

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs: Mr P Breese, Mr B O'Sullivan, Mr N Francis, Mr T P Calvin Thomas, Mr L George, Mrs E Thomas, Mr D Collington, Mr I Astley, Mr A Wallbank, Mrs R Davies, Mr R Burrows and Mrs M Woosnam

### 1. Apologies: None

2. **Confirmation of minutes** of meeting held on 22 February 2017 were proposed and seconded by Cllrs Mr L George and Mrs E Thomas.

### 3. Matters Arising:

1. **Station parking update (Cllr Mr L George):** Cllr Mr L George has received correspondence from Powys County Council regarding the possible use of The Green as station parking. The letter from Mr D Pritchard has requested further information regarding the amount of land required, status of the current request, dialogue with Network Rail regarding the proposal and whether change of use planning permission would be an option for this. Cllrs discussed amount of parking required etc and the decision was made that this would be added to next months' agenda in order for Cllrs to digest the information and think about the questions raised before decisions can be made.

2. **Confirm request of accounting services from Anthony Richards for this years' internal audit:** All Cllrs (12) were in agreement to request the services of Anthony Richards for internal audit of last financial years accounts. Clerk to contact Mr Richards.

3. **Code of Conduct:** The Code of Conduct was sent out previously to all Cllrs to go through prior to this meeting. All (12) Cllrs unanimously agreed to adopt this Code of Conduct to be followed by Caersws Community Council and its members.

4. **Day Centre Llanidloes update:** Clerk confirmed that Llangurig Community Council have confirmed a sum of £1,177 which was added to their precept in order to contribute to the continued running of the Day Centre for 12 months. This figure equates to £3.00 per household. No information is available from other Community Councils and what they may or may not offer at this time. Clerk to confirm how much £3.00 per household in Caersws would amount to and bring the information to the next meeting.

5. **Beacon for WW1 commemoration:** Clerk confirmed the cost of a gas beacon to be around £365.00 + vat plus the cost of hiring two propane gas cylinders to run the beacon (a cost of around £55 per cylinder). Cllr Mrs M Woosnam proposed that CCC should purchase a beacon as there has been an increase in the number of commemorative events. Cllr R Davies seconded. Cllrs were in agreement that specific details are needed regarding what type of beacons are available, or the cost of turning an existing item into a beacon. Clerk to confirm these details at the next meeting.

6. **Electoral divisions info and update (Cllr Mr A Wallbank):** Following attendance of a Boundary Commission meeting attended by Cllrs Mr A Wallbank and Mr N Francis, it is clear that the Boundary Commission is looking to reduce the number of Councillors per elector by changing the boundaries. Caersws has slightly too many electors per Councillor so it could be that Powys look to amalgamate Caersws with Llanbrynmair for example. All Cllrs present (12) agreed that they would not wish for the communities to split up and as Caersws is not too far off the preferred numbers Cllrs would rather it is left as it is at present. Cllr Mr A Wallbank will draft a letter to this effect.

### 4. Correspondence:

- a) **Powys CC Grant agreement to be confirmed for W/C:** Clerk to confirm the adjusted hours (to alter in line with the change of clocks) and send back this agreement.
- b) **PCC info regarding payroll assistance available:** Clerk has received details regarding payroll assistance from HMRC which would cost £305.77 plus vat for 12 months. All Cllrs (12) agreed that this seemed very expensive and the Clerk agreed that she would maintain the work without assistance but let the Council know if at any point she felt that assistance was required.

- c) **PCC Census Test information:** A test Census will be carried out this year by the Office of National Statistics in preparation of the 2021 Census. This will be an online questionnaire. Cllrs believe that there are many people who are not online at all but this is why a test is being carried out.
- d) **LSI Energy: Free quote for energy price comparison:** Quote has been received which is over £100 cheaper per year than the current electricity provider. Cllr Mr R Burrows felt that it would be worth getting further quotes direct from suppliers which may be cheaper again as brokers such as this are not always the cheapest option. Clerk to get further quotes for the next meeting.
- e) **Pamela Leech (website contact): Concerns over proposed housing development:** Clerk read out the email and confirmed that she had emailed Pamela Leech back to confirm that Powys are unable to look at any comments/concerns/objections regarding any proposed planning applications until they have been submitted as a planning application. I confirmed that this correspondence would be kept and considered if and when a planning application is made.
- f) **Brecon Town Council: Enquiry regarding public toilet provision:** Brecon Town Council have asked whether any other Councils who use Healthmatic would consider working collaboratively in order to reduce costs in this area. Clerk to respond to confirm what CCC has done to reduce these costs.

#### 5. S137/S142 donation requests:

Cllr Mrs E Thomas not present due to conflict of interest (Ysgol Feithrin Caersws).

Cllrs discussed the following donation requests (£850 precept):

**Wales Air Ambulance:** £100 agreed

**Ysgol Feithrin Caersws:** £150 agreed

**Montgomery County Music Festival:** £100 agreed (Cllr D Collington declared and interest)

**Ladybirds Toddler Group, Trefeglwys:** No donation

**Caersws Village Hall:** This is not an S137 – Clerk to confirm

**Llangollen International Music Festival Eisteddfod:** No donation

**Tenovus Cancer Care:** £100 agreed

**Macmillan Cancer Support:** £100 agreed

**Marie Curie:** £100 agreed

**Hope House:** £100 agreed

**British Red Cross:** No donation

**Citizens Advice Bureau:** £100 agreed

- 6. **Risk Assessment:** Cllr Mr A Wallbank (March 2017) Cllr Mr I Astley to carry out risk assessment in April.

#### 7. Planning Applications

*Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any planning applications.*

Application Ref: **P/2017/0260**

Grid Ref: 303295.26/292069.36 for Erection of new dwelling and access at Land behind New Laithes Main Street Caersws Powys

**No objections**

Application Ref: **P/2017/0281**

Grid Ref: 301543.46/293716.37 for Full: Erection of a free range egg production unit including silos, formation of vehicular access road and all associated works at land at Henblas Pontdolgoch Caersws Powys

**Clerk read out an email received from Carol Green of Llanwnog which details the concerns of residents of Tynsarn Cottages, Llanwnog. All Cllrs (12) were in agreement that CCC echoes the concerns raised by this resident and will forward its contents to Powys CC planning department stating that CCC share the same concerns over this application.**

## 8. Bills for payment

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary & expenses March 2017	£587.85
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at Caersws W/C (4 weeks)	£192.00
Satch Norton	Webhosting & website management (2017-2018)	£185.00
D E Bowen	Bench repair (Caersws)	£21.00
British Gas	W/C electricity Direct Debit	£101.18

**Cllrs agreed that the cleaner at the Caersws W/C should be on minimum wage. Cleaner does 7 days per week. Hours worked will be checked by the Clerk and confirmed.**

## 9. W/C Revenue

Revenue for Month of March was £165.65 plus Cllr Mr R Burrows brought cash collected from the previous week to pass on to the Clerk.

## 10. Bank balance

Current Account and Reserve account balances confirmed.

## 11. Any other business

**Clerk** collected all nomination papers from those standing in the forthcoming election.

**Cllr Mr A Wallbank:** Confirmed that Clerks salary review must be added to April's agenda.

**Cllr Mr A Wallbank left meeting at 9.35pm.**

**Cllr Mr T P Calvin-Thomas:** Has anything been received back from Doctors surgery? Clerk apologised as she has not yet sent the letter. Clerk will do this straight away and report back at next meeting.

Cllr also mentioned that someone in the community asked whether those standing as County Councillors will be canvassing for votes. Cllrs agreed that this would be up to those individuals.

**Cllr Mr L George:** Brought up about the issues with a number of the benches rotting etc. In future should the Council look at different types of benches such as the recycled plastic ones which will not require maintenance and will last longer. Cllrs agreed this should be looked into as and when the need to purchase new benches arose. In the mean time, if someone offers to donate a bench, it will be up to them what they provide.

**Cllrs Mr P Breese:** During the recent storms, Cllr had gone to the train station in Caersws but trains were cancelled. He waited near to St John's Ambulance for the replacement bus service as this is where the bus usually comes to collect passengers. However, the bus stopped at the Trefeglwys Rd junction and by the time Cllr had stood up and headed out to the bus the driver had already left. Cllrs drove to Newtown where he caught up with the bus but found the drivers attitude extremely poor. Cllr has written a complaint letter regarding this.

**Cllr Mr N Francis:** Chairman has noticed now that wheelie bin has been removed from the cemetery people are dumping rubbish behind the shed. Could another notice be put up on the shed as well to encourage people to take their rubbish home with them? Clerk will print a new notice.

**Cllr Mrs M Woosnam:** Gave apologies for April meeting so this has been Cllrs last meeting as she will not be standing in the election.

**Cllr Mr L George** stated that Cllr Mrs M Woosnam would be missed and has been a valuable member of the Council for many years.

## 12. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 April at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Meeting concluded at 10.10pm.