

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the October 2020 meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held online on the 14/10/2020 at 19.00.

116/2020-2021 Present:

Councillors: M Rees (Chair), R Jones, J Youens, H Jones, W Evans, J Williams O.B.E, S Herridge.

County Councillor A Davies.

Clerk

117/2020-2021 Apologies.

Councillors: T Evans, E Davies, R Owen, R Newell.

118/2020-2021 Declarations of Personal Interest.

None.

119/2020-2021 Opportunity for the Public to Address the Council on Agenda Items.

None.

County Councillor A Davies requested permission from the Chair to give her report prior to other agenda items due to unforeseen circumstances. Permission was granted by the Chair.

120/2020-2021 County Council Matters - County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies reported that the Swansea Road which connects the A48 roundabout to Llanarthne through Clearbrook Hall will be closed for resurfacing from 19/10/2020 – 23/10/2020.

County Cllr A Davies had a meeting with Karen Mole Davies, Highways Engineer with Carmarthenshire County Council on 02/10/2020 to investigate the issues between The Prince of Wales, Porthyrhyd to The Polyn, Capel Dewi regarding pot holes and overhanging trees. The evidence obtained from the meeting will be collated for remedial works to be carried out. Useful information was gathered regarding the height of trees (5m deemed safe for vehicles to travel underneath) and hedgerows (3.3m from the center before action is taken).

Carmarthenshire County Council meeting cancelled until 22/10/2020.

County Cllr A Davies has also submitted a request for the dog foul bin to be reinstalled in Mynyddcerrig and for overgrown hedgerows on the Roman Road to be cleared and for the pot holes to be reviewed. The 30mph speed limit on the road towards Garnffrwd Park is in the consultation process and will be implemented very soon.

Cllr J Youens requested that hedges belonging to Glyn Caled be trimmed but it was suggested by Cllr H Jones that Cllr J Youens should approach the owner and ask them to deal with the issue. **Resolved** for Cllr J Youens to approach the owner of Glyn Caled.

The Clerk also reported that the footpath between Llanddarog Primary School to Mynyddcerrig was overgrown and needed attention. **Resolved** for Cllr A Davies to report.

County Cllr A Davies left the meeting at 19.23 not to return.

121/2020-2021 Policing and Road Safety Matters.

Cllr H Jones reported in the September meeting that residents within the community had expressed a concern regarding vehicles travelling at speed and causing noise pollution after 22.00 on a regular basis, travelling through the village of Porthyrhyd and on the B4310 towards Llanarthne and Nantgaredig. The Clerk reported the issue to Dyfed Powys Police and had received a reply from PC1133 Benjamin Stevenson stating that they would be conducting targeting patrols in the area to assess the situation. The Clerk had also received a telephone call from PCSO Alan Davies on 06/10/2020 regarding the complaint and that they were still monitoring the situation. Cllr H Jones and the Clerk confirmed that there had been more police presence in the area and that less vehicles were travelling through the area late at night.

Cllr J Williams expressed concern that Crosshands Police Station had been closed and moved to Ammanford. Cllr R Jones enquired if notification had been received regarding the closure. The Clerk informed the members that no notification had been received. **Resolved** for the Clerk to contact Dyfed Powys Police to clarify the situation and request that Llanddarog Community Council's area be covered by the Police Station in Llangunnor and not Ammanford due to geographical distance.

122/2020-2021 Chair's Report.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She asked the Clerk to announce that he had been successful in obtaining the position of Clerk for Llanarthne Community Council and all members wished him well in his new role. **Resolved** to thank the Chairman for her report.

123/2020-2021 Confirmation and Signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 08/072020.

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 09/09/2020 and for the Chair to sign the minutes on 17/10/2020.

124/2020-2021 Matters arising from the above minutes.

None.

125/2020-2021 Correspondence.

A letter in respect of the Revised Code of Practice on Workforce Matters and the annual monitoring exercise was received. It was **Resolved** for the Clerk to complete the questionnaire and send to all members for ratification before returning to the Welsh Government.

126/2020-2021 Planning.

No objections to the following planning applications.

Application Number	Application Type	Location	Description
PL/00122	Householder Planning Permission	Bancyreos, Llanddarog, Carmarthen, SA32 8NU.	Proposed Residential Extension
PL/00396	Householder Planning Permission	Bryncerdd, Llanddarog, Carmarthen SA32 8NS	Proposed Oak Frame Raised Balcony and Replacement Canopy
PL/00577	Householder Planning Permission	Esgair Fach, Llanddarog, Carmarthen, SA32 8BJ	Ground Floor Extension to Rear

127/2020-2021 Payments

The below payments were certified in the September monthly meeting and **ratified** in the October Monthly meeting. Copies of invoices sent to all members electronically prior to payment for authorisation.

Method of Payment	Date	Suppliers & Details	Sum £ inc VAT
Online	23/09/2020	WCVA SIN 009815	21.30
Online	23/09/2020	J.G Evans September Payroll	328.93
Online	23/09/2020	Spencer Enviromental Inv - 20193	508.00
Online	23/09/2020	Royal British Legion 2 x Wreaths	60.00
Online	23/09/2020	HMRC PAYE – Period 6	82.20

128/2020-2021 Receipts.

HMRC VAT Refund
30/09/2020 - £1,404.25.

129/2020-2021 Report of the Internal Financial Examiner for period 01/07/2020 – 30/09/2020..

Each member had been provided with a written report prior to the meeting. A full verbal report was provided by Cllr R Jones. The report confirmed the accuracy of the bank reconciliation and statement of accounts provided to the Council. It also confirmed the accuracy of the final budget report provided. It was proposed by Cllr H Jones and seconded by Cllr W Evans to accept the report. Members thanked Cllr R Jones and the Clerk for their work.

130/2020-2021 To consider correspondence received from the following.

- a) **Condition of Notice Boards in Llanddarog and Porthyrhyd** - It was discussed and decided in the September meeting to order the 1050 x 1400 Traditional Exterior Weatherproof Noticeboards from Morgan & Morgan. The supplier was unable to fulfil the original order to the specification required. The alternative proposal was discussed and it was Proposed by Cllr J Williams and passed by all council members to accept the revised option. **Resolved** for Clerk to order from the supplier.
- b) **Natural Resources Wales** – After a concern from local residents regarding the level of water in the Gwendraeth Fach River and the potential of flooding, the Clerk contacted Natural Resources Wales regarding the issue and the following reply was received on 24/09/2020 and forwarded to all Council members. With regard to your email of 18th September, our local flood team has asked us to advise you as follows:
- “With regards to the River Gwendraeth, this is a main river. Natural Resources Wales have permissive powers to undertake works on main rivers to protect people and property from the risk of fluvial flooding. We have no plans to undertake works on the Gwendraeth Fach at Porthyrhyd. The landowner have the rights to undertake the works themselves. Our publication ‘Living on the Edge’, which explains the rights and responsibilities of those living next to watercourses. Whilst the landowner is able to undertake the works themselves, any works in, or within 8m of a watercourse requires a Flood Risk Activity Permit”.

131/2020-2021 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.

The Clerk reported that he had received 2 x wreaths from The Royal British Legion in preparation for Remembrance Day on 08/11/2020. One wreath to be placed at Llanddarog Church in a Remembrance Service at 10.45 on 11/11/2020 and the second wreath to be placed by the memorial stone in Mynyddcerrig at 13.00 on 08/11/2020.

Cllr J Williams reminded the members with regards to the placing of the memorial stone in Porthyrhyd and that he had discovered the names of more fallen soldiers from the community that should be acknowledged on Remembrance Day. **Resolved** for Cllr M Rees to make enquiries regarding these names.

Cllr J Williams reported that he had removed the flags from Llanddarog and Porthyrhyd and that three new flags were to be ordered in preparation for next year. **Resolved** for the Clerk to order three new flags.

Cllr H Jones proposed that due to both Llanddarog and Llanarthne Community Council having the same Clerk, that a Sub-Committee should be formed to discuss a potential collaboration. It was agreed that a member of each village be part of the Sub-Committee (Cllr M Rees, R Jones and J Youens). **Resolved** for the Clerk to discuss with Llanarthne Community Council in the November meeting.

An Email was sent to all Council members regarding online courses that had become available. Cllr M Rees and the Clerk expressed an interest in the upcoming courses although there was a question of cost to the Council and if it was necessary to purchase a specific software package for the purpose. **Resolved** for the Clerk to discuss potential courses and costs with One Voice Wales and report to Cllr M Rees.

132/2020-2021 In camera 20.10.

Those who were not Community Council members or the Clerk departed the meeting – not to return. The exclusion is due to personnel / staffing matters being discussed.

133/2020-2021 Staff pay run October 2020.

Each member viewed a written report during the online meeting. It was **resolved** to accept the report and ratify the payment of the sums as presented.

134/2020-2021 Continued review of auto enrolment position.

It was discussed and decided by the members in the September meeting that the Clerk was eligible to join the NEST pension scheme. The Clerk was asked to exit the meeting whilst the members decided on the contribution percentage into the scheme.

The Clerk left the meeting at 21.06.

The Clerk was invited to return to the meeting at 21.17 and was informed that the employer contribution was to be 4% with the employee contribution being at least 5% to meet NEST requirements and that the pension was to be back dated to 01/04/2020.

The Clerk accepted the Council's proposition and thanked all the members for their decision. Resolved for the Clerk to contact NEST and make arrangements to join their pension scheme.

135/2020-2021 The meeting finished at 21.22.

Chairman

Date
