

Sully and Lavernock Community Council
Cyngor Cymuned Abersili a Larnog

Meeting of the Council

Tuesday 14 July 2020, 6.30pm

In accordance with the Local Authority (Coronavirus)(Meetings)(Wales) Regulations 2020, the Meeting took place by way of the remote participation (Zoom) of members of the Council

Minutes

Present

- Phil Baguley (PB)
- Ian Barlow (IB) – telephone only
- Martyn James (MJ)
- Christopher Morgan (CM)
- Lino Scaglioni (LS)
- David Sylvester (DS) – telephone only
- Chris Tatt (CT)
- Rod Thomas (RT)

Apologies

- None

Public attendance

- Approximately 14 persons

PART ONE

Declarations of interest

- David Sylvester - Sully Centurions Cricket

Vale of Glamorgan report from Cllr Bob Penrose

- No update this month

SLCC progress and road map

- *Christopher Morgan* – I was nominated as the Chair on Tues 2nd June, this meeting was held by telephone conference, it was immediately adjourned and the following week I held the second part of the AGM meeting via zoom. It was my opinion that Zoom was a more suitable medium for the meeting. Since then we have held a public meeting, a couple of EGMs' and 3 working group meetings. Working Groups are committees of SLCC who are delegated specific issues to consider. We held meetings for the Planning, Finance and Playing Fields groups. I am now a month into my role, I am new and have been learning as I go along. I am a new Councillor and an even newer Chair. It has been interesting; I have been trying to get my head around all of the issues facing us. Some may know that I was reported to the Vale of Glamorgan for a breach of electoral law following a post that I put on Facebook. Some of you may have seen the post regarding co-option versus election last month. Quite rightly I was reported to the Vale and they then sent a file to the South Wales Police about me, because of my breach of electoral law. They have now closed this matter and the police have decided there will be no further action taken against me. Let me be clear to the councillors who reported me, I thank you for doing that, it is right that I am held to account and made to abide by the rules which I respect. As we all now know the election

has been called, I fully respect this and acknowledge it to be the right of Sully and Lavernock voters.

- Some successes this month:
 - The installation of the Butterfly Garden by Sully Village Group, we want to be a community enabler, supporting groups like SVG.
 - A grant of £1200 has been given to OFC (Our Future Community) who are developing a place plan for Sully and Lavernock, please look out for the leaflets sent out to everybody and complete their survey. Sully Library, Sully Church and Sully Pharmacy offer a paper copy for those who aren't online.
 - We are trying to improve our working groups by obtaining skilled residents to work with us. *We are engaging with the public, for example on Sully Village Hub many people asked for litter signs, this is now on our radar.
 - We are opening back up after the COVID restrictions. One lady wants to open outdoor exercise classes and another person want to sell coffee on our land. We have lots of things going on and they are all being considered.
 - We have identified a local expert for our Personnel working group who can help us to employ a new Clerk and manage them more effectively. The past history of problems with SLCC staff has to now change.
- That completes my update on progress.

Democratic session (30 minutes)

- *Mike Bolas* – Regarding co-opting members of the public to the working groups, are you still looking? Do you have names of the new members?
 - *Christopher* - we had some applications.
 - Planning – Richard Thomas from Porlock Drive, connected with the Old School and Sully Library and has 50yrs planning experience. He spoke to the working group a few weeks ago and taught me quite a lot. He is happy to join long-term to help us to consider/scrutinise planning applications
 - Personnel - Catherine Pearce, from Porlock, 26yrs experience in HR and Personnel, was recently working with Cardiff MET. She is happy to join.
 - Both now need to be appointed officially via a vote through the council.
- No more questions from the public

Approval of the minutes of previous meetings

- Business Meeting March 2020 and AGM part one June 2020 - proposed as a true record by David Sylvester, seconded by Chris Tatt.
- All other councillors voted in favour. CARRIED
- 2 EGM meetings and AGM part 2 – Proposed as a true record by Martyn James, seconded by Chris Tatt. All councillors voted in favour (David Sylvester abstained from the EGM he was not present at). CARRIED.

Appointment of lay members on Planning and Playing Fields Working Groups

- Richard Thomas to join the Planning Working Group – Proposed by Phil Baguley, seconded by David Sylvester – all councillors in favour. CARRIED
- Catherine Pearce to Personnel Group – Proposed by Martyn James seconded by Phil Baguley, all councillors in favour apart from David Sylvester who abstained as he doesn't know her. CARRIED.
- Both are now appointed to the working groups.

Council's representative to OFC

- Rod Thomas is the current representative to OFC, Christopher Morgan proposed that Rod continues in this role, Rod accepted, seconded by David Sylvester, all councillors in favour. CARRIED
- NOTE: Go online to Our Future Community Wales – to fill in the survey that SLCC has financially supported.

Correspondence received

- Nothing received.
- Sully Village Hub members asked for litter posters to go up in specific locations - this is supported and being discussed. Please write to SLCC via email (sullycouncil@btconnect.com) if you have anything you would like to ask. Or contact via Sully Hub

Matters arising from the Finance Working Group

Authorise creditors

- *Chris Tatt* – cheques need to be authorised.
- *David Sylvester*– query, money for Butterfly Garden £190 (this was a mistake, all costs for the Butterfly Garden have been covered by Sully Village Group).
- Have invoices for OFC been made out to SLCC so we can claim back VAT?
- *Christopher* – yes
- *David* - We pay more to Jewsons than we do to Johnstons who are manufacturers and charge SLCC cost price. We should buy from them and not from Jewsons.
- *Christopher* – this is noted. Phil Baguley will arrange.
- *Phil Baguley* – David, the £30 pitch fees from David Usher, have they been given to Christopher Tatt?
- *David* - I have it in my house, I tackled him in the street to get the money off him. I will drop it to Chris soon.
- *Chris* – 15th of July the salaries are paid, I have signed the cheques but need Ian’s signature, can this be collected tonight?
- *Ian Barlow* – Yes
- All payments approved by all councillors – CARRIED
- £43,000 in bank currently. Bills to be paid this month though.
- *David* – Have we chased the Vale for the £6000 playing field grant? We need somebody to do this if we haven’t. I suggest speaking to David Nevitt. Have we claimed back VAT?
- *Christopher* – please send me the contact details for David Nevitt and I will contact him. Who normally claims the VAT?
- *David* – the Clerk
- *Chris* – a lady helped with VAT back in March 2019, can she help now?
- *Ian* – the lady who helped last year is retired, I don’t think she will be happy to do this again but I will ask.

Matters arising from the Playing Fields Working Group

Burnham Avenue gate

- Should a gate be installed to prevent anti-social behaviour in the car park?
- *David* – if put across the path it is a danger as nobody will have the key, people will run down straight into it and could die.
- *Ian* – this is public highway, not SLCC land, we would need authority and I think we wouldn’t get it.
- *Lino* – the problem is who would open and close it
- *Phil* – Same as playgroup, opened in morning and evening

- *Ian* – what about weekends?
- *Phil* – get a keypad with a number
- *Christopher* – are there other options to prevent anti-social behaviour.
- *David* - I live near and nobody seems to go there
- *Phil* – I am there later at night and see lots going on
- *Chris* – lots of activity there, I saw it at 3am recently. I suggest we talk with Vale Highways and get their advice on how to deal with the situation
- *Rod* – I got a quote for two gates with keypads, one for the sailing club and one for Burnham Ave. It was due to go by the end of the School fence. Provisions were made for wheelchairs to pass. Full costs - £2600 for 2 gates with keypads. CCTV points up the driveway, it can identify number plates like a police camera, but we need to sign up to a system to use it. We did put a flood light there that lights this car park.
- *David* – the light is a bad idea; it shows people there is somewhere to go
- *Rod* – light has been there for 3yrs and does help a bit. Seashore Grill area is having trouble with anti-social behaviour, over 40 cars there the other night, they are inundated with people
- *David* – what time should the gate close?
- *Rod* – from 6pm. Pull it closed and it locks. Keypad then reopens it
- *David* – what about scouts/football, they go after 6pm?
- *Rod* – they can still park outside the school.
- *Lino* – There are locks that operate on dusk/dawn system, they come on when it is light, go off when dark.
- *David* – that doesn't work in the summer when dusk is late
- *Rod* – that would be very expensive
- *Christopher* – Good points being made. Looks like we are in favour of a gate, Rod's quote seems the popular option.
- *Rod* – gate is galvanised, will do the job. Sailing Club gate needs to be changed too. I think we should use PRINTMET and buy the 2 gates for £2600. If you want more quotes that is fine.
- *Chris* - I think we should get advice from Vale Highways first.
- *David* – in Wenvoe, when gypsies when on fields they had strong uprights coming out of ground that worked. They go up and down.
- *Rod* – we had them in the Sailing Club, and they were smashed down in first week. The sailing club needs to drive through regularly, so it needs to be strong.
- *Lino* – Ask the Vale for advice, deal through them.
- *Christopher* – can the public give advice
- *Jean Bispham* – have the police been called?
- *Phil* – yes when the bin was set on fire, but they don't have the resources, nothing can be done.
- *Lino* – young children having fun is fine, the drug users are the problem, I overlook them and in early hours see them driving up and down.
- *Bob Penrose* – I can confirm Vale Highways covers up to the Pavilion building. It could be difficult to get a barrier there on Vale land. Where the tarmac finishes and where the school railings finish is the end of the adopted highway – put barrier there and it is on SLCC land.
- *Rod* – that is where I worked it out
- *Vicki Judd* – I support a gate, but the area before the gate could still be used by the drug users, nearer to the school?
- *Bob* – similar problem in Jubilee Car park, suspected drug use there.
- *David* – It is wise to speak to Vale.

- *Christopher* – if people are stopped from going down there would cars stop on Smithies Ave and walk down and cause trouble instead?
- *Rod* – lane running to pavilion building is lit by streetlights.
- *Bob* – this has been taken up with the Police, in Sully Sports, Pavilion, Causeway and Jubilee – problems in all areas. Best help they can offer is one patrol, but this is not good enough and I have told the police.
- *Phil* – dealers are active in Sully
- *Bob* – why does David want Vale advice if it can go on SLCC land?
- *David* – can they advise, let us know it is the right thing?
- *Phil* – is this a delay tactic David?
- *David* – no, I want expert advice from the Vale.
- *Phil* – Bob Penrose is here, and he is an expert. Can we just decide if we are having the gate or not, instead of delaying?
- *David* – can't we wait a couple of weeks? What does it matter?
- *Christopher* – I will arrange to meet up with Bob, look again at quotes from PRINTMET. I don't want to go ahead and solve one problem and create another. It does however need to be managed

Beach clean stations

- Can be installed in the next few weeks – spot identified for the station, near litter bin in the field behind Sully School. The plan is for Richard Paton to find the best site close to this to install it. Proposed by Phil Baguley, seconded by Lino Scaglioni. Approved by all councillors. CARRIED
- 7.10pm – Martyn James had to leave meeting

Butterfly garden:

- New Water Butt to be installed next to garden.
- *David* - children could fall in
- *Hannah Bevan-Mohaffel* - it will have a lid; we won't install one without a lid
- *Lino* - butt won't be sufficient to water it, there is a hosepipe set up
- *Hannah* - the butt is to enable groups such as the playgroup to water the garden when/if they wish so they can be part of the project. The main watering for the garden will still be provided via hosepipe
- Proposed by Phil Baguley, seconded by Lino Scaglioni, all councillors in favour CARRIED

Matters arising from the Personnel Working Group

- *Christopher* - Thank you to Richard the groundsman for all of his support with the Butterfly Garden. Thanks to SLCC cleaner Michaela for helping with painting. Thanks also to Michaela's husband James who advised us on re-opening under COVID19 restrictions.
- Our top objective is to get a clerk in post.

Matters arising from the Planning Working Group

Planning applications received:

- *Christopher* - Twice a month SLCC meets to consider applications, 21 days are given to respond to them. 5 were looked at this month, 4 objections were made. We have another meeting this month and 1 more application to consider. Richard Thomas has been very helpful.
- *David* – can you let us know what the objections were?
- *Christopher* – they will be minuted

Taylor Wimpey:

- *Christopher* - SLRA member Jeff said that SLCC should be more proactive working with Taylor Wimpey. I contacted Jeff and the Taylor Wimpey Site manager Ross, and a 3-way conversation is arranged for Monday. Jeff is knowledgeable regarding construction sites, so I am grateful for this. I would like to set up a weekly conversation with Taylor Wimpey for updates on their work and discuss issues arising regarding traffic, trees, pavements, accidents etc. Please email the SLCC if you have anything you would like us to raise.
- *Vicki Judd* – 106 monies – are OFC working towards this? Has SLCC come together to decide what should be requested?
- *Christopher* – not that I am aware of. OFC are working on a Place Plan to see what Sully wants. Sully Village Hub has also ran surveys on this. Documents will be produced by OFC to advise SLCC on what the community wants, and this can be adopted by SLCC
- *Vicki* – 106 monies are released in stages, are there cut off times and will it go back into the Vale Pot and not be used for Sully and Lavernock?
- *Christopher* – I believe the monies are not available this year but need clarification on this.
- *Chris* – 106 monies are not available until a few houses are sold
- *David* – Can you ask Taylor Wimpey to confirm this on Monday?
- *Christopher* – it is a valid question, we can ask.
- *Chris* – the Vale will compete for the money. Money coming forward is a long way off.
- *Vicki* - Applications are going in already from other areas, such as the school. We need to be proactive.
- *Rod* – school monies are separate. They are already allocated. Community money is separate. Place plan can be used to add things in, saying what we need/want. The more people that fill in the Place Plan Survey the better. It can be used to support 106 applications.
- *Lino* – Money will take years to come
- *Rod* – it will be soon
- *Lino* – it is determined by houses sold, nothing is sold yet
- *Louise Morgan* – Clarification point – OFC place plan is not just about 106 monies. It is about achieving planning guidance for working with the Vale, enabling community needs to be taken into account long term for future grants as well as 106 monies. If the place plan isn't ready when 106 monies are available the SLCC needs to be prepared to put in an application.
- *Rod* – Sully Village Hub put up a survey on what people want the money spent on. SLRA could do this too. We mustn't lose the chance to use this money.
- *Hannah* – for three years the overwhelming requests from hub members for funding have been for outdoor facilities like parks/gyms/skate parks.

Reports from external bodies:

- *Kay Francis Bowring*
- *Evenlode governors meeting* - thanks were given to the staff for running the hub for local children. The headteacher is retiring, they are in the process of recruiting his replacement. Safety concerns were raised for reopening in September, but the measures in place are as good as they can be. Transition for Year 6 to Stanwell was a priority, videos were used to support this. Investments are needed for more tablets. The main discussion was about a safe return in September.
- *Sully governors meeting* – all members were present and participated via video which was great. At the time they were awaiting guidance for September. Transition of Year 6 to Stanwell was a priority and videos were used to support this. 80% of pupils were expected back in July for more of a wellbeing contact opportunity. Laptops lent out to Barry

residents from Sully will be replaced by the Vale but won't be in time for the re-start in September.

- Overall both schools have dealt well with a difficult situation.
- *Chris* – Is 7th September the re-start date in Sully?
- *Kay* – yes this is correct, all children to restart on the 7th, but it is a fluid situation.
- At this point David Sylvester disappeared from the meeting

Chairman's Actions and Matters Arising:

- *Christopher* - First Tues September is the next SLCC meeting. No August meeting. 6.30pm start time.
- Do we have any Lavernock members dialling in? I can see Mike Garland. No others. We need to find a way to reach out to Lavernock more.
- *Rod* – the issue of a trailer wasn't discussed?
- *Christopher* – Yes we need to decide whether or not to spend a few hundred pounds on a trailer to connect to the SLCC tractor so the groundsman can use it to empty the dog poo bins more efficiently. The time saved would pay back the cost. Some councillors via email said it could be an issue getting a trailer on the path, that it could create ruts and therefore a danger and it might not fit through gates.
- *Rod* – during the winter this will cause a problem, local residents won't be happy. I have timed Richard doing the bins. It takes Richard less than 10 minutes to empty the bins by my house. Whatever he is doing the rest of the day – I don't know. I can't see what he is supposed to be doing for the 2.5hrs emptying those dog bins. Plus, he only does it Monday and Friday, he doesn't come up on Wednesday. Residents would not want the trailer.
- *Lino* – it would be quicker, collecting the dog waste using a wheelbarrow is outdated, takes a long time, can't be done in one go, he has to fill up, return and unload. With a trailer he can do it in one go and save 50% of his time. Currently takes 2hrs. With a trailer it would take 1hr. From a health and safety point of view one visit to the skip seems better. Only one resident has complained about this plan. We need to ask all of the residents.
- *Rod* – none of them know about it. Send a letter out to all the residents. It is their land. The gate needs to be removed outside my house; it hasn't been taken away. You'll be driving over my land with your tractor and trailer as it won't go through the gate, the gate is still there, it is off, leaning against the wall. The tractor goes up there to cut grass, but it hasn't been done, it needs doing. That part of the sports field should be cut and isn't being cut - it belongs to SLCC and he's not going there to do it.
- *Chris* – Regarding Richard emptying the bins on Wednesdays, I just checked Richard's worksheets, he has been doing Wednesdays, apart from one day due to poor weather conditions.
- *Rod* – I tell you what then, I will check them tomorrow and I'll take a picture to prove to you that he won't be up there - you'll have to ask him to do it then, won't you? He hasn't been doing them midweek. I can assure you that. There's six bins up there and they have not been emptied in the middle of the week, can I just point out we used to have a 75yr old man emptying those dog bins before Richard, David Sylvester's brother, so how come all of a sudden we need to go and spend - you seem to forget about the cost of fuel to drive the machine up there, the wear and tear of the tractor, just so 'that boy' can drive up there and empty the dog bins. I think you've got it all wrong somewhere, but who am I? I know nothing.
- *Lino* - so the tractor should go up there to cut our grass, but not to empty our bins.
- *Rod* – Well it is our responsibility, we are supposed to be doing it and it is every few weeks, not 3 times a week
- *Lino* – unlike you I'm not obsessed with bins, I don't study the dog bins, why are you monitoring the movements of the groundsman?

- *Rod* - it has only been cut three times this year. You can't answer me can you?
- *Lino* - I don't study dog bins
- *Rod* - You don't have a dog, I do
- *Lino* - Monitoring the groundsman's movements day by day, I don't see the point in that
- *Rod* – 760 people walked past my house in just one day. Bins were filled with rubbish. they aren't being emptied. Argue as much as you like. Why don't you go with him? Walk with him. Then tell me if he needs a tractor and a trailer. Go and do your job like I go and look.
- *Chris* – are you confirming it takes 10 minutes? Thank you very much
- *Rod* - it takes him 10 minutes to do the 6 bins above my house
- *Christopher* – we will leave this and do more research on the need for a trailer.
- *Christopher* - Part one of this meeting will now close. First Tuesday of September we will be back. If you have any suggestions about the format of this meeting, suggestions about our weekly chats with Taylor Wimpey or any suggestions on any issues please contact us. It is a team effort; we are in this together.