

CYNGOR Y CYMUNED – LLANFERRES – COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING Held Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018

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

1 **Apologies:** Cllr Amanda Curtis, Cllr Jac Armstrong

2 **Meeting Open to the Public** – no items raised.

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** - Cllrs Isla and Ivy Watts declared an interest in Item 9 Maintenance in the Community – Maes Ysgawen and Item 14 Bills for Payment. Being a close relative to the contractor involved.

5 **Minutes of the General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018** – these were accepted and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

6 **Matters Arising** – 1) There are no Zig, Zag lines outside the school as yet. *Being pursued with Cllr Holland.*

2) The Commuted Sum is being applied for.

7 **County Councillor's Report** – a copy of the following Report, was circulated prior to the Meeting and the points raised were read out by the Chairman.

1) There will be bridge repair works at Pont Cyfnant on the B5430 in January involving traffic lights. (Already circulated via the road works bulletin).

2) Some residents in Tafarn Y Gelyn have now received Ultra Broad Band which is great news. Cllr Holland has asked the counties Broad Band Officer to investigate to see where else this is now available.

3) The Welsh Governments Child Care package will be available in Denbighshire as from the 7th January 2019. Residents can apply on line.

4) Cllr Holland is campaigning across the ward to get people to register for affordable housing if they want to get on the housing ladder. This is particularly important for first time buyers and those who want to rent/buy. There is no one currently registered for Llanferres.

5) After enlisting the help of our Assembly member Darren Miller Cllr Holland received a copy of a further letter from Ken Skates about the promised Loggerheads traffic calming measures. If you recall these improvements were agreed back in September 2016 and promised by the end of the then financial year in April 2017.

The plans were to extend the 40mph limit towards Tafarn Y Gelyn, install speed limit flashing signs and a replacement crossing outside the gates of the Colomendy School.

The letter confirmed that most of the work will start soon but Mr. Skates has had second thoughts about the crossing because it is outside a private school!! Colomendy School may be run by a private company but most of the children visiting the school still come from local authorities on Merseyside and "all" children need to cross this busy road in safety. I hope that he will have a change of heart about the crossing. You may have noticed that some works have already begun but it appears that the police are also now checking traffic speeds in the area and tapes have been placed across the road in two places.

Date ..... Signed .....

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6) When Cllr Holland visited the school recently it was noticed that, once again water was pouring down Tyn Llan and it had obviously pooled “again” by the entrance to Cae Derwen. This has been investigated in the past and we know that the problem involves tree roots in the drainage pipe that runs alongside the school playing field. Cllr Holland raised this as an issue again because of the concerns that the council bungalows at the bottom of Tyn Llan could end up being flooded if we have extreme heavy rain. This is now being investigated to try and resolve this problem once and for all.

7) Cllr Holland raised your concerns about the new internal school fence and the impact on disabled pupils and adults. It appears that there is no right of way through the school grounds only access to the village hall. The fence has improved the safety of children during school hours. It was agreed that steps be taken to start the procedure for a Public Right of Way to protect the ancient pathway in this vicinity.

8) Cllr Holland would like to thank the Llanferres Pensioners Club committee for all their hard work in arranging a very successful Christmas Lunch again this year. It was a great community event enjoyed by everyone.

9) Finally, Cllr Holland would like to thank you for your support and help with the various issues that have been visited this year and would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Brexit Free New Year!!

10) Cllr Holland informed the Community Council that congratulations were due to a community resident, Mr. Gareth Jaggard on his achieving a Bravery Award.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Holland for all his hard work during 2018, for circulating another comprehensive Report and also wished him and his family good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

**8 Reports from Other Meetings** – Cllr Morgans attended the Meeting held by the Wild Life Trust to discuss developing the Aberduna Quarry area. An Open Day will be held in the Spring and volunteers were invited to help clear the area. Suggestions put forward for development included planting a Community Orchard at the rear of the Play Area.

**9 Maintenance in the Community – Big Covert** - With regard to Big Covert, a large map of the area will be sent to Cllr Morgans denoting the permissive footpaths and showing the links to Public Footpaths (some members of the public have been stopped from using them). A proposal was put forward by Cllr Morgans to pursue changing some permissive footpaths to Public Footpaths. Cllr Barton seconded the proposal. *Resolved: The Community Council agreed to the proposal.*

Maes Ysgawen – possibility of planting natural bluebells and Wild Garlic for the Spring. Labelling the fruit trees with aluminum cans.

**10 Planning Issues** - Application No. 21/2018/1006 Location: St. David’s Cadole Mold  
Proposal: Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey extension and loft conversion.  
*Resolved: To offer no comment or objection to the proposal.*

**11 Risk Assessments**

Maes Ysgawen – Hedgerow needs trimming in the Spring. Invoice for Maintenance presented.  
Maeshafn – no further update for the Playing Field. Defibrillator in the Telephone Kiosk – estimates for the power connection were discussed and it was agreed to use A. J. Electrical. MADRA has contributed £150.00 towards the cost.

Date ..... Signed .....

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Dog Poo Bin – a quote has been received from Denbighshire for supply. *Resolved: to purchase one bin and site it near the entrance to Big Covert. This will be emptied once a month by Denbighshire (review in six months).*

Llanferres Memorial – no further update.

Financial – No risks were raised, other than those within the Audit Report.

**12 Training & Finance Issues**

**Finance Issues** – Identified in the 2017/2018 Audit Report.

**AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 2017-2018**

**INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT – RECOMMENDATIONS/1**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1. The Council's general reserves are in excess of 12 months of operating expenditure.	<i>The Council should review whether they are holding balances for future projects that should be quantified and classed as ear-marked reserves. It is good practice for general reserves to be within 3 and 12 months expenditure.</i>	The Reserves are earmarked to develop Maeshafn Playing Field as denoted in the letter to the Auditors. It has taken nearly fourteen years to purchase/acquire the land.
2. A predicted spend to the year-end is used in the calculation of the precept, however, no budget had been set with budget headings and monitored against actual expenditure during the year.	<i>The Council should set a budget in support of the precept that is then monitored against actual expenditure during the year.</i>	The Community Council will set a Spreadsheet with Budgetary Headings to monitor the actual spending throughout the Year. This will be presented Quarterly.
3. Although a precept was set by the due date and a budget prepared by the Council, but there is no evidence recorded in the Minutes of the Council, monitoring of actual income and expenditure against the budget	<i>The Council must regularly review and ensure this review of the budget against actual income and expenditure is minuted. We recommend that the council monitors the budget at least quarterly or more frequently if required. The amount of budget monitoring undertaken during the year will depend upon the size of the council and the complexity of its finances.</i>	As noted above.

Date .....

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EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT – RECOMMENDATIONS/2

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1. Expenditure Powers – S137 power was incorrectly used	<i>Donation was made to a festival during the year which could have been authorised under S145 of the LGA 1972 – provision of entertainment and support of the arts.</i>	Noted.
2. A payment was made regarding the provision of information that could have been authorised under S142 of the LGA 1972 – power to provide information to the general public in their area.	<i>The Council must ensure in future years that it reviews the list of statutory powers available to council to establish if a power exists before relying on S137 to authorise a payment. The statutory power being used should then be recorded alongside the item to demonstrate the council has properly followed the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.</i>	Noted.
3. The Council has not included all additions or replacements of fixed assets in the year in box 12 of Section 1 of the Annual Return. The value of the fixed assets, therefore, appears undervalued.	<i>The Council must ensure that the value of its fixed assets is correctly stated in Section 1 of the Annual Return. The value of all fixed assets must be recorded in the Fixed Assets Register, measured at cost value. Assets comprise of land, plant and equipment, vehicles, notice boards, street furniture etc., property that will be of economic benefit to the meeting over a period substantially longer than one financial year. Costs of assets replaced during the year must be removed from the register and a new item added.</i>	To be added to the Asset Register The Common Land in Maeshafn – Heulog Maes Ysgawen Llanferres Maeshafn Playing Field – when acquired. Llanferres Playing Field (Currently leased to LPFRA) Costs of assets replaced during the year will be reviewed and Register updated.

The Outcomes were proposed by Cllr Michael Cordiner and seconded by Cllr Barton at the Meeting Held 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018. All agreed by Community Council.

Date .....

Signed .....

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**Training** – The One Voice Wales Training Schedule for Spring 2019 has been circulated. Bursaries for Councillors are now available.

**13 Setting the Precept Budget** – The current Financial Report was circulated and the Precept will be set at the January Meeting.

**14 Bills – Payments Schedule**

Clerk's Salary (December) & PAYE	£220.33
White Oak Property Services	£601.00
News & Views	£450.00
Society of Local Council Clerks	£76.00
Welsh Audit Office (To be queried)	£381.00

**Received**

Bank Interest	£0.95
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**15 Correspondence** – items of correspondence were discussed as above plus a copy of the Denbighshire Housing Newsletter.

**16 Other Matters Brought to Councillor's attention:** none raised.

**17 Date of next Meeting:** The General Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at **7:30** pm in Village Hall Llanferres.

Date .....

Signed .....