

# Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 30 October 2018 at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr M. Connell (Chair)

Cllr C. Backshall

Cllr D Cavill

Cllr R Dover

Cllr. F. James,

Cllr C Jones

Cllr R McCluskey

Cllr S Morris

In attendance:

Mr. M Donkin - Clerk to the Council

### 1. Apologies for absence

County Cllr Arwel Jones

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

None

### 3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25 September 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

### 4. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with in the agenda.

### 5. Finance Report

#### 5.1 Financial Position

Council noted the financial position as set out in the papers for the meeting.

#### 5.2 Financial Statement – Second Quarter

Council received the statement as set out in the papers for the meeting. Cllr Cavill proposed adoption, seconded by Cllr James and carried unanimously.

#### 5.3 Approval of Payments

Council authorised the items for payment as set out in the papers for the meeting and further authorised an invoice, presented at the meeting, of £20 to Llanymynech Village Hall for hire of the meeting room.

### 6. Planning

There were no applications to be considered.

### 7. Other matters

#### 7.1 Canal

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting.

The Clerk pointed out that attempts by County Councillor Arwel Jones to get legal advice had not produced the response required. Mr C. Pinney, Head of Legal Service at P. C. C. had said that the Council should close the gap in the hedge whereas the advice sought related to the Council's liability if it erected signs warning of the danger of access from the playground to the canal towpath. The Chairman reminded members that the local canal restoration group did not feel that the installation of life-saving equipment was necessary as the canal is quite shallow. Cllr Cavill said that she had travelled many miles along canals and only saw such equipment at deep water locks. The Chairman also felt that, with the current level of vandalism, any equipment purchased would be likely to be broken or destroyed. Cllr McCluskey suggested that a sign by the gate to the towpath which simply read 'GATE TO CANAL' would suffice.

The following actions were agreed:-

- Clerk to investigate cost of a sign as above. Council agreed that if the cost was in the region of, or less than the cost of a life-buoy then the Clerk should go ahead and make the purchase.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- The gap in the hedge should be closed by a short stretch of fencing. The Clerk to see if the handyman could do this

**ACTION: Clerk**

### 7.2 Vandalism at Walls Bridge

Council received the report in the papers for the meeting. The members were disappointed that the local police constable could not attend the meeting but noted that she would be available for the November meeting.

The Chairman said that the handyman had put a strong self-closing spring on the gate to the canal but that it had been vandalised within 2 days. He noted that a group of youths had been in the playground and appeared to have been drinking; he had notified the police who attended but reported that there was no alcohol in evidence. The next morning the playground was littered with empty cider cans which the Chairman had cleared up.

In dealing with the subject of litter the Clerk reported that County Cllr Arwel Jones had contacted P.C.C. and received a positive response. County Council staff would empty a bin in the playground if the Council undertook to purchase one. The Chairman said that the County Council bins are lockable and that staff will have keys. It was decided, therefore, to see if the County Council would provide one of their bins which the Council would pay for if the cost was reasonable.

**ACTION: Clerk**

The Chairman reported that a bench in the playground had been vandalised twice and slats had been pulled out. He has now put in strong screws which, he hoped, would deter further vandalism.

Cllr James raised the question of installing CCTV, not only in the playground but at various points in the village. The Chairman thought that the police might install a mobile CCTV system which he has seen used elsewhere. These matters will be discussed with the police representative at the November meeting.

### 7.3 Montgomeryshire Village Award

Cllr James reported that the event due to take place on 26<sup>th</sup> October had been postponed to give participating organisations time to produce their displays. Previous letters/emails sent out had not been copied to all councillors and the Clerk undertook to send a copy via e-mail.

**ACTION: Clerk**

Council agreed a new date of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019. Cllr James said that letters / e-mails had been sent out and the Clerk reported that to date, the Limeys, the Wharf centre, Carreghofa primary School and the Tuesday Walkers had all responded positively.

The Clerk reported that the slate plaque has now been installed above the post box outside the Village Shop. He has had the certificates framed and gave these to Cllr Jones who undertook to display them in the foyer of the Village Hall.

Council considered where to place the oak tree available from Montgomery. Cllr Jones said that an oak tree at the Village Hall had been removed because of damage and this might be a suitable replacement. However, the Village Hall is on the English side of the village and the award relates to Montgomeryshire. Council felt that this was not an issue as the competition had featured the whole village as one entity. The ground in which the oak would be planted is managed by Llanymynech & Pant Parish Council and the Chairman undertook to ascertain if they would accept the oak.

**NOTE: LL&P Parish Council also met on 30<sup>th</sup> October and the Chairman went to their meeting when the Carreghofa meeting ended. LL&P Parish Council were delighted to accept the oak on behalf of the village. This will have to await the outcome of discussion by LL&P Parish Council with contractors and the Chairman agreed to contact the nursey to assure them that the tree will be needed at a later date.**

#### **ACTIONS:**

**Clerk to book the Village Hall for celebratory event**

**County Cllr Arwel Jones to organise wine and glasses for the event**

#### 7.4 Future Fit Consultation

This item is being kept on the agenda for the moment but there was nothing further to add at the meeting.

#### 7.5 Mid Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Draft Corporate Plan 2019 – 2024

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The Chairman said that the plan was, in the main, good but he questioned how it would be implemented locally and would have liked to see a breakdown of information geographically. It would be useful to know how many incidents occurred in our area and likewise how many educational events had been held in local schools. The Chairman will respond on behalf of the Council.

**ACTION: Chairman**

#### 7.6 Powys Community Health Council meeting

Council noted the report of the meeting, submitted by the Chairman, submitted by the Chairman. He commented on the Future Fit consultation and felt that it would be some time before the results were made known. The next meeting is on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and the Chairman will attend. Other councillors are welcome to attend if interested.

#### 7.7 Request for donation from St. Agatha's P.C.C.

A request has been received from Mr D. M. Parry, Secretary of St. Agatha's PCC for a donation towards the maintenance of the church clock. The Clerk said that no amount had been specified but that last year the Council had made a donation of £82

It was agreed that the same amount would be given this year.

**ACTION: Clerk**

#### 7.8 Website SPAM

Council noted the report from the Clerk that SPAM notices being sent to the website. The Clerk confirmed that he is receiving one or two such messages, usually from companies wishing to sell their services to the Council, and that he deletes them straight away. Council decided that no other action will be taken unless the messages became more of a nuisance.

## **8. Amenities**

### 8.1 Walls Bridge Playground and Football Field

Dealt with under para. 7.1. above

### 8.2 Bench at Carreghofa Lane

The Clerk reported that the bench has now been removed by the handyman and is being repaired and treated with teak oil. It is expected to be back in place within one week.

## **9. Highways and Byways**

### 9.1 Road Repairs

In the absence of County Cllr Arwel Jones this matter was deferred to the next meeting. Councillors stated that there had been no work undertaken since the last meeting.

**ACTION: County Cllr Arwel Jones**

### 9.2 Speeding on Pen-y-Foel

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting and there was disappointment at the response from the Highways department at P.C.C. Cllr Cavill queried why there was a speed limit of 60mph on what is a rural lane. She suggested that the Natural Resources Wales and Natural England be approached to see if they can lobby for improvements as the Offa's Dyke trail runs along the lane. At the very least a sign advising motorists that Walkers use the lane should be erected. The response from the Highways Department also suggested that residents contact the Police on 101. The Council encourages residents to do this which would at least record the number of incidents and maybe make the police do something about the problem

**ACTION: Clerk**

### 9.3 LDP land on B4398

Council noted the report from the Clerk on correspondence between Lewis Bros, the owners of the land, and himself. Lewis Bros are conflating the payment of rent for the football field with clearance of the field.

The Clerk said that following a request for rent made some two years ago he had written to Lewis Bros to you to say that the Council was happy to pay a rent for the football field and to pay back rent. However, Lewis Bros had never submitted an invoice against which the rent could be paid. He had since written again to confirm that the Council will pay rent on receipt of an invoice and to point out that this matter cannot be conflated with the condition of the land in Carreghofa and reiterating the request to clear the field. To date no action has been taken. Cllr James said that there were regulations to control the dispersal of seeds onto farm land and that these could be invoked in this case. She suggested contacting DeFRA.

Cllr Jones suggested that the Council might rent the field for use as a car park as the road was often congested e.g. when parents were taking children to and from the school or at weekends when matches were played on the football field.

**ACTION: Clerk**

## **10. To receive reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies**

No meetings of outside bodies had been held since the last Council meeting.

## **11. Correspondence**

11.1 Correspondence for Decision

11.1.1. Council received the request for non-financial support from Powys Samaritans and agreed to offer support

**ACTION: Clerk**

11.1.2. Council noted the request for financial assistance from Powys Citizens Advice Bureau. It was felt that residents in Carreghofa who required advice were likely to attend the CAB in Oswestry and therefore, with regret, declined to make a donation.

**ACTION: Clerk**

11.2 Correspondence to note.

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

**12. Date of Next meeting**

Tuesday 27 November 2018 at 7.00pm at Llanymynech Village Hall.

**ACTION: All to note.**

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_