

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 26th February 2020 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Present: Chair Cllr B O'Sullivan, Vice chair Cllr D Collington, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr L George, Cllr P Breese, Cllr L Gethin, Cllr M Harding, Cllr I Astley, Cllr M Cheshire

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** 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 L George declared an interest in agenda items 12b2 and 12b5.

3. **Minutes** of meeting held on 22nd January 2020 were approved as an accurate record and proposed by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr D Collington.

4. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public were present

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

- **Caersws Sewage:** travelled around the village earlier this week to view the flooding. Went to Sunnyside where there are serious problems with sewerage over the pavement and road. PCC have a convoy of tankers taking sewage away from Sunnyside. They have been doing it for around a week which will be at serious cost. They have been taking the sewerage pipe up over the road and across a residents' garden which is resulting in the resident's garden being covered in waste.

Cllr L George and Cllr E Thomas stated that the sewerage system cannot cope with what we have at present, how will it cope with a further 43 properties (Penyborfa development which has just been approved by planning)?

Cllr L George has been in contact with Russell George AM requesting a site visit at Sunnyside with Hafren Dyfrdwy, PCC, Severn Trent etc and any other members of the Community Council who wish to attend to get this issue rectified. Cllr L George will inform the Council when this might happen.

- **Police enquiry panel:** Cllr L George confirmed that he always raises issue of rural crime. Has recently had a good response from the Police and Crime Commissioner who confirmed that they have recently made a number of arrests in relation to a gang who have been stealing vehicles in rural areas. Confirmed that anyone who sees anything or anyone suspicious can contact the Police but can also contact Cllr L George so that people are aware of potential issues in the local area.

A law has been passed for urban areas stating that it is an offence for cold callers to attend places that display a sign stating that they don't want this. This is something that will be looked at for farms also so that people cannot just go onto peoples' private land.

Cllr P Breese and Cllr M Harding stated that they have both had sheep taken from their farms but nothing was really done and it took the police a long time to go and start taking details.

Police and Crime Commissioner also wants people to be more aware of Crime Stoppers which is a number than can be called anonymously.

Cllr L George asked that an updated contact form for all Cllrs is available to all members of the council and community to make it easy for everyone to keep in touch particularly if there is a pressing matter. Clerk to update contact form with Cllr M Cheshire's details and disseminate to all Cllrs and add to all of the noticeboards and ensure website is up to date.

Cllr L George also requested that the Clerk contacts Newtown Police stating that CCC is concerned about rural theft and crime, that the Police and Crime Commissioner supports the request that other organisations in the community be involved as Postmen, bin men etc are in the local community every day and are likely to notice a problem or an issue.

Cllr B O'Sullivan added that it would be nice to hear back about issues that have been raised, e.g. what has happened with thefts afterwards etc.

- **Foxes Pitch cross roads:** People are often commenting on how dangerous it is and all of the potential dangers. There have been serious accidents there over the years. Cllr L George recently had an issue there due to the poor disability. Cllr L George has spoken to Chris Lloyd of Highways at PCC as well as Aled Jones of Highways and some local residents in order to have a site meeting next Wednesday morning (4th March) in order to assess the risks here and look at what can be done to prevent any further accidents.

6. **Projects:**

- a) **Place Plan** PAVO have suggested a training session coming up which Clerk won't be able to get but will keep an eye out for others. An alternative is to have a bespoke session with PAVO which costs £600. Clerk is also hoping to speak with someone at Newtown Council as they are doing a Place Plan currently. Cllrs discussed and decided to plan a meeting for Cllrs to brain storm some ideas to make a decision on how best to move forward. It was also suggested to ask members of

the community whether they would like to join a committee to help with the place plan process.
Clerk to action.

- b) **ABC Charity idea** the general consensus is that this is a great idea but CCC cannot administer this but should look at a way of facilitating people within the community who need help being able to get in touch with those who are willing to help them. There are issues of insurance and checks on people going to help. Clerk to contact PAVO for any suggestions and help they can offer.

7. Highway Matters:

- a) **Pavement widening between Spar and car park** the people originally involved with this are now no longer working in those positions.
- b) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing** Clerk confirmed that those now dealing with these issues will look into it. Clerk to continue to keep in contact with this to try and get the markings done.

8. Matters Arising:

- a) **Defibrillator (Llanwnnog)** Clerk stated that BT has now confirmed that CCC adopted the kiosk in Llanwnnog in 2011. Clerk to get quotations for installing the defib in the kiosk.
- b) **Caersws CC Logo** The Head teacher at Caersws school who will complete the logo chosen at the last meeting has been contacted regarding this. Clerk will update Cllrs once a full logo has been produced.
- c) **Bench plan** Clerk has put together a spreadsheet for all of the benches within the wards detailing the type of bench and if and when it should be replaced.
- d) **Dog Fouling** PCC have confirmed that the dog fouling bins at the football club are not covered by their collection route as they are not PCC bins. They are looking into whether it can be added to their route, Clerk to chase up for a response before the next meeting.
- e) **PCC Flood Consequences Assessment:** PCC have not yet responded to the Clerk to confirm whether they have an FCA and if so can CCC have a copy.
- f) **PCC LDP:** changes to Supplementary Planning Guidance, consultation This was discussed at the last meeting and it was agreed to discuss further at this meeting. Cllr A Wallbank confirmed that he has been through the paperwork which is extensive. This may be a matter for TCT and it has been forwarded onto them in case they wish to look at it and respond. The Place Plan should include archaeological information as this effects planning. No further action.
- g) **One Voice Wales: National Innovative Practice Awards.** Clerk has completed and sent an application for this confirming what we have done as a council overall and nominating CCC for Local Council Service of the Year Award.
- h) **Welsh Government: Changes to planning and related application fees.** Cllrs agreed at the previous meeting to discuss this further. Cllrs
- i) **PCC: Bus Infrastructure Improvements** Clerk has responded to ask for more details about this project and whether train and bus timetables could be brought in line with each other, no response has been received as yet,
- j) **Electric Car Charging** we received something from Russell which confirmed details of where EV chargers will be installed. Cllr A Wallbank asked if we could add this item onto the agenda for Cllrs to discuss again to install one in Caersws. Cllrs feel it is a good thing to have one in this area but the feeling is that there should be

9. Correspondence:

- a) **Powys Teaching Health Board:** podiatry services in Powys Consultation. Cllrs will respond as individuals. No action.
- b) **Wales Audit Office:** Consultation regarding changes to future audit arrangements Cllrs discussed this and raised some issues with the new system being proposed for audits. Clerk to respond to the survey with the points raised.
- c) **Local Resident:** wet and muddy ground on edge of new play area. This information will be passed onto the Recreation Association.
- d) **Police & Crime Commissioner:** Policing in Rural areas Conference. Cllr L George will be attending and Cllr M Cheshire may also attend with him, he will confirm for the Clerk following the meeting.
- e) **PCC:** Spelling of place name signs in Llanwnnog. The Council has been asked for its opinion of the spelling of Llanwnnog and whether the original spelling should be used on signs which would be 'Llanwnnog'. Cllrs were in unanimous agreement to use only one 'n' in the spelling of Llanwnnog and to use the spelling most commonly used.
- f) **One Voice Wales:** Website Requirements points raised by One Voice Wales. There are some things that are not on CCC website. Clerk to go through these and update the website with the relevant information.
- g) **Local Resident:** muddy area in playground due to no guttering on neighbouring property's shed agenda item duplicated in error.
- h) **Keep Wales Tidy:** Green Growth Funding Opportunities.

10. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- **Refurbishment** this has been completed and the invoice has been received. Cllrs raised a couple of points that the tiles outside the ladies are still loose, inside the cubicles is not tidy where things have been removed. There is also a pool of water outside the disabled toilet. Clerk to contact Colin Powell regarding these issues.
- **Signage to prevent people parking in front of residents' driveways** the neighbour to the W/C has confirmed that she is happy to have on her fence. Cllrs agreed for Clerk to purchase a simple

'No parking' sign to pass onto the neighbour to put on her fence where she sees fit. The neighbour also mentioned to Cllr L Gethin when he was collecting the money that the drains have been fine for a while now so hopefully the ongoing issue here has been resolved by Severn Trent.

11. Cemeteries:

- **Llanwnog & Shiloh Clatter Cemetery Risk Assessments:** Cllr L George for February 2020 and confirm Cllr A Wallbank for March 2020.
- **Shiloh Clatter Graveyard Solicitor**

12. Planning:

- **Planning Issues/Queries:** Clerk has still not received any update on this matter, she called Planning Dept today and the planning officer dealing with it was not in today. Clerk will continue to chase up and Cllr L George will also chase up.
 1. Gateways in Caersws (Unicorn & Weig Lane)
 2. Bungalow in Caersws without planning
- **Planning Applications:**
 1. **Application Reference: 20/0226/FUL** Grid Reference: **E:299650 N: 294284** Proposal: Installation of a bio mass boiler. Site Address: Taigwynion, Clatter, Caersws, SY17 5NR
 2. **Application Reference: 20/0247/REM** Grid Reference: **E:300605 N: 293984** Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning approval 19/0660/FUL to substitute the approved Plans Site Address: Land At Pontdolgoch, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5NJ
 3. **Application Reference: 20/0200/FUL** Grid Reference: **E:305836 N: 293177** Proposal: renovation of a redundant corn mill and grain dryer. Removal of the existing collapsed west elevation and the erection of a new west extension to provide living accommodation. Conversion and renovation of the former Mill Cottage to form a holiday let. Erection of a new car port/storage shed and provision of access and parking space. Provision of a new biodisc treatment plant to serve both dwellings. Formation of a revised road access. Site Address: Rhyd-lydan Mill, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys
 4. **Application Reference: 20/0201/LBC** Grid Reference: **E:305836 N: 293177** Proposal: Renovation of a redundant corn mill and grain dryer. Removal of the existing collapsed west elevation and the erection of a new west extension to provide living accommodation. Conversion and renovation of the former Mill Cottage to form a holiday let. Erection of a new car port/storage shed and provision of access and parking space. Provision of a new biodisc treatment plant to serve both dwellings. Formation of a revised road access. Site Address: Rhyd-lydan Mill, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys SY16 3HP
 5. **Application Reference: 20/0267/HDG** Grid Reference: **E:300606 N: 294107** Proposal: Application for hedgerow removal Site Address: Land At Building Plot Opposite Cefn Y Wern, Pontdolgoch, Caersws, Powys SY17 5NJ
 6. **Pre-application Consultation - Maesmawr Farm Resort, Moat Lane, Caersws, SY17 5SE**

13. Finances

a) Letter signed to transfer funds into Current Account from the reserve account

b) Accounts and Budget for Review Up to date accounts and budget were sent out to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. These were discussed and Cllrs were in unanimous agreement that the accounts were in order and in line with the budget.

c) Bank Balances:

Current Account = £2,060.48
Reserve Account = £36,779.27 (31.12.19)

d) Bills for payment:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (February 2020)	£678.83
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (February 2020)	£23.40
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (Jan - Feb 20)	£192.00
Wales Audit Office	External Audit Fee (2018/19)	£329.75
One Voice Wales	Membership for 2020/21	£252.00
Colin Reynolds	Caersws W/C Refurbishment	£11,150.00

Direct Debit Payments:

ICO Renewal	Direct Debit mandate	£35.00
Scottish Power	DD Caersws W/C electricity	£43.22

e) Revenue Received

W/C revenue	26 Nov 19 – 21 Jan 2020	£229.00
Tynybryn Farms	Cemetery Field rental (2018 & 2019)	£50.00
R Hamer	Burial Fee	£157.50

14. Councillors Comments:

Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas: A resident mentioned that there is a light out between the Buck and the village hall, when he went to have a look the whole light and pole have been removed. It makes this area very dark at night time. Cllr also mentioned that 'Sunnyside' is very dark and dangerous in places, there is around 300 yards with no light at all. There is also a light between the two footbridges at Manthrig Lane where the light is permanently on. Cllr L George added that there is also a light out near to the primary school in Caersws. Clerk to report all of these matters to PCC.

Cllr M Harding: Ann Howells from the Church has requested a letter from the Community Council regarding the cenotaph and confirming that the CC are happy to take it over. Clerk to action this.

Cllr L George: asked for the Clerk to send an up to date contact list of all Cllrs details. Clerk to action.

Cllr D Collington: Suggested that the Clerk contact PAVO's Community Connectors with regard to the ABC idea. Clerk to action.

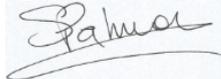
Cllr P Breese: Stated that an article in the County Times reported that the Chief Executive of One Voice Wales clarified that Cllrs are not volunteers. This has annoyed many Cllrs as they are not paid so see themselves as volunteers. Clerk clarified that as Cllrs they are elected members but it blurs the lines as Cllrs are not paid and some members of the community are not aware of this.

Cllr E Thomas: the kerb outside the Spar needs to be dropped. This has previously been reported to PCC but will be followed up by the Clerk.

15. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th March 2020 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Hall.

Chairman Cllr B O'Sullivan thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.53pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)