

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held remotely on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: Vice Chair Cllr A Wallbank (acting Chair in absence of Chair Cllr D Collington), Cllr P Breese, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr L George, Cllr M Harding, Cllr B O'Sullivan.

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer, Representative from Powys Crematorium Ltd, members of the public.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr I Astley, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr D Collington.
- 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 item 6a to d
Cllr P Breese declared an interest in agenda item 6b
- 3. Public Speaking Session** *(15 minutes maximum time allocated)*

Agenda item 9d was brought forward to discuss as members of the public and a representative of the Powys Crematorium were present in order to hear the Councils discussion of this application

Application Reference: 20/2087/FUL **Grid Reference:** E:304122 **N:** 293403 **Proposal:** Construction of an all-new crematorium, including the erection of a crematorium building, change of use of land to provide a green burial site, creation of landscaped grounds to include a garden of remembrance, improved and new access arrangements, car parking area, sewage treatment plant and drainage and all associated works
Site Address: Land Formally Known As Ael Y Bryn, Aberhafesp, Newtown, SY16 3HR

The above planning application was discussed at length and all Cllrs each put their own comments forward along with reporting comments that have been made to them by members of the local community.

It was suggested and agreed for the Clerk to add a poll on the CCC Facebook page in order to ask local residents whether they are 'for' or 'against' the Crematorium application in order to obtain further feedback from the community. Clerk to action.

Following the meeting the Clerk drafted the following letter and sent on to the Planning Department in order to meet the original deadline:

Thank you for giving Caersws Community Council the opportunity to comment on the above Planning Application.

Caersws Community Councillors have a number of concerns which they wish to raise and request a response to these as your earliest convenience.

Caersws Councillors would like to acknowledge that there are members of the local community who feel that there is a need for a crematorium within the locality and feel it would bring benefits to the area. Councillors acknowledge that benefits of this development for the immediate locality would be mainly the full time and part time job opportunities that it would bring. There would also be opportunities for local trades people during both the build and ongoing maintenance of the building. This development could also be positive to local businesses that may benefit from those visiting the crematorium and requiring food and drink and possibly a place to stay.

The main concern for Councillors and local residents currently is regarding highways and whether the proposed development is located appropriately with consideration of the roads in this area and the impact the extra traffic will have on the local area. Caersws Community Council feels that there are issues currently with the roadways and this development will put extra strain on this as well as adding to the volume of traffic which has already increased recently following completion of the Newtown bypass. Powys County Council Highways Department are due to respond and Caersws Councillors will be interested to view their response.

Impact on the local landscape is a big factor and cause for concern to people locally. There is a concern that the local landscape will be negatively impacted by this large development which has a negative impact on those living in the immediate area along with those choosing to visit the area in order to enjoy the local landscape. Could this development have a negative impact on local tourism?

Councillors query whether there is a need for this type of development and would like to see further details and proof that there is indeed a need for such a development.

It has been raised on a number of occasions that consultation was not carried out widely enough for this development. It is understood that the mandatory level of consultation has been carried out by the developer, however Caersws Councillors wish to state that they feel that such a large and potentially contentious development should have been consulted on in a different way and across a much wider cross section of the community and wider community. Caersws Community Council will be trying to gain some more responses from the local community in order to try and bridge this gap.

Questions were raised with the developer at the pre-application consultation stage which both Councillors and residents feel were not fully answered, for example what the full height of the chimney would be above ground and whether a lower-than-average height above ground would have a negative impact on the fumes expelled, surely the fumes need to be raised as high above ground as possible. Caersws Community Council also request definitive figures on the general use of the site including cremations in order to have some idea of the number of visitors to the area and influence on traffic.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing back from you.

4. Minutes of decisions made on 25th November 2020 and 9th December 2020 were both agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr M Cheshire and seconded by Cllr L George.

5. Correspondence:

- a) **Powys CC Consultation:** Powys County Council is holding a statutory consultation on proposals to change the language category of Ysgol Bro Hyddgen, Machynlleth. Cllrs discussed this consultation but did not have any comments to put forward.

6. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 20/1952/HH** Grid Reference: **E:300783 N: 293915** Proposal: 2 storey extension to rear of existing dwelling comprising bedrooms and living space. Site Address: Rhiw Yr Efail, Pontdolgoch, Caersws, Powys SY17 5NJ
Cllrs discussed the above planning application and confirmed that they have no objections.
- b) **Application Reference: 20/2009/RES** Grid Reference: **E:302258 N: 293929** Proposal: Application for Reserved Matters for the development of up to 7 dwellings (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) including formation of vehicular access and associated works, following approval of Outline Planning Application P/2017/0567 Site Address: Land Adjoining Maes Yr Eglwys, Llanwnog, Near Caersws, SY175LA
Cllrs discussed the above planning application and confirmed that they have no objections.
- c) **Application Reference: 20/2053/HH** Grid Reference: **E:303198 N: 292085** Proposal: Erection of extensions Site Address: Brookside Cottage, Manthrig Lane, Caersws, Powys SY17 5EU
Cllrs discussed the above planning application and confirmed that they have no objections.
- d) **Application Reference: 20/2087/FUL** Grid Reference: **E:304122 N: 293403** Proposal: Construction of an all-new crematorium, including the erection of a crematorium building, change of use of land to provide a green burial site, creation of landscaped grounds to include a garden of remembrance, improved and new access arrangements, car parking area, sewage treatment plant and drainage and all associated works Site Address: Land Formally Known As Ael Y Bryn, Aberhafesp, Newtown, SY16 3HR
The above planning application was discussed at the start of the meeting.

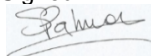
7. Councillor Comments:

Cllr B O'Sullivan: It has been reported that someone may be living in one of the Village Workshops. Clerk to send this information onto PCC to look into.

8. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th January 2021.

Vice Chairman Cllr A Wallbank thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.37pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)