

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the February 2021 meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held online on the 10/02/2021 at 19.00.

195/2020-2021 Present:

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

County Councillor A Davies.

Clerk.

196/2020-2021 Apologies.

Councillors: S Herridge, R Newell, E Davies.

197/2020-2021 Declarations of Personal Interest.

None.

198/2020-2021 Opportunity for the Public to Address the Council on Agenda Items.

None.

199/2020-2021 Policing and Road Safety Matters.

None.

County Cllr A Davies joined the meeting at 19.08.

200/2020-2021 County Council Matters - County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies reported on the County Council's agenda this month and the most controversial was the consultation for Kidwelly and Llandybie area schools. Following significant discussion, an amendment to postpone the consultation was rejected as the County Council were undertaking the consultation in line with Government policy. The intention is to create two new schools in the villages but Mynydd y Garreg and Blaenau are part of the consultation. There is a Notice of Motion from Rob James (Labour) to stop the consultation until the pandemic is over. Therefore, an amendment from Glynog Davies asks the Welsh Government to give the County the right to postpone the consultation as the council is following Government Policy. The amendment was passed. When rearranging any education provision there are strong feelings within towns and communities which is understandable.

The road conditions are very poor in the Carmarthenshire area and the percentage of complaints is very high. Unfortunately another £1million has been lost from this budget although the Department is hopeful of receiving grant funding to supplement the shortfall.

Broadband supply to the community is currently being discussed and a suitable contractor will hopefully be able to provide residents with the speed that is required.

County Cllr A Davies reported that she had exercised Keep Wales Tidy within the Llanarthne area and that approx 12 bags of rubbish had been collected.

Cllr R Jones raised a concern regarding the supply of Broadband to the area as fibre Broadband was currently available to residents of the community. Cllr J Williams announced that Carmarthenshire County Council had a digital connectivity page which stated the following:-

Digital technology underpins almost every aspect of modern living across work, travel, leisure and health, and good internet access is now widely viewed as the '4th utility'. Fast, reliable connectivity is vital to support business growth, help rural communities to thrive, improve health and well-being, and make it easier for people to get online and access public services. Superfast broadband is defined as an internet connection with a download speed greater than 30mb per second. 86% of Carmarthenshire residents have access to superfast broadband, but the take-up rate is only 40%. The more individuals you have in your business or household using connected devices, the bigger the bandwidth you will need to prevent slow down or loss of service. If you're unsure what is best for your business or household, or what is available in your area the resources on this page will help you decide.

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/digital-connectivity/>

201/2020-2021 Chair's Report.

None.

202/2020-2021 Confirmation and Signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 13/01/2021.

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 13/01/2021 and for the Chair to sign the minutes on 13/02/2021. Proposed by Cllr J Youens and seconded by Cllr Williams O.B.E.

203/2020-2021 Matters arising from the above minutes.

Cllr J Youens reported that the road sweeper had been to Mynyddcerrig and cleared the loose gravel from the main road and pavements.

204/2020-2021 Correspondence.

A telephone call was received from a member of the public stating that the footpath from Lodge farm to Glanyrynys had not maintained in the previous 12 months. Cllr W Evans reported that Carmarthenshire County Council were responsible for the maintenance of all public footpaths within the Llanddarog Community Council area. Cllr W Evans confirmed that 2 x new bridges had been placed over the river along the path in question within the last 12 months. Cllr J Williams enquired if Llanddarog Community Council could take responsibility for the maintenance of the footpaths but due to budget constraints, this was not an option. **Resolved** for Cllr J Williams to visit the site and for Clerk to contact the relevant department with information on the state of the path which would be supplied within the week.

205/2020-2021 Planning.

No planning applications received.

206/2020-2021 Payments

The below payments were certified in the January monthly meeting and **ratified** in the February 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 R Jones.

Method of Payment	Date	Suppliers & Details	Sum £ inc VAT
Online	28/01/2021	WCVA SIN 010321	21.30
Online	28/01/2021	J.G Evans January Payroll	359.23
Online	28/01/2021	HMRC PAYE – Period 10	89.80
Online	28/01/2021	Wales Audit Office – Inv 005067	304.75
Online	28/01/2021	Mynyddcerrig Welfare Committee - Christmas Tree	50.00
Online	28/01/2021	Cllr E Davies – HM Land Registry Refund	6.00

207/2020-2021 Receipts.

None.

208/2020-2021 To review the corporate risk assessment schedule.

The Clerk had Emailed a copy of the current corporate risk assessment to all Council members on 15/01/2021 in preparation for the meeting.

An Email was received from Cllr J Williams recommending that a pro-temp financial oversight arrangements in the Clerks absence be included in the assessment.

Cllr M Rees proposed the removal of the **Press** column from the risk assessment as it was not currently being implemented.

An Email was received from Cllr M Rees and Cllr R Jones on 29/01/2021 regarding GDPR and the issue of registration for the Community Council. Both Councilors were of the opinion that there was no need to register or pay the fee. Llanddarog Community Council would still adhere to GDPR but there would be no need to register

Please find below the Information Commissioner's Website Guidance:

Are we a public authority under the UK GDPR?

Section 7 of the DPA 2018 defines what is a public authority' for the purposes of the UK GDPR.

It says that the following (and only the following) are 'public authorities':

a public authority as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000,

a Scottish public authority as defined by the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, and

an authority or body specified or described by the Secretary of State in regulations;

and they are only public authorities for UK GDPR purposes when they are performing a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in them.

*However, section 7(3) of the DPA 2018 says that the following are **not** public authorities for the purposes of the UK GDPR:*

a parish council in England;

a community council in Wales;

a community council in Scotland;

a parish meeting constituted under section 13 of the Local Government Act 1972;

a community meeting constituted under section 27 of that Act;

charter trustees constituted—

under section 246 of that Act,

under Part 1 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, or

by the Charter Trustees Regulations 1996.

While you are not a public authority for UK GDPR purposes, this does not affect your status as a public authority under any other legislation.

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/in-your-sector/local-government/local-gov-gdpr-faqs/>

All Council members agreed with the proposals and it was resolved for Cllr M Rees to alter the current corporate risk assessment, for Cllr R Jones to proof and authorize the amendments and for the Clerk to finalize the document.

209/2020-2021 Driver feedback signs Lan Lucis Bridge.

An Email was received from a member of the public **184/2020-2021** regarding vehicles travelling at speed despite the 30mph signs and 'SLOW' being printed on the B4310 towards Lan Lucas bridge. Some residents have witnessed incidents involving a vehicle travelling at speed, meeting a lorry or other large vehicle near the bridge and an accident being averted by the driver of the large vehicle mounting the pavement. The Clerk had spoken with Mr Andrew Morgan a traffic engineer from Carmarthenshire County Council and a site meeting was previously held with County Cllr A Davies and Cllr J Williams regarding a driver feedback sign at the same location. Due to no direct power source being available at the location, it was suggested that a solar powered unit could be allocated to the site. The matter was discussed and Council members decided that another site meeting was to be arranged between Mr Andrew Morgan, Cllr J Williams and Cllr R Jones. **Resolved** for the Clerk to arrange a meeting between all parties and copy Cllr's J Williams and R Jones into all correspondence.

210/2020-2021 Tender applications for ground maintenance

The Clerk requested in the January meeting that a sub-committee meeting be held on 20/01/2021 between Cllr W Evans, Cllr R Jones and members of Llanarthne Community Council to format new tender applications for the grounds maintenance contract. A sub-committee meeting including Cllr's D Morgan and E Jenkins from Llanarthne Community Council and Cllr's R Jones and W Evans from Llanddarog Community Council was held on 20/01/2021 to collaborate a tender agreement for both Community Councils. It was agreed at the sub-committee meeting to format the tender agreement based on Llanddarog Community Councils previous tender application with minor adjustments being entered from Llanarthne Community Councils previous tender application. A proof of the new tender application was sent to all sub-committee members on 04/02/2021 and as no amendments were required was subsequently sent to all members of Llanarthne Community Council on 06/02/2021. After a short discussion it was agreed to include the cutting of a grass verges next to Llanddarog School and place on the map. Cllr M Rees thanked the sub-committee for their work in formatting the new tender application. It was proposed by County Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Williams to accept the new tender

application. **Resolved** for the Clerk to finalise the document and send the tender application to potential contractors.

211/2020-2021 Insurance Policy Review.

The Clerk had Emailed a copy of the current insurance policy to all Council members on 03/02/2021 in preparation for the meeting. The Clerk had spoken with an administrator of BHIB, the insurance provider, prior to the meeting with regards to a possible collaboration of insurance policies with Llanarthne Community Council in order to reduce premium costs. The Clerk was advised that this could be done but that if a claim was ever instigated within either one of the Community Councils, the other Community Council would receive an increase in premium costs. The Clerk was advised that the only way to reduce costs was to review the population of the community. Cllr M Jones from Llanarthne Community Council obtained the population information on behalf of the Clerk and it was reported that the population of Llanddarog in Mid 2019 was 1267 with an estimated increase of 6% prior to the 2021 Census being conducted. The current policy is suitable to covers a population of 5000 therefore increasing the annual premium cost. The clerk suggested that the population number be reduced to 2000 in order to save approx £150.00 per annum. The matter was discussed by Council members and it was proposed by Cllr H Jones and seconded by Cllr J Williams to reduce the population number to 2000. **Resolved** for the Clerk to amend the current policy when renewal is due.

212/2020-2021 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.

Cllr J Youens reported that cracks had started to appear on the bridge next to the old school in Mynyddcerrig. **Resolved** for the Clerk to report to relevant department.

The Clerk introduced a proposal to all Council members for a member of Mid and West Wales Fire Brigade attend the March meeting on 10/03/2021 to update the Community on home fire safety, arson reduction and other services offered by the Fire Service. The proposal was discussed by Council members, proposed by County Cllr J Youens and seconded by Cllr W Evans. **Resolved** for Clerk to confirm presentation with a member of Mid and West Wales Fire Brigade.

213/2020-2021 In camera 20.32.

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.

214/2020-2021 Staff pay run Febuary 2021.

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.

215/2020-2021 Continued review of auto enrolment position.

The Clerk had registered with the NEST pension scheme and sent a copy of the terms and conditions to all Council members on 29/01/2021 as authorisation was required before commencing with the scheme. Cllr M Rees raised some concerns with the Clerk on 30/01/2021 regarding certain aspects of the scheme. The Clerk contacted NEST and clarified all questions to Cllr M Rees prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr J Williams and seconded by Cllr W Evans to accept the terms and conditions of the NEST pension scheme and for the Clerk to finalise the application form and commence with contributions from 01/04/2020 as agreed in the October meeting on 14/10/2020 (**Minute 134/2020-2021**).

216/2020-2021 ***At 20.42 it was requested that Cllr M Rees (Chair) left the meeting to allow Council members time to discuss a matter which she was aware of. Cllr R Jones suggested that due to the Covid-19 pandemic and that the current chair had not attended or been involved in any of the annual social events that she would be given the opportunity to remain as Chair for a second year. The proposal was discussed by all members present and as Llanddarog Community Council and many other Community Councils have allowed the Chair a second term in previous years, it was decided to extend Cllr M Rees's chairmanship for a second year. If the Covid-19 pandemic remains for another 12 months, the Vice Chair would be allocated the Chairmanship in May 2022. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr W Evans. All members agreed***

217/2020-2021 The meeting finished at 20.50.

Chairman

Date
