

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at Clatter Community Centre on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Chair Cllr A Wallbank, Vice Chair Cllr M Harding, Cllr L George, Cllr D Collington, Cllr P Breese, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr R Davies (arrived 7.40pm),

**In attendance:** Clerk, Mrs S Palmer, Calum Carr (PCC Rights of Way)

1. **Apologies:** Cllr B O'Sullivan, Cllr I Astley, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr C Woosnam
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 10 due to being on PCC Planning Committee
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)  
No members of the public present
4. **Calum Carr: PCC Rights of Way** in attendance to speak to the council regarding funding available for projects.  
Funding available from Tir Gwynt development from some years back.  
Cllr L George and Cllr A Wallbank suggested involving TCT in discussions as there are a number of people on TCT committee who have walked a lot of footpaths in the area.  
Cllr L George mentioned an extension to the existing path on Pontdolgoch which Calum confirmed that he is looking into that and it will be a separate project.  
If a diversion is required it may be too complicated.  
Cllr P Breese, asked about responsibilities of the land owners as he has had to  
Cllr A Wallbank; what are the rules of cyclists on footpaths? Calum confirmed that there are three classifications, restricted byways – cart and horse, bikes, horses, public footpaths; on foot only, there are separate cycle tracks designated just for that  
Cllr A Wallbank; will there be more funding, Calum stated that possibly more money from Carno III when that is completed.  
TCT can contact Calum Carr directly, Cllr L George will speak to the TCT Committee
5. **Minutes** of decisions made on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr E Thomas and seconded by Cllr L George.
6. **Cllr Les George Report:**
  - **Roadway into the cemetery:** there are bad holes in the centre of the road. The manager for PCC Highways has said to put in a request in the autumn and they will try and do it when in the area.
  - **Caersws School; parking and traffic:** Residents are having trouble parking their own cars at certain times. Cllr L George has spoken to PCC and they have confirmed that they will not build a new car park unless there is a fee for it. Cllr L George will speak to the head teacher for her thoughts.
  - **Police & Crime Commissioner:** Cllr L George is keen to have more communication between the Police & Crime Commissioner and the local residents. He is keen to get more of the communities thoughts and ideas across to the Police as people should know that they can affect how policing is organised.
  - **PCC Summer of Fun:** Funding available for various activities. Clerk had a brief look and thought it may be something that groups that access the halls may be interested in and possibly the school as well.
  - **Queens Jubilee 2022:** Cllr L George suggested CCC being involved in some way when this is celebrated next year.
7. **Highway Matters:**
  - a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** The Clerk confirmed that she has received no update. Cllr L George stated that he has also not received an update about having a site meeting but thought it was for CCC to push for this to happen. Clerk to push TRA and Welsh Gov for a site meeting and contact Russell George MS to get involved also.
  - b) **No Through Road Signs request:** One of these was already there and the other will be looked into to arrange for a sign, the Clerk has also been given details of how to log a problem with Google regarding sending vehicles the wrong way.
  - c) **Timber lorries through Caersws:** Clerk has previously contacted the timber yard to ask whether it is possible for lorries not to go through the village more than one at a time but has not received a call back as was promised so will chase this up.
  - d) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park:** No update received, as with agenda item 7a. Clerk will chase this up.
  - e) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** No update received, Clerk to chase up
  - f) **Hedges and verges cutting:** PCC confirmed that hedges and verges are done separately by different depts. Verges are done first so foxes pitch should now be done. Cllr E Thomas had also reported that the hedges are so full along the roadway on the minor road to a bungalow near to

Llanwnog turn that cars cannot get through and an ambulance that was called out to the resident had difficulty getting through and had to use the field to turn around. Clerk has reported to PCC but not heard back. Cllr L George confirmed that the hedge cutting is the responsibility of the land owner but PCC will need to speak to the relevant person to cut the hedges. Clerk to contact PCC again to ensure this is done.

**Cllr A Wallbank:** Email sent to the Clerk from resident neighbouring the toilets has chased up the request for double yellow lines near to the toilets. The resident copied Clerk into emails to Highways asking when the double yellow lines will be done. PCC confirmed that it is expensive to place an order for road markings and these would be arranged along with other similar works in the area rather than just that one job. PCC also suggested to the resident that she contact the Police when people block her driveway but as confirmed previously, she is not willing to do this due to how much the Police have to deal with.

## 8. Matters Arising:

- a) **Picnic Bench for Pastures:** Cllr P Breese confirmed that this has not yet been delivered, Clerk to chase up.
- b) **Defibrillators (Caersws & Llanwnog):** Clerk to chase if defib in Llanwnog has been done. Clerk to confirm any further available funding for the second Caersws defib. Cllrs suggested that the kiosk in Llanwnog should be painted green to ensure it is clear that a defib is available there. Clerk to contact Paul Canning to ask if he can paint the kiosk green.
- c) **NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021** Info of this will be shared online
- d) **Dog Fouling:** no update yet, Clerk confirmed that PCC should put more signs up but there is a question as to how effective these are. Clerk to look into other schemes and options of signage that can be looked into by CCC.
- e) **Place Planning:** This has not progressed any further. Cllrs suggested getting a committee together to spend time on this as there is a lot to look into.
- f) **Electric Car Charging in Caersws:** Clerk confirmed that funding can be requested from the Wind Farm but we would need to decide what type of charger and know the costs involved before a funding request can be put in. Clerk to do some further research on this.
- g) **Speed Check Group:** Clerk has not created the poster as yet but will do this before the next meeting and post up to ask those interested to get in touch.
- h) **Cambrian Rail – communication:** Clerk has been in contact to ask why CCC were not informed of the rail replacement especially as it was for a prolonged period of time, Clerk has received no response yet. Clerk received a response following the meeting confirming that CCC can sign up for updates which the Clerk will do. Clerk has asked that CCC are contacted directly when such changes to the rail service are put into place.
- i) **Caersws Bridge** further investigations will take place during night times as more invasive processes need to be carried out in order to progress the investigation.  
Cllr A Wallbank: spoken with his brother who was a civil engineer for some advice as there was a scheme 25/30 years ago to build a new bridge in Caersws. There was also a scheme proposed for a bypass around Caersws. Do these plans still exist? It would solve numerous problems for Caersws. Cllr A Wallbank suggested that he could write to Russell George MS to ask about this which Cllrs present agreed to.
- j) **School Catchment areas query:** Cllr C Woosnam raised this at the last meeting regarding the changes to schools language categories in the surrounding area and asked if the catchment areas would be affected. Clerk has been in touch with Cllr Phyl Davies who has said 'in short no, these decisions won't have any effect on Llani Catchment. Llanidloes catchment including Caersws will be reviewed in the next wave of the school transformation programme.

## 9. Correspondence: *All correspondence relating to COVID-19 has been forwarded to Cllrs and shared online where necessary*

- a) **Local resident: Complaint about speed through the village.** Resident has complained previously and has asked for traffic calming measures on Main Street. Cllrs discussed and feel that traffic calming may not be appropriate due to the on-street parking on this road, however flashing speed warning signs would be beneficial on the approach to the village from Foxes Pitch and also from Trefeglwys Road. Clerk will contact Highways and ask if this would be possible.  
**Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas** stated that there are two vans which regularly park on the pavements on Chapel Street which means that pedestrians have to walk in the road to get around them. Clerk confirmed that as with other such issues the Police are the only ones who have the powers to deal with this and any such issues should be reported to the Police as it is an offence to obstruct the pavement. Cllr P Breese confirmed that he will mention this to the Police when he is next in contact with them.
- b) **Llandrindod Wells Town Council:** Results of the Dental Provision survey. For information, no action. Cllr D Collington confirmed that further information may come through from the Health Board as well and he will forward this on as and when received.
- c) **One Voice Wales:** Update to E-Pims system. Not relevant to CCC, for information, no action.
- d) **Powys CC:** Call for Evidence - Improving Connectivity for Very Hard to Reach Premises. This information was shared by the Clerk, the deadline for the survey has now passed.

## 10. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 20/2087/FUL Crematorium.** Cllr A Wallbank stated that PCC planning has passed the application subject to a Welsh Government call-in. CCC has provided all information and comments it feels are relevant to be considered in line with the application. Cllr L George has spoken to Cllr G Pugh (Director of Powys Crematorium) who is willing to help the community and do what work is needed in order to make the entrance and/or foxes pitch junction. Cllr L George will contact Chris Lloyd, PCC Highways in order to arrange a site meeting to work out what can / should be done.

## 11. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Blockages and leaks at the toilets:** a blockage was recently cleared and was mainly sanitary products, Cllrs to discuss using an organisation to service the sanitary bins. Clerk to gather more details on this as it is a significant expense.

## 12. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr L George confirmed that the cemetery is fine with no new issues arising.
- b) **Llanwnnog Cemetery:**
- 1) **Yr Ynys Island: Improvement works to be carried out** Clerk is waiting for Nick Evans to confirm when the works will be completed.
  - 2) **Llanwnnog: signage for taking away own rubbish** signs have been received and Clerk will put these up.
  - 3) **Hedge cutting:** Roger Wainwright will not be continuing with the hedge cutting at the cemetery. Clerk has contacted Gwynne Woosnam who is willing to cut the hedges where they need to be done by hand. Mr Woosnam confirmed that it is difficult to give a quotation of these works but Cllrs were happy to ask Mr Woosnam to carry out the hedge cutting as he does such a good job with the grass cutting here. Cllr P Breese is happy to do the areas that can be brushed.
  - 4) **Roadway repairs:** Clerk is trying to gather quotes for both resurfacing the roadway and just repairing the pot holes whilst waiting to see if PCC can help.
- c) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:**
- 1) **Transferring from Trust to CCC:** This is on hold until CCC know more about what it will involve to make the graveyard safe.
  - 2) **Concern over safety at the graveyard and works to be carried out:** Cllr A Wallbank has spoken to people about this who have warned to be careful what liability is being taken on and that an asbestos survey should be done on the material put into the ground where the old chapel was to ensure that isn't an issue. Clerk to ask PCC about asbestos survey.

## 13. Finances:

- a) **Bank Balances:**  
Current Account = £2,366.02  
Reserve Account = £39,923.00  
Letter to transfer £10,000 from reserve account to be signed by two signatories.
- b) **End of year accounts and audit:** Internal audit has been completed. Cllrs were happy to sign off as no issues raised by the internal auditor.  
Cllr D Collington proposed to approve the audit and this was seconded by Cllr P Breese.
- c) **Bills to be Paid:**
- |  |  |           |
|--|--|-----------|
| Sophie Palmer  | Clerks salary (June 2021)                | £676.22   |
| Sophie Palmer  | Clerks expenses (June 2021)              | £65.69    |
| <i>(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £6.66, stationery &amp; postage = £23.25, mileage = £35.78 (79.5 miles))</i> |  |           |
| HM Revenue & Customs   | PAYE Tax for Clerk (May 2021)            | £13.20    |
| Hugh Jones   | Cleaning at W/C (May 2021)               | £192.00   |
| Colin Reynolds General Builder   | Repairs to gents door at WC              | £360.00   |
| Border Janitorial Supplies   | WC cleaning supplies                     | £50.40    |
| Jack Holley Drainage services  | Drain unblocking & previous underpayment | £210.00 + |
| £110.00 underpaid from previous invoice = £320.00  |  |           |
| Andrew Evans   | Grass cutting – Caersws (May)            | £340.80   |
| Gwynne Woosnam   | Llanwnnog grass cutting                  | £2,418.00 |
- d) **Clerks pay review:** Clerk left the meeting for Cllrs to discuss. Cllrs agreed an outcome and Cllr A Wallbank will write to the Clerk with the details.

## 14. Councillor Comments:

- Clerk:** Local resident sent pictures of overgrown hedges around the village which are impeding walking on the footpaths and require walking out into the road in order to get past. Clerk to contact PCC to ask the owners to cut the hedges back.
- Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas:** Asked Cllr L George about the trees by the bungalows. Cllr L George confirmed that PCC has confirmed that the trees will be cut back.

**Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas:** Confirmed that the Caersws Village Club is half way through doing the new roof and have thanked CCC for the funds received.

**Clerk:** Has received a letter from Clatter Community Centre asking for funding in order to carry out further works on the building. Cllrs agreed that this is something which will need to be precept for. Clerk to confirm that this will be discussed during precept discussions

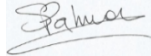
**Cllr A Wallbank:** Local resident wrote asking if CCC could meet with her in relation to the crematorium application and the highways concerns. Cllr A Wallbank and others to arrange a meeting.

**Cllr D Collington:** has written to McDonalds about litter issues as there is often McDonalds litter at the top of his drive. McDonalds has confirmed that their staff carry out litter picking regularly. This is carried out close to the restaurant and the litter is found much further afield. This is a wider issue of general littering in the countryside.

**Cllr M Harding:** asked whose responsibility is it to cut the hedges on the side of the Caersws car park by the toilets. Clerk to ask PCC.

**15. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)