

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

**Present:** Chair Cllr L Gethin, Vice-chair Cllr B O'Sullivan, Cllr N Francis, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr L George, Cllr I Astley, Cllr P Breese, Cllr M Harding.

**In attendance:** Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

**Members of the public present:** 2

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr R Davies.
- 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.*  
Cllr P Breese declared an interest in agenda item 12a.
- 3. Minutes** of meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were confirmed as a true record and proposed by Cllr and seconded by Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas.

**4. Public Speaking Session (15 minutes maximum time allocated)**

Local resident and TCT member addressed the Council in order to raise an issue that has come to the attention of TCT in regards to the Caersws workshops.

*I am sure you are aware that the TCT is a community group that aims to raise awareness of what this village in Powys has to offer and encourage more people to visit, particularly now that there appears to be a great deal additional interest in the area with the growth of static homes possible additional development in the immediate area.*

*The group's overall strategy for 2019, is to try to draw up new start-up business in Caersws, and promote the "Caersws Workshops" as a perfect location for potential entrepreneurs to start up their business ventures.*

*To move this forward, I approached Powys CC (Strategic Property Group) to ask for assistance in this matter.*

*At present there are three vacant units at the site, Units 5 8 & 12. The Council's Business Unit estate (comprising 13 sites across Powys) does not currently offer units with retail or leisure planning permission, but is focused on businesses operating distribution, manufacture, technical, trade and service industries (B1/B2 use classes). To get a change of use needs planning department consent.*

*On contacting the Powys CC Planning department regarding the change of use for the Workshops, I was informed that if I wished to get any advice from Officers there would be a charge of around £20, and to make a formal application would cost around £200 before the Planners would consider any change of use.*

*From the Groups perspective it is felt that to provide the flexibility to have retail outlets in the Workshops area, maybe a cafe in one of the empty Units for the considerable number of daily train commuters for example, or the company that makes wonderful chocolate might have the opportunity to sell their goods if they so wished from their current premises.*

*In my experience as Councillor, Chairman of Planning and Leader of a Borough Council in Hampshire, I am aware that as a private individual there is less chance of success than having an the elected local Council taking up a request such as this, so as a result, I am formally asking that the Caersws Community Council take the lead on this matter and ask for a change of use to the Planning Department at the Powys CC for the Caersws Workshops be include a retail outlet in addition to the conditions that currently exist.*

Cllr L George: sounds like a good idea as there are empty units. CCC should help to promote these workshops. Cllr P Breese: it could be helpful to the village and it's not good having empty units.

Cllrs approved to start the process of requesting the change of use for the workshops.

Proposed by Cllr P Breese, seconded Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas.

Resident is happy for CCC to take over the process.

Residents left the meeting at 7.39pm.

Clerk confirmed with Cllrs that the request is to keep existing classes of use but add retail as well to all units. Clerk to contact PCC Planning Dept.

Cllr L George: Ian Jones occupies one unit, approached Les to say that the doors of the unit need repair – others, not just his. PCC need to be notified, Clerk to contact 01507 528430 – put through to correct dept.

**5. County Cllr Les George: Report**

- **Rights of Way – PCC:** Some of the foot paths have become un-useable. There are three areas in and around Caersws that are covered by the consultation that will be discussed at agenda item 9f. PCC are looking to make the footpaths simpler. Some landowners have had issues of stock worrying. Cllr L George thinks what is being suggested is a good idea.
- **Maesmawr Farm Resort;** going back a year, CCC were in agreement that it would be beneficial to local economy but it is being overshadowed by a separate development within the Llandinam area which is looking to build a huge caravan site. Maesmawr is a very different type of development.
- **Went out with an officer from PCC Highways** around Caersws and Carno. Looked at drain cover on Main St that is loose and very loud when lorries etc drive over them. Aled will be looking at all of the items raised by Cllr L George that haven't already been rectified.
- **PCC Council Tax:** Council is having to meet again about the budget and proposals for Council Tax which were recently rejected. Wanted a 12% increase originally but 9.5% is the current figure looking to go through. Anything lower than this will mean many more cuts. If the cabinet bring the budget and Cllrs vote it down, they have to meet again to try again. If it fails again, the finance officer has got the power to push it through. It is a very frustrating situation.

Cllr L George had to give apologies and leave the meeting at this point due to another meeting (8.05pm).

#### 6. **Contracts 2019/20:**

Cllrs considered what action to take on the below upcoming contracts for 2019/20.

1. **Grass Cutting at Caersws & Clatter:** Check costs but look to use Andrew Evans Landscape Ltd again if possible.
2. **Llanwnog Cemetery grass cutting:** Happy to continue using G Woosnam as he keeps the cemetery looking very tidy.
3. **Graveyard grass cutting, Shiloh, Clatter:** Speak to G Woosnam and the person who has been carrying out the work previously.
4. **Internal Audit:** Ask A Richards if he is available to carry out the internal audit again this year.

The above was proposed by Cllr B O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr E Thomas.

#### 7. **Projects:**

- a) **War Memorial Refurbishment update:** Clerk has received no response as yet in regards to when the works will start. Clerk to continue to chase.
- b) **Village Plan:** Clerk has still not received any response from the Councils she has previously contacted asking for their experience. Proposed by Cllr B O'Sullivan to wait and see what happens with the funding for the Recreation Association and look at it again in June 2019, this was seconded by Cllr E Thomas.

#### 8. **Matters Arising:**

- a) **Pavement widening between Spar and car park:** Clerk confirmed that the landowner has responded to say that she is happy for the work to be carried out but any costs and arrangements must be covered by CCC or Trunk Rd/Welsh Government. Clerk suggested that any communications with Land Registry for example would need to come from the landowner direct and CCC are unsure of the costs that may be incurred. Clerk to go back to the landowner and the Trunk Road Agent.
- b) **Planning issue:** Entrance to poultry unit in Pontdolgoch. No response from planning although Clerk has tried to chase this matter up several times. Clerk will copy in the head of planning to try and get a response.
- c) **Dog Fouling** throughout Caersws. Slightly better but Clerk will chase up for more signs/bins from PCC. Correspondence was received from a resident regarding the dog fouling. She was happy with what CCC are trying to do and was pleased to be informed that a fine can be imposed.

- d) **Defibrillator for Clatter:** a cheque was drawn at a previous meeting which was incorrect as the costs displayed on the website did not show the VAT for the cabinet. The cheque was also written out to St John's Ambulance Supplies instead of St John Cymru Wales. A new cheque will be drawn and sent directly.
- e) **White Lines on Main Street outside the Buck Inn:** a response was received from PCC stating that white lines simply show the edge of the road and are not necessary in this place as the kerb clearly shows the edge of the road, They confirmed therefore that it is a police matter and anyone else having problems due to vehicles obstructing the pavement should contact the police station on Llanidloes or call 111. Clerk to raise with PCSO's to ask them to do something. Clerk to action.

#### 9. Correspondence:

- a) **TCT:** Change of use for Caersws Workshops. This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and it was confirmed for CCC to go ahead with requesting the change of use. Clerk to action.
- b) **Local resident & member of TCT:** Walking routes & group. A local resident has been in contact with PCC and the Clerk regarding putting together walking route in the area in the same way that 'Walking Newtown' have. PCC has confirmed that CCC should have details of rights of way in a specific document available to Community Councils. Clerk has confirmed that we do not have this so is arranging to get a copy. PCC have also confirmed that they will be passing on details to the resident of someone involved in 'Walking Newtown' who may be able to help.
- c) **Local resident:** Complaint regarding large farm machinery using narrow lanes at Bwlch y Garreg. Large machinery was reported up the narrow lanes to Bwlch y Garreg and earlier in the month the Clerk contacted PCC Highways who have been out to have a look at the damage and reported back that the machinery used was far too wide and those using it have been asked not to damage the roadway again.
- d) **Wales Audit Office:** Various documentation & reports have been received. Information noted, no action.
- e) **Cambrian Mountains Initiative:** signage project. Cllrs discussed and were all in agreement that there is still not enough information relating to this initiative and what it will involve. Clerk to respond regarding the signage project to confirm that CCC is not yet sure what the project entails and what it would mean for Caersws and until the project has a clear out come they do not feel that they can confirm such things as signage to promote it.

#### 10. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- 1. **Refurbishment:** Clerk has met with one company who will be providing a quote and has two others that she is due to meet and receive quotes from. These should be received by the next meeting.
- 2. **Drains affecting neighbouring property:** Clerk confirmed communication from PCC regarding the toilets and drainage problems. PCC confirmed that some time ago Severn Trent confirmed that the drains are their responsibility and so PCC have no responsibility to do anything. Clerk has confirmed this to the resident and asked whether she has made formal complaints to Severn Trent in order for them to resolve the continuing issue.

#### 11. Caersws Station:

- 1. **Network Rail & Cambrian Railway Partnership Projects:** No update at this time.
- 2. **Parking near rail crossing, prohibitions etc:** no update following the previous communications.

#### 12. Planning Applications: *Please note that Caersws Community Council is invited to make comments on planning applications as a consultee and is not a decision maker.*

- a) **Planning Committee meeting 28.02.19** for Planning applications; P/2017/0754 Penyborfa & 18/0466/FUL Parc yr Escob.  
Confirmation was received that a planning committee meeting would be held in order to discuss the above applications on 28.02.2019. Members of the Caersws Concerned Residents Group and some residents in Llanwnnog will be in attendance to speak on each

of these applications, both in opposition. CCC has confirmed that it will not be sending a representative to the meeting.

- b) Application Reference: 19/0239/HH** Grid Reference: **E:303432 N: 292161**  
 Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension to existing dwelling and alteration to existing access and parking area. Site Address: Erw Deg, Main Street, Caersws, Powys SY17 5EP  
 CCC has no objections to this application, Clerk to confirm to PCC.

- c) Application Reference: 18/0839/FUL** Grid Reference: **E: 304314 N: 291114** Proposal: Erection of new processing/storage unit Site Address: Old Moat Junction, Moat Lane, Caersws, Powys SY17 5SE  
 CCC has no objections, Clerk to confirm to PCC.

*The following consultation was not received in time to add to the agenda but was discussed due to the time scale for the deadline to comment.*

- d) Definitive Map Alignment Changes in the Newtown & Caersws areas by Powys County Council**  
 The above was mentioned by Cllr L George during his report earlier in the meeting. Cllrs discussed the details and were happy to support the consultation. Clerk to send response to PCC.

### 13. Cemeteries:

- 1. Shiloh Clatter Graveyard:** Clerk confirmed receipt of a letter from the Graveyard Trust confirming the works carried out to date and requested confirmation that as previously stated the graveyard maintenance will be carried out by CCC from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Cllrs confirmed that this is the case, Clerk to confirm in writing to the Trust as well as asking for an update on the queries relating to the long term running of the graveyard.
- 2. Llanwnog Cemetery Risk Assessment:** Cllr L George for February. Confirm Cllr A Wallbank for March 2019.
- 3. Llanwnog Cemetery Regulations Review:** Clerk went through the current regulations and changes to be made were discussed. Clerk to draft new regulations for the next meeting.

### 14. Finances

#### 1. Bills for payment:

|                          |                                       |           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Sophie Palmer            | Clerks salary & expenses (Feb 2019)   | £608.82   |
| HM Revenue & Customs     | PAYE Tax for Clerk                    | £0        |
| Clatter Community Centre | Contribution towards ongoing projects | £2,000.00 |
| Caersws Village Hall     | Contribution towards ongoing projects | £2,000.00 |
| Hugh Jones               | Cleaning at Caersws W/C               | £192.00   |
| Clatter Community Centre | Hall Hire 2018                        | £150.00   |
| St John Wales Cymru      | Defib & Cabinet for Clatter           | £1,720.80 |
| ICO Registration         | Data Protection Fee (annual DD)       | £35.00    |
| One Voice Wales          | Membership for 2019/20                | £239.00   |
| Wales Audit Office       | 2017/18 Audit fee                     | £225.75   |
| Southern Electric        | W/C Electricity (Direct Debit) Jan 19 | £43.22    |
| Hafren Dyfrdwy           | W/C Water (July 18-Jan 19)            | £250.14   |

Bills were agreed to be paid and proposed by Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas and seconded by Cllr P Breese.

#### 2. Revenue Received

|                  |                       |         |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| W/C revenue      | 22 Nov 18 – 29 Jan 19 | £325.80 |
| M E and A Hughes | Burial & Cremation    | £315.00 |
| R Hamer FD       | Burial                | £522.00 |
| Leach & Son      | Burial                | £261.00 |
| M E and A Hughes | New Memorial          | £105.00 |

**3. Bank Balances**

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Current Account | = £7,714.75  |
| Reserve Account | = £36,542.86 |

Clerk confirmed that a bank transfer of funds from the reserve account to the current account will be required. Cllr P Breese proposed transfer letter to be drafted by the Clerk next month for £10,000, seconded by Cllr I Astley.

**15. Councillors Comments:**

**Cllr E Thomas:** a local resident will be turning 100. Cllrs agreed for Cllr E Thomas to arrange a card and some flowers and they would contribute as individuals.

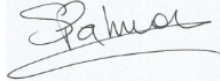
**Cllr D Collington:** gave apologies for the March meeting.

**Cllr P Breese:** reported that he still does not receive any information for the PACT meetings. Clerk to chase this up again.

**16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Chair Cllr L Gethin thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)