

Cyngor Cymuned Carreghofa Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2020
at Llanymynech Village Hall

Present:

Cllr M. Connell (Chair)

Cllr R Dover

Cllr. F. James,

Cllr C Jones

Cllr R. McCluskey

In attendance:

Michael Donkin – Clerk to the Council

Mr R Pownall

The Chairman welcomed everyone back after a 6 month break due to lockdown in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. He stressed the need to continue taking precautions and asked councillors to wear masks, use sanitiser and only speak in response to items on the agenda to control aerosol spread.

He made the point that anyone who felt uncomfortable should feel free to leave the meeting at any time.

He then welcomed Mr R. Pownall who had expressed an interest in becoming a community councillor.

He then formally opened the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr C Backshall

County Cllr Arwel Jones

2. To record Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

3. Vacancies on the Council

The Clerk confirmed that notices of vacancies had been posted on the Council's noticeboard and website for the statutory period but no one had come forward to volunteer as a councillor or to ask for an election. The Council was then able to co-opt to the Council if it so wished.

The Chairman invited Mr Pownall to say a little about himself and his wish to join as a councillor.

Mr Pownall said that he had come to live at Bryn Mawr some four years ago. Prior to this he had lived in Mobberley, Cheshire where he had been a parish councillor. Now that he is settled in the community he felt that he would wish to give something back to the community.

Cllr McCluskey proposed that Mr Pownall be co-opted on to the Council. This was seconded by Cllr Dover and agreed unanimously.

4. To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting Held Tuesday 25th February 2020

Confirmation of the minutes proposed Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Dover and signed by the Chairman. Council also approved the notes of decisions taken during the lockdown period March - August

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes not Elsewhere on the Agenda

There were no matters arising

6. Finance Report

6.1. Financial Position

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

6.2. Clerk's salary

Council noted the revision of Local Government salaries w.e.f. from 1st April 2020 and approved the increase as shown in the papers for the meeting.

6.3. Donation Request - St. Agatha's Church

Council noted the request for assistance from St. Agatha's Parish Church Council for maintaining the Church clock.

The Clerk pointed out that the Council has made a donation every year and in 2019 this had been £90.00.

Cllr James said that Mrs Stewart is the new secretary to the PCC and informed the Council that the Church had recently entered into a new contract for clock maintenance at a value of £620.00 for 3 years. St. Agatha's had also had a number of additional expenses this year; the clock had stopped, and it had cost £78.00 to repair and jackdaws had got into the tower and caused £930.00 worth of damage.

It was noted that in a normal year Carreghofa Community Council made a donation for clock maintenance which was matched by Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council. It was proposed the Council donate £110.00 towards the maintenance of the clock and that £300.00 should be donated towards the cost of the damage by jackdaws; this being roughly one third. Council felt that the Church should contribute one third and trusted that Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council would match fund the remainder.

Next year the donation would revert to one half the cost of clock maintenance.

6.4. Approval of Payments

Council approved the payment as set out in the papers for the meeting.

7. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider

8. Other Matters

8.1. Defibrillator

Council noted the report from the Chairman in the papers for the meeting. He informed that Council that in December 2019 a resident had taken the defibrillator home to respond to an emergency. Fortunately a crew from the St. John's Ambulance brigade arrived and the use of the defibrillator was not needed. However, the St. John's Ambulance man pointed out that the machine is out of date and needed ne paddles.

Since that time the Chairman has tried to contact St. John's Ambulance Brigade with no success. He has subsequently found a company in Telford which makes defibrillators and asked a series of questions about their model's suitability all of which are set out in the report in the papers for the meeting. A new machine would cost £1075.00 plus an additional £595.00 for a secure box.

The Clerk reminded Council that any purchase in excess of £1,000.00 would require three tenders.

Cllr McCluskey asked whether the Council had paid when the original defibrillator was installed. Cllr James said that we had received Lottery Funding and Cllr Jones felt that there were sources of funding available. Cllr Pownall asked whether Powys County Council would help with funding. The Chairman said that he would ask County Cllr Arwel Jones but felt that is was unlikely.

Cllr James offered to check with Llanymynech and Pant Parish Council how the defibrillator at the Village Hall was funded.

The Chairman said that the defibrillator, although out of date was still in working order so there was no immediate need to replace it although he agreed with Cllr James that new paddles were required and would investigate this further.

Cllr Pownall asked whether, if a new capital expenditure would be necessary every few years, the Council could hire a defibrillator. Cllr McCluskey (having checked on the internet) said that the Red Cross have defibrillators for hire on their website.

Cllr Pownall said that the Council may need to insure any defibrillator that was rented but the Clerk said that our own machine was already covered by the Council's insurance.

ACTIONS:

- **Seek 3 tenders to include SP Services of Telford - Clerk**
- **Inquire about funding of the Village Hall defibrillator - Cllr James**
- **Inquire about financial support from Powys C. C. - Chairman**
- **Inquire about possible hire from companies asked to tender and the Red Cross - Clerk**

8.2. Memorial Bench - Llanymynech Rocks and Walls Bridge

8.2.1. Cllr James said that the Llanymynech Rocks bench is now ready to be fitted but a way to get it up to the site was needed. Cllr Pownall volunteered the use of a pick-up truck. The Chairman said that permission would be needed from the golf and he would contact the secretary. Cllr James said that she would contact Mrs Cavill to arrange a convenient time to collect the bench. She also felt that the bench should be securely set in concrete to deter further vandalism. Cllr Pownall felt that his son would be able to do this for the Council and his offer was gratefully accepted.

ACTIONS:

- **Arrange access from the Golf Club - Chairman**
- **Arrange collection of the bench - Cllr James**
- **Transport and fix bench - Chairman and Cllr Pownall**

8.2.2. Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. Cllr James felt that the wood on the bench needed feeding rather than varnishing. She suggested treatment with linseed oil. The Clerk suggested that this be done and then the bench be varnished. Cllr Pownall undertook to look at the bench and effect restoration.

ACTION: Cllr Pownall

8.3. Outdoor gym equipment

Deferred to the next meeting when Cllr Backshall will be present.

8.4. Conference on Policing in Rural Areas

Deferred to the next meeting when Cllr Backshall will be present.

9. Amenities

9.1. Walls Bridge Playground and Football field

The Chairman reported that there had been very little litter over the summer period. The football pitch has now been marked out and football has restarted.

Cllr Dover noted that since the School has returned on a staggered basis the car parking problems have eased.

Cllr Pownall asked who had keys to the car park; the Chairman said that he, the Vice Chair, Cllr McCluskey, the School and the Council's grounds maintenance contractor all held keys. He felt it sensible to lock the car park to avoid individuals or groups camping on the field.

Cllr Jones raised the matter of the field next to the football field which the Council had had cleared last year; she said that it was once more very overgrown. Last year County Cllr Arwel Jones had arranged for it to be cut and wondered if this could be done again. The Chairman agreed to approach C. Cllr Arwel Jones.

ACTION: Chairman

10. Highways and Byways

10.1. Road Repairs Pot Holes.

Cllr James said that Hafren Dyfrdwy, the Welsh subsidiary of Severn Trent, had laid new water pipes under the road on Pen-y-Foel from Pen-y-Foel House to the land opposite. This had caused some subsidence.

ACTION: Clerk to raise with County Cllr Arwel Jones.

The Chairman noted that there were potholes on Cae Haidd but felt that the matter could wait until the next meeting when County Cllr Arwel Jones would be present.

10.2. Dolphin Car Park

Council noted the report in the papers for the meeting. The Chairman gave some background to this matter. He said that the County Council had agreed to pay for the space that it used at the back of the car park but had, so far, not made any payment. County Cllr Arwel Jones had taken this up with the County Council and, as a result the Chairman had ascertained that there was an agreement between the owners of the Dolphin who, at the time, were a company named Real Inns and Pubs. This company was dissolved in 2015 and although the name of the present owner is known – his address in Pontesbury is unknown. Without an obvious owner PCC could not make a payment and the agreement lapsed.

Cllr Pownall informed the meeting that he had recently had dealings with the company which currently owns the Dolphin and he agreed to pass the contact details to the Chairman.

ACTION: Cllr Pownall then Chairman

11. To Receive Reports on Meetings from Outside Bodies

11.1. Burial Board

Meetings have not taken place during the lockdown and nothing has yet been rescheduled.

112. Montgomery Council Forum

Meetings have not taken place during the lockdown and nothing has yet been rescheduled.

11.3. Village Hall

Cllr Jones reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday. The Hall has now reopened and a number of new groups are interested in using the facilities.

114. Powys Community Health Council, Montgomeryshire Local Committee

Meetings have not taken place during the lockdown. Meetings have been rescheduled for 1st October, 1st January and 5th April but are likely to be cancelled.

12. Correspondence

11.1 Correspondence for Decision

There was no correspondence for decision

11.2. Correspondence to note.

Council noted the plaudit re the reopening of the walls Bridge playground and the correspondence sent out by the Clerk since the last meeting and itemised in the papers for the meeting.

13. AOB

13.1.

Cllr Jones informed Council that the walkway at Bridge 92 on the canal had collapsed into the canal. The Chairman said that some trees had also come down but that County Cllr Arwel Jones had dealt with this. The Clerk said that many parts of the canal were suffering from lack of maintenance due to the absence of volunteers during the lockdown.

ACTION: Clerk to raise the matter with the canal and Rivers Trust

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 27th October 2020 at 7.00pm at Llanymynech Village Hall – Annual General Meeting followed immediately by the October Council meeting

ACTION: All to note

Approved by Council as a correct record:

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____

Signed: _____ Chairman

Date: _____