

Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr M. Connell (Chair)

Cllr C Backshall

Cllr D Cavill

Cllr C Jones

Cllr R. McCluskey

Cllr S Morris

In attendance:

County Cllr Arwel Jones

Michael Donkin – Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr R Dover

Cllr. F. James,

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

None

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29 October 2019

The minutes of the meeting of 26th November 2019 were agreed, proposed Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Backshall and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

5.3. The Clerk drew attention to the note in the papers for the meeting which reflected the amendments to the budget.

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 – Third Quarter

Council noted the Financial Statement in the papers for the meeting. The Clerk said that Cllr Morris had queried the variance on the donations line. He explained that this was because donations were not made at a routine amount each quarter and the variance showed the difference between the total budgeted and the amount spent. However he agreed that the budget to date column could show only the amount spent to date and thus the variance would be zero.

The Financial Statement was then adopted; proposed by Cllr Cavill and seconded by Cllr Morris.

5.3 Approval of Payments

Council approved the payment as set out in the papers for the meeting. In addition Council approved invoice for rent of the Village Hall tabled at the meeting.

6. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider

7. Other matters

7.1 Keep fit equipment

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The Chairman thanked Cllr Backshall for the work that she had undertaken in conducting the survey and analysing the results. Cllr Backshall asked if we needed another quote but the Clerk said that as we already had three quotes then it was only necessary to ensure that the quotes received were still in force. It was agreed that firm quotes should be obtained and a decision made at the next meeting.

It was noted that one survey response suggested that only single use items should be purchased but Cllr Backshall confirmed that the double use items could be used by one person only.

It was, therefore, agreed that the Council should proceed with the project and that the four pieces of equipment that received the most votes should be costed to validate the amounts involved.

It was felt that the Council, having had such a good response from residents, should not lose impetus and should take measures to inform residents of the decision to proceed. It was agreed that the survey results should be put on the Council's noticeboard and website and also displayed in the Village shop and Village Hall and a note be submitted to the Parish Magazine.

Council noted the Clerk's point in the papers that there were sufficient reserves to proceed but felt that it would be prudent to see if outside funding was available. The Chairman mentioned the Wind Farm fund and agreed to contact Carol Davis, secretary of the Fund to ascertain if the Council would be eligible to apply.

ACTIONS:

Cllr Morris to contact those companies that had given quotes to ask for firm quotes.

Cllr Connell to put the results on the Council noticeboard and other sites in the village.

Cllr Cavill to put the results on the Council website.

7.2 Powys Pride event – Llandrindod Wells – 27 June 2020

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. It was agreed that the Council would support the event by advertising it locally but that in view of the distance from Carreghofa it did not feel able to offer financial support.

The Clerk was asked to report back to County Cllr Deeks-De Silva and ask for advertising materials e.g. flyers when they become available.

ACTION: Clerk

7.3 Urdd national Eisteddfod

Council noted the email from Aled Sion in the papers for the meeting. County Councillor Arwel Jones explained that this is a children's Eisteddfod which is held in different parts of Wales each year. The 2022 event would be in Montgomery but the precise location is not yet known. He thought that it might take place in Machynlleth. Cllr Backshall felt that it was a good thing to support children and it was agreed that the Council would consider what support it could give nearer the time.

The Clerk will inform Aled Sion

ACTION: Clerk

8. Amenities

8.1 Walls Bridge Playground and Football field

The Chairman said that everything was quiet at the moment and felt that the lowering of the hedges to improve sightlines into the playground had had an effect.

It was noted that the car park is virtually unused by people attending football matches with the result that cars were parked all along the roadside.

The clerk was asked to write to the organisers of the Football Club and ask them to encourage their members to make use of the car park to avoid unnecessary congestion on the road.

ACTION: Clerk

8.2 LDP Land

Arwel Jones asked for a cheque for Lewis Bros. rent for the Football Field for 2020. He would deliver this and ascertain whether they were happy for the land to be cleared and sprayed. Cllrs Backshall and Cavill expressed concerns about spraying due to the effect on wildlife but Arwel Jones said that there had been a number of complaints from residents because of seeds being blown into their gardens. It was suggested that wild flower planting might be a suitable compromise.

9. Highways and Byways

9.1 Road Repairs Pot Holes etc.

Cllr Jones reported a number of potholes causing problems on Carreghofa Lane and also said that the gullies from drains needed cleaning out. She also reported that on Carreghofa Lane beyond the railway bridge the tarmac had broken away and repairs were needed.

The problem with growth along the verges by the canal bridge at the junction of the B4398 and Carreghofa Lane had still not been addressed despite this having been on the agenda for several months.

ACTION: County Cllr Arwel Jones

9.2 Cars for sale on the car park at Pen-y-Foel

Cllr Cavill asked what progress had been made with getting a bespoke sign prohibiting the use of the car park to sell second hand cars. The Clerk said that this is in hand.

ACTION: Clerk

9.3 Dolphin Car Park

Cllr Jones asked if further representations could be made re the Dolphin car park. The area is badly disfigured with potholes and because it is unlit at night this represents a hazard.

County Cllr Arwel Jones agreed to chase this up.

ACTION: County Cllr Arwel Jones

10. To receive reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies

10.1 Burial Board

A meeting has taken place but there has been no further progress in identifying a new burial site. Other business concerned insurance and contracts.

10.2 Montgomery Council Forum

The Clerk said that he had forwarded the papers for the meeting to Cllr Dover but as he was absent there was no report.

10.3 Village Hall

Nothing to report

10.4 Powys Community Health Council, Montgomeryshire Local Committee

The next meeting is on the 2nd April at Newtown. The Chairman said that he would attend.

11. Correspondence

11.1 Correspondence for Decision

There was no correspondence requiring a decision

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. To pass a resolution to exclude members of the general public while confidential matter are being discussed.

This minute will be forwarded under a separate confidential note.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Police Precept Survey

The Chairman said that a survey on increases in the Police Precept of £1, £1.50 or £2 had arrived in late December with a deadline before this meeting. He had, therefore, sent as response as follows:-

I would advocate to ignore the £1 increase because if the perception is that there are insufficient resources at present, this increase would still mean cuts to police services.

Question – What is the point in paying additional monies for a lesser service than presently provided?

I would also disregard the option to increase by £1.50. An extra £1.50 would meet increasing costs and maintain resources - but again if the perception is there are insufficient resources - the status quo would only be maintained i.e – no improvements in services provided despite increased funding.

*I would propose the £2 increase - but with the proviso that there **MUST** be a perceptible improvement in services and these must be identified **NOW** rather than wait to have the increase approved and then decisions being made to identify improvements. Any improvements have to encompass all communities rather than just the towns/cities.*

With the escalation of the County Lines problem, this has to be targeted as well as the need to improve services for local communities to reduce vandalism etc.

13.2 Website

Cllrs Cavill and Backshall reported on a visit made to Gloversure to discuss the Council's website.

It was agreed that:-

- a dedicated email address would be set up for the Clerk.

- Details of councillors would be put on the website but any communication by members of the public for individual councillors would be via the Clerk's email address. He would then forward the correspondence to the relevant person.

- Gloversure would be asked:-
 - to quote for a Website counter
 - to take steps to eliminate SPAM mail arriving at the email addresses.

ACTION: Cllr Cavill to arrange the above with Gloversure

Councillors queried what information should be displayed on the website. County Cllr Arwell Jones said that he would get some guidelines and forward them to the Council

ACTION: County Cllr Arwel Jones

13.3 Defibrillator

The Chairman reported that following a potential use of the defibrillator before Christmas the St. John's Ambulance officer attending said that the defibrillator was very old and needed replacing. The Chairman said that he would discuss the matter with the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

County Chairman

13. Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 25 February 2020 at 7.00pm at Llanymynech Village Hall

ACTION: All to note

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____

Signed: _____ Chairman

Date: _____