

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Clatter Community Hall** on **Wednesday 23rd February 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair Cllr A Wallbank, Vice Chair Cllr M Harding, Cllr D Collington, Cllr P Breese, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr L George.

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr R Davies, 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.*
Cllr L George declared an interest in agenda item 10.
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public present.
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 26th January 2022 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr M Harding and seconded by Cllr P Breese.
5. **Cllr Les George Report**
 - **Jubilee Celebrations:** Successful community meeting regarding the jubilee celebrations. Cllr L George has helped complete the National Lottery funding request. Requested between £5,000 and £6,000 including trees for the community. CCC to purchase mugs as they can claim back to VAT. Date has been changed from Saturday to Sunday for the street party. Date has changed from the Saturday to Sunday 5th June due to having to close the road and buses running on the Saturday which may have created an issue.
 - **Cemetery:** Headstone for Mr Gwillt is laid flat and past being repaired. Clerk confirmed that a family member of Mr Gwillt has been in contact and confirmed that they have instructed Leach & Sons to repair/replace the headstone as soon as possible. Clerk to contact Leach & Son to find out when this might be done.
Roadway into Cemetery: Need to get the roadway repaired ourselves as PCC have not been able to help so far. Clerk to gather some quotations.
Cllr L George suggested removing the gate and raising it plus repainting etc.
Trees in cemetery: there are a few that are not in a good state and could do with being replaced.
Benches are all good
Yr Ynys is looking very good since the improvement works.
6. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** No further updates received relating to this. Clerk to chase.
 - b) **Caersws bridge:** Works were due to take place 16-18 Feb but were cancelled due to the storms. This has been re-arranged for 1st - 2nd March.
 - c) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park:** No further updates received relating to this. Clerk to chase.
 - d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** No further updates received relating to this. Clerk to chase.
 - e) **Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:** National Lottery will pay out on 18th May if successful. Clerk to contact the Committee to find out when they will know if they will get the funding. Mugs have been discussed for ordering for the children in the Caersws area. CCC Cllrs are happy to order the mugs on behalf of the Jubilee Committee.
The option of having a beacon has previously been discussed; Cllr A Wallbank is waiting on information back from NRW regarding the rules for this.
 - f) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues:** Cllr A Wallbank has spoken to a resident of Manthrig Lane who said that the issue, as CCC has confirmed with PCC previously, is still creating a problem. He also thought that there should be some attention near the culvert into the River Severn as well. Cllr L George went to look at the flooding that occurred recently and said that the water was very high in places. He also looked near the Severn culvert which looked like it was running fine. Clerk has forwarded information onto PCC highways that they have requested but has still not received confirmation that the riparian owner has cleared the area of Manthrig Brook that is the only stretch not to be attended to. Cllr M Cheshire suggested that CCC writes to PCC officer Graham Astley and copies in Russell George SM, Cllr Rosemarie Harris and Dr Caroline Turner to request action as soon as possible. CCC should ask for legal action to be taken if required. Clerk to draft this communication and send to all Cllrs to approve.
 - g) **Local Development Plan (LDP):** Clerk and Cllr A Wallbank requested information about the LDP at the recent engagement meeting with PCC. The matter of deciphering the LDP was added to the agenda for the meeting but no solid information was provided by PCC. Place Plan Committee will aim to look into this further.
7. **Place Plan Committee Update:** The survey has been agreed and the Clerk has put together an online survey. Cllr D Collington has prepared a printable version which needs double checking and can then be

printed. Clerk and Cllr D Collington to complete the printable version and get quotations for printing around 250. Place Plan Committee to meet on Wednesday 9th March at 7pm via Teams.

8. Matters Arising:

- a) **Dog Fouling:** Cheque to be drawn for the dog fouling station. This will be delivered on receipt of the payment.
- b) **Speed Check Group:** Training has been completed. Will start going out to speed check during March all being well.
- c) **Signal box at station:** Clerk has received a response from Transport for Wales. The person in contact needs to speak to someone who is currently unavailable and will then get back to the Clerk.
- d) **Upcoming election:** Clerk confirmed that CCC can order one paper copy of the nomination papers which can be copied more times or the number of paper copies required can be ordered., There will be a fee but PCC have not been able to confirm what this will be. Clerk to order one paper copy. No further information has been provided at this stage from the Elections Dept. Clerk to send on any information as and when received.

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

- a) **Powys CC:** Riverine SACs and Phosphorous Update. Cllr A Wallbank forwarded a newspaper article to Cllrs prior to the meeting regarding phosphorous issues due to poultry farms. Cllr M Cheshire suggested that this article is sent back to PCC to bring to their attention.
- b) **PAVO:** Survey for training needs for the voluntary sector. Information noted, no action.
- c) **Cllr B O'Sullivan:** Stepping down as Cllr. Cllrs are very sorry to see Barry leave the council as he has been a very valuable member of the Council and community for a number of years. Clerk to write to Barry to thank him and wish him well. Also, to confirm that he will be welcome back to the council in the future should his circumstances change.
- d) **Dolau School:** Closure protest. Information noted, no action.
- e) **PAVO:** Llanidloes Community Time Bank Project. Information noted, no action.
- f) **Heritage Hub for Mid Wales:** Powys Pioneers Heritage Festival. Information noted, no action.
- g) **One Voice Wales:** Consultation on How to Measure the inclusion of Migrants in Wales. Information noted, no action.
- h) **One Voice Wales:** Report Multi Location Meetings survey. Information noted, no action.

10. Planning:

- a) **Crematorium Application:** Update on Welsh Government 'call-in'. CCC Cllrs agreed that CCC has confirmed all information regarding this application that they wished to put forward to no further action is required. Clerk has requested to receive any updates on this as and when available.

11. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Lights repair:** Electrician has confirmed that he hopes to complete the work at the toilets on the lights this week.
- b) **Welsh Government Grant for WC:** CCC will be receiving £10,000 for the WC from Welsh Government to include grant funding issued last year and this year.

Clerk confirmed that she is looking into costs for heavier toilet doors as there has also been an issue with the disabled toilet door due to the weather.

12. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** This item was covered in agenda item 5.
- b) **LLanwnog Cemetery:**
 - i. **Bench for local family:** Cllrs agreed that a bench can be placed to the right of Yr Ynys for this family.
 - ii. **Reservation of cremation plot:** Cllrs discussed this matter and although they would like to be able to accommodate all requests, reserving plots is something that CCC stopped doing some time ago. Clerk to contact the person to confirm this.
 - iii. **Request for gates to be able to be held open:** This was discussed during agenda item 5.
- c) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:** Following the previous meeting Clerk drafted a letter to send to the trustees but Cllrs agreed that we need to confirm more details before sending this. Clerk to contact the Trustees to ask whether the Trust owns the land and if not, who does. If there is not a definitive answer, Clerk to do a Land Registry search.

13. Finances:

- a) **Bank Balances:**

Current Account = £7,251.79
Reserve Account = £41,948.19
- b) **Bills to be Paid:**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (Feb 22)	£743.39
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (Feb 2022)	£37.86

(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £10.00, stationery & postage = £11.24, mileage = £15.62 34.7 miles)

HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Feb 2022)	£23.76
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (Feb 2022)	£96.00
Eco Green Communities Ltd	Dog fouling station	£345.60

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr D Collington and seconded by Cllr M Cheshire.

The matter of signatories was discussed as Cllr Eiddwen Thomas was a signatory leaving only three signatories in total. Cllr M Cheshire agreed to be added as a signatory for the bank account as we have some meetings with only one signatory present. Clerk to get the relevant paperwork.

14. Councillor Comments:

Cllr L George: For the jubilee, the committee have agreed to get some trees. An evergreen was suggested to use as a Christmas tree at the top of Main Street near the bus turning circle. Another tree to plant at the Recreation ground as well were discussed.

Cllr A Wallbank:

Boundary Commission are still looking for comments. Montgomeryshire is still within the name which is preferable. Clerk to resend comments confirming that Cllrs are in agreement that Montgomeryshire stays within the name of any changes.

NRW consultation on the Severn Basin special scientific area. Cllr A Wallbank suggested asking local resident Janet Mackinnon her views on this matter. Cllrs in agreement.

Meeting on the last Wednesday of each month. This generally means that meetings fall within half term holidays and clash with the Royal Welsh Show. This affects the Clerk but will also affect other potential councillors who have children of school age. Add to the March meeting agenda for further discussion.

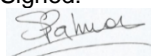
Cllr L George: wanted to mention that a young man approached him recently and asked about joining the council. Cllr L George asked him to look at putting himself forward at the May elections. Cllrs agreed that it is great that younger people are looking to get involved with the Council.

15. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th March 2022 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Chair Cllr A Wallbank thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)