



**Pendine Community Council Meeting
Wednesday 17th April 2024
The Coffee Shop**

1	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions :</p> <p>Present: Andrew Shaw (Chair); Steve Rundle; Sara Bruce-Goodwin; Emily Bevan-Jones(Clerk).</p> <p>Apologies: Hayley Thomas.</p> <p>Approx 40 members of the public were present.</p>	
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<p>2</p>	<p>Implementation of ANPR system at beach entrance and right of way:</p> <p>The Chair started by introducing the Councillors, the new Beach Warden Andrew Couzens and Assistant Warden Rylan Allcock to the over 40 villagers attending.</p> <p>The Chair started by giving a summary of how the Council would like to conduct the meeting and advised the attendees there would be an opportunity for them to ask any questions arising from any concerns they may have at the end of the summary. It was respectfully requested that attendees raise their hand if they had a question and they would be invited to speak.</p> <p>The Chair began by setting the scene and explained the Council wish to share the facts they have at present. The Council initially conducted a letter drop to ensure residents were notified that Carmarthenshire County Council intends to implement the ANPR barriers installed on the entrance to the car park within the next two weeks. No specific date has been stipulated for the barriers to become operational but we are aware that the barriers are commissioned and ready for use.</p> <p>The Chair outlined the full background including early exploratory discussions of a Joint venture Carmarthenshire County Council with previous band current councillors which were not ultimately progressed. Various scenarios were suggested for the purchase of the Slipway from the MOD, one of which was a 80:20 split to CCC & PCC meaning CCC would have the majority share. These scenarios were discussed in previous community council meetings and with residents in January 2023. It was at this meeting that residents requested PCC to progress purchasing 100% of the slipway ,Thanks to a beneficiary, it was made possible for PCC to purchase 100% of the Slipway. PCC purchased the Slipway for £130,000 and the sale was completed on 10th November 2023.</p> <p>During meetings May /June 2023 between PCC and CCC, CCC required 10% of all income generated from PCC's car park/beach/franchisees/events to enable access across the through-road in the slipway. On completion of purchase our solicitors informed us that a 1971 conveyance (and later 1982 conveyance) granted the owners of the slipway to a free and unrestricted Right of Way. This right was therefore transferred to Pendine Community Council and alleviated the requirement to pay for access. This information was shared with CCC in a meeting on 17th November 2023. CCC requested documentation as evidence that this was indeed the case. This documentary evidence was shared with CCC. In January 2024, PCC instructed their solicitor to send CCC a legal letter stipulating that the ANPR barriers would not be able to be made operational due to the existence of the free Right of Way. We have recently received a response from CCC's legal team advising us they recognise we have a Right of Way but would be enacting the barriers towards the end of April/ beginning of May 2024. They have advised that PCC should share the vehicle registration numbers with them to allow access through the barriers for a certain number of named vehicles. This suggestion is restrictive and gives way to several implications for PCC and the wider community - access/exit from the community carpark and beach and income generation. Namely, this would prevent access to anyone wishing to use the provision of Beach parking, or the top car park as they would have to additionally pay at CCC's parking meters to exit. PCC maintaining control of their income allows us to keep the Precept levels at a low level during the current cost of living crisis and the ability to re-</p>	<p>Chair/SBG</p>
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invest revenue back into the community. This will be detrimental to Local Businesses as it is a real concern that visitors would bypass the village altogether.

PCC felt it was imperative to communicate this information with the village to raise awareness. There had been no consultation by CCC concerning the operation of the ANPR barrier with the wider community. The community as a whole has indicated that they object to the implementation of the barriers. PCC wants to do right by the community and has instructed a Litigation Lawyer to act on our behalf in this matter. Our legal representative has indicated that they believe what CCC is proposing is causing unlawful interference with our right of way. We are currently awaiting a draft response to send to CCC by the end of the week. We have checked and informed our insurers and our policy includes legal cover up to £100,000.00. Additionally, we have shared our concerns with our local MP Simon Hart who is ready to support us. We have notified the MOD who still maintain a Right of Way. PCC has considered a Plan B to prevent loss of income over the upcoming period in the event the barriers become operational.

The Chair advised the room that we had received very last-minute correspondence an hour before the meeting from CCC with a Q&A document attached answering frequently asked questions about ANPR. It is a major concern of the mass confusion the operation of this system will cause to all and how this could impact emergency services/ and all who require access to the beach via the Slipway.

The Chair invited questions from attendees.

Q: How confident are you with your legal advice?

A: Our current standpoint is that we have been advised that the proposals Carmarthenshire County Council have, have been considered to be an unlawful interference with our right of way. We are currently seeking legal advice and cannot answer this question in full until we consult further with our legal advisor. Legal advice supports our position, but that is not to say we could still have a fight ahead of us.

Q: The next speaker thanked PCC for their quick reaction to dealing with the matter at hand. They shared they were supportive of the legal route. It was suggested that there were enough people with concerns to put pressure on CCC, especially due to the fact this is happening before upcoming elections. Has Jane Tremlett been contacted to express concerns?

A: We believe we need to leave current matters running for a week. The Chair indicated he would contact Jane Tremlett to raise our concerns. The Council agreed they did not oppose any residents wishing to write to JT to express their concerns.

Q: Does Pendine Community Council have it in black and white that they have a Right of Way?

A: Yes, we have a conveyance document signed between the Secretary of State and CCC dated 1982 which refers to the original 1971 conveyance.

Q: Can CCC enact the barriers whilst a legal case is ongoing?

A: They could enact the barriers, however, we hope they do not wile the legal process is in play. Potentially, we would have to consider claiming damages for loss of income if they did enact the barriers whilst the legal case is ongoing. We hope that the upcoming legal letter will prevent the barriers from becoming operational until a resolution is reached. Additionally, the conveyance signed between the Secretary of State and CCC acts as documentary evidence of the free Right of Way - for any purpose. The information in the conveyance is very clear and the right has been passed over to PCC during the completion of the sale of the Slipway.

Q: Can we contact the media?

A: There are no restrictions if you decide to contact the media.

Q: Is there anyone above Jane Tremlett whom we can write to?

A: We are currently discussing our concerns with local MP Simon Hart who has advised he will be contacting someone senior in CCC. We are awaiting our legal correspondence to be sent to CCC and then inform Simon Hart of any further developments. We would certainly request further assistance if required.

Q: What about if emergency services require access for a medical emergency?

A: Emergency services could get through, but not back out without assistance. Emergency services have access to a Slipway barrier key when required to prevent delays getting to any casualties. The Q&A shared by CCC suggested that their staff will manage exit for emergency services when required. The concern here is that an emergency is generally defined as acting quickly to prevent/mitigate - risk/harm, it could be the difference between life and death if any potential delays are imposed.

Q: If the ANPR is enacted, won't this cause confusion about where to pay?

A: CCC's initial proposal was to take all income for parking via their pay points. For the PCC car park, the intention was the CCC pay point located by Lotus would be where people pay for their parking. This will cause confusion, as if you were to pay to Park in PCC's car park, you would then have to pay at CCC's pay points to gain an exit through the barriers. Essentially people would have to pay twice.

Attendee Comment: CCC feels that we will just let this happen with no option other than to back down.

Attendee comment: If anyone contacts Jane Tremlett, they should paint the picture that it will be us as taxpayers fronting the bill for this. We are opposed to this and not in support of the barriers.

The Chair thanked all for their contributions and attendance. The Council will look to hold an extraordinary meeting to keep residents and concerned businesses up to date with further developments. The Chair expressed we need community support in this matter.

The tenants at the Parry Thomas Centre have already received the Q&A, but PCC will make this available to any wishing to view the document.

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3	<p>To sign as correct minutes of previous meeting:</p> <p>Minutes of meeting held on 20th March 2024 were signed as correct.</p>	ALL
4	<p>Council Finance Report:</p> <p>The Clerk started by running through the monthly Financial Statement to provide the current position of the Council's finances. All payments to be authorised were approved and the Clerks request to pay the RNLI and CCC Streetlight invoice from the reserve account was approved.</p> <p>The Clerk advised the Council that the Internal Auditor has been officially appointed and signed copies of the document had been received and filed.</p> <p>The Clerk discussed seasonal staff rates of remuneration. The Beach Warden is allocated 20 hours per week at a rate of £12.00 per hour. The Deputy Warden has been allocated 5 hours a week at a rate of £12.00 per hour. Any hours required on a Beach Collector basis would be allocated in line with national minimum wage at £11.44 per hour. Any additional hours required above this will be authorised by the council on a as-required basis at the above rates. This was agreed by the council. The current contracts of employment for the Warden's terminate on the 29th September 2024.</p> <p>The Council agreed that the Financial Risk Assessment compiled by the Clerk was satisfactory and approved.</p> <p>The Council's Standing Orders were reviewed in September 2023. They were accepted and approved by all members of the Council present.</p> <p>The current Annual Budget review requires further work and has been postponed until the next Council meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>SBG</p>
5	<p>Beach Access/ Barrier locks and other matters.</p> <p>The Council agreed that the current lock on the Slipway barrier needs to be replaced due to it being past its best.</p> <p>It was discussed that communications would need to be shared with all authorised keyholders to inform them in advance of the change. Within the communications it was agreed to advise keyholders that the lock will be changed on an annual basis, additionally, if there is a requirement for documentation for businesses/Clubs, they will only receive the new key once all relevant documentation has been received by the council and it is of the Council's satisfaction.</p> <p>A nominal fee of £75.00 per key was discussed. Additionally, the Council agreed it was important to relay to all keyholders that if any activities are carried out outside of scope for the agreed purposes for use, the keyholders would have their rights revoked.</p>	All

<p>6</p>	<p>Upcoming events and update on planning of 2024 events:</p> <p>Produce Market: Scheduled for this upcoming Sunday 21st April 2024, the Produce Market is set to go ahead. Various stallholders will be attending and it looks positive for this to become a monthly event to service the community, caravan owners, and visitors alike. Cllr SR advised there will be a need for assistance on the morning of the event to assist with the setup of the car park. Additionally, provisions need to be implemented to ensure the car park is vacant from vehicles the evening before the event to prevent any delays in preparations on Sunday morning.</p> <p>Community Picnic: Cllr SBG advised planning for the Community Picnic is going well. She requested assistance in sourcing donations for raffle prizes for the event and contributions of baked goods for the cake stall. She requested that the Clerk order raffle books for the event and ensure social media and online platforms are up to date with details of upcoming events. SBG advised posters will be distributed within the community once the Produce Market has passed in order not to distract from the Market itself. A budget of £400 was approved for the event, but any additional funds raised would be put against our RNLI provision,</p> <p>Hot Rods: A pricing strategy was discussed for the upcoming Hot Rods event in June 2024. The Council wanted to ensure the organisers are charged for the hire of portable toilets this year. This was previously agreed for the 2023 event, however, due to an administrative error, this was not included in the invoice issued to the organiser. It was believed that hiring 6 toilets would be sufficient for the weekend of the event and that PCC should arrange this on the organiser's behalf. Suggestions involved the recommendation to close the car park on Thursday night to ensure no obstruction prevents the set up of the marquee on Friday. Additionally, Cllr SR will discuss the pricing strategy with the organiser before the invoice is issued.</p>	<p>SR</p> <p>SBG</p> <p>All</p> <p>SR</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Culvert/ Pill storm damage:</p> <p>The Clerk advised the Council that National Resource Wales has been notified of recent damage to the culvert on the beach following recent storms. Additionally, images of the damage have been shared with NRW. Clarity is required as to who is responsible for repairs to the structure. The Clerk is awaiting a response from NRW concerning this matter, and hopes to share an update in the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p>8</p>	<p>Motorhome park pricing update:</p> <p>The price point for the Motorhome park has been updated on the booking platform. This amendment reflects a price of £20 midweek and £25 for the weekend until the end of April 2024.</p> <p>Further discussion followed concerning what to charge per night past the April period. It was strongly felt that exceeding £30 per night would be an excessive charge due to the lack of toilet/shower facilities on site. Further discussion is required to come to an agreement on the price point going forward.</p> <p>New bins have been ordered in line with the new waste collection laws which came into place on 6th April 2024. The Council is just awaiting for the replacement bins to be delivered.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>None.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Recognition and Thanks:</p> <p>The Vice Chair thanked Liz, Nicola, Steve and Steve for supporting the organisation on the day of the Beach Clean Event plus all the volunteers who made the event successful. Particular thanks go to Anthony Leaf at the Beach for allowing us to set up our Tea/coffee station at his premises.</p> <p>The Chair thanked all those who have taken the time to attend the meeting. Additional thanks were expressed to the Newsletter team for their efforts in conducting the letter drop notifying residents of the Council meeting and the areas of concern in the Agenda. Thanks to Trudy of the Coffee Shop for allowing us use of her venue to host the meeting and to those who were unable to attend but still found the time to share their concerns prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>AOB:</p> <p>None, meeting closed at 9.10pm.</p> <p>The date of next meeting to be confirmed.</p>	<p>All</p>

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