

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the December 2020 meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held online on the 09/12/2020 at 19.00.

156/2020-2021 Present:

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

County Councillor A Davies.

Clerk

157/2020-2021 Apologies.

Councillors: S Herridge, R Newell, E Davies

158/2020-2021 Declarations of Personal Interest.

None.

159/2020-2021 Opportunity for the Public to Address the Council on Agenda Items.

None.

160/2020-2021 Policing and Road Safety Matters.

Cllr J Youens reported that residents from Mynyddcerrig had complained about the amount of gravel accumulating on the side of the road and the potential damage to vehicles since the resurfacing was done in September 2020. **Resolved** for Clerk to contact relevant department.

Cllr W Evans joined the meeting at 19.06.

Cllr M Rees reported that the road was subsiding in the centre and a number of culverts/drains were blocked between Rose Villa and Cwm Coch Farm in Cwmisfael. **Resolved** for Clerk to contact relevant department.

161/2020-2021 County Council Matters - County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies began her report by saying "First of all, may I thank everyone for all the support during 2020. May I wish you all a Merry and peaceful Christmas and a better year for 2021"

Shelter Cymru has advertised that Carmarthenshire County Council has not built any social housing in 2019 and wanted to know why these are the figures that are being posted on the website. LDO (Local Development Order) responded and advised that 5 sites were currently under construction, and although none were completed in 2019, the County Council had funded and supported construction by Bro Myrddin Housing Association and other enterprises. These would be categorized as social housing and Shelter Cymru's figures were therefore incorrect. Council Leader Cllr Emlyn Dole is to raise the issue with Shelter Cymru.

Cllr Emlyn Dole reported on the Covid-19 vaccinations. 950 people will be vaccinated on 08/12/2020. The Hywel Dda Health Board hopes to have other supplies arriving on

11/12/2020, 14/12/2020 and 18/12/2020. It is hoped that almost 4000 'frontline' staff will be vaccinated before Christmas. On December 21 the Oxford vaccine will arrive. He also commented on the error made by Hywel Dda Health Board, where administrators were allowed to book the vaccine before nurses and doctors. After Plaid Cymru Leader Adam Price's intervention, this situation was resolved. Results of the pandemic within the County are as follows:-

Positivity rate of the County at 14.7%.

Incidence rate at 290/100K.

574 cases this week.

375 last week.

Mortality is reduced by improved treatment of the disease and improved PPE.

County Cllr A Davies asked what was going to happen to our schools after Christmas as many would have created extended bubbles over the Festival. Council Leader Cllr Emlyn Dole replied that the County already has the right to close schools if the figures rise significantly. We need to ensure that our children and staff are safe and if there is any situation, where necessary individual schools will close, as two have today. Cllr Glynog Davies mentioned that Gareth Morgans has made a decision to keep schools open at present as evidence states that children are safer in his school bubble than at home. The situation is constantly changing, and the County's response will change according to demand

Cllr. Hazel Evans announced that the Environment Department has secured a sum of £580,000 to spend in Carmarthenshire. The funds will be allocated to:-

- a) Re-use Village Shop in Nantycaws and Llanelli to sell used items that have been repaired.
- b) Re-use paint facility – recycle old and unused paint.
- c) Bulk Waste Collection – Purchase 2 new vehicles to collect unwanted furniture and to store in a dry location for re-sale at the village shops.

Carmarthen Mart - This is still in the hands of Solicitors but is slowly approaching an end and hopefully a new party will re-open the facility.

Cllr R Jones enquired as to the opening date of the Re-use shop – Approximately April 2021. Cllr R Jones also enquired as to the future roll out of the Covid-19 vaccine and to ensure that front line staff were being prioritized over admin staff. County Cllr A Davies to investigate and clarify.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E. enquired if there would be an increase or reduction in the collection charge of the bulk waste – County Cllr A Davies to investigate.

County Cllr A Davies offered a Covid-19 pandemic awareness banner to the community, which was accepted by Cllr J Youens and Cllr R Owen for Mynyddcerrig to display.

162/2020-2021 Chair's Report.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that she had donated £50.00 of her Chair's allowance towards the Christmas Toybox Appeal in order to purchase toys and gifts for children and young people living in Carmarthenshire who are facing difficult times over the festive season.

The Chair reported that she attended a publicity event with County Cllr A Davies, Cllr J Youens, Cllr R Owen, Cllr R Newell and the Clerk to promote an exercise between local resident Mr Nigel Owens M.B.E (Welsh Rugby Union Referee) and Amazon in which all residents of Mynyddcerrig received an Amazon Prime voucher in recognition of Mr Nigel Owens M.B.E. being a celebrity from the village and an active member of the Community. Photographs of family members and local residents were taken to advertise the event.

163/2020-2021 Confirmation and Signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 11/11/2020.

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 11/11/2020 and for the Chair to sign the minutes on 11/12/2020. Proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E. and seconded by Cllr J Youens.

164/2020-2021 Matters arising from the above minutes.

Clerk to insert and clarify the meaning of **N/A** in Minute **150/2020-2021** as **Not Adopted**.

In the October meeting **131/2020-2021** Cllr J Williams O.B.E. 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. Cllr M Rees made enquiries regarding these names, but no substantial evidence was found. **Resolved** for Cllr J Williams O.B.E. to investigate the names and places of residence from a recognized source. Cllr J Williams O.B.E made a request to note and carry forward to the January meeting. **Resolved** to note.

165/2020-2021 Correspondence.

The Clerk Emailed all Council members on 06/12/2020 regarding a Santa Sleigh provided by Carmarthen Round table visiting the Community on 14/12/2020.

Cllr H Jones joined the meeting at 19.47,

166/2020-2021 Planning.

No planning applications received.

167/2020-2021 Payments

The below payments were certified in the November monthly meeting and **ratified** in the December Monthly meeting. Copies of invoices sent to all members electronically prior to payment for authorisation. Proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E. and seconded by Cllr J Youens.

Method of Payment	Date	Suppliers & Details	Sum £ inc VAT
Online	20/11/2020	WCVA SIN 010037	21.30
Online	20/11/2020	J.G Evans November Payroll	359.23
Online	20/11/2020	HMRC PAYE – Period 8	89.80
Online	20/11/2020	J.G Evans Reimbursement – Flying Flowers	21.99
Online	20/11/2020	Roman Solutions – Inv 3903	590.00
Online	20/11/2020	Morgan & Morgan – Exterior Noticeboards	1446.12

168/2020-2021 Receipts.

None.

169/2020-2021 Budget Proposal.

Community Council members discussed the budget proposal in preparation for the January precept application. The Clerk shared the 2020-2021 budget format online with members and discussed each heading individually. Each member had the opportunity to propose specific requirements needed for the 2021-2022 expenditure. The following table shows the proposed budget requirements for 2021-2022, which will be finalised by the Internal Examiner Cllr R Jones and the Clerk prior to the January 2021 meeting for approval. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Youens. The Clerk was asked to enquire as to the number of electors within Llanddarog Community Council. **Resolved** for Clerk to enquire.

HEADING	PREVIOUS BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	REASON
Ground Maintenance	2550.00	2550.00	New Tender Process
Staff Salary & PAYE	5000.00	6750.00	Current Wages + Pension
Admin, Inc Audit Fees	2300.00	2300.00	N/A
Insurance	870.00	900.00	Premium Inflation
Financial Assistance – Inc Standing Revenue Grants	1700.00	2000.00	Urdd Eisteddfod
Seating & Asset Maintenance	750.00	750.00	N/A
Street Lighting Estimate	3002.87	2750.00	10% increase on last inv
Misc – Inc Subscriptions	450.00	450.00	N/A
Members Allowance	120.00	360.00	Remuneration Review
Members Allowance PAYE	30.00	900.00	Remuneration Review
Election Cost	0.00	250.00	2021 Election
Section 137	900.00	900.00	N/A
Allocation to Special Projects & Reserve From Precept	5641.33	4800.00	Interpretation Panel, War Memorial, Speed Camera

170/2020-2021 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.

Cllr R Jones reported that he attended a webinar hosted by Audit Wales on 18/11/2020 to introduce the Future Audit Arrangements for Community and Town Councils in Wales. Following the recent consultation on future audit arrangements for town and community councils, the report sets out the audit arrangements for the audit of the 2020-21 accounts onwards. This will include a three-year audit programme, designed to meet statutory responsibilities while providing audit assurance at a reasonable cost to individual councils. An Internal examination and Internal Audit would remain in place despite changes within the future audit arrangements. Cllr R Jones requested that a copy of the “Governance and Accountability for Local Councils in Wales – A Practitioners Guide” was obtained and sent to all members. **Resolved** for Clerk to obtain a copy of the guide.

Cllr J Williams raised a concern as to the possible increased cost of the future audit arrangements. **Resolved** for Clerk to investigate.

171/2020-2021 In camera 21.13.

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.

172/2020-2021 Staff pay run December 2020.

Each member was sent an Email of the report prior to the online meeting. It was **resolved** to accept the report and ratify the payment of the sums as presented.

173/2020-2021 Continued review of auto enrolment position.

No Update regarding the NEST pension scheme.

174/2020-2021 The meeting finished at 21.20. - The Chair extended Christmas wishes to all members and their families at these challenging times.

Chairman

Date
