

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the October 2022 Meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held at Mynyddcerrig Club on 12/10/2022 at 19.00.

#### 111/2022-2023 Present.

Councillors: R Jones (Chair), R Newell, R Owen, M Griffiths, J Williams O.B.E. S Herridge, T Evans.

County Cllr A Davies.

Clerk.

Translator: C Llwyd.

#### 112/2022-2023 To receive apologies.

Councillors: County Cllr H Jones, M Rees, K Waters, R McFarlane.

#### 113/2022-2023 To receive declarations of interest.

None.

#### 114/2022-2023 Opportunity for the public to address the Council on agenda items.

None.

#### 115/2022-2023 Policing and Road Safety Matters.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E informed council members that a few of the lighting columns on Foelgastell Road were obstructed by overgrown trees. Resolved for the Clerk to report to the relevant department.

#### 116/2022-2023 County Council matters - County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies informed Council members that in a meeting on 10/10/2022 it was reported that the default Speed limit will be reduced from 30mph - 20mph if you are in a zone which is currently 30mph. This will come into effect from September 2023 and the decision has come from the Welsh Government. A Fundamental change in behaviour will be required from all drivers. This decision was made to reduce accidents and fatalities as 80 personal injury collisions were reported in 2018 which involved children and Young people. Exceptions may be appropriate if cyclist and pedestrians do not merge with vehiclular traffic. 45% of injuries which occur at 30mph result in death but only 5% when the driver is travelling at 20mph. All default 20mph have been mapped but isn't yet available for scrutiny. Workshops will be on the 18th, 20th and 21st October for members to be fully informed of what is changing within their Ward. Traffweb portal will have details of what is proposed within your Community and this is accessed via the Carmarthenshire County Council website. You are able to register a comment on the portal or see hard copies of plans in the HWB in Debenhams, Carmarthen or within the Hwb in Llanelli or Ammanford. Consultation or enquiries regardng this will probably be via the contact Centre on 01267 234567. A presentation to Town and Community Councils forum will be mad e on 09/11/2022. A grant has been received from the Welsh Government for approx £800,000 for 2022 – 2023 but a bid for additional funds will be made for monies for 2023 - 2024. The overall cost has not yet been received but will be available after the

consultations, however, the Welsh Government have promised to fully fund this change.

County Cllr A Davies reported that in a Council meeting on 28/09/2022, Cllr Alun Lenny stated that “we were going into a very difficult period of austerity”, with cuts to services of between £8.2 – £22million. The difference is astronomical as it is totally dependant on the settlement from Cardiff and ultimately from Westminster and this is of course due partially to the inflationary pressures as well.

County Cllr A Davies reported that on a more positive note, Llanarthne Village Hall has opened up as a Warm Hub on Tuesday (13.30 – 15.30) and Thursday (13.30 – 16.30) afternoons, providing hot beverages, crafting sessions and co-inciding with the mobile library. This project has been undertaken to help combat loneliness and Llanarthne Village Hall is funding the entire project with help from volunteers, but there will be funding available if any other community enterprise wishes to do follow their example. Interested parties should contact County Cllr A Davies for further information.

Cllr R Jones asked if the County Council or Community Council were involved with the Warm Hub project?

County Cllr A Davies replied that they were not involved.

Cllr R Jones asked if Insurance arrangements had been made regarding the Warm Hub project?

County Cllr A Davies replied that insurance was in place.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E asked if speed humps were being eradicated?

County Cllr A Davies replied that she had not not been informed but that new 20mph signs were being erected and road signs removed.

Cllr R Newell asked which services were being effected regarding the £8.2 – £22million reduction.

County Cllr A Davies stated that no decisions had been made yet but if there were possible redundancies, redeployment would be offered.

Cllr R Newell stated that there was an annual increase in council tax and enquired where all the funds were allocated.

County Cllr A Davies replied that the majority was allocated to inflation and staff wages. Council Tax is responsible for 20% – 25% of the income and the remainder was provided by the Welsh Government.

#### **117/2022-2023 Chairman's Report.**

The Chair informed council members that he had signed the book of condolence online for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on behalf of the community council.

#### **118/2022-2023 Confirmation and signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 21/09/2022.**

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 21/09/2022. Proposed by Cllr R Newell and seconded by Cllr R Jones.

#### **119/2022-2023 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.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E referred to the letter received in the September meeting and enquired as to why the community council was dealing with County Council and policing matters.

The Clerk replied that the letter was forwarded to all council members for comment prior to the September meeting and that the letter was discussed as a whole to ensure clarity and transparency to all community members as minutes were a matter of public record.

County Cllr A Davies responded on the matter of allocation of housing within the county and that it was decided via a 4-point banding process –

- 1) Homeless and disabled.
- 2) Unwell but able and self-sufficient.
- 3) Well and healthy.
- 4) Registered but no completed allocation.

Any property that is available, a person must register an expression of interest between Friday – Monday.

Carmarthenshire County Council would then be able to place eligible persons in the correct band.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E asked if the process was transparent to County Cllr A Davies.

County Cllr A Davies replied that a local person would be considered for housing first and if 2 local people were on the register, the person that had registered first would be allocated housing.

**120/2022-2023 To note correspondence or to list for consideration at a forthcoming council meeting.**

(All relevant correspondence is emailed to council members at the time of receipt and only brought before the meeting if necessary or specifically requested by members or the Clerk).

Cllr R Jones reported that he had received a hand delivered letter prior to the October meeting on 12/10/2022 from retired County and Community Cllr W Evans. Please see following –

“To the Chairman and Members of Llanddarog Community Council.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind and generous gesture of placing a bench at Pontfaen in recognition of my term of office as a member of the Llanddarog Parish and Community Council and for 40 years as your County Councillor.

I can assure you that I never expected any such recognition as I have had great pleasure in being a member of the council and have enjoyed every minute on all the councils and has given me great pleasure in representing the area for such a long time.

On the presentation evening I was totally lost for words as I was in a state of shock and could not find words adequate to express my appreciation of such generosity and to be able to see it daily from my home and it will remain with me for a very long time.

I just hope that I will be able to enjoy sitting on it for many years to come and may have the company of Cllr R Jones and some of the local people as well.

Diolch o gallon I chi gyd,  
Wyn”.

The Clerk received the following letter from Cllr M Rees on behalf of Llanddarog YFC on 02/10/2022 and forwarded to all council members –

“I’ve been advised to speak to you regarding the Llanddarog Young Farmers plot opposite Llanddarog Chapel.

From what I'm aware Llanddarog YFC own the piece of land, but the Community Council offered to keep on top of the maintenance work on it eg cutting the grass etc.

My cousin is getting married on December the 3rd in Llanddarog a Chapel and we are organising a surprise for them. We would like to put something similar like the photo attached on that small piece of grass opposite the chapel where our yfc plaques are for the wedding.

We'll make sure that everything is done tidy and there won't be any damage to the plot itself, and we'll take the silage bales away from there after the wedding.

Llanddarog YFC are happy for this to happen, but I wanted to check with you as well.

I'd be very grateful if you could check with the Community Council if you're happy for this to go ahead and let me know as soon as possible for me to proceed with the arrangements".



The letter was discussed, and no objections were raised. Resolved for the Clerk to contact Llanddarog YFC.

#### 121/2022-2023 Planning.

None.

#### 122/2022-2023 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. Proposed by Cllr S Herridge and seconded by Cllr R Newell.

<b>Method of Payment</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Suppliers &amp; Details</b>	<b>Sum £ inc VAT</b>
Online	08/09/2022	Nest	33.82
Online	26/09/2022	Wynnstay Agri Supplies - Sundries	11.25
Online	26/09/2022	Toolstation - Sundries	11.51
Online	26/09/2022	Mr Alun Vaughan - Maintenance	120.00
Online	26/09/2022	Dynefor Tree Services - 006	250.00
Online	26/09/2022	HMRC PAYE – Period 5	93.40
Online	26/09/2022	J.G Evans – September Payroll	356.74
Online	29/09/2022	Nest	33.82

**123/2022-2023 Receipts.**

Carmarthenshire County Council – Precept 2.  
31/08/2022 - £7085.26.

**124/2022-2023 To receive the report of the Internal Financial Examiner for period 01/07/2022 - 30/09/2022.**

Each member had been provided with a written report and a copy of the 2022 – 2023 accounts 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 current budget report provided. An error was divulged regarding a refund to the Clerk for the sum of £9.45 and it was resolved to fully refund the Clerk ASAP. It was proposed by Cllr J Williams O.B.E and seconded by Cllr S Herridge to accept the report. Members thanked Cllr R Jones and the Clerk for their work.

**125/2022-2023 To discuss asset transfer of land at Cwm Catti.**

The Clerk informed council members that he had still been unable to speak with anyone at Carmarthenshire County Council regarding this matter despite numerous attempts after receiving contact details from County Cllr A Davies. Numerous messages have been left and emails sent but to no avail. The issue was forwarded to County Cllr A Davies and a reply is imminent.

Cllr R Jones stated that he was not aware of any other community councils receiving objections regarding similar projects. He asked County Cllr A Davies to request reasons for the objection of placing the memorial stone at Cwm Catti.

**126/2022-2023 To discuss meeting accessibility.**

Cllr M Griffiths reported that he had spoken with the Headmistress of Llanddarog School, and no objections were raised. The headmistress stated that the proposal would be discussed with the school's Board of Governors in the next meeting on 26/10/2022.

Cllr J Williams O.B.E asked why the proposal was made and if it would override the arrangements made in the past.

Cllr R Jones and the Clerk explained that it was Welsh Government legislation and that remote access was required to be made available to all community members.

**127/2022-2023 To discuss Community Awards.**

The Clerk informed council members that the certificate was being designed and that a copy of the proof was imminent.

Cllr M Griffiths suggested that the project remain on the agenda to make sure all possible recipients have been considered. All council members agreed.

**128/2022-2023 To discuss issue at B4310/Foelgastell Road junction.**

The Clerk reported that the visibility survey had been completed and the results sent to all council members on 12/10/2022. Please see following –

Just to confirm that the junction visibility survey and speed check was carried out yesterday at the Foelgastell junction in Porthyrhyd , and I am pleased to inform you that the criteria for a Stop sign was met . I shall therefore arrange for the existing give way sign and markings to be replaced with a stop sign together with the associated stop road markings at this junction. I shall also arrange for an advanced stop sign/50 yards and ARAF/SLOW road markings to be provided on the approach to the junction coming down from Foelgastell. This work will be carried out before the end of this financial year 2022/23.

**Resolved** to note and to review in the future if required after works completed.

**129/2022-2023 To discuss Information Board at Porthyrhyd.**

The matter was discussed by all council members present and many questions were asked with regards to the historical information available. It was decided for the Clerk to write an email to the community member that introduced the idea to the community council asking for the information prior to any final decision being made.

**Resolved** for the Clerk to contact the community member.

Cllr S Herridge raised a query asking council members if community members would be happy with the community council spending money on a project of this nature when there is a cost-of-living crisis and other financial difficulties on the horizon. Council members discussed the query and despite the concerns, stated that no funds would be spent until all information is received and quotations considered.

**130/2022-2023 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.**

Cllr J Williams O.B.E asked when the community flags should be removed. Cllr R Jones replied 13/11/2022.

Cllr R Newell left the meeting at 20.25, not to return.

Cllr S Herridge reported that a possible development of 3 dwellings was being discussed for a plot of land between Porthyrhyd – Drefach. County Cllr A Davies reported that the land was not within the current LDP.

Cllr T Evans reported that due to blocked drains on the A48 near Pantpwll Farm, vehicles are sliding on the water and ending in the field below. Resolved for the Clerk to report to the relevant department.

**131/2022-2023 In camera 20.28.**

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.

**132/2022-2023 Staff pay run October 2022.**

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 R Jones and seconded by Cllr S Herridge.

**133/2022-2023 The meeting finished at 20.32.**

Chairman

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Date

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