

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDAROG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the September 2022 Meeting of Llanddarog Community Council held at Porthyrhyd Village Hall on 21/09/2022 at 19.00.

#### 88/2022-2023 Present.

Councilors: R Jones (Chair), R Newell, R McFarlane, M Griffiths.

Clerk.

Translator: C Llwyd.

#### 89/2022-2023 To receive apologies.

Councilors: County Cllr A Davies, County Cllr H Jones, S Herridge, M Rees, R Owen, K Waters, J Williams O.B.E.

#### 90/2022-2023 To receive declarations of interest.

None.

#### 91/2022-2023 Opportunity for the public to address the Council on agenda items.

None.

#### 92/2022-2023 Policing and Road Safety Matters.

None.

#### 93/2022-2023 County Council matters - County Cllr A Davies.

None.

#### 94/2022-2023 Chairman's Report.

The Chair informed council members that on 08/09/2022, all flags within the community were lowered to half-mast due to the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The flags were raised on 09/09/2022 and 10/09/2022 during the proclamation of His majesty King Charles III. From 11/09/2022 – 20/09/2022 the flags were lowered to half-mast during the state mourning period.

The chair reported that he had partaken in the tolling of the bell at Llanddarog Church on 09/09/2022.

The Chair reported that he had attended the proclamation of His majesty King Charles III at County Hall, Carmarthen on 10/09/2022 to represent council.

The Chair reported that he had attended a memorial service at Llanddarog Church on 13/09/2022 to represent council.

The Chair expressed his gratitude to Cllr M Rees for placing the memorial notice on Llandddarog Community council website and to those involved in the lowering and raising of the flags in our three villages at very short notice.

The Chair reported that he will sign the Book of Condolences on behalf of Llanddarog Community Council.

The Chair informed council members that he had been invited to attend the Urdd Eisteddfod proclamation event in Carmarthen on 17/09/2022 but felt that it was improper to attend as all governing bodies had been requested to stand down during the national mourning of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Chair reported that on 21/09/2022, prior to the September meeting, he had presented past County and Community Cllr Wyn Evans with a seating bench at Pontfaen, Llanddarog in recognition of the dedicated service and commitment he had given to the county of Carmarthenshire and the community. The Chair thanked the Clerk for organising the event.



**95/2022-2023 Confirmation and signing of the Minutes of the Council Meeting 13/07/2022.**

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes for 13/07/2022. Proposed by Cllr R Newell and seconded by Cllr R McFarlane.

**96/2022-2023 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 M Griffiths and Cllr R McFarlane requested to attend the Code of Conduct training course. **Resolved** for the Clerk to arrange.

Cllr M Griffiths asked if it was possible to scan and display the photographs of His Majesty King Charles III visit to Llanddarog on the community council website. He stated that he was willing to scan the photographs and assist the Clerk with the work. **Resolved** for the Clerk to arrange meeting with Cllr M Griffiths.

**97/2022-2023 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).

The Clerk stated that request for funding letters had been received from Carmarthenshire YFC, Y lloffwr and the Urdd. **Resolved** to defer to the November meeting on 09/11/2022 when all funding requests are discussed.

A letter was received from a member of the community on 30/08/2022 and forwarded to all council members to peruse prior to the meeting. The following issues were brought to the council's attention.

- a) Unacceptable noise and nuisance at Porthyrhyd Square after 23.00 – Council members discussed the issue and asked the Clerk to respond to the community member, advising them to contact Carmarthenshire County council to monitor noise levels in the area and to contact the Police at the time of the disturbance. The Clerk to inform the local Police Station of the issue and to request frequent visits to the area.
- b) Concerns regarding potential Cwm Catti residents - Council members discussed the issue and asked the Clerk to inform County Cllr A Davies regarding the matter.
- c) Porthyrhyd memorial Stone – Matter discussed on a regular basis and awaiting response from Carmarthenshire County Council.
- d) Information Board in Porthyrhyd - Council members discussed the issue and agreed to explore the matter in the October meeting. **Resolved** to place on the agenda for the October meeting on 12/10/2022.

#### **98/2022-2023 Planning.**

No objections to the following planning applications. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr M Griffiths.

**PL/04353** - Proposed additional building for the repair and storage of motor vehicles - Landeg Garage, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthen, SA32 8PN.

This application was discussed by council members and in view of the re-occurring parking issues on the B4310 and the refusal of a previous planning application to have a parking area in the field opposite the garage, council members agreed that this was an attempt to alleviate the parking issue.

**PL/04458** – Proposed covered yard. Penrhiw, Cwmissael, Carmarthen, SA32 8BY.

#### **99/2022-2023 Payments.**

The below payments were certified in the July monthly meeting, online during August and **ratified** in the September monthly meeting. Copies of invoices sent to all members electronically prior to payment for authorisation. Proposed by Cllr R Jones 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	25/07/2022	HMRC PAYE – Period 4	93.40
Online	25/07/2022	J.G Evans – July Payroll	350.29
Online	25/07/2022	Catrin Llwyd – CCLL11	700.00
Online	25/07/2022	Dynefor Tree Services - 003	250.00
Online	25/07/2022	Dynefor Tree Services - 004	250.00
Online	25/07/2022	Paragon Internet - 7128665	38.16
Online	28/07/2022	Nest	33.82
Online	22/08/2022	J.G Evans – August Payroll	363.19
Online	22/08/2022	HMRC – Period 5	93.40
Online	22/08/2022	Cllr Salary – Tax refund	30.00
Online	22/08/2022	Roman Solutions - 7602	360.00
Online	22/08/2022	Dynefor Tree Services - 005	250.00
Online	22/08/2022	True Laser Engraving - 1014	45.00

Online	22/08/2022	Mr Alun Vaughan - Maintenance	50.00
Online	23/08/2022	Edge IT Systems - 36217	135.36

**100/2022-2023 Receipts.**

Gorslas Community Council – Online platform donation May/June.

23/08/2022 - £40.00.

Llandybie Community Council – Online platform donation June/July.

30/08/2022 - £40.00.

**101/2022-2023 To confirm the prepared External Audit Report for 2021 – 2022.**

Each member had been provided with a written report and a copy of the 2021 – 2022 accounts prior to the meeting. The Clerk had received notice of instruction regarding the upcoming External Audit. The Clerk had finalised the report and received clarification from Cllr R Jones prior to presenting to the council members for confirmation. An explanation was presented verbally to all council members explaining all questions asked by the External Auditor. It was proposed by Cllr R Jones, seconded by Cllr R Newell and all council members agreed to accept the documents prepared by the Clerk. **Resolved** for the Clerk to get documents signed by the Internal Auditor on 21/09/2022 before sending completed documents to the External Auditor. The Clerk thanked Cllr R Jones for all his assistance regarding this matter.

**102/2023-2023 To discuss Asset Maintenance report.**

The Clerk Emailed a copy of the Asset Register and Maintenance Report to all council members on 10/09/2022. The report included a recent list of all assets belonging to Llanddarog Community Council, their condition, audit value and insurance value. The register was discussed, and council members agreed for the concrete shelter in Llanddarog to be cleaned and painted. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr R Newell to accept the report. **Resolved** for the Clerk to arrange works.

**103/2022-2023 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 matter was discussed by council members, and it was **resolved** to forward the issue to County Cllr A Davies.

**104/2022-2023 To discuss meeting accessibility.**

The Clerk informed council members that after a discussion with other council clerks the regulation stating that council meetings must be available to all public members must be adhered. There is an issue within the community as the Wi-Fi signal and mobile telephone signal were not available at current locations. One suggestion given was that the location of the meeting would need to be changed to an online platform if a member of the public was unable to attend in person. Another suggestion was to approach Llanddarog School and ask if it was possible to hold all council meetings in the school hall as facilities were present at the venue. Proposed

by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr R Newell. **Resolved** for Cllr M Griffiths to approach Llanddarog School for feedback.

**105/2022-2023 To discuss Community Awards.**

No further names had been received by the Clerk for consideration since the July Meeting.

Cllr M Griffiths asked if individuals or businesses outside the community boundary could be considered.

Cllr R Jones stated that a boundary had to be decided and that any individuals or businesses outside the community boundary would not be considered despite those assisting within the community during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The following businesses were considered, and it was decided to present a certificate to all proprietors that were present during the Covid-19 pandemic. Proposed by Cllr R Jones and seconded by Cllr M Griffiths.

The White Hart, Llanddarog.

The Butchers Arms, Llanddarog,  
Llanddarog Post Office.

The Prince of Wales, Porthyrhyd.

The Abadam Arms, Porthyrhyd.  
Porthyrhyd Post Office.

**Resolved** for the Clerk to format the certificate and to send to all council members for proofing.

**106/2022-2023 To discuss issue at B4310/Foelgastell Road junction.**

A site meeting was attended by Cllr R Jones, Cllr J Williams O.B.E and Mr Andrew Morgan (Traffic Engineer Carmarthenshire County Council) on 11/08/2022. The following report was received by the Clerk on 12/08/2022 and forwarded to all council members.

- 1) Request for traffic mirror - I would inform you that roadside mirrors are not generally favoured by highway authorities and until recently required specific approval by the Welsh Government. Whilst there is now some relaxation in the approval process there remain concerns that mirrors can cause road safety issues. Due to the convex shape of a mirror the reflected image for road users is naturally distorted and this can lead to motorists failing to appreciate the path and the speed of on-coming traffic. The mirror itself will reflect headlights and this can also cause a 'dazzle' issue for other road users. At a practical level mirrors have a tendency to mist which leads to concerns regarding reliability in their use. Although there are some mirrors adjacent to roads in the County, normally these will be fixed to furniture on private land rather than installed by us as the County Council within the highway boundary and for the above reasons we do not generally support the introduction of mirrors. However, due to the concerns raised at the meeting regarding the poor visibility at the Foelgastell junction I shall arrange for a junction visibility survey and speed check to be undertaken at this location to see if the criteria is met for a Stop sign and associated road markings instead of the existing give way sign and markings at this junction .
- 2) Pothole, near Prince of Wales PH - I have reported this matter to the assistant highways manager Mr Tim Hammett, who covers this area.

- 3) Leaking water stop valve, near property Trealaw - I reported this matter to Welsh Water immediately after the site meeting, and I believe the issue has now been resolved, as I drove passed this location on my way to another site meeting this morning and everything looked fine.

The Clerk reported that the results of the junction visibility survey had not been received. **Resolved** for the Clerk to contact Mr Andrew Morgan to obtain the results.

**107/2022-2023 Forum in order for Members to raise reports / questions through the Chairman.**

Cllr R Newell informed council members that he had attended the Torcoed Quarry Liaison meeting on 13/09/2022 and the following was discussed. The quarry using electronic detonation to reduce the effect of the vibrations, but adverse weather can amplify the noise. Cost of fuel an issue as all vehicles required to use white diesel and increase in utility charges causing a concern. Cost of aggregate produced remain stagnant at the moment and it would be cheaper to leave the minerals in the ground. Currently awaiting financial aid from the Welsh Government.

**108/2022-2023 In camera 20.15.**

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.

**109/2022-2023 Staff pay run August/September 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 R Newell.

**110/2022-2023 The meeting finished at 20.20.**

Chairman

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Date

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