

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

**Present:** Chairman Cllr I Astley, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr D Collington, Cllr L Gethin, Cllr L George, Cllr A Wallbank, Vice-chair Cllr R Davies (arrived 7.05pm), Cllr B O'Sullivan (arrived 7.25pm), Cllr P Breese (arrived 7.50pm).

**In attendance:** Clerk S Palmer, Mr S Mansell (member of the public)

**Not present:** Cllr N Francis

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr P Pemberton
- 2. Declaration of interests of any items on the agenda** *Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any items for discussion.* None made
- 3. Minutes** of meeting held on 25 October 2017 were agreed to require a small change from 'architectural survey' to 'archaeological survey'. On the basis this change is made the minutes were approved as a true record and proposed as such by Cllr D Collington and seconded by Cllr L George.
- 4. Precept discussion for 2018/19 precept.** Cllrs had been sent all relevant accounting and budget information prior to the meeting and went through these details in line with what precept should be requested. Current funds, projects and potential maintenance works were taken into account as well as on-going costs and an amount of £28,297 was agreed as the figure. Clerk to forward precept request to Powys County Council.

**Mr S Mansell:** Due to Mr Mansell's presence at the meeting, the agenda items 5.7 and 6.1 were brought ahead and Mr Mansell was invited to speak to the Councillors about his concern and views.

**Relating to agenda item 5.7:** Mr Mansell feels that the questionnaire is leading towards the option of traffic lights being installed which he believes to be the wrong option. Having spoken to the Trunk Road Agent they suggested that they may look at red line options which Mr Mansell feels would have a hugely negative impact on the village.

**Relating to agenda item 6.1:** Mr Mansell highlighted several issues relating to the speed limit between Pontdolgoch and Caersws, standing water by the rail bridge in Pontdolgoch and the lack of ability to enforce compliance of the road markings currently in place.

Mr Mansell has written to Ken Skates AM and Dyfed Powys Police in relation to the above. Caersws Community Councillors agree with the points raised by Mr Mansell. Clerk to write to Ken Skates AM and Dyfed Powys Police confirming that they agree with points raised and request to be copied in to any responses to these.

Mr S Mansell left the meeting at 8.30pm.

### 5. Matters Arising:

- 1. Station parking update (Cllr L George):** A meeting was held on site where the car park has been suggested. The response so far has been positive and it will be discussed in full at a cabinet meeting next week. See notes from the meeting below:

*Having raised and shown first-hand the issue with parking to Cllr Fitzpatrick, he agreed that the current road layout with the lack of parking for residents was a concern and recognised the danger. Cllr George proposed that a small area of the land opposite could be utilised for an improvement scheme which is owned by Powys County Council as a farm holding.*

*Cllr Fitzpatrick stated that for any road improvement scheme Powys CC would have to bid for Capital Funding from Welsh Government, unfortunately this is a lengthy process as any improvement scheme has to compete for funding against other schemes across Wales. With regards to the road design for the scheme, Powys County Council could produce the design in house. In addition, an agreement would be required for the small area of land needed for the scheme which comes under the responsibility of another Cllr Jonathan Wilkinson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Countryside Services.*

*Cllr Fitzpatrick suggested as the next step to progress the scheme he would organise a meeting with Cllr Jonathan Wilkinson, himself and Cllr Les George to discuss further.*

- 2. Tree Charter Legacy Tree to be planted:** Clerk has the tree to be planted. Clerk to add to the January agenda to discuss when and where to plant it.
- 3. Maes Y Dre Playground:** Clerk confirmed at previous meeting that the choice of Discovery Timber Play wouldn't be possible due to the late of kite mark etc. Following further information received from Sunshine Playgrounds (Kompan) and PlayDale, Councillors discussed the options and agreed to confirm the quotation from Sunshine Playgrounds (Kompan). Clerk to confirm with Powys County Council as the owners of the play area that they are happy for this equipment to be installed and thereafter contact Sunshine Playgrounds. The decision to confirm Sunshine Playgrounds was proposed by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr B O'Sullivan. It was also mentioned that Lottery funding for the recreation area opposite The Buck Inn has been rejected.
- 4. Centenary Fields – information still required re: land owners:** No update at present.
- 5. Powys War Memorials Project:** information needed regarding ownership of the memorial. Clerk to contact the Church in Wales to see if they have information regarding this as the regulatory body. Quotations will also need to be obtained for work that is required. Clerk to contact Mid Wales welding, the foundry in Newtown and monumental masons to look at what can be done to repair any stone work required, reinstate the gold lettering and posts and chains from around the outside.
- 6. Mr Vivers:** Regarding the issue of lights on pedestrian crossing outside his home, Mr Vivers has been contacted by the Trunk Road Agent who will be sending an operative out to check the alignment etc of the lights.
- 7. Caersws Footbridge:** Consultation following traffic lights trial. Cllrs discussed the questionnaire and agreed that as many people as possible need to complete it. Clerk has shared details of the questionnaire on the website and Facebook page of CCC.
- 8. Review of Community & Town Council Sector:** One Voice Wales have held events to gather information from Community and Town Councils and have confirmed that they will be collating this information and sharing with Town and Community Councils as well as the Welsh Assembly.
- 9. Caersws Car park:** Redrawing car park lines. Clerk has received information back from Powys CC stating that the Community Council would have to cover the cost of any line drawing in the car park. Cllrs discussed the option of removing part of the chain at the corner of the car park nearest the Spar as an exit on foot and that a gap should be left to allow access to the gate at the back of the Spar rather than a full car parking space. Cllr L George has spoken with Mr Leadbetter.
- 10. Overhanging tree branches at 19 Maes y Dre:** Clerk has been in contact with housing at Powys CC who have visited the property but did not contact the resident prior and she was out at the time. Clerk has requested that the relevant people contact the resident to discuss the concerns.
- 11. Christmas Lights:** Cllr B O'Sullivan has confirmed that he and Cllr P Breese will put up the Christmas tree lights on 1<sup>st</sup> December if they have been PAT tested by then. Clerk to chase up with electrician.

## 6. Correspondence:

- 1. Stephen Mansell:** Trunk road safety issues, A470, Caersws/Pontdolgoch. This point was brought up earlier in the meeting.
- 2. One Voice Wales:** Consultation regarding changes to procedures relating to the registration of town and village greens. Information noted; no action.
- 3. One Voice Wales:** Consultation on proposed amendments to the Local Authorities (Capital Finance & Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003. Information noted; no action.
- 4. One Voice Wales:** consultation on an inquiry into Local Approaches to poverty reduction: The Well-Being of Future Generations Act and public service boards. Information noted; no action.
- 5. Powys Teaching Health Board:** NHS Future Fit continues progress towards public consultation. Cllr D Collington confirmed that this consultation is unlikely to begin until mid-January 2018.
- 6. One Voice Wales:** Welsh Government News: Scheme to promote closer working with local government. Information noted.

7. **One Voice Wales:** One Voice Wales Innovative Practice National Awards 2018. No action.
8. **Clatter Community Centre:** Dog Fouling in Clatter. A letter was received from the Community Centre regarding notices and bins relating to dog fouling. Clerk will request bins and notices from Powys County Council. Community Centre also asked about the possibility of a noticeboard at Pontdolgoch. Cllrs felt that this was not necessary at this time but Cllr L George stated that any notices to be displayed can be put up at The Mill. Clerk to pass this information on.
9. **CPRW Montgomeryshire Branch Committee:** Best Kept Village Awards 2018. No action.
10. **PAVO:** Powys Trustee Network - Trusted Voices. Cllrs present agreed for Clerk to sign CCC up to this.
11. **Message Maker Displays:** Calm the speed in your community. Keep information on file.
12. **Welsh Hearts:** Welsh Hearts Charity 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Charity Appeal. Information to be added to donation requests to be discussed in March 2018.
13. **Powys CC:** Grant towards operation of public conveniences. Confirmed that one more grant payment will be received for the public conveniences. No grant will be offered thereafter. Information noted.
14. **Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service:** Powys Public Services Board - Draft Well-being Plan for Powys – Consultation. Cllrs to respond as individuals.
15. **One Voice Wales:** Written Statement: 21st Century Schools and Education Programme. Information noted; no action.

7. **Reports:** None

8. **Risk Assessment:** Cllr A Wallbank (November 2017) Cemetery is tidy, some headstones are slightly loose. The lagging has come off the water pipe. Chairman Cllr Ioan Astley to put some new lagging on the pipe.

9. **Planning Applications**

Application Ref: **P/2017/1212**

Grid Ref: 303097.9/291921.06 for Full: Conversion and extension of existing garage workshop to form a retail unit (class A1 use) together with demolition of structures, alterations to vehicular access, formation of parking area and all associated works (revised proposal) at Central Garage Carno Road Caersws Powys

**No comments/objections were proposed.**

10. **Finances**

**Bills for payment**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary & expenses	£1,129.46
<i>(due to no meeting being held in December, a separate cheque was drawn for Clerks salary to be paid on 27.12.2017 for December, cheque dated 27.12.2017)</i>		
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at Caersws W/C (5 weeks)	£240.00
One Voice Wales	Training x 1 Cllr	£40.00
Ian Jones	Work to fix lights at Caersws W/C	£126.38
Andrew Evans	Grass cutting	£132.00
Border Janitorial	Supplies for W/C	£31.22
Gwynne Woosnam	Grass cutting @ Llanwnnog cemetery (Biannual)	£2,418.00

**Revenue received**

W/C revenue	7 – 25 Oct	= £168.30
W/C revenue	25 Oct – Mid Nov	= £137.60
<b>(More to be counted)</b>		
Hamer Funeral Services	Burial Fee	= £174.00
Mr & Mrs Davies	New Memorial	= £70.00
M Jones & Son	Burial Fee	= £70.00
Leach & Son	Burial Fee	= £174.00

## 11. Caersws Public Convenience

1. Electrical Testing. Clerk has contacted electrician Ian Jones requesting him to undertake the necessary electrical testing at the Caersws public conveniences. This should be carried out on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## 12. Bank balance

Current Account balance = £18,228.57 (as of 27 October 2017)

Reserve Account balance = £18,219.66 (as of 29 September 2017)

## 13. Councillors Comments:

**Chairman Cllr P Breese:** Bwlch y Garreg road is very slippery, drains and culverts are blocked and in need of unblocking and a road sweeper. This is the third year that the road has not been swept and drains etc unblocked. Clerk to contact PCC Highways.

At times there have been only two train carriages instead of four between Machynlleth and Shrewsbury which creates an over crowded train. Passengers have been told that carriages are broken. Clerk to request information regarding this.

**Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas:** Road sweeper is also required in the village. Noted that the sign for the Red Lion has been moved so it is no longer causing an obstruction.

**Cllr A Wallbank:** The ticket machine at the station is still not selling the best/cheapest ticket. Minutes of the last SARPA meeting state that a ticket can only be bought on the train if the ticket machine is broken which is not the case as they are still sold on the train. There are signs threatening a fine of up to £1000 if a ticket is not bought at the machine. Clerk to request clarification on these points.

**Cllr L George:** has been given a list of jobs which require urgent attention as Caersws School which Powys CC had stated would be actioned over the summer but nothing has been done to date. Clerk to contact Powys CC to request dates when this work will be started. Clerk given posters from the school advertising what is available through the school. Clerk will add to Facebook, website and noticeboards.

Two properties at Maes y Dre (27 and 28) have a fence between them which is rotten. Clerk to contact Powys CC Housing to action.

In Clatter people are asking for a dropped kerb or new entrance by Clatter Hall, the road joining the A470. Clerk to contact the Trunk Road Agent.

**Cllr D Collington:** Problems with Shrop Doc have recently been reported in the press, they are currently being supported by The Powys Teaching Health Board.

**Chairman Cllr I Astley:** The children of Caersws School performed a poem at the recent Remembrance Service which was very touching. Chairman Cllr I Astley proposed for the clerk to write a letter thanking them; all Cllrs present agreed.

14. **Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 31st January at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Chairman Cllr I Astley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.10pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)