

Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26 October 2021 at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr M Connell (Chairman)

Cllr C Backshall

Cllr R Dover

Cllr F James

Cllr C Jones

Cllr R McCluskey

In attendance:

County Cllr Arwel Jones

Mr M Donkin – Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for absence

None – all present

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

Cllr Dover in respect of item 7.9

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2021

The minutes were agreed as correct. Proposed Cllr James, seconded Cllr Dover and signed by the Chairman

4. Matters arising from the notes

(Ref min 7.8) The Chairman and Clerk confirmed that they had contacted Llandysilio Community Council and Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council respectively.

County Cllr Arwel Jones said that Llandysilio C. C. would meet on Thursday 28th October and he would raise the matter there.

(Ref min 7.9) The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Llandrindod Town Council to offer Carreghofa's support.

(Ref min 12.3) The Chairman said that Go Safe had not yet undertaken the traffic survey on the B4398

5. Finance Report

5.1. Financial Position

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

5.2. Half Year Financial Statement

The Clerk presented the Financial Statement and notes as in the papers for the meeting and invited questions. There were none.

Cllr Jones proposed acceptance of the statement. This was seconded by Cllr Connell and agreed unanimously.

5. 3. Approval of payments

A payment of £588.86 to Clive Heaton for the 3rd Quarter Grounds Maintenance contract was approved; Proposed Cllr McCluskey, seconded Cllr Backshall and agreed unanimously.

6. Planning

Application Reference: 21/1781/FUL Grid Reference: E:326648 N: 320889

Proposal: Proposed rear dormer to gain additional bedroom and en-suite

Site Address: Knutsford House, The Street, Llandysilio, Llanymynech Powys

The Clerk pointed out that although this application had been sent to Carreghofa C. C. the address was in Llandysilio. However, a number of councillors recognised the dwelling as being in Llanymynech. It was suggested that following the reorganisation of County Council seats next year Carreghofa and Llandysilio would be merged and this may be the reason for the incorrect address. County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he would speak with the planning department.

Council decided that it would make no comment on the application.

7. Other matters

7.1 Footpaths

The Chairman confirmed that he had sent the details requested to Calum Carr at Powys C. C. but had heard nothing back to date. It was agreed that this matter now be left until next Spring.

7.2 Website Compliance

Cllr Backshall reported that the website had gone live on 6th October and is working well and TEEC has been very good in responding to 'teething problems'. She also said that the Council is now fully compliant with WCAG regulations. Although now compliant with WCAG the website still lacks some of the financial information that the Council is obliged to publish, specifically the Financial Statements FYE 2016 and 2017 and the Annual Return 2016.

Post meeting note: these have now been provided.

The Council should have an accessibility statement including publication of an accessibility statement on the website. She felt that the content was sparse in some places and invited fellow councillors to submit ideas for topics that could be put on the website. She is particularly keen to include details and photographs of the last 'Village of the Year' competition.

ACTION: All to submit ideas and material to Cllr Backshall

Cllr Backshall informed the meeting that she had sent an article to the Parish Magazine to inform the community about the new website and inviting people to suggest content that they would like to see included. Cllr McCluskey thought that Carreghofa School's 110th anniversary celebrations would be suitable for inclusion and suggested that the Council invites local groups to submit content.

7.3 Vacancy on the Council

The Chairman confirmed that the Vacancy Notice had been placed on the Council's notice board and would be taken down on the 1st November. The Clerk said that he had received nothing from Powys C. C's Electoral Services and so the Council could move to co-option. The Clerk will send copies of the notice of intent to co-opt to the Chairman and Cllr Backshall.

ACTION: The Clerk, then Cllrs Connell and Backshall

7.4 Community Award

The Chairman advised that notification of the Awards had been sent to Duncan Borthwick and Susanne Walker. Susanne had declined to accept the award as she felt uncomfortable receiving an

individual award as there were numerous others who had participated. To date there has been no indication from Duncan. It was generally felt that it was a pity that the awards had not been accepted although County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he could understand the recipient's point of view.

Cllr McCluskey pointed out that although the village is served by two local councils, one English and one Welsh, this distinction was not made by members of the community and most of the activity took place on the English side. He felt that the Council should take a village wide view when making awards or donations.

There was a discussion on whether the awards scheme should be continued and in what form and the Chairman suggested a small sub-committee be established to look into the matter. This matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

7.5 Memorial Bench at Walls Bridge

The Chairman reported that the bench in the play area had been removed for renovation. No date had been given for when it will be returned but Mr Walsh has said it has been stripped and first coat of paint applied. It needs to be lightly sanded down and second coat applied. Rubber "boots" will be put on and bench will then be relocated. A second bench on the corner of Carreghofa Lane is still in place but will be removed when the first one is completed.

This item will now be removed from the agenda.

7.6 Powys Pride Event

Council noted the letter from Powys Pride included in the papers for the meeting. However, there were no details of when Powys Pride intended to hold an event or where that event will be held.

It was agreed that Powys Pride be informed that the Council would offer support but will need detailed information from them. The Council, itself, does not host any events.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Powys Pride

7.7 Remote Council Meetings – letter from Mochdre with Penstrowed Community Council

Council noted the letter included in the papers for the meeting. The Chairman felt that the letter that Mochdre with Penstrowed Community Council had sent to One Voice Wales was well constructed and covered all the relevant points. County Cllr Arwell Jones mentioned attending a community council meeting via Zoom where it was difficult to hear everyone and mentioned the large cost of setting up a system which, it was expected, would have little or no use.

The Chairman could see no point in us sending an identical letter to One Voice Wales but suggested that the Council write to them in support of Mochdre with Penstrowed Community Council.

ACTION: Clerk to write to One Voice Wales and inform Mochdre with Penstrowed C.C. of our support

7.8 Donation Request – Citizens' Advice Powys

Council noted the request from Citizens' Advice Powys. The Clerk pointed out that under the new Donations Policy Council could make a donation. He also said that another reason that the Council had declined requests in the past is that it is thought that most Carreghofa residents who might wish to use the services of Citizens' Advice would go to Oswestry.

County Cllr Arwel Jones said that Llandysilio C. C. faced a similar dilemma and had decided to donate to Citizens' Advice Powys and Citizens' Advice Shropshire in alternate years. This was thought to be a satisfactory solution and the Council decided to make a donation of £100.

ACTION: Clerk

7.8 Donation request - Carreghofa Primary School

Council noted the letter tabled at the meeting from pupils at Carreghofa primary School asking for a donation towards the forthcoming celebrations of the School's 110th anniversary.

The Council felt that although the purchase of T shirts is a good way to mark the occasion, after the pupils have all left the school there will be nothing to show those who follow on what had been achieved. The Council felt that it would be appropriate to have some project that would be a more tangible part of the School's history.

Consequently the Council decided to offer the School the following:-

- £500 for the purchase of T shirts and towards the cost of your 110th anniversary celebrations
- Up to £1000 for a project to be associated with the celebrations.

It was decided to make a donation of £500 now and ask the pupils to put together the outline of a project with estimated costs and submit it to for funding.

ACTION: Clerk to send a letter via Cllr Dover outlining the Council's offer

8. Amenities

8.1 Walls Bridge Playground and Football Field

8.1.1 Signs:

Cllr McCluskey asked about the ownership of information signs at Walls Bridge and elsewhere. They give useful and interesting information but are falling to pieces due to much wear and tear. He wondered if the Council could be instrumental in getting new signs. Cllr Backshall said that there were two signs at Llanymynech Rocks and these also need replacement. Cllr James thought that the signs were originally funded by a Lottery grant. Cllr McCluskey felt that the Council might encourage organisations to work together from both sides of the village.

8.1.2 Furniture at Walls Bridge:

Cllr McCluskey also drew attention to the state of the 'furniture' at Walls Bridge. The benches are now being restored but there is a need for new picnic tables with disabled access and other improvements to make the area more attractive to the local community. He wondered if anything could be done within the current financial year. The Chairman felt that this could be a project for the Spring. He would look at some costings and bring them to the next meeting when the item would be on the agenda.

ACTION: Chairman.

9. Highways and Byways

9.1 Road Repairs and Potholes

Cllr James said that there were still potholes on Pen-y-Foel that needed attention and the verges still haven't been cut back. County Cllr Arwel Jones said that he would take up the matter; he felt that he could get the potholes seen to but was less sanguine about the verges.

Cllr Jones said that the verges on the field next to the football field were once again becoming unsightly due to weeds. County Cllr Arwel Jones offered to strim the verges. Cllr Jones felt that the whole field needed attention but the Chairman pointed out that the field was not the Council's property so we could only deal with the verges.

ACTION: County Cllr Arwel Jones

Cllr McCluskey said that the lime trees on the A483 were in need of attention. The Clerk said that pruning these trees was part of the Council's maintenance contract and he would ask Clive Heaton to attend to them.

ACTION: Clerk

10. To receive reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies

10.1. Burial Board

No meeting has been held since the last report

Cllr Jones pointed out that the Burial Board is now short of numbers. Previously Mrs Morris was a member but has now resigned as a councillor and there are two vacancies from Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council. The Chairman asked if any councillor was interested in filling the Carreghofa vacancy.

10.2 Powys C.C. and Town and Community Councils meeting

The Chairman reported that the meeting date had been changed at last minute so he was unable to attend. He had sent questions on the Community Ambulance Closures and Future Fit submissions regarding hospital changes and is awaiting responses.

10.3 Village Hall

Cllr Jones said that a meeting had been held. There was little to report other than that things were getting back to normal following the long closure during the pandemic.

10.4 CHC meeting

The Chairman reported that he is waiting for the minutes of last meeting and the date of the next meeting

11. Correspondence

11.1 Correspondence for Decision

There was no correspondence for 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. Any Other Business

Red Lion Hotel

The Chairman reported that an e mail had been received from Shropshire CC dated 1st October which stated that the "Property straddles admin boundaries with Powys CC and as the part of the site that is the subject of concern is within Powys, any formal action will need to be agreed by members of each council in terms of who is going to proceed with action"

He had passed a copy of the note to Craig William MP & Russell George MS. Craig Williams said he would contact Powys. Russell George passed the note to his Office Manager - Gwyneth Bird - who is very au-fait with planning.

Powys responded to Craig Williams - "Powys does not have an open enforcement and Mr Connell would need to submit a mandatory complaint form." The Chairman commented that he believes that there is no Enforcement Office at Powys!

The Chairman reported to Gwyneth Bird explaining the situation and said that he assumed that Shropshire CC would have an enforcement case so why duplicate it?

Gwyneth Bird wrote to Shropshire CC requesting confirmation and asking who the Powys C. C. contact was – a reply is awaited.

**Post Meeting note:
Response from Gwyneth Bird-**

I understand the officer who is dealing with the Red Lion, Llanymynech is: Rhys Evans email: rhys.evans@powys.gov.uk on 01597 827 235 (it is not Luke Woosnam)

**The Head of Planning, Property & Public Protection is:
Gwilym Davies BSc (Anrh/Hons), MSc, MRTPI**

**Head of Planning, Property & Public Protection
Cyngor Sir Powys / Powys County Council
Tel: 01597 827 344
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and

**Peter Morris is Professional Lead – Planning
Tel: 01597 827 773/ 07785 345 828
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The Chairman confirmed that he has kept Llanymynech & Pant PC informed.

13. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 30th November 2021 at 7.00pm (budget setting)

ACTION: All to note.

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____

Signed: _____ Chairman

Date: _____