

CYNGOR Y CYMUNED – LLANFERRES – COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the GENERAL MEETING Held Thursday 13th JUNE 2019

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

- 1 **Apologies:** Cllrs' Jac Armstrong, Isla Watts
- 2 **Meeting Open to the Public** – deferred until later in the Meeting.
- 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 declared
- 5 **Big Covert Wood** – Cllr Morgans put before the Community Council a draft letter outlining the proposals to ensure that Big Covert retains its public rights of way for everyone to enjoy. *One amendment to the letter was the font size to the Addressee – change to 12pt.* Also enclosed with the letter pack would be a copy of the footpaths map, Form of Notice of Modification and an Application for Modification. Cllr Morgans answered any questions raised and went on to say that each letter pack would, when finished, be sent to each owner of a plot in Big Covert and to the wider community and anyone who accesses the pathways for leisure. The Chairman thanked Cllr Morgans for the tremendous work he was doing to achieve the proposals and the working in partnership with Cllr Holland and the Denbighshire County Council. *Ongoing.*
- 6 **County Councillor Martyn Holland's Report** – previously circulated.
 - 1) The section of road outside the Youth Hostel is on the counties schedule for resurfacing. They will complete drainage works first and then resurface.
 - 2) An old bed was dumped in the lay by between the two Llanarmon turnings on the A494. This was removed within 24hours.
 - 3) Gary Williams the Counties head of legal services has confirmed that grants can be made to support church buildings, if there is a community use built into the project.
 - 4) The counties contractors have been out cutting the grass at junctions across the ward.
 - 5) Cllr Holland has photographed and reported the depression in Forestry road and asked the County Highways to investigate and repair.
 - 6) Sadly, our ward does not fall into the Clocanog wind farm catchment area for grants but at a recent meeting with the energy suppliers they said that applications from just outside the area would be considered but no promises could be made. You will be able to submit applications for some of the annual £750k funding in 2020.
 - 7) Cllr Holland has submitted a request to clean the gullies in Tafarn Y Gelyn especially the gully by the pond.
 - 8) The Morris/Allen Homes Asset Manager has not returned Cllr Holland's calls about the trees and small open spaces in Cae Derwen. *Ongoing.*
 - 9) Because of the heavy rain there has been involvement in a few flooding issues across the ward the majority of which have been in the Llanarmon area.

Date Signed

- 10) Cllr Holland visited Tyn Llan on Wednesday morning and chased the counties drainage team to see where we are with removing the tree roots from the pipe that is causing the flooding.
- 11) The grounds and the old mill at Loggerheads were flooded on Wednesday and the Cafe and Centre have been closed until the river water subsides.
- 12) A separate e-mail has been sent out with the emergency telephone numbers.
- 13) 10) The new Stop Sign and road markings have at last been installed on the Valley Lodge junction of the B5430. There have been a few incidents at this junction over the years and the new sign and the rumble strips will hopefully help to stop these accidents.
- 14) 11) Cllr Holland has asked for a speed measurement to be undertaken in Maeshafn after several complaints about the speed of traffic through this community. The village does not have any speed limit at present and Cllr Holland is pressing for a 30-mph limit.
- 15) The Chairman thanked Cllr Holland for his comprehensive report.

7 Minutes of the Annual Meeting Held 9th April 2019 - These were accepted and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record, subject to the following amendment:
Take out the representative name for Cllr Holland, as he is our County Councillor and elected through the wider public.

8 Matters Arising – Cllr Barton reported that there was no update to the ‘Green Flag’ application.
The Village Hall Committee confirmed, by letter, that there would be no refund for the Hall Rental for the meeting during March 2019. This was accepted by the Community Council as the lifesaving training was deemed a priority.

9 Reports From Other Meetings - Report on '**Planning your Places**' meeting.
Attended by Cllrs John Almond, Alan Morgans and Bob Barton.
The opinion of the meeting was that it was a waste of time - an opinion endorsed by the other two Councillors present. In fact, Councillor Barton has apologised for encouraging attendance. He also declared publicly to the presenter, that he thought the meeting to be of little merit, much to her embarrassment. Much of the meeting was taken up by one group, possibly from Wrexham, who used it as an opportunity to air their grievances with the planning processes, their County Council, the Welsh Government and anybody else they could think of, leaving little time for anyone else, and those that did manage to speak continued in the same vein.

Cllr Barton as attended another Planning Places Workshop in Llanrwst and is planning to carry out a Workshop to disseminate the information gained.**Open to the Public** - Mr T King brought up the subject of the Planning Application for Holt Hostel. The Community Council had discussed this in a previous meeting and outlined their response. This item was also an Agenda Item for this Meeting.

10 Maintenance in the Community – the Millennium Fountain – repair is still outstanding.
The Telephone Kiosk in Tafarn-y-Gelyn is being re-painted by a community resident, Mr Tony Winfield.

11 Planning Issues - 21/2019/0348 Location: Heather Bank Tafarn-y-Gelyn
Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness of existing use of building as a dwelling house.
Resolved the Community Council have anecdotal evidence over the last two decades but are not in a position to give positive assurances.

Date Signed

Proposal: Erection of two-storey side/rear extension & internal modifications. *Resolved: to support the application. The use of stone and larch is acceptable in the area.*

21/2019/0185 Location: Holt Hostel Maeshafn

Proposal: Erection of building to use as swimming pool and installation of septic tank – Erection of agricultural building – Alterations to dwelling comprising the relocation of display plaque and erection of a wall to enclose an external staircase – Change of use of land by way of extension to residential curtilage – Re-modelling of land to form terracing, vehicular access tracks and a yard area – Erection of a domestic garage, woodstore/utility shed, animal shelter/fuel store, stables and a peacock aviary and associated works (partly retrospective)

Resolved: after much discussion, the Community Council were not prepared to accept these proposals.

12 Risk Assessments

Maes Ysgawen – no update

Maeshafn – awaiting official paperwork for the Playing Field ownership. Cllr Allan Morgans has been accepting the quotations for the work to be carried out on the Playing Field. To date the costings were:

- a. New gates and fencing on west side approx. £2855
- a. Plinths for seating approx. £600
- b. 2 x 3-seater benches and 1 picnic table approx. £459
- c. Rebuilding the roadside wall approx. £6,700
- d. The cost of replacing the play equipment could not be considered without additional funding being available. The Cllrs discussed Traders and prices and Cllr Cordiner suggested that there would be some merit in discussing this further with the Llanferres Playing Field Association.

e. *Resolved: delegated powers have been given to the Chair, Cllr Almond, Cllr Morgans and the Clerk to pursue the matter. This will enable the work to start in order to meet the Grant (Commuted Sum) obligations.*

Dog Poo Bin – the Clerk has ordered the bin – the Clerk will chase.

Llanferres Memorial – nothing to report.

Financial Risks – No risks were raised.

13 Training & Finance Issues

Training Issues - Cllr Barton has requested permission to attend the Innovative Practices Conference to be held in the Royal Welsh Showground on 10th July 2019. Cost £50 per delegate. *Resolved: to give delegated powers to Cllrs' Almond and Morgans, to decide based on the Agenda and the benefit it would bring to the Community Council.*

Finance Issues: The Internal Audit has now been completed and Internal Audit Report circulated to the Community Council. The Governance Statement was changed and confirmed. The Accounting Statement was approved, certified by the Council and signed by the Chairman. A copy of this will be displayed and all relevant documentation sent to the External Audit called for 1st July 2019

14 **Appointing a New Clerk** – a discussion followed Mrs Dillon's statement that she would be retiring at the end of August 2019. The Chairman had received some information regarding other Clerk's Advertisements for information. It was agreed to draft an advertisement for thirteen hours per month (to be agreed with Community Council) and then advertise the post.

15 55 Bills – Payment Schedule

Clerk's Salary (June 2019) & PAYE £236.78

Date Signed

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JDH Internal Audit £153.00

One Voice Wales (Training Course) £40.00

Bank Interest £0.92

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

16 Correspondence – items of correspondence were discussed as above, plus a copy of the Play Wales Newsletter, Spring Newsletter from Denbighshire Housing Association. Also received was information regarding the on-line Training Modules from One Voice Wales.

17 Other Matters Brought to Councillor’s attention:

- a) The gully in Tafarn-y-Gelyn is still blocked.
- b) Following a complaint about the indiscriminate parking in Maeshafn which stops the Bus from being able to turn, new Junction signs are being pursued.
- c) The van constantly parked near the Junction to Cae Derwen has now been relocated onto the side road on the other side of Tyn Llan.
- d) Following the heavy rain recently, the drains were again overflowing and water was running down Tyn Llan. (Cllr Holland to chase).
- e) Cllr Holland informed the Community Council that the Candidate Sites under the Local Development Plan were due out shortly.

18 Date of next Meeting: The General Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 11th July 2019 at **7:30** pm in the **Village Hall** in Llanferres.

Date Signed