Cyngor Cymuned Spittal / Spittal Community Council

Clerk & Treasurer – Mrs Eirian Forrest

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**Minutes of the Community Council held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024**

**The meeting was held via Zoom.**

**Minutes No. 401**

**Present:** Community Councillors: W. Oriel. R. Elston, E Whitby, A Jones, Rev. D Rees, County Councillor S Yelland, Clerk & Treasurer: E Forrest

Member of the public – C Barnett

B Maizey, Dauson Environmental Group

H Dineen and J Price, Grasshopper Communications

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Nil
2. **Ben Maizey, J Price, and H Dineen - Withyhedge Landfill Site – Update & Community Benefit Fund:**

Following introductions, a presentation was given to members (a copy of the presentation will be circulated), content involved:

* About Dauson Environmental Group & RML
* How does a landfill work?
* Withyhedge Landfill Site – Current works and future plans
* Community engagement to date
* Next steps

**Points from the presentation:**

* RML are on track to completing works by 5 April 2024, RML have placed extra engineering works which is all connected and should be in line with regulatory requirements, however the number of complaints received over the past weekend has caused concern.
* NRW are visiting the site regularly.
* There will be site visits where the community can attend on 30th April & 1st May. Meeting with community councils to explore community benefit ideas and to introduce a community liaison group.
* Community benefit fund – budget set aside to offset and compensate for the suffering and a Liaison group will be set up.
* An update will be posted on website on 5th April.

**Response from members and C Barnett:**

* Problem has been ongoing for 8 months and is not acceptable.
* Haven’t been able to enjoy outdoors.
* Following hundreds of complaints to NRW no response received
* The previous weekend was the worst and had spread to the widest area to date and there is no confidence that the works will resolve the problem.
* Concerns over health – stress, headaches, itchy eyes, respiratory etc. how safe if this gas?
* The dumping of waste should have been stopped.
* Lack of updates from Grasshopper Group
* No trust in RML
* It will not be acceptable if the smell continues after 5th April – what will happen if it is not resolved? Answer to this question to follow.

B Maizey, J Price and H Dineen left the meeting at 20.33pm

A Jones thanked C Barnett for all that he has done with the campaign.

C Barnett left the meeting at 20.36pm

Cllr S Yelland said that the site is totally controlled by NRW, and for PCC to get involved, PCC would need to write to the environment minister. There are discussions being held in PCC about this matter.

1. **Read and sign minutes of the last meeting (No 400 05.03.24):**

The minutes were agreed and will be signed later as a true record by W Oriel (Chairperson).

1. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
2. Bus shelter – repairs to the roof and painting – E Forrest has asked L Doncaster and S Williams to quote for the work. No quotes received.
3. PCC Playground maintenance / Service Level Agreement – E Forrest has asked N McCarthy to order the part for the gate. E Forrest is being chased by PCC for the 2022/2023 SLA Invoice, and that the 2023/2024 invoice will be due soon.
4. Road sinking by Swallow Barn & Barn Court – response from R Jones, Welsh Water Dwr Cymru: ***Our inspector identified what looked like a previously repaired sinkhole, and this was confirmed by a resident living in one of the nearby properties as having been repaired recently. While in the area, the inspector used CCTV to inspect the sewer lines and no issues or defects were identified.***

Members are not happy with the response and asked E Forrest to respond asking for the sink hole to filled/repaired. A Jones will send a photo of the one by Barn Court.

1. Potholes on the road from Spittal Cross towards Spittal – No update.
2. Trees down between Longhedge and Penrhiw - Reported
3. Large stone loose at Triffleton Bridge - Reported
4. Sludge opposite Triffleton Bridge - Reported
5. Surface water on road from Corner Piece to Spittal – Reported.
6. Blocked drains from the village to Zion Hill Chapel – Reported.
7. Blocked drains from Spittal Mill up Mill Hill towards Spittal crossroads – Reported.
8. **Planning:**

Nil

1. **Finance:**

Accounts – End of financial year

Payments

Audit Wales 2020/21 - £306. Payment agreed.

1. **Appeals:**

Pembrokeshire Coast Charitable Trust & Outdoor Schools (PODS) – agreed to not donate at this time.

1. **Casual Vacancy**

C Barnett may be interested

1. **Audit 2023 – 2024 Internal Auditor**

E Forrest was told last year that B Williams would be unable to carry out another audit, therefore will need to find someone new to do the Internal Audit. W Oriel will ask someone she knows if he is willing to help.

1. **Community Council Website**

Notes from the Working Better Together Seminar on 27 March 2024 Lee McSparron (Head of ICT, Pembrokeshire County Council) provided feedback from the Task and Finish work looking at this issue, raised at the January WBT meeting. An example of a website created in Google Sites was discussed. There is an action in there for all Councils to consider their future website, and if they intend to use Google Sites, to contact Jonathan Evans by 31st May so that they can be included in a training programme in the following months. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

1. **Correspondence:**

* Paul Davies newsletter
* One Voice Wales – Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill
* One Voice Wales – March, April, May & June 2024 Training Dates
* Trecwn Green Energy Hub – development paused for 1 – 2 years
* PCNPA LDP – Supplementary Planning Guidance and Annual Monitoring Report.
* PCC Bus Service Changes
* Letterston Community Council – offer of support with regards to Withyhedge Landfill
* Stephen Crabb newsletter
* PAVS - Doing the Small Things Fund

1. **Any other business:**

Nil.

1. **Date of AGM and next meeting –** Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7pm via Zoom.

**Signed ………………………………………….….**

**Date………………………………………………….**