



Solva Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Solfach

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th February 2020 at
6 p.m. in the Community Hub (AFC)

Attended by:

Community Councillors Ifor Thomas (Chair), Vicky Barker, John Price,
Wendy Wright, Joe Griffin

Newsletter Editor: Peter Wilde
Clerk & RFO: Bruce Payne

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1. **Welcome and Introduction.** The Chair welcomed Lindsey and Rob Richards, Sue Denman, Mollie Roach and Tim Harvett to the meeting.
 2. **Apologies.** County Councillor Mark Carter.
 3. **Declarations of interest - Personal or Prejudicial.** None

Matters Arising

4. **Mount Farm Fresh Milk.** Lindsey set out the Mount's venture which would contribute to the "Green" agenda and support the Community Climate Change Emergency Action Plan. Currently their raw milk was collected daily and transported to North Wales for processing before being returned days later in plastic containers for sale in local shops. A round journey of many hundreds of miles. The Mount was now setting-up their own pasteurising dairy unit which would also deliver the milk to the Bay View Stores on the same day it was taken from the cows. This would be "fresh" milk available for the community as well as seeing a major carbon foot reduction in transport. A milk vending machine would be installed at the Bay View Stores. The milk would be pasteurised but not homogenized and dispensed into a glass milk bottle or another (non-plastic) container of choice. The potential for local reduction in the use of plastic milk containers would be significant. It was hoped the new venture would be operational before the end of March.
5. **Joint Working and Collaboration.** Mollie spoke about Solva Care and how it had become a community venture. This alongside other community projects such as Trecadwgan Farm, Solva's Community Land Trust, the developing Community Hub and the Memorial hall highlighted the importance of collaboration especially when applying for community grants. Mollie asked if SCC could form a sub committee (with all third sector organisations



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represented) to better ensure these groups work together on shared mutual interests which benefit the whole community, in particular the alignment of grant applications.

Sue continued, saying that all these groups were developing with their own identities and needs. All relied on volunteers many of which supported more than one group. Volunteers were limited in numbers and the risk was that over a short period of time one or more of these groups would become unsustainable. Everyone involved shares a common goal – to keep the village alive and thriving; everyone wanted to ensure individuals were healthy and well, fulfilling their potential and socially connected. Many of the groups were directly involved with environmental and other local economy initiatives which were huge for such a small community. If these were to become a reality, better coordination to avoid duplication was needed. We must share the bureaucracy that is associated with funding, communications and publicity and information technology. If all this could be brought together in would be enormously helpful; individual skills could also be shared across the groups.

The Chair supported the recommendations presented by Mollie and Sue. A joint Solva census/questionnaire could be prepared in partnership with Solva Care, the CLT and Community Hub and sent to every house to establish priorities etc. Census outcomes would inform a short and long term plan as well as provide evidence for future funding applications.

Mollie emphasised the importance of saying to the community “This is what we are proposing, what do you think?”

The Chair confirmed SCC would lead and organise an initial meeting with the main groups to scope a way forward for the proposed census. **Action – Clerk** to organise inaugural meeting before the end of March.

6. **Solva Logo.** Tim presented 5 different ideas. Members selected two for further development and these would be presented at the March meeting.

7. **Agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2020.** Agreed and signed.

a. All actions were reviewed.

8. **AFC/Community Hub.** The Chair and Vice Chair presented members with the Advantages and Disadvantages of Community Asset Transfer and Freehold purchase. Following an in-depth discussion members unanimously



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voted to proceed with the freehold purchase provided there were no restrictive covenants which could limit what the community could do with the building and land in 50 years.

Pending that caveat, the SCC solicitor was to be instructed to prepare the necessary purchase documents with PCC. **Action - Clerk.**

9. **Men's Shed.** Mollie reported that finding a site had proved difficult but the AFC/Community Hub site met all the required conditions. The Chair agreed the AFC and developing Community Hub could host the Men's Shed. A survey would also be carried out to confirm siting requirements for a storage/shipping container to be used as a workshop. Funding arrangements to be agreed with Solva Care once the cost of the storage/shipping container and associated work had been assessed. **Action - If for re survey etc. Clerk to check with Planning Authority re permissions.**

10. **Community Climate Change Emergency Action Plan.**

a. **Trees.** The Woodland Trust had awarded Solva 420 trees which would be delivered for planting in November 2020. Locations, planting and maintenance plans etc. would be prepared. **Action Vicky**

b. **Reusable Bottles.** Huge environmental problems were caused by single-use plastics and SCC wanted to create an opportunity in Solva to reduce the 35 million plastic bottles used every day in the UK. Following the Mount's presentation, members discussed how SCC could best support this "green" business initiative by encouraging local residents to cut down on their personal plastic footprints. Members suggested households in Solva could be given a free reusable glass bottle for milk. Initial cost to be borne by SCC. Mount Farm invited to reimburse costs to SCC over an agreed period of time. 657 households were registered in the Parish of Solva. Cost and distribution boundaries were to be agreed prior to any decision at the March meeting.

11. **Water sampling Solva Harbour.** PCC had made enquires asking if Solva wished to contribute towards the cost of water sampling in Solva Harbour. SCC members declined the invitation.

12. **Wales & VE Day 8th May 2020.** Joe confirmed Solva was now registered. Event details and progress would be presented monthly.



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13. **Local Community Requests/Issues/Complaints.**
 - a. **Dog Fouling.** The letter, as prepared by County Councillor Mark Carter, would be distributed in the March Newsletter. **Action Mark**
 - b. **Bro Dawel.** The request to create a new parking area close to the electricity substation was on-going (see Mark's written report).
 - c. **Lower Solva car park.** Local residents, businesses and third sector organisations had been encouraged to write to the Authority to raise concerns about the imminent installation of P&D and the extended hours.
 - d. **Fly Tipping.** Community Councillor Vicky Barker reported potential fly tipping on the Solva / Middle Mill road. It was building rubble, concrete, bits of bricks, broken paving slabs, old carpet etc. and had been dumped just inside the gate on private land close to the river's edge. Enquiries would be made to the owner to see if the items could be removed before any possible contamination to the river. **Action Vicky.**
14. **Clerk & RFO Report.**
 - a. **SCC Bank Balance at end of January 2020.** The balance at 31st January 2020 was £29,561.29. Income & Expenditure (actual) for January was presented and agreed by Councillors.
 - b. **Budget Review 2019/20.** Expenditure was reviewed against the agreed budget.
 - c. **Correspondence.** All correspondence had been distributed to members by email.
15. **Report form County Councillor.** Written report circulated by email.
16. **Chair Report.** NTR
17. **Public Open Forum.** NTR
18. **AOB.**



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- a. **Pump Track.** Community Councillor Ifor Thomas told members that a new village initiative had commenced to construct a Pump Track on the site of the old skate park. A grant application would be prepared and submitted by SCC. Further update at the March meeting. **Action Ifor.**
19. Date of next meeting.
- a. Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 6 p.m. Memorial Hall (meeting would rotate between the Community Hub and Memorial Hall).
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Compiled by:

Bruce Payne (Clerk) 12th February 2020

Signed by: Josh Phillips (Chair)