

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Clatter Community Hall** on **Wednesday 27th April 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr P Breese, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr L George, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr D Collington

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.*
No declarations of interest made.
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public were present.
4. **Thanks to outgoing Councillors:** Chair Cllr A Wallbank thanked Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas for his long service on the council which spans the last 39 years. Cllrs agreed and congratulated and thanked Cllr P Calvin-Thomas for his long and dedicated service to the Council and the community of Caersws.
5. **Minutes** of meeting held on 30th March 2022 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr M Cheshire and seconded by Cllr P Breese.
6. **Cllr Les George Report:**
 - No help available from Powys CC for fixing the roadway into the cemetery at Llanwnog. Cllr L George has made contact with someone else and requested a quote for tarmacking the roadway.
 - Cllr L George has arranged for road closure signs from PCC for the jubilee celebrations road closure.
 - There has been some interest from local members of the community about joining the council which is positive. Clerk confirmed that the co-option process can be started at the next meeting.
 - There is a new pumping system being installed at the Green in Caersws but the electricity has not been connected yet. Clerk to chase PCC and ask about this as it only needs this to be done for it to be completed.
 - Shiloh, CCC needs to not be liable for the ground/land. It has been confirmed by the Trust that the Charity Commission own the land. Clerk to contact the Solicitor to confirm the details of the liability.
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7. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** No updates to report
 - b) **Caersws bridge:** No updates to report
 - c) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park:** No updates to report
 - d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** No updates to report
 - e) **Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:**
 - 1) **Caersws street party:**
 - 2) **Clatter celebrations:** Clatter have confirmed what they are organising for the Jubilee, CCC to share information regarding this. Clerk has also received a Thank You for the funds received for the celebrations.
 - 3) **Mugs:** a new cheque to be drawn at this meeting then Clerk will arrange for them to be delivered to the Mill for Cllr L George's attention.
 - 4) **Beacon:** hopefully this will go ahead, there is the possibility of some wood nearby mentioned by Cllr C Woosnam.
 - f) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues:** No correspondence received from PCC, Clerk to continue to chase up.
 - g) **Local Development Plan (LDP):** Further discussions once the Place Plan Committee start to meet again following the election. Committee to agree a meeting date at the May meeting.
8. **Place Plan Committee Update:** A meeting for the Place Plan Committee to meet will be scheduled at the May meeting.
9. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Dog Fouling:** dog fouling station has not yet been received. Clerk to chase delivery.
 - b) **Speed Check Group:** Cllr M Cheshire confirmed that the speed check group will be starting during early May.
 - c) **Signal box at station:** Clerk has had communication with TFW but is waiting for contact with the relevant person who can help with this issue.
 - d) **Upcoming election:** This was covered during agenda item 6. There will be 6 seats to co-opt onto the Council. Clerk will begin the process following the meeting in May.

- e) **Overgrown hedge near vicarage in Llanwnnog:** Cllr A Wallbank has not had much luck but Cllrs agreed that CCC has done all that can be done and to remove this item from the agenda for the time being.
- f) **Severn Basin Consultation:** Cllrs agreed that the consultation is too complex to respond effectively.
- g) **Street light by Caersws Village Hall:** Clerk has been in contact with Street lighting Dept but is yet to receive a response. Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas confirmed that the pole outside the hall came down around 4 years ago and a new pole was put up but the light was never replaced. Clerk to chase for a response.

Cllr M Cheshire confirmed his frustration at not getting anywhere with matters raised with Powys CC and/or Trunk Road Agent / Welsh Government and proposed that a letter be drafted with a list of the outstanding items to be dealt with or an answer received and copy in the Chief Executive and Leader of Powys County Council as well as Russell George. It was also raised during the meeting that some planning applications are not sent through to CCC as a consultee and Cllrs would like to know why everything is not sent on. Clerk to add to the list of questions.

- h) **Grass Cutting – Caersws play area:** Clerk confirmed that the cost of grass cutting will increase. Andrew Evans Landscape Ltd has suggested that there would be other ways to keep the cost down such as mulching the grass and leaving it in situ, or collecting the grass but leaving in a pile somewhere on site. These have been passed on to the Recreation Committee who have discussed it but insist that the grass needs to be collected. Cllrs agreed to continue as agreed.
- i) **Defibrillator maintenance:** Cllr P Breese has gone around all of the defibs to check that they are in working order. The defib at Llanwnnog is not there and there were wires hanging down. Cllr P Breese had informed the Clerk of this prior to the meeting so she had been in contact with the electrician who installed it and he will take a look some time and make it safe.
Cllr P Breese also reported that the defib cabinet at Caersws Village Hall has the code for the cabinet displayed on it. All Cllrs present were in agreement to request that the code be removed from the cabinet and displayed inside the hall. Clerk to make the request.
Cllr P Breese asked whether a defib could be installed somewhere in Pontdolgoch and suggested the old shop and to ask the residents whether they would be willing to have it on their wall. Clerk to action.
Clerk forwarded details of a Defibrillation Manager for Wales which were sent through by One Voice Wales this month. Information was included regarding defibrillator funding which can be claimed to receive a new defibrillator (not cabinet). Clerk to claim for another should it be possible to install one at Pontdolgoch.
Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas confirmed that Delma Thomas has organised defibrillator training. Clerk to check the information and offer to share the details.

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

- a) **Green Lane Association:** Countryside Access. Information noted, no action.
- b) **Powys CC:** Election of three Town/Community Councillors to the Community Sub-Committee of the Powys Standards Committee – Montgomeryshire. Information noted, no action.
- c) **Local resident:** Maesawelon car parked long term here has been reported to CCC. Not much CCC can do but possibly ask the Police to look into whether it is legally allowed to be on the road as it is said to have been parked in the same place for 2 years.

11. Planning: *No planning received at the time of posting the agenda*

A planning application was received after the agenda had been posted but will be within the time scale to comment at the May meeting so will be discussed then.

Cllr C Woosnam was asked about the application for the recreation associations new all weather area in Caersws and he confirmed that there is now FAW funding available. He confirmed that he will keep the Council updated with progress.

12. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Lights repair:** Further works on the lights which were suggested by the electrician will be completed as and when he can fit the work in.
- b) **New doors:** It has been suggested that the latch on the door is the part that is stopping the door closing properly. Clerk to look into having someone look at changing the latch instead of the whole door.

13. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr L George kindly offered to check the cemetery again this month. Some headstones are leaning, some trees need replacing. Top soil needed, roadway is bad, Cllr L George to get some quotes.
 There is a lot of soil behind the shed at the cemetery. Clerk to ask the Funeral Directors if they are willing/able to take it away. Cllr P Breese confirmed that he could find space for the soil but would need someone to get it up to him.
- b) **LLanwnnog Cemetery:**
 - 1) **Gates and roadway repairs:** Covered in agenda item 13a above.
 - 2) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:** Covered in agenda item 6.

14. Finances:

a) Account balances

Current Account = £16,053.18
Reserve Account = £41,949.23

b) Internal Audit: Clerk confirmed that the accounts are almost complete for 2021/22. These will be finalised and audit paperwork completed as soon as possible and sent on to the internal auditor.

c) Account and budget review: Accounts are not fully completed but will be ready for the AGM in May.

d) Bills to be paid:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (Apr 22)	£774.64
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (Apr 2022)	£32.93
<i>(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £10.00, stationery & postage = £6.31, mileage = £15.62 (34.7 miles))</i>		
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Apr 2022)	£5.77
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (Apr 2022)	£240.00
Gifts to Impress Limited	Mugs for Jubilee x 252	£958.32
Border Janitorial	WC Supplies	£67.20

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

15. Councillor Comments:

Cllr P Breese: It was discussed to paint the kiosk in Llanwnnog green which has the defib inside it. Clerk to get quotation.

Cllr L George: Mentioned the Clatter Matters newsletter and wondered whether we could ask to add certain issues/matters/news to the newsletter. Clerk to ask and find out the deadline to submit info.

Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas: As this is his last meeting he wanted to thank everyone on the Council and wish the Council well for the future. Cllrs suggested that he may wish to co-opt back on to the council one day.

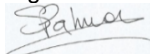
Clerk: Future meeting dates need to be agreed with some being moved to avoid clashes with school holiday times, Clerks holiday, Royal Welsh Show etc. Dates will be sent to Cllrs to approve and Clerk to schedule meetings between Caersws and Clatter if possible.

Clerk: Confirmed that the laptop is being very temperamental, it was unusable for most of the meeting as it kept switching itself off. All Cllrs present were in agreement for the Clerk to purchase a new laptop as soon as practical.

16. Date of next meeting: The AGM and next ordinary meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 7pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Chair Cllr A Wallbank thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.12pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)