



Solva Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Solfach

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 6p.m. in Solva Community Clubhouse.

Attended by:

Community Councillor's Ifor Thomas (Chair), Richy Davies (vice chair), Alyssia Fiander-Houlden, Joe Griffin, Sam Ellison, Rob Richards.

County Councillor Mark Carter

Clerk & RFO: Bruce Payne

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1. **Welcome and Introduction.** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
 - a. Members of the public. None.
 2. **Moment of Silence.** Members observed a minute's silence for Solva residents recently lost.
 3. **Apologies.** Community Councillor's Bethany Hutson and Colin Reynolds.
 4. **Declarations of interest - Personal or Prejudicial.**
 - a. Community Councillor Alyssia Fiander-Houlden declared a personal interest with agenda item 7i (i) NP/22/0619/LBA (Capel Bach).
 5. **Agree the Minutes of the meetings held on 7th December 2022.** Agreed and signed.
 - a. All actions were reviewed.
 - b. **Publication of Minutes**¹. The electronic publication of documents extends to include making available key information as soon as reasonably practicable, and within seven working days of the community council meeting taking place and must include: the names of members who attended; apologies for absence; declarations of interest; any decisions taken and the outcome of any votes. This would not apply to any decisions taken in private, or where disclosure of the information would be contrary to any enactment. **Action Clerk**

¹ Summary of key provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for the Community and Town Council Sector.



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6. **Public representations on items of business to be discussed.** None.

7. **Items of Business.**

a. **Public toilets in lower Solva.** Mark clarified the position in respect of the toilets at Solva Harbour Car Park. Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority controls the running of the car park and collects the income. Pembrokeshire County Council runs the toilets sited there and pays for that service. Public toilets in Pembrokeshire are not a statutory service, PCC are not obliged to provide them but up to now have possibly the greatest number of public toilets in any Welsh County. Some toilets have an income stream by either having a barrier "pay on use" system as seen in Tenby or by receiving money from associated car park income. PCC have invited all Town and Community Councils that have a toilet block without an income stream to take over the funding of the running of that toilet block as part of suggested budget cuts. In the case of Solva, if it was a PCC car park, then the toilets would be funded by the car park charges, but it's PCNPA that collects the car park fees so Solva toilets have no income stream and hence could possibly be at risk of closure in the worst case future scenario. Negotiations have taken place and PCNPA have been invited to contribute to the 17 or so PCC toilets that are situated in a PCNPA car park but no agreement has been reached as yet. PCC advised Solva CC that for PCC to run the toilets on behalf of Solva CC, then the cost would be just over £12,000. This would mean Solva residents having a 33% increase in the SCC precept to provide a service for visitors to a PCNPA car park. It must be stressed that the PCC budget would not be finalised until early March 2023. It was extremely unlikely that any change to the provision of toilets in Solva would take place in the next financial year.

i. **Newsletter.** Details to be published in the February Newsletter. **Action Mark**

ii. **Survey.** The Chair thanked Bethany for her prompt and diligent action to establish an on-line survey to gauge thoughts of residents and wider members of the public. The survey would be suspended.

b. **PL cover - Raft Race, Inshore Regatta and Children's Regatta.** Zurich had confirmed the additional cost to incorporate with the SCC insurance was £224.00. This would only be used if needed and members agreed to include the cost in the 23/23 Precept.



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c. **Solva Hill traffic and risk to pedestrians.** Concerns had been raised by a resident of St Davids travelling to work through Solva in the hours of darkness who had encountered walkers on the main road in dark clothing. Only seeing them at the last minute, the person had to swerve to avoid hitting them, despite travelling at a low speed. The worst stretch was from the entrance of the Harbour to the turn off for the quay. After the closure of the Royal George, it would seem more people were walking down the road to pubs in Lower Solva. Residents were urged to consider buying a Hi Vis vest when walking on the road at night and walk facing the traffic. The message would be published on social media. **Action Mark**

d. **IRP Determination 4 (2023/24) Motion:** Set payment for consumables. Proposed by Community Councillor Joe Griffin, seconded by Community Councillor: That SCC pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role. (This was in addition to £156 a year towards the extra household expenses of working from home.) All members present agreed the motion. **Action Clerk**

e. **Gamlin Play Park Motions.**

i. **Motion 1:** Proposed by Community Councillor Alyssia Fiander-Houlden, seconded by Community Councillor Ifor Thomas that Adventure Playground Wales were awarded the contract for the Gamlin Play Park, Lower Solva. All members present agreed the motion.

ii. **Motion 2:** New play items and Enhancing Pembrokeshire application. Proposed by Community Councillor Richie Davies, seconded by Community Councillor Sam Ellison that SCC submit an Enhancing Pembrokeshire application to help purchase the following items:

- Heras fencing (duration of works)
- Climbing frame 137075
- 40m² of safety grass mats
- Bay swing frame with 1 x basket seat and 2 flat seat swings
- 42m² of safety grass mats
- Low adventure track
- 36m² of safety grass mats
- Post installation inspection



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The Enhancing Pembrokeshire application will request 80% of the funding (£21,328.000). SCC to provide 20% match funding (£5,332.00). Total project cost £26,660.00 (excluding VAT).

All members present agreed the motion. **Action Community Councillor Alyssia Fiander-Houlden and Clerk**

f. **Solva Community By-Election Recharge (4th August 2022).** Motion: Proposed by Community Councillor Joe Griffin, seconded by Community Councillor Alyssia Fiander-Houlden that SCC settle the PCC invoice of £5,097.24 for the by-election on 4th August 2022. £2,486.19 to be paid from the SCC Community Elections fund, the balance of £2,611.05 to be paid from the SCC Reserve. All members present agreed the motion. **Action Clerk**

g. **23/24 Budget & Precept.** The deadline for the PCC Precept submission was 13th January 2023. SCC members had approved the 23/24 Budget and Precept by email circulated on 3rd January 2023. PCC were formally notified on 6th January 2023 that the SCC Precept for 23/24 was £36,500.00.

h. **Recruitment of Solva Newsletter Editor.**

i. **Job Description.** Members agreed the Job Description. An amendment would be included about the requirement to increase circulation and revenue. **Action Clerk**

ii. **Interview Date.** Friday 10th February 2023 at 10:30a.m. in the Clubhouse (First interview at 11a.m.)

iii. **Interview Panel.**

- Community Councillor Ifor Thomas (Chair)
- Community Councillor Richie Davies
- Community Councillor Sam Ellison

i. **Planning. Applications received:**

i. **Application No:** NP/22/0619/LBA

Proposal: The conversion of a chapel into 2 bed dwelling house with multi-level living space at first floor level and a mezzanine storage area.

Location: Capel Bach, Chapel Lane, Solva, SA62 6TH
(comments to PCNPA by 26 Jan 23)



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SCC members wished to comment on the application. These would be submitted via the PCNPA Planning Portal. **Action Clerk**

8. **Reports.** Lead members reported on:

a. **Clerk & RFO Report.**

i. **SCC Bank Balance at end of December.** The balance on 31st December 2022 was £52,312.71. Income & Expenditure (actual) for December was presented and reviewed.

RING FENCED FUNDS	
IRP Determination 44 Payments to Members	£100.00
Play Park (match funding)	£5,332.00
Skate Park	£45.00
SCC Reserve	£4,318.43
Solva Fireworks Display	£3,021.07
Community Elections	£2,486.19
Parc Y Capel	£6,885.18
Clubhouse Wheelchair ramp, safety rails & tarmac	£7,900.00
Upper Solva Youth Project	£3,531.00
Solva Christmas Fayre	£975.50
Warm Welcome Community Spaces	£3,418.56
Total	£38,012.93
Free cash	£14,299.78

TOTAL £52,312.71

ii. **Budget Review.** Expenditure was reviewed against the agreed budget.

iii. **Correspondence.** All correspondence had been circulated to members via email.

b. Solva Surgery. Ifor

c. Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust. Ifor



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- d. Warm Rooms scheme. Ifor
- e. Skate Park. Sam
- f. Upper Solva Youth Project. Ifor & Alyssia
- g. County Councillor. Mark

10. **AOB.**

a. **Overtaking on brow of hill** (leaving Solva to Haverfordwest). Rob highlighted the dangerous and continuing practice of cars overtaking tractors on the hill out of Solva. Could PCC urgently introduce signage before a fatal accident occurs. **Action Mark** (Mark emailed the relevant PCC officer on 21st Jan 23).

b. **Whitchurch Airfield – Dog Fouling**. Rob again raised this issue. SCC had written the following to PCNPA (who were responsible for the public rights of way):

Solva Community Council (SCC) seeks your help to address complaints of widespread dog fouling on footpaths at the airfield close to Whitchurch. The problem is prevalent and your intervention would be much appreciated.

We would be grateful to receive any plans to increase the relevant signage reminding dog walkers of the penalty if they fail to pick after their dogs. We can say it's the minority at fault, but the quantity suggests it's the majority!

We have also received reports of fly tipping on and around the airfield and these details will be passed to the Nation Trust to investigate.

c. **Village Upkeep**. Richie raised the following issues which needed addressing: (**Action Mark**)

- i. **Road Sweeping**. Very poor and in most cases it doesn't happen.
- ii. **Resurfacing of street roads**. Very poor.



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- iii. **Cutting of Hedges.** Rear of Bro Dawel, very poor.
- iv. **Hedge Removal.** By Community allotment into CLT field.
- v. **Whitchurch turning.** Very poor signage (from main road).
- vi. **Overall Traffic calming measures.** Very poor or non at all on the main road.
- vii. **Flower Beds.** Very poor state throughout village.
- viii. **Street Signage.** Very poor state throughout village – can these be renewed.
- ix. **Solva Signage.** Very poor at both ends of the village.

<https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/picture-perfect-solva-wonders-what-25957952>

12. **Date of next meeting.**

- a. Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 6p.m. in the Clubhouse.
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Compiled by:

Bruce Payne (Clerk) 24th January 2023

Signed by: (Chair) Community Councillor Ifor Thomas