

CYNGOR Y CYMUNED – LLANFERRES – COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING Held Thursday 11th APRIL 2019

Present: Cllr. John Almond (Chair), Cllrs Bob Barton, Amanda Curtis, Allan Morgans, Michael Cordiner, Rob Jones, Ivy Watts, Isla Watts and the Clerk, Mrs. G Dillon. There were Members of the public present.

1 Apologies: Cllr Martyn Holland, Cllr Jac Armstrong,

2 Meeting Open to the Public – It was brought to the Community Council’s attention by Mr Noel Hadley, that the Church Authority were considering converting the Hearse House (adjacent to Church) into a public function room plus the usual domestic facilities. The cost is estimated to be around £10,000 and £12,000.00. The Committee were asking if the Community Council could support this idea. (*To be discussed*). Cllr Barton mentioned that, at a recent One Voice Wales Meeting, it was reported that no Community Council could be seen to support, financially, any Church building. (*To be confirmed*).

In the light of the recent planning application for Holt Hostel in Maeshafn, it was suggested that concerns must be expressed about the location and setting. It is in an AONB.

3 Declarations of Interest – the Councillors were reminded that they should declare an interest at the commencement of the Meeting, or as soon as the Councillor affected becomes aware that they have a personal or personal and prejudicial interest in today’s business. Any member declaring an interest are required to state clearly what that interest is.

4 Declarations of Interest – none raised.

5 County Councillor Martyn Holland’s Report – previously circulated but the Chairman read out the Report for the public present.

- 1) A local resident recently noticed some strange white dots on the kerbs outside his house and contacted Cllr Holland to see if he knew why they were there. After some investigation, Cllr Holland confirmed that the Trunk Road Agency were planning on undertaking some improvements to ‘dropped’ kerbs on the village section of the A494 and the kerbs had been marked in advance. These alterations were being undertaken as Cllr Holland was writing this report. The installation of flashing lights on the A494 is also being considered.
- 2) Cllr Holland had been involved with the DCC Officers in arranging another meeting with all relevant bodies regarding the roadside parking issues in Cadole and Loggerheads. The Chairs of both Llanferres and Gwernymynydd Community Councils will be invited, and the meeting is planned for early May. The Agenda is a number of options to discuss to reduce the parking in that area, especially if it snows.
- 3) There has been a recent fire on Moel Famau, which was brought under control by the Countryside Services staff.
- 4) National Government have opened a consultation with Local County Councils offering considerable amounts of money to any Community/authority that would consider being a site for a deep Nuclear waste facility.
As our County Councillor, Cllr Holland spoke against this proposal on the grounds that the area has been mined and quarried for centuries and that this made the area unsuitable for any such storage site, that the Clwydian Range had pockets of Radon Gas which were believed could be disturbed by any deep excavation work and that we are a designated AONB.
- 5) Cllr Holland would like to thank the Community Council for their very kind ‘Get Well’ card and confirmed that his minor operation was a success.
- 6) Cllr Holland also wished Dr. Hugo Watts a speedy recovery after his recent road accident.
- 7) Cllr Holland also reported on the recent meeting held between the school, Village Hall Committee and the Denbighshire County Council in respect of the new safety railings erected at the school.

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- 8) They are considering installing a wicket gate for access to the Hall during school hours. During the day the Education Department have a duty of care to the children to stop public access through the school grounds during the school day. It was confirmed that the School and the Village Hall pay all invoices between them. There were plans to renew the windows and the Hall roof in the near future.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Holland for his report.

- 6 Big Covert Wood - Report from Cllr Morgans** – Cllr Morgans and Mr A King had drafted a very detailed Report together with photographs, highlighting ten tracks for possible adoption. Another issue had arisen, and this was the felling of trees. The new owners did not appear to have a licence to fell trees. Only one owner was seen to be replanting on their site. Cllr Holland has contacted David Sheil. Countryside Services with regard to this issue. The Clerk has also contacted Natural Resources Wales. If the Footpath orders are progressed, this will help preserve the woodland. The Chair thanked Cllr Morgans and Tony King for their invaluable contribution to this project. We now await an update.
- 7 Minutes of the General Meeting held on 14th March 2019** – These were accepted and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.
- 8 Matters Arising** – a) Cae Derwen – Cllr Holland has been in contact with Allen Homes and is hoping to have a meeting with them soon.
b) The grid gully is blocked up again in Tafarn y Gelyn. *Cllr Holland to follow up.*
- 9 Reports from Other Meetings** – Cllr Barton attended the ‘One Voice Wales’ area meeting in Pentrefoelas. A representative from the Denbighshire Voluntary Services spoke with regard to grants available for individuals and carers through Dementia Care. There had been no response to date from the IPRW with regard to Councillors Payments being paid pro rata if they left during their term of office. Other items covered were the AONB presentations at the Stiwt Theatre, Rhos, Wrexham with a presentation from the Dark Skies Officer. Cllr Barton also attended the Annual Conference held in Builth Wells and gave a report on the awards made. Mold Town Council won five ‘runners up’ awards, with Higher Kinnerton winning the award for Best Website.
Llanbedr took the lead with Cllr Barton in setting up bespoke training courses for local Community Councils. Eight Councils took part.
There was mention of a possible grant being made available for Community Councils working together. The Chair thanked Cllr Barton for his verbal report.
- 10 Maintenance in the Community** – the Millennium Fountain – repair is still outstanding. Despite Dr. Watts having been injured in an accident, White Oak Properties will continue with the maintenance contracts for the Community Council.
With regard to the possibility of the County Council installing disabled parking areas in the community, the response was *‘due to the precedent it would set and the financial, administrative and operational pressures it would impose, the Council does not provide on-street disabled parking spaces to specific premises.’*
- 11 Planning Issues** - 21/2019/0197 Location: Tan-y-Graig Maeshafn
Proposal: Erection of replacement dwelling, detached garage and associated works
Resolved: to offer no objection to the proposal but to comment that they should be subject to a survey on the statutory rules which denote the width of the retained public footpath (No.522/34/1. Also, the need for a geological survey as a vein runs on that side of the village. Include the condition that all waste material is removed from the site.

Date

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21/2019/0301 Location: Holt Lodge Maeshafn Proposal: Alterations to dwelling comprising the insertion of an opening for display plaque (re-sited), extension of balcony walling to enclose an external staircase and retention of glazed balustrade over (retrospective application).

Resolved: the Community Council agree to these proposals in principle but would ask why a Listed Building Application has not been submitted?

12 Risk Assessments

Maes Ysgawen – following a past site visit by Cllr Almond and Dr.H Watts, a site was chosen to plant the large number of daffodils ready for next spring.

Maeshafn – awaiting update for the Playing Field ownership. LawnOrder have carried out a maintenance of the Green and submitted an Invoice.

A Play Inspection has been carried out of the Play Area. The Report was circulated. It highlighted several low-risk problems. **May Agenda* We are currently awaiting the Grant Application response in order to put in motion some of these issues.

Dog Poo Bin – the Clerk has ordered the bin – awaiting a response.

Llanferres Memorial – nothing to report.

Financial Risks – No risks were raised.

13 Training & Finance Issues

Training Issues - Cllr Barton is organising a Training Course, through ‘One Voice Wales’ inviting Councillors from all local Community Councils to attend as reported above.

Finance Issues: The Internal Audit has been called for 23rd May 2019 **Agenda May*
The External Audit has been called for 1st July 2019

14 Bills – Payment Schedule

Clerk’s Salary (April 2019) & PAYE	£236.28
LawnOrder Maintenance	£35.00
Play Inspection Company	£78.00
‘One Voice Wales’ Training Course	£40.00 (Clerk)
‘One Voice Wales’ Training Course	£20.00 (Cllr Barton)
‘One Voice Wales’ Awards Conference	£13.75 (Shared payment) Cllr Barton
<u>Received</u>	
Bank Interest	£0.89

All payments approved by Community Council with Schedule of Payments signed by Chair.

16 Correspondence – items of correspondence were discussed as above, plus a request for funding towards the URDD Eisteddfod. It was agreed to support the school in their efforts to increase the sum already raised (£200) towards the total amount of £1500.00.

Request to complete a short survey from the Planning Officers Society for Wales. This is to help the LPA to improve and give another perspective on the quality of the planning service in Wales. *Clerk to respond online.*

17 Other Matters Brought to Councillor’s attention:

- Cllr Rob Jones has resigned as Cllr for Llanferres Community Council. This came as a shock to the Community Council as Cllr Jones, has been a Councillor for many years, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather before him. The Chairman, on behalf of the Councillors, expressed his thanks for his work and dedication in the community. The vacancy will be advertised in the usual way.
- The Church will be applying for a maintenance grant for the churchyard.
- A CREDIT will be forthcoming for the change from using the Hall for the Community Council Meeting to the School.

Date Signed

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- d) The Clerk Mrs Gwyneth Dillon announced that she would be retiring at the end of August 2019. Anyone interested in the post is welcome to contact Mrs Dillon for further information before the post is advertised.
- e) Cllr Almond reported that a neighbour's car had been damaged by a refuse bin. The bin was blown into the vehicle by the high winds we have had in the community recently.

18 Date of next Meeting: The Annual Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 9th May 2019 at **7:30** pm in the **Village Hall** in Llanferres.

Date Signed