

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Caersws Village Hall** on **Wednesday 30th November 2022** at 7pm.

Present: Chair Cllr P Breese, Vice Chair Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr D Lowe, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr D Collington, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr C Knapp (arrived 7.20pm)

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr L George
2. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office** – new Councillor, Sarah Sargent. Cllr S Sargent completed her declaration of acceptance of office which was witnessed by the Clerk. Cllr S Sargent was officially welcomed onto the council.
3. **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 A Wallbank and Cllr C Brooks both declared an interest in agenda item 12c
Cllr P Skitt and Cllr D Collington both declared an interest in agenda item 10h
4. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public were present.
5. **Minutes** of meeting held on 26th October 2022 were discussed and some changes are to be made so Clerk will implement changes and resend to Cllrs to be approved at the January meeting.
6. **Councillor Co-option:** There is still one vacancy on the council so will leave notices up and keep on the agenda
7. **Cllr Les George Report:** Cllr L George not in attendance
8. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** Remind Russell George that this is a TRA issue and not PCC Highways.
 - b) **Caersws bridge:** Russell George SM previously said that CCC should keep chasing Welsh Government on this. It is still in the pipeline as
 - c) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park:** Remind Russell George that this is a TRA issue and not PCC Highways.
 - d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** Remind Russell George that this is a TRA issue and not PCC Highways.
 - e) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues:** Clerk is yet to receive a response back from the PCC drainage officer to her email of 06.09.2022. Clerk to keep chasing a response.
 - f) **Decision Matrix:** This has been updated and will be resent
Clerk to contact Russell George SM to request for him to attend the January meeting as he confirmed that he would come to future meetings to keep up to date with the above issues.
9. **Place Plan Committee**
 - a) **LDP:** A request for candidate sites to be put forward has been received. Cllrs looked at current sites and feel that some sites that are on the current LDP should maybe be removed. Clerk to forward the information back.
 - b) **Active Travel Plan:** No new info on this at present.
10. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Signal box at station:** Clerk told it will be done by the end of the financial year so will keep the item on the agenda and chase up again after Christmas if still not done.
 - b) **Maesawelon car parked long term:** Police confirmed that they are still trying to get this moved.
 - c) **Finance & Governance Toolkit:** Clerk to meet with Cllr D Collington and Cllr A Wallbank before Christmas to go through this and start drafting out what needs implementing/updating etc in order for CCC to be compliant.
It has been discussed previously that the
 - d) **Annual Report and Training Plan:** Cllr A Wallbank to draft an annual report as the outgoing chair.
 - e) **Christmas Tree & Lights:** There was an issue transferring funds to purchase these so Clerk has paid for them and will be reimbursed via expenses.
 - f) **Community Space idea at Glan y Nant field:** This item was to be removed from the agenda.
 - g) **Maintenance fund establishment for a grave at Llanwnnog:** Clerk responded to the requests made but has not received a reply. Clerk to remove from the agenda.
 - h) **Air Ambulance – possible move from Welshpool:** No further updates at this time.

- i) **Clerks' laptop – Office 365:** Clerk is arranging with PC-Q to do the setup as the email and possibly the laptop, will be unavailable whilst changed.
- j) **Plan in case Clerk is unavailable/incapacitated:** Clerk still to put the information together.
- k) **Alternative bank account options (Unity Trust info):** Cllrs discussed Unity Trust as an alternative option for Council banking and in principle agree to change. Clerk to provide an overview of how the new account will be set up, administered etc.
- l) **One Voice Wales council representatives;** Cllr D Collington has already put himself forward as representative. Cllr P Skitt has confirmed that he is willing to be the second rep. Clerk to confirm to One Voice Wales.
- m) **Focus Newtown Enterprise Hub visit to the Council:** Requested a representative to join CCC's Feb meeting, yet to respond.
- n) **CCC representative for Caersws Primary School Governors:** Caersws Primary School headteacher has responded to the request for Cllr C Woosnam to join the school governing body. The Head Teacher confirmed that they are happy for Cllr C Woosnam to join the Governors and for him to contact the secretary.
- o) **Farm Watch info:** Info sent from PCSO Rhiannon. Someone needs to be willing to be a point of contact and start the process of setting up a Farm Watch for the area.

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

- a) **Ellen Hjort:** Request for participation for research. Chairman Cllr P Breese has received a request for help. Clerk to forward onto all Cllrs for those willing to help to contact the student direct.
- b) **Local Resident:** Request to hold a public meeting re: Urdd Eisteddfod 2024. Clerk to contact resident to ask about the date and place and if information will be provided for CCC to share and help publicise the event.
- c) **Local Residents:** Request for lighting at the bus stop in Caersws opposite the Buck Inn. The lighting at the bus stop is very limited which raises an issue of safety. Cllrs made several suggestions but decided the Clerk should first contact Powys Street Lighting to raise the concern and ask if anything can be done to improve the lighting. Clerk to action.
- d) **NHS:** Update on the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS Cymru) Service Development Proposal. Information noted, no action.
- e) **One Voice Wales:** Council Tax: Consultations on draft Regulations to extend exceptions to second home premiums and on Guidance. Information noted, no action.

12. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 22/1764/HH** Grid Reference: E:300683 N: 294056 Proposal: Erection of a garage Site Address: Hill Crest , Pontdolgoch, Caersws, SY17 5NJ
Cllrs discussed the above application stated that if the cladding is visible from the road the cladding may be an issue. Clerk to forward comments.
- b) **Application Reference: 22/1841/HH** Grid Reference: E:303355 N: 292244 Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension Site Address: 26 Maesydre, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5HX
Cllrs discussed the above application and have no objection.
- c) **Application Reference: 22/1796/FUL** Grid Reference: E:302745 N: 293633 Proposal: Installation of a ground mounted solar PV system comprising 264 solar modules in 6 rows. Site Address: Tynyrwtra , Llanwnog, Caersws, SY17 5JG
Cllrs discussed the above application and have no objection.
- d) **Application Reference: 22/1116/FUL** Grid Reference: E:305793 N: 293131 Proposal: Retrospective application for agricultural vehicle access. Site Address: Rhydlydan Cottage , Aberhafesp, Newtown, SY16 3HP
Cllrs discussed the above planning application and agreed that this is a matter for highways and do not have any comments to make.

13. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Lights repair:** Electrician has assured the Clerk that the works requested will be carried out this week.
- b) **New doors quotes:** Quote received from EOM to discuss. Cllrs feel that this is expensive and that the works required could be completed without replacing the doors.
- c) **Beeping of coin boxes:** Clerk has tried to cover the boards but not sure how effective it is so will have another look over Christmas break.
- d) **Leaking toilets and blockages;** These have now been fixed, invoice received and listed in bills to be paid.
- e) **Repair and maintenance contract:** As agreed at the previous meeting EOM has been asked to go ahead with a 12 month contract which will be reviewed near the end of contract. Contract to begin on 01.12.2022.

14. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr A Wallbank confirmed that the island looks good currently. One headstone is looking dangerous, Clerk to check that the family has been contacted to rectify. The compost is overflowing with rubbish and soil is required to fill some graves which have sunk slightly.
- b) **LLanwnog Cemetery:**
- 1) **Gates and roadway repairs:** The roadway has now been repaired and looks very good.
 - 2) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:** Clerk contacted solicitor Robert Hanratty to ask what will happen if CCC do not take on responsibility of the graveyard. Waiting on a reply.

15. Finances:

- a) **Account balances:**
Current account = £22,168.53
Reserve account = £42,039.45
- b) **Accounts and Budget Review, precept discussion:** Cllrs went through the accounts and budget information to agree a precept of £39,005.00

c) **Bills to be paid**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary plus backpay (Nov 22)	£1,081.97
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses incl Xmas lights (Nov 2022)	£192.94
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Nov 2022)	£242.03
Gwynne Woosnam	Grass cutting etc at Llanwnog cemetery	£2,634.00
Bushman L&G Group Ltd	WC toilet leak repairs	£485.00
One Voice Wales	Cllr Training	£35.00
Hugh Jones	WC Cleaning	£170.00
One Voice Wales	Membership 2021/22	£271.00
Sophie Palmer	Clerks Salary (Dec 2022) (dated chq due to no Dec meeting)	£863.97
<i>(PAYE to be debited from Jan 2023 pay)</i>		

Bills to be paid were approved and proposed for payment by Cllr D Colington and seconded by Cllr D Lowe.

Direct Debits:

Southern Electric	Caersws WC Electricity (Oct 2022)	£52.58
PC-Q Solutions	Laptop security, maintenance, virus protection	£16.95

a) **Income received:**

Leach & Son	New memorial	£236.25
Leach & Son	New memorial	£236.25
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Leach & Son	New cremation memorial	£158.63
WC revenue	Not yet collected	

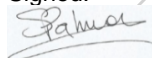
16. Councillor Comments: None

17. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Chair Cllr P Breese thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.25pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)