

# CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held remotely on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Chair Cllr D Collington, Vice Chair Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr L George, Cllr M Harding, Cllr E Thomas

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

1. **Apologies:** Cllr R Davies, Cllr I Astley, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr P Breese, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr B O'Sullivan
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.*
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)  
No members of the public were present.
4. **Minutes** of decisions made on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr M Cheshire.
5. **Cllr Les George Report:**
  - Residents of Pontdolgoch have requested that the wind farm access track between Weig Lane and Pontdolgoch should include a footpath and cycle access as this would be very beneficial to the local community. Clerk to make contact with this request.
  - Cllr L George was approached by PCC Education as Cllr Rachel Davies has come to the end of her time as School Governor and they wanted to send a card and flowers. Cllr L George will visit in person.
  - There has been no response from Welsh Government in regards to the bridge.
  - One bench has been located at the cemetery and one at the pastures.
6. **Highway Matters:**
  - a) **Double yellow line markings near level crossing, toilets and throughout the village:** No further information on this. Cllrs agreed for this item to be removed for the time being.
  - b) **Caersws Bridge (correspondence from Welsh Government)** Nothing further on this. Cllrs agreed for this to be removed from the agenda as Cllr L George is continuing to provide updates in his report as and when he gets them.
  - c) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** This is something that is still needed in place of the current zebra crossing. Clerk to contact Trunk Road Agent again.
7. **Matters Arising:**
  - a) **Benches:** Four benches were ordered and received. One has been put in the cemetery and one at the pastures. There was a wooden picnic bench at the pastures previously but it was falling apart so has been removed. Cllr E Thomas stated that residents have asked where the picnic bench is as many people use it and children have picnics there etc. Cllrs asked the Clerk to price a recycled plastic picnic bench.
  - b) **Defibrillator:** Clerk has discussed this with an electrician who will be relocating the Caersws defib from the inside of the roller shutter door of the Premier Shop (previously Spar) to the outside of the building to ensure that it is available 24hours a day. Clerk to chase this.
  - c) **NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021:** This was agreed to be left on the agenda to look into further.
  - d) **Dog Fouling:** The information regarding how to report dog fouling has been and will continue to be shared. Cllr M Cheshire asked if more bins etc could be placed by PCC. Clerk has confirmed that this has been requested before but she will request again and confirm the concern over public health and the health of the children within the community. Clerk to also confirm that dog poo bags can also be put in normal bins.
  - e) **Cloud services for document sharing:** One Voice Wales stated that most use Office 365 – there would be a cost per Cllr for this (£3.80 per month per Cllr). There are no GDPR issues with this type of system. Cllrs discussed and the majority agreed that there is no need to use such a system at this time. It was suggested that if Cllrs wished they could set up an additional email address to use for Council business only. Clerk can help any Cllrs who would like help setting this up.
  - f) **PAVO: Listening to you visit/virtual meeting:** Clerk to ask if PAVO could join the May or June meeting.
  - g) **Community communications:** Delma Thomas is happy to translate a summary for CCC to put in Seren Hafren. Clerk to provide a summary following each meeting.
  - h) **One Voice Wales:** New draft guidance on Code of Conduct. Information noted
8. **Correspondence:** *All correspondence relating to COVID-19 has been forwarded to Cllrs and shared online where necessary*
  - a) **One Voice Wales:** Litter and Fly tipping Prevention Plan Wales: Information noted, no action.

- b) **TCT and Llanwnnog WI:** Thank you received for donation.
- c) **IRPW:** Annual Report: No changes that affect CCC. No action.
- d) **PCC:** Smoke free premises and vehicle regulations: for information, info passed onto Recreation Association.
- e) **PAVO:** Feedback request from Longbridge Street Chapel: Information received sounds like a good idea, Clerk to confirm.
- f) **One Voice Wales:** Summary of key provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for the Community and Town Council Sector. This has been updated in order to incorporate virtual meetings as an approved form of meeting.
- g) **One Voice Wales:** Membership information. CCC's membership for 2021/22 is £260. Cllrs unanimously agreed to renew the membership. Clerk to add a cheque payment for this onto next month's agenda.
- h) **PCC:** Communities for Work Plus Toolkit. Information noted, no action.
- i) **One Voice Wales:** Powys County Council Active Travel Network Map stakeholder engagement. This affects Newtown mainly, information noted, no action.
- j) **Craig Williams:** Montgomeryshire Community Awards Nomination: Cllrs suggested nominating the group that helped local residents with food deliveries etc during the pandemic.
- k) **Cllr A Wallbank:** Caersws Station Audit. Cllr A Wallbank produced this and sent to all Cllrs prior to the meeting, all were happy with the contents.

## 9. Planning

### a) Planning Applications:

- 1) **Application Reference: 20/2087/FUL** Crematorium: Information has been received from a local resident including a letter written by Julie James AM regarding netting on hedges, confirming that she does not feel that this method should be used unless planning permission has been granted. Clerk to write a letter to PCC Planning requesting deferment of the application and removal directly of the hedge netting. Clerk to also contact the developers insisting that the hedge netting be removed and forward the information received.

## 10. Reports: None

## 11. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Drainage works at toilets:** drainage work has been completed
- b) **Leak at Gents toilets:** there is a toilet in the ladies that is not flushing properly and a leak in the gents. Clerk to arrange for a plumber to come out to look at fixing the issues
- c) **Site meeting with neighbour:** Clerk has spoken with the neighbour who would like to confirm a way forward to prevent blockages continually occurring at the toilets and her property. Clerk to contact PCC and Severn Trent to ask for their help in rectifying this issue.

## 12. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr A Wallbank completed the risk assessments for March and confirmed concerns regarding the graveyard. The ground has given way in and around some graves and some areas are a safety risk. Clerk and Cllrs to meet at the graveyard for a site visit and report back to the rest of the council.
- b) **Yr Ynys Island: Improvement works to be carried out:** No update, Clerk to chase.
- c) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard: Transferring from Trust to CCC:** No update, Clerk to chase

## 13. Finances:

### a) Bank Balances

Current account = £6,352.88  
Reserve account = £39,923.00

### b) Bills to be Paid:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary & Expenses (Mar 2021)	£701.36
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Mar 2021)	£5.40
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (Mar 2021)	£240.00
One Voice Wales	Cllr Training	£30.00
Cwtch Caersws (request to redraw cheque made out to caersws School as Cwtch Caersws do not have their own acc)		£100

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr E Thomas.

## 14. Items with no progress at this time:

- a) Electric Car Charging: Clerk to ask Cllr B O'Sullivan if he can ask about this.
- b) Pavement widening between Spar and car park
- c) Road markings at Weig Lane crossing

## 15. Councillor Comments:

**Cllr A Wallbank:** asked about the email received regarding Place Planning. Clerk to find out more information before the next meeting.

**Cllr M Harding:** Saw some sunken graves in the cemetery, there were people there who asked whether they could fill the grave with the soil behind the shed which was confirmed. It was also noted that the gates do not have anything to hold them open, a couple of small posts are needed here.

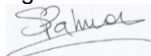
**Clerk:** will look into getting a proper sign confirming for visitors that they must take their rubbish home with them as people are leaving rubbish at the cemetery.

**Cllr D Collington:** Has some information from CHC which should be shared on noticeboards and online. Cllr to send this to the Clerk who will make copies and display.

**16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Chair Cllr D Collington thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.28pm.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sophie Palmer', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)