

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the December 2021 meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held online on the 08/12/2021 at 19.00.

#### 156/2021-2022 Present:

Councillors: M Rees (Chair), R Jones, S Herridge, J Youens, H Jones, R Newell, R Owen.

County Cllr A Davies.

Clerk.

Translator: C Llwyd.

#### 157/2021-2022 Apologies.

Councillors: W Evans, J Williams O.B.E, E Davies.

#### 158/2021-2022 Declarations of personal interest.

Cllr J Youens – **Minute 170/2021-2022** - To discuss maintenance of proposed Mynyddcerrig defibrillator.

#### 159/2021-2022 Opportunity for the public to address the council on agenda items.

None.

#### 160/2021-2022 Policing and Road Safety Matters

None.

Cllr R Owen joined the meeting at 19.10.

#### 161/2021-2022 County Council matters - County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies reported that she had attended numerous meetings and conferences during the past month, mainly dealing with the Rural Agenda such as the Rural Forum, Tackling Poverty, Winter Fair and also the Food Sense Wales Conference.

A great deal of damage had been caused within the County following Storm Arwen and Barra with some of the damage still being repaired. The roof of Bryngwyn School, Llanelli has been damaged along with the roof of the Museum of Speed in Pendine. EV (Electric Vehicle) charging points are being placed at various locations within the County and have already been installed in the 10 rural towns. To locate the EV charging points, please log on to [www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com) to receive the up to date locations.

The cabinet announced that Mynydd-y-Garreg and Blaenau Schools would not be closed but that the MEP consultation would continue with the review on all Carmarthenshire primary schools. However, the planned investment into new primary schools in Llandybie, Kidwelly, Ammanford and Dewi Sant in Llanelli would continue. Just to raise awareness, the Community Bureau in Carmarthenshire County Council is there to help all local organisations, such as village halls and charities to find

additional funding for projects. Our local Officer, Caroline Owen is willing to advise and help if you have a particular project that requires funding.

Cllr H Jones enquired if Llanddarog Primary School was included in the the MEP consultation as it was a Church in Wales voluntary controlled school. County Cllr A Davies clarified that the Llanddarog Primary School was included in the MEP consultation as it was funded by Carmarthenshire County Council.

Cllr R Jones asked if Llanddarog Primary School should be concerned about school closures. County Cllr A Davies replied that the MEP consultation was a fair system and that they would consider many factors and not just Financial viability.

County Cllr A Davies wished all council members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

County Cllr A Davies left the meeting at 19.24, not to return.

#### **162/2021-2022 Chairman's Report.**

Cllr M Rees reported that she had attended a Remembrance Service at St. Twrog Church, Llanddarog at 09.30 on Sunday 14/11/2021 and by Mynyddcerrig War Memorial at 13.00. Both services were well attended.

Cllr M Rees apologised for the change of venue for the December meeting on 08/12/2021 but thought it was prudent considering the rise in Omicron cases in Wales over the past few days.

Cllr H Jones enquired if meetings would be live or on Zoom in the New Year. The Clerk confirmed that the January and February meetings would be held online, and the March meeting would be held at Porthyrhyd Village Hall.

#### **163/2021-2022 Confirmation and signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 10/11/2021.**

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 10/11/2021 and for the clerk to deliver the minutes to the Chair for signing on 10/12/2021. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr R Newell.

#### **164/2021-2022 Matters arising from the above minutes.**

The Clerk informed council members that all matters to **resolve** had been actioned and if correspondence had been received, a copy of the Email had been sent to each member for information.

The Clerk reported that Carmarthenshire County Council had attended to the erosion on a section of highway between Pantyfer, Cwmisfael, Llanddarog, SA32 8NY and Casa Mia, Cwmisfael, Llanddarog, SA32 8NY. Trees had been felled and drains unblocked.

The Clerk reported that Carmarthenshire County Council had repaired the DFS (Driver feedback Sign) sign near Mynyddcerrig Primary School, SA15 5BG.

Cllr M Rees raised concerns regarding unsafe trees between Pantyfer, Cwmisfael, Llanddarog, SA32 8NY and Casa Mia, Cwmisfael, Llanddarog, SA32 8NY. **Resolved** for the Clerk to report to the relevant department.

**165/2021-2022** To note correspondence or to list for consideration at a forthcoming council meeting.

None.

**166/2021-2022** Planning.

None.

**167/2021-2022** 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 R Jones and seconded by Cllr S Herridge.

Method of Payment	Date	Suppliers & Details	Sum £ inc VAT
Online	25/11/2021	Nest	32.58
Online	26/11/2021	WCVA Inv - 744	21.30
Online	26/11/2021	J.G Evans – November Payroll	344.86
Online	26/11/2021	HMRC PAYE – Period 8	90.20
Online	26/11/2021	Catrin Llwyd – CCLL3	70.00
Online	26/11/2021	Mr L M Jones – Internal Auditor	75.00
Online	26/11/2021	Carmarthen and District Youth Opera - Donation	50.00
Online	26/11/2021	Christmas Toybox Appeal - Donation	100.00

Please note the location of funds for donation below:

Carmarthen Toybox Appeal - £100.00 (Chairmans' Allowance)

Carmarthen and District Youth Opera - £50.00 (Section 137)

**168/2021-2022** Receipts.

None.

**169/2021-2022** To discuss maintenance of community flagpoles.

An email was received on 14/11/2021 from Cllr J Williams O.B.E stating that the flagpoles within the community required maintenance before the flags are raised in 2022. The Clerk contacted Red Dragon Flagmakers in Swansea as they were local and able to fulfil any maintenance work required. Photographs were sent to Red Dragon Flagmakers on 30/11/2021 and a prompt reply was received, stating that repairs and a LOLER inspection was required.

Cllr R Jones enquired if the work involved should be part of a tender process. Cllr S Herridge reported that as the maintenance required was a Health and Safety issue, that it should be rectified as soon as possible. The matter was further discussed by council members, and it was decided to sought repairs as soon as possible. Proposed by Cllr S Herridge and seconded by Cllr H Jones. **Resolved** for the Clerk to contact Red Dragon Flagmakers.

**170/2021-2022** To discuss maintenance of Mynyddcerrig Defibrillator.

In the November meeting on 10/11/2021 Cllr J Youens announced that a defibrillator was being installed in Mynyddcerrig and enquired if Llanddarog Community Council

would maintain and supply parts for the machine when needed as they do in Llanddarog and Porthyrhyd. Cllr M Rees suggested that Mynyddcerrig Welfare Committee write a letter to the Community Council requesting their assistance and to place on the agenda for the December meeting on 08/12/2021.

A letter was received from Mynyddcerrig Welfare Committee prior to the meeting and read out to all council members by the Clerk. The matter was discussed by all council members, and it was decided that Llanddarog Community Council would maintain and supply parts for the machine when needed as they do in Llanddarog and Porthyrhyd. Proposed by Cllr S Herridge and seconded by Cllr R Newell. **Resolved** to note.

**171/2021-2022** To discuss budget proposal.

Community Council members discussed the budget proposal in preparation for the January precept application. The Clerk shared the 2021-2022 budget format online with members and discussed each heading individually. Each member had the opportunity to propose specific requirements needed for the 2022-2023 expenditure. The following table shows the proposed budget requirements for 2022-2023, which will be finalised by the Internal Financial Examiner Cllr R Jones and the Clerk prior to the January 2022 meeting for approval. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr M Rees. The Clerk was asked to enquire as to the estimated election costs for 2022. **Resolved** for Clerk to enquire.

HEADING	PREVIOUS BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	REASON
Ground Maintenance	2550.00	1800.00	N/A
Staff Salary & PAYE	6000.00	6400.00	Current Wages + Pension
Admin, Inc Audit Fees	2300.00	2300.00	N/A
Insurance	900.00	930.00	Premium Inflation
Financial Assistance – Inc Standing Revenue Grants	2000.00	2000.00	Llanddarog Show Urdd Eisteddfod
Seating & Asset Maintenance	1250.00	2000.00	Flagpole Maintenance
Street Lighting Estimate	2750.00	2900.00	Utilities Inflation
Misc – Inc Subscriptions	450.00	450.00	N/A
Members Allowance	360.00	360.00	N/A
Members Allowance PAYE	90.00	90.00	N/A
Election Cost	0.00	250.00	2022 Election
Section 137	900.00	900.00	N/A
Allocation to Special Projects & Reserve From Precept	4000.00	4000.00	Interpretation Panel, War Memorial, Speed Camera
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,550.00</b>	<b>24,380.00</b>	

**172/2021-2022** To discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon 02/06/2022.

County Cllr A Davies previously reported that she had suggested to Llanarthne Community Council about approaching the National Trust to see if they want to organise a beacon in Paxton's Tower. County Cllr A Davies also suggested the

potential use of the tower at Llanddarog Church to aid in the celebrations. Council members discussed the suggestions and agreed to ask the Clerk to contact the National Trust to discuss the matter. **Resolved** for the Clerk to contact the National Trust and place on the agenda for the November meeting on 10/11/2021.

The Clerk emailed the National Trust on 19/10/2021, asking them to consider the suggestion and reply with their thoughts prior to the November meeting on 10/11/2021.

No reply has been received and after a conversation with Mrs Jayne Henshaw from the National Trust, she informed the Clerk that discussions were taking place regarding the council's suggestion, and they would be in contact in due course.

An email was received from One Voice Wales on 30/10/2021 and forwarded to all council members with an update on the guide to taking part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee beacons. The update is now encouraging those lighting Beacons to plant a circle of seven trees with each tree representing a decade in The Queen's reign to assist with the sustainability of the planet, along with providing a permanent reminder of this unique, and amazing moment in The Queen's life and in her reign.

Cllr M Rees reported that it was not possible to illuminate the church spire more than it currently is but that the church would be lighting the spire and celebrating the occasion on 02/06/2022.

Resolved to note and place on the agenda for the December meeting on 08/12/2021.

An email was received from the National Trust on 08/12/2021 and forwarded to all council members asking for more details with regards to the proposal (Proposed site, size, etc). The lead ranger who is responsible for the land and meadows project at Paxton's Tower was also copied into the email.

The Clerk advised council members to wait until the Llanarthne Community Council meeting on 14/12/2021 to decide on a reply to the questions. Cllr R Jones enquired if the NBGW were celebrating the occasion. The Clerk instructed council members that he would make enquiries. **Resolved** for the Clerk to contact the NBGW.

#### **173/2021-2022 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.**

Cllr J Youens enquired if Llanddarog Community Council were willing to fund the Christmas tree in Mynyddcerrig as they have done over the past few years. Cllr R Jones reported that a maximum £50.00 allowance was in place to fund Christmas trees and decorations in Llanddarog, Porthyrhyd and Mynyddcerrig. The matter was discussed, and it was decided by council members that the funding should continue on an annual basis and that Section 137 of the budget proposal should be increased. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr J Youens. **Resolved** to note.

#### **174/2020-2021 In camera 20.00.**

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.

#### **175/2020-2021 Staff pay run December 2021.**

The Clerk reported the payroll amounts verbally to all council members. It was **resolved** to accept the report and ratify the payment of the sums as presented. Proposed by Cllr S Herridge and seconded by Cllr R Newell. Cllr M Rees wished all council members a very merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

**176/2021-2022** The meeting finished at 20.23.

Chairman

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Date

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