

CYNGOR Y CYMUNED – LLANFERRES – COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING Held Thursday 8th FEBRUARY 2018

Present: Cllr. John Almond (Chair), Cllr's Bob Barton, Ivy Watts, Isla Watts, Ms Amanda Curtis, Rob Jones and the Clerk, Mrs. G Dillon. There were Members of the public present and the County Councillor Martyn Holland.

- 1 **Apologies:** Cllr's Michael Cordiner, Allan Morgans, Jac Armstrong
- 2 **Meeting Open to the Public** – A resident asked the Community Council if there was a possibility of placing a weight limit sign on both Tyn Llan and Cae Gwyn? Cllr Holland was happy to pursue this item. Also, the Carnival Committee would be concerned with regard to Carnival deliveries.
- 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** - both Cllr's Isla and Ivy Watts declared an interest in Item 11 Maintenance in the Community – Maes Ysgawen. The reason given that they were close family members.
- 5 **Minutes of the Meeting Held 11th January 2018** – these were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 6 **Matters Arising** – The salt bin in Cae Derwen has now been replenished. With regard to the proposed New Allowances for Councillors, a letter had been received from 'One Voice Wales' recommending that the costs be included in the Precept requirement for the coming financial year. Llanferres have not awarded any payment, due to the very high costs which would be reflected in the Precept. A letter of complaint will be forwarded to the Welsh Government, copy to One Voice Wales to highlight the planning and timing of this new regulatory item. One of the paving slabs had slipped beneath the Tafarn-y-Gelyn Noticeboard, making access to the Noticeboard unsafe. This has now been repaired, thanks to Cllr Almond.
- 7 **County Councillors Report** - Cllr Holland offered the following Report prior to the Meeting.
 - a) The County Council has now got authority from the Welsh Government to erect non-standard signs when and as required on our highways.
 - b) I have requested an extra grit bin in Cae Derwen.
 - c) New curbs were installed on the Cilcain road in Tafarn Y Gelyn before Christmas and patching will commence this week to resolve the pools of water on the road, which have adversely effected neighbouring properties.
 - d) A request for dog poo bins for Maeshafn has been made, but to date I have not had a reply from county.
 - e) We have appointed a new Chief Exec for DCC. Judith Greenhalgh will take up her role soon. I was involved in what was an extensive selection process and we all look forward to working with her. Dr Mohammed Mehmet leaves us in April after ten years as the counties Chief Exec. He will be a hard act to follow in these difficult times.
 - f) Flintshire County Council have confirmed that they will replace and move their tourist route sign in Maeshafn and the county are in the process of replacing our give way sign. I chased this issue once again.
 - g) There was another accident on the A494 between the Llanarmon turning and the Clwyd Gate. A car took out two telegraph poles and I have asked the Trunk Road Agency via Highways to get the relevant Utility company to replace them asap. I have also asked for the cable that has been lying in the hedge on that stretch of road for some time to be removed/repared. It is a danger to passing cars and to the hedge cutters especially if it is live!!
 - h) At the full council meeting last week, we agreed the budgets for the coming year and due to cuts in our direct funding from the Welsh Government and the disappearance of many of their grants, council tax will rise by 4.75%. This is in part also due to the fact that we need to put more money into our social care budget for our ageing population.

Date Signed

- i) The AONB have conducted a survey to see how dark our skies are as part of our attempt to get a designated Dark Sky Status for the ANOB. The survey showed the following, Llanferres was 3.50 NELMs rating, Llandegla 5.80, Loggerheads 5.75, Llanarmon 5.40, Eryrys 5.60 and the Horseshoe Pass 6.00. The higher the score the darker the sky. Therefore, the AONB are looking to apply for Dark Sky Community Status for those areas who qualify and over a period of time full Dark Sky status for the whole of the AONB eventually.
- j) Cllr Holland is also investigating sheds still in Big Covert that should have been removed.
- k) Finally, I have applied for white give way lines at the junction with the village road Maeshafn and the road to Fairy Glen.

8 Llanferres Carnival - Update Mrs. Sheila Hawkes gave a report on the current position of the Carnival arrangements. Essential attractions have been booked, all good old-fashioned fun that will bring back memories for the older generation and create new ones for the youngest in the community. Children’s races, tug of war, provision of a Beer Tent and Vintage Tea Room is all in the planning. With plenty of refreshments, Cllr Barton in the stocks, a Marquee with various stalls, the Parade, led by the King & Queen of the Carnival the whole day promises to be spectacular! Any remaining funds will go to the upgrading of the Village Hall. Date to book 6th May 2018. It was confirmed that all insurances were covered.

9 Reports from Other Meetings – Cllr Barton and the Clerk attended the ‘One Voice Wales’ area meeting, held in Llandulas. The Police representative sent apologies for non-attendance and the majority of the meeting was taken up with discussions regarding the Councillor Allowances.

10 Green Flag Award (Cllr Barton) – adjourned until next meeting. Photographs will be required and feedback concerning the Wildflower Meadow.

11 Maintenance in the Community – Maeshafn – the outer wall will be repaired completely by the end of the week. The Mower Shed roof has now been repaired. (£450) The maintenance contract for the Green will begin shortly and the overgrown hedgerow has been trimmed. (Cllr Rob Jones). Dr. Watts has included a Maintenance Programme for the Playing Field of between £434 and £496.00. *Agreed*. Prices are being sought for a replacement access gate which is in a state of disrepair Maes Ysgawen. The Maintenance Programme is quoted to cost between £930 - £1196.00 *agreed*, dependent on various factors.

12 Red Telephone Kiosks – the kiosk in Maeshafn is now complete. The Defibrillator Cabinet is to be installed. Permission has now been given for the signage to go ahead and the Invoice for the signs (£72.00) can now be paid. The reconnection of the power supply is ongoing with Sottish Power.

13 Risk Assessments
Financial – the Bank Reconciliation Finance Statement was circulated. No risk raised.
 Ownership of Maeshafn Playing Field – still no news with regard to ownership.

14 Training & Finance Issues - none raised.

15 Bills	Clerk’s Salary (Feb) & PAYE	£214.35
	Celtic Stone – (Wall in Maeshafn)	£450.00
	Defibrillator Signs	£72.00
	One Voice Wales Induction Courses	£80.00
	Welsh Water (Direct Debit)	£19.99

16 Planning Matters – Cllr Barton informed the Community Council that the Consultation on the Review of Planning Law in Wales is currently taking place. It appears that the need for Outline Planning is under review. One opinion is that it should be retained, especially in an AONB. Also, that Listed Planning Consents should be grouped together for ease. Cllr Barton is happy to accept colleagues’ observations, should they wish to comment. A Free Planning Workshop is to take place on 22nd February in Ruthin. (Cllrs Baron, Almond and Morgans).

17 Correspondence list – items of correspondence were discussed as above. Also

a) Copy of Press Release 'Welsh Taxes ready to go'.

18 Other Matters Brought to Councillor's attention: it was observed that there are two trees on the Heulog which appear to be rotten and leaning. *Alert David Sheil Countryside Services*

19 Date of next Meeting: A General Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 8th March 2018 at **7:30** pm in Village Hall Llanferres.

Date

Signed