

Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 31st January 2017
at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr D Thornycroft (Chair)

Cllr F James (Vice Chair)

Cllr D Borthwick

Cllr M Connell

Cllr R McCluskey

In attendance:

County Cllr Arwel Jones

Mr M Donkin – Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr N Jenkins

Cllr C Jones

Cllr B Richardson

2. To record Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

None

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29th November 2016

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

4.1. Tree in memory of Cllr C Backshall

The Clerk reported that Greenfingers Ltd can provide a flowering cherry tree, prepare the ground and attend the planting for £80. Council accepted the quote. It was agreed that the planting should take place at 11.30am (following the service at St. Agatha's church). Cllr Backshall's family and representatives of local organisations with which Cllr Backshall was associated should be invited to attend. Notice of the ceremony will be placed in the Parish Magazine and sent to the local press with a request for a photographer to be present.

ACTION: Clerk

Contact Greenfingers Ltd and put process in train

Write to Cllr Backshall's daughter

Contact local organisations

Get quotes for a plaque to be erected beside the tree.

Advise local press and arrange for a photographer if possible.

4.2. Notice Board outside Llanymynech Post Office

This matter is still in hand. Council felt that this might be funded through the Community Benefit Scheme but, in the event that it was not, Council would make the funding available.

ACTION: Clerk

5. Finance Report

5.1. Financial Position

The financial position set out in the papers for the meeting was noted.

5.2. Third Quarter Financial Statement

Council noted the Statement of Accounts up to 31st December 2016 in the papers.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Cllr James and seconded by Cllr Connell and agreed unanimously.

5.3. Approval of Payments

Council approved the following payments:-

- Greenfingers Ltd - £258.60 - grounds maintenance November & December 2016
- Montytrax - donation of £300.00 agreed at the November meeting
- Welsh Audit Office - £254.25 - external audit
- Clerk - £96.35 - travel and expenses

6 Other matters

6.1. Mobile Hoist for Carreghofa Primary School

The original cost for a hoist has been revised from £700 to £1600 + £120 per annum maintenance. It was agreed that the School should be recommended to make a bid to the Community Benefit Fund. In the event that this was not successful or only partially funded Council will support the School in obtaining a hoist.

ACTION: Clerk

6.2. Membership of Council for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW)

The Chairman asked for views on whether the Council should affiliate to CPRW. He pointed out that there was a number of organisations with which the Council worked but of which we were not members. Cllr McCluskey referred to the aims and objectives of CPRW in their newsletter. He felt that they had great relevance to the business of the Council and that membership could be a rich source of information and advice. He suggested that the Council take out membership for one year and then evaluate how useful this has been in supporting and aiding local matters.

This was agreed by all present.

ACTION: Clerk

6.3. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW)

Council received the note in the papers on the meeting of the IRPW and noted that it will have to decide at the March meeting which determinations to adopt for the next financial year.

6.4. Handling Council business between meetings

The Chairman referred councillors to the paper circulated with the agenda. After discussion it was agreed that a decision on the options provided would be postponed until the Annual General Meeting in May. Meanwhile it was agreed that meetings would be covered as follows:-

- Montgomeryshire Community Councils Liaison Group with Powys County Council 7th February - Cllrs James and Connell with the Clerk. (notice was received subsequent to the meeting that Powys County Council has withdrawn its offer of a liaison meeting and this is, therefore, cancelled).
- Electoral Review Briefing; 8th March at Newtown – Cllr Connell and the Clerk
- Powys LDP First Hearing at Llandrindod Wells 28th March - Chairman, Cllr Borthwick and the Clerk.

It was likely that two subcommittees would be set up: one to deal with Planning and the other to focus on the LDP and local government changes.

6.5. Best Kept Village - future events

The letter received from Jill Kibble on behalf of CPRW was noted. The Chairman asked councillors if they were interested in collaborating with CPRW in a venture in the village. He stressed that involvement would require additional commitment from councillors. Cllr James felt that such a venture would be good for the village. There was general support for a community event, either associated with the canal or a talk from Iolo Williams, both of which it was felt would be of interest to the local community. It was agreed that the Council should inform CPRW that it is interested in principle and invite Ms Kibble to attend a meeting to take the matter further.

ACTION: Clerk

6.6. Condition of hedges on the Canal towpath

The response from Duncan Davenport, Customer Operations Manager of the Canal & Rivers Trust included in the papers was noted. Cllr Connell asked how the local population was to be canvassed on the issue. Cllr James suggested that an article be submitted to the Parish Magazine inviting members of the community to give their comments. Cllr Borthwick said that a time limit should be set for the receipt of comments. It was agreed that a notice should be placed on the Community noticeboard and at appropriate points along the canal towpath. A member of the Canal & Rivers Trust would be invited to a Council meeting once responses had been received from the public. It was noted that these actions were being taken in response to comments made in the RoSPA playground inspection at Walls Bridge.

ACTION:

Chairman to draft and submit article for the Parish Magazine

Clerk to produce a notice for the Community notice board and laminated notices to be placed on the canal towpath

Cllr McCluskey to affix notices at suitable sites on the canal towpath

Clerk to inform the Canal & Rivers Trust of its actions and invite them to attend a meeting in the future.

6.7 Training opportunities from One Voice Wales

The Chairman referred to the paper on training opportunities from One Voice Wales. He reported that One Voice Wales could provide bespoke training for Councils at a cost of £850 for a course of up to 20 participants. Cllr McCluskey felt that Planning would be the most appropriate subject but the Chairman pointed out that this was not offered by One Voice Wales. There may be a need for training if new people joined the Council following the May elections. Cllr Connell suggested that a decision be made after the May elections when the composition of the new Council is known. The Chairman asked councillors to look at the One Voice Wales courses and bring any ideas to the next meeting.

ACTION: All

7 Planning (P/2016/0326)

Council noted the report of the Planning Committee held at Welshpool on 12th January and attended by the Clerk. The Clerk confirmed that he had delivered a statement of the Councils' view and that Mr J. Fynes had spoken on behalf of local residents. The committee decided that an investigation into the effects of water run-off and the water table be carried out. If the examination showed that there was no detrimental effect to neighbouring properties and particularly to the peat bog adjoining the development site then consent could be granted by officers using delegated authority. If it was shown that there would be an impact to adjoining land, the matter to be referred back to the planning authority.

The Clerk pointed out that this was an outline application and the Council could make

further representations at the Full Planning application stage.

8 To receive reports from Committees and Working groups

8.1. Amenity

8.1.1. Community Benefit Fund:

Cllr Connell reported that The Tirgwynt Community Fund is now in place and the first 5 years will encompass Castle Caereinion, Carreghofa, Llanymynech & Pant, Llandrinio & Arddleen, Llandysilio, Llanfair Caereinion and Welshpool communities. From the fifth anniversary (from the date of the first funds being received), the remaining area of Montgomeryshire will be incorporated into the membership.

Fund members are not all Community Councillors. Some are members of their communities as their CC members will not participate in the fund.

The Terms of Reference for the Fund has been signed off as has the agreement between the Fund and the wind farm company "AWEL NEWYDD CYF".

Cllr Connell said that he had been asked to act as Treasurer and is in the process of opening the necessary Bank Account.

It is expected that the amount of benefit will be approximately £12,500 per annum between the 8 communities and the company has agreed to pay £69k (approx.) in advance to cover the first 5 years.

An application form has been generated and agreed.

The company "AWEL NEWYDD CYF" is to put an advertisement in the County Times at which time organisations in the 8 communities can approach the Secretary for Application forms. There will be an end date for applications after which time reviews will be made and results notified. Initial thoughts are that there will be 1 or 2 distributions per annum, but this depends on how the first tranche of applications go.

Applicants will be from organisations (not necessarily community councils) and the work will need to be completed before payment is made because we need to ensure that projects are completed and that money is not stockpiled.

The Chairman asked whether being Treasurers would affect his position vis à vis representing the interests of Carreghofa. He thought that this would not be compromised by his acting as treasurer.

8.2. Highways and Byways

8.2.1 Bus shelter

Cllr Connell said that an anonymous letter had been left by the Council noticeboard referring to the erection of a bus shelter on the A483. The Clerk questioned the appropriateness of dealing with an anonymous correspondent whose view was that the telephone box should be replaced by a new bus shelter.

The Chairman stated that he had reviewed the minutes relating to this issue and summarised them as follows:

- Jun 2013 Tanat Valley Bus Co requested shelter.
- Sep 2013 Council agreed to seek quotes and ask Powys to approve location on Canal

Rd.

- Jan 2014 3 quotes considered. Go Shelters 3 bay shelter selected (£4152).
- Feb 2014 Powys approval received, subject to residents' consent.
- Jun 2014 Go Shelter to start in 3 weeks at reduced quote (£3456).
- Jul 2014 Put on hold because of New Bridge works! Shelter to be relocated from Canal Rd to A483.
- Jan 2015 Powys approval for new location received, subject to residents' consent.
- Feb 2015 Residents objected on grounds that site already contained phone box, power pole and bus stop. Cllr Clare said he would find another location.
- May 2015 Cllr Clare resigned from Council. No further action taken.

The Chairman said that this matter had been closed in the light of objections from residents living in close proximity to the proposed bus shelter. He felt that the matter should be reported in the minutes and if the author of the letter came forward with further comments these would be considered at the next meeting of the Council. If the author remained anonymous then the views taken by residents at the time would remain in force.

8.2.2. Pedestrian Crossing

Cllr Connell said that he had witnessed a near accident at the pedestrian crossing. At 8.30am on a dull morning pupils in grey school uniform were using the crossing when a vehicle had to stop suddenly as the driver had not seen them crossing, their uniform merging in with the general greyness of the day. Cllr Connell said that he had seen another vehicle approaching the crossing at a speed well in excess of 30mph and opined that this vehicle could not have stopped in time had it been necessary to do so.

Cllr Arwel Jones pointed out that work had been done to make the crossing more visible but Cllr Connell felt that a Pelican crossing should be installed so that pedestrians could halt traffic while they crossed the road. Cllr Arwel Jones agreed, in the light of the near miss, to raise this matter again with the Highways Agency.

ACTION: Cllr Arwel Jones

8.2.3. Pen-y-Foel

Cllr James said that there had been fly-tipping on Pen-y-Foel and 4 drums containing a corrosive material had been left in situ. She had contacted Powys County Council but, to date, no action had been taken. Cllr James said that there was also a significant amount of rubbish being dumped in the woods above Pen-y-Foel.

The Chairman added that a grit bin at the bottom of White Rock drive had been damaged and subsequently removed. He asked if it could be re-instated.

Cllr Arwel Jones said that he would take up these matters with officers at the County Council.

ACTION: Cllr Arwel Jones

9 To receive reports of meetings from outside bodies

9.1. Burial Board

Cllr James said that there had not been a meeting of the Burial Board since the last Council meeting.

9.2. Llanymynech Village Hall

The report in the papers for the meeting was noted. The request for monies from the Community Benefit Fund was considered and Council felt that the Village Hall Committee should apply directly to the Fund. It was pointed out that the monies would need to be for a

specific project and not simply for building maintenance.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Village Hall Committee

9.3. Llanymynech Youth Club

A request was received from Cllr Jones asking for assistance with its rent and insurance costs. Council looked favourably on this request but first needs to know the amount requested and have sight of a copy of the Club's balance sheet for the last full financial year.

Action: Clerk to inform Cllr Jones

10 Correspondence.

10.1. Correspondence for decision

The Clerk reported that he had received a request from Kerry Community Council to display a tender notice for a grass cutting and cemetery maintenance on the Council's noticeboard. Council felt that we are too far away from Kerry for it to have any effect and the request for refused.

10.2. Correspondence to note.

10.2.1. The Clerk distributed the timetable of meetings for Powys Community Health Council which had been received that morning.

10.2.2. Council noted the correspondence sent out by the Clerk since the last meeting and itemised in the papers for the meeting.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will take place on **Tuesday 28th February 2017 at 7.00pm** at Llanymynech Village Hall.

Action: All to note.

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____

Signed: _____ Chairman

Date: _____