

Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2017
at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr M Connell (Chair)

Cllr D Cavill

Cllr F James

Cllr R McCluskey

In attendance:

Mr M Donkin – Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for absence Cllr D Thornycroft Cllr C Jones
2. To record Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda None
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th April 2017 The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair
4. Matters arising from the minutes 4.1. (Ref Min 6.2.) the Clerk confirmed that he had passed the Council's views to Powys County Council. 4.2. (ref Min: 7.1.) The Chairman said that he now had signs warning banning dogs from Walls Bridge and the Football Ground. These would be displayed at the 4 entrances and would be put up next week. ACTION: Cllr Connell 4.3. (ref: Min 7.2.3.) Cllr Cavill reported that she and Cllr Thornycroft had inspected the car park and concluded that matters should be left as they are. They felt that even if the entrance was widened vehicles would continue to drive over the kerbstones.
5. Finance Report 5.1. <u>Financial Position</u> The financial position set out in the papers for the meeting was noted. 5.2. <u>Insurance</u> Council noted the report in the papers and the opinion of Mr Richardson, previously a councillor, who has experience in this field. It was agreed that the premium be paid. 5.3. <u>Bank Mandate.</u> The clerk said that now a new council is in being a new bank mandate will be needed. He noted that some councillors have expressed a wish to stand down once suitable replacements can be found and suggested that those councillors who intended to serve the full term should be mandated to sign cheques. This was agreed. The Clerk will get the appropriate forms from the bank and get councillors to complete them. ACTION: Clerk

5.4 Approval of Payments

Council approved the following payments:-

Council is asked to approve the following payment:-

- Greenfingers Ltd - £129.30 - grounds maintenance April 2017
- Greenfingers Ltd - £96.00 – supplying a flowering cherry tree and preparation for Cllr Backshall's memorial.
- Zurich Insurance - £634.56 – (see para 5.3. above)

6 Other matters

6.1. Pedestrian Crossing

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The clerk said that he had not received a response from Russell George and the Clerk was asked to prompt him for a reply.

ACTION: Clerk

The Chairman said that he was disappointed with the response from GoSafe Wales which had merely been to refer the matter to the local police. He said that at present the crossing was closed because of road works at the junction and said that this posed an even greater risk to school children crossing the road during the rush hour.

The Chairman further pointed out that he was unhappy with the response from the Welsh Government which stated that action could not be taken without accident data. He was appalled that we apparently have to wait for an accident to happen before preventative action is taken. He felt that the Council should take a stance on this matter and consider what options were open to lobby for a pelican crossing.

6.2. Grass cutting and grounds maintenance.

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The Clerk said that he had received a quote from Greenfingers for taking on additional work and this would be kept in abeyance until we know whether Powys County Council will devolve services to the Council and what they will give in the way of financial incentive.

The Clerk said that Tia Loving, Business Development Manager for Greenfingers had asked for records of the height of the football ground fence in order to quote for repairs.

The Chairman said that he could not understand why people used holes in the fence when the gate was unlocked and gave access to the field beyond. The Clerk confirmed that the fence was so badly damaged at the southern end that four new sections would be required. Cllr McCluskey asked what bordered the football field at the southern end and the Chairman confirmed that this was a field used for growing crops. He further said that access was mainly used when a football was kicked over the fence. Cllr McCluskey felt that if there was no risk to people then Council should not bother repairing the fence.

It was agreed that Council would get a price for the work and then come to a definitive decision.

ACTION: Clerk

6.3. Beacon of Light

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The Chairman said that he had looked at the list of councils which had already committed to this project and very few in the local area had done so. It was felt that if this is to go ahead it should be a joint project with Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council and it was agreed to bring this forward as an agenda item for the joint meeting. Meanwhile the Clerk should register the Council's interest with the appropriate authorities.

ACTION: Clerk

7. Amenities

7.1. Matters raised by a resident.

Council noted the letter from a local resident as set out in the papers for the meeting.

Council also noted the Clerk's response and the following actions were taken:-

1. Pot holes on Cae Haidd - Refer to County Councillor Arwel Jones
2. Grass on land owned by Avanti Gas. The Clerk said that he had visited the area and the grass had been newly mown but he was not sure whether this had been done by the owners on a resident living adjacent to the site. It was agreed that this be kept under review.
3. The question of holes in the football field fence is dealt with in item 6.2.
4. The question of dog fouling is dealt with in item 4.2.

7.2. Playground Inspection

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The inspection is carried out at a time when the RoSPA representatives are in the area and if Council wanted a representative to be present then an additional fee of £42 + VAT would be levied. Cllr McCluskey felt that this would be money well spent as we could gain a better understanding of the way the inspection was carried out and the criteria used in framing the report. We could then respond with confidence to any recommendations in the report.

It was agreed that, for this year, we should have a representative meet with the inspectors. This would be either or both of Cllrs Connell and McCluskey.

ACTION: Clerk to apprise RoSPA that we wish to have representatives present at the inspection.

7.3. Holes in the hedges by the Canal.

The Chairman reported that he had raised the matter of the use of gaps in the hedges by school children even though there is a proper access within a few yards of the gaps. The School will send a letter to parents asking them to make the children more safety conscious.

The Chairman also said that there are two holes in the Walls Bridge playground which need to be sealed to ensure that safety of children using the playground. Cllr James felt that if the other gaps are sealed they will soon be breached again. She suggested that kissing gates be installed as these will have the effect of slowing down pedestrians coming onto the canal towpath and reducing the risk. The Clerk was asked to contact the Canal and Rivers Trust and ask them to stop the gaps in walls Bridge and pass on the suggestion of kissing gates for the other gaps along the towpath.

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk asked Cllr McCluskey if he had photographs of the gaps and he agreed to send these to the Clerk to use as illustrations when writing to the Canal & Rivers Trust.

ACTION: Cllr McCluskey

8. Highways & Byways

8.1. Road works at the Crossroads

The Chairman expressed concern that Powys County Council had given no notice of the road works at the Llanymynech crossroads which are causing significant disruption. The Clerk was asked to convey the Council's concern and ask that it be informed of future road works or road closures.

ACTION: Clerk

9 To receive reports of meetings from outside bodies

9.1. Burial Board

Cllr James reported that regarding the quest to find a site for a new burial ground, the site at the southern end of the football ground has now been ruled out and the board is seeking other sites. It was suggested that a site on the English side of the the A483 close to the border might be worth investigating.

9.2. Montgomery Council Forum

It had already been decided that there would be no meeting until after the elections and the Chairman assumed that this would now apply to the General Election. The Clerk was asked to inform the Forum of the Change of Chair and representation.

ACTION: Clerk

9.3. Village Hall

In the absence of Cllr Jones there was no report.

9.5. Joint Meeting with Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no joint meeting in the past year. The Chairman felt that there should be more liaison between the two councils and a joint meeting should be held on a quarterly basis. There were many issues of interest to both councils and we should go forward with a unified front.

The Clerk was asked to convene a meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

10 Correspondence.

10.1. Correspondence for decision

There was no correspondence for decision

10.2. Correspondence to note.

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

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will take place on **Tuesday 27th June 2017 at 7.00pm** at Llanymynech Village Hall.

Action: All to note.

Approved by Council as a correct record:-

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____

Signed: _____ Chairman

Date: _____