming Covid 19 rules had not been changed. The Springfield Hotel! This topic was discussed at length. The Clerk had been in touch with all departments at Gwynedd Council, Planning, Licensing for Alcohol, Public Protection, Food and Hygiene etc. Action would be taken where applicable but now GC were working under Covid rules, most officers working from home. The owner of the Springfield Hotel, Philip Percival had also been contacted, and he was aware of the many problems being encountered. The Police and the Ambulance Service had both been called to attend to matters at the Springfield Hotel. The Clerk reported that speed and traffic volume counters had been placed in the Village of Arthog and in fact the results had been received that day. A more detailed breakdown will be requested from Andrew Gregson GC. The Clerk had received an email from SNP reference Snowdonia Living Churchyards Project. The Clerk had made contact and was hoping for a meeting with Ann Williams to consider the Arthog Community Council Cemetery would or could be considered as a contender. A letter that the Cllr Eves, as Chairman, had written to the CEO of Gwynedd Council regarding the reinstatement of the Fairbourne beach ramp was circulated to those in attendance. The ACC are hoping for some positive reaction to this letter. All One Voice Wales, Welsh Government and BBC updates referencing Covid 19 in England and Wales had been forwarded by email to all Councillors between March and September. A notice of works to be carried out by the NRW involving road closure at the far end of Penrhyn Drive South had been posted in the Notice Boards and forwarded to Councillors. This work is investigative work hoping to resolve the seepage at Friog Corner Rock Armour Works. The remuneration for Arthog Community Councillors had been completed and returned for the 2019 – 2020 period. A summary of a meeting attended by the Clerk and Cllr Georgina Salt with Ann Griffith on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July referencing the movement of shingle from the North of the beach to South of the beach had been sent to all Councillors. A schematic of all the movement and the new profile of the beach was in the Clerks possession and available for all to read. The Clerk will ask for an on-site meeting with the NRW, Gareth Evens and the newly appointed Engineer responsible for Fairbourne. It will not be a full council meeting, but some Councillors expressed a wish to be involved. The Clerk will seek a convenient date for all. The Clerk had received a letter from the Fairbourne Amenities Trust asking is the ACC could kindly donate again. £1000.00 had been set aside in the Precept for help with the Fairbourne Disabled Toilet. This was approved by Cllr Eves and Seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Woolley. A renewal had been received from Came & Co for the Insurance. This was the third year of the price being held, renewal was £1656.35. An invoice had been received from Mr P Roberts for GC footpath grass cutting. An allowance in the precept of £1000.00 had been allocated. The Clerk had been contacted by BBC Wales, Weatherman Walking and asked to suggest someone from Fairbourne to accompany Derek Brockway on part of his walk. The Clerk asked Cllr Georgina Salt if she would be interested and luckily, she said yes.

**1033: To Deal with Planning Matters:** All planning applications from GC are sent by email and are dealt with on a weekly basis. There were no local planning matters to consider at this meeting.

**1034: Financial Statement and Report:** The Clerk gave a report on the current financial position.

Current Account:	£12,615.85
Reserve Account:	£ 745.87
Cemetery Account:	£ 3,280.00
Youth Account:	£ 7,356.00

Cheques issued for signature as follows: Came & Co Insurance, £1656.35, Fairbourne Amenities Trust £1000.00, Flower Box (Mike Scott) £21.48, Clerks Wages £1500.00, Stationery, ink and Infra-Red Thermometer £96.64, Mr P Roberts GC Paths Grass Cutting £1000.00.

During Lockdown several cheques had been issued: 19/05/2020 Grass Cutting Cemetery P Roberts £125.00, 18<sup>th</sup> May replacement HP Printer £209.99, 9<sup>th</sup> July Gwynedd Council £1.00 Ground Rent, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 ROSPA Play Park Inspection, 27<sup>th</sup> July Grass Cutting Cemetery £125 Mr P Roberts, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020 Genesis, Covid 19 Signs £300.35 and 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020 D J Griffiths Weed Kill Cemetery £50.00. Permission and approval had been sought for all expenditure and socially distanced cheque signing agreed under difficult conditions as the Clerk was shielding.

The Clerk had received notice that the second half of the Precept had been sent to the bank and this would reflect in the next months statement.

**1035: To Receive Councillors' Questions:** Cllr Woolley again asked what if any progress was expected to be made with the problems at the Springfield Hotel. It was again pointed out that everything was in the hands of GC who are working under Covid 19 rules now.

**1036: Representatives Report:** Cllr Roberts and Cllr Eves both reported on the Fairbourne Amenities Trust. The toilets had each received a payment of £10,000 under the Government Scheme and that this would go a long way to enabling the building of a much need disabled toilet addition. Estimate for the cost of building was £15,000. Thanks, were given to Cllr (Mrs) Woolley for completing the Toilet Mural which is a much-admired piece of Art. Cllr Eves said that he wholly against adding 20p slots for use of the toilet facilities. He would much rather that it remained on a voluntary basis. The Golf Club continued to a well-used facility in the Village and many positive reports were being received. Now that Lockdown is no longer an issue an appointment will be made with a Solicitor to finalise the formal Agreement between Fairbourne Golf Club Limited and the new Lessees, James Green and Leo Mantle. Rent had been paid for August and September was now due. The Cemetery had been weed killed as agreed in the March 2020 meeting and a bill had duly been received. Some restoration work will be undertaken in the Play Park when a suitable work person can be found. Cllr (Mrs) Hughes reported that despite Covid 19 her workload has easily doubled. She reported that she had attended the Fairbourne Project Board Meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, and that like other attendees was perturbed to discover that Gwynedd Council had formed an Internal Fairbourne Project Board that she had no knowledge of, and she was concerned that neither she nor a representative from the ACC had been invited to sit on that Board.

**1037: Date and Time of Next Meeting:** All Track and Trace Forms were duly signed and handed in. The next meeting is schedule for Wednesday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020, in the Arthog Village Hall providing Welsh Covid rules permit. Thanks, will be extended to the Fairbourne Village Hall for their care and attention to Covid Protection.