

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Caersws Village Hall** on **Wednesday 26th April 2023** at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair Cllr P Breese, Cllr D Lowe, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr L George, Cllr P Skitt, Cllr C Knapp, Cllr S Sargent, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr D Collington.

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr L George will need to leave early
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 in attendance
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 29th March 2023 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr D Collington.
5. **Councillor Co-option:** There is still one space on the Council open for co-option. The notices are still on the noticeboards and on the website.
6. **Cllr Les George Report:**
 - **Cemetery:** Cllr L George has been to spray the weeds. The cemetery was looking lovely and well kept.
 - **Discussion with Russell George** who said that the project for the roundabout and the footbridge will be going ahead. There is no information as to timescale at this time. Clerk to write to Russell George to ask about timing and point out about the recent accident on Long Length. Mention the amount of accidents in general at this stretch of road. Recognise that CCC are very happy that the scheme has been given the go ahead.
 - **Coronation:** Village Club want to organise a party for the children in the village and would like to give mugs out to the children and would CCC help with this. It was pointed out that when this as initially raised, it was suggested that the group complete a funding request form but this has not been received. Cllrs agreed that there was not enough time to organise this and no formal request has been made so the answer is no unfortunately.
 - **Could the Clerk write to Highways:** residents complaining about a hole in the road for some time. When vehicles go over it, it splashes chippings into their windows. Main road opposite Trefeglwys Road turning. Clerk to contact Highways.
7. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
No new updates received on the below;
 - a) Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws
 - b) Caersws bridge & Roundabout scheme
 - c) Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park
 - d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** Russell George's office are still chasing Network Rail for an update on this. It was confirmed that this section of road has been resurfaced but not yet relined. Cllrs mention that it is uneven and not a very good surface.
 - e) Manthrig Brook Flooding issues
8. **Place Plan Committee:**
 - a) **LDP:** There has been no further information regarding the LDP.
Cllr A Wallbank would like to attend a training session for Village Plan. Cllr to confirm details with Clerk to get booked on.
 - b) **Active Travel Plan:** Look into Sustran for the Active Travel Plan. Clerk to contact PAVO for more details.
9. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Maesawelon car parked long term:** Clerk has asked PCC if the land these cars are on is owned by them and is awaiting a response.
 - b) **Plan in case Clerk is unavailable:** Cllr C Brooks has provided the Clerk with a model document to use for this plan and will start working through to create a draft.
 - c) **Alternative bank account options (Unity Trust info):** Clerk is yet to set this up, will aim to do an account switch between now and the May meeting if possible.
 - d) **Farm Watch:** Cllr C Brooks attended a Police engagement event which was very poorly attended. Cllr C Brooks tried to engage with the rural crime team but this proved difficult.
 - e) **Bus shelter; cleaning:** A new shelter has been put up in Clatter. The shelters have been cleaned but the Pontdolgoch shelter still looks a bit messy due to notices being taped onto it. Clerk to ask Clatter to make sure the glue is removed. The new owners of the old school have told Cllr L

George that they are looking to clean up the old school and would be happy for people in the community to utilise the space. Cllr L George to ask if they are happy for the noticeboard to stay on the old school.

- f) **Website:** Waiting for a quote from OnTrac after providing some more info. No other quotes received as yet. Clerk to chase this up to get three quotes to compare ideally..
- g) **Drain blocked up the Bwlch y Garreg road overlooking the lake:** Highways have confirmed that the concrete slab was removed from the drain a couple of months ago. This item can be removed from the agenda.
- h) **Lighting at Caersws Bus Stop (opposite Buck Inn):** No response as to whether the wattage has been changed. Clerk to chase up.
- i) **Bench for the Kings Coronation:** Cllrs agreed to purchase a recycled plastic bench again. Clerk to contact Tygris as they may do these type of benches as well. Cllrs discussed the siting of the bench and agreed that by the river would be a good place for the tree and bench to go together. Clerk to contact the Recreation Association and ask if they would be happy with this location.
- j) **Biodiversity Report:** Sent out before the meeting to Cllrs. To be discussed for re-adoption at the May meeting.
- k) **Air Ambulance Updates:** Consultation is ongoing. Clerk to remove from the agenda.

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

- a) **Recreation Association:** Space for a Community Council Representative This is something which will be covered during the AGM but raising awareness prior.
- b) **Network Rail:** Severn & Carno Viaduct. Information noted, no action.
- c) **One Voice Wales:** New Grants for Coedtiroedd Bach. Information noted, no action.
- d) **Powys CC:** Environment & Nature event. Information noted, no action.
- e) **Powys CC:** Broadcasting of the Kings Coronation The license fee will be waived by BBC so that organisations can broadcast the Coronation on big screens in communities if they wish to. Clerk has passed this information onto relevant organisations.
- f) **Hywel Dda: consultation on new planned and urgent care hospital.** Information noted, no action.
- g) **Residents:** 2 objections to a planning application involving pylons
- h) **EMRTS: Update on the service review:** Information noted, no action.
- i) **Emergency Alarm System Test:** This occurred at the weekend nationally. No action.
- j) **PAVO:** Social Value Funding Round. Cllr C Brooks commented that there is a huge amount of funding available to various groups in the area. Information to be shared.

Cllr L George left the meeting at this point (8.05pm).

11. S137 Donation Requests: Request received from Clatter Community Centre. Cllrs discussed the application. Clerk to request some further information from Clatter for the application to be considered at the May meeting.

12. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 23/0409/FUL** Grid Reference: E:301027 N: 292273 Proposal: Erection of an extension to dwelling and construction of double garage including extension of domestic curtilage & new highway access Site Address: Gate Farm, Caersws, SY17 5RE.
Cllrs discussed the above application and have no objections.

Below received after the agenda was posted. This was agreed for discussion at the Chairs discretion:

- b) **Application Reference: 23/0536/FUL** Grid Reference: E:304266 N: 294158 Proposal: Erection of a rural enterprise dwelling, installation of a package treatment plant together with all other associated works Site Address: Land At Trecastell Wood, Llanwnnog, Caersws, Powys SY17 5PD
Cllrs discussed the above application and have no comments to make.

13. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Doors:** Quote received and sent on to Cllrs that Cllr C Brooks has obtained. Cllrs agreed to approve the go ahead for steel doors from JA Morgan Construction. These doors will use multi-point locking system which will NOT connect to the coin boxes so the WC will be free to enter. The doors will be lockable manually but will be left open otherwise. The addition of CCTV will be added later down the line.

14. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Not completed as the rota needs to be sent out to all to confirm.
- b) **Shiloh Clatter Graveyard:** Cllr C Brooks has put together a report for the graveyard following his and Cllr A Wallbank's visits there. Cllrs discussed the report and feel happier about taking on the graveyard. Clerk to chase the legal side of taking on the graveyard officially. There will be costs involved in order to sort out some dangerous stones. Cllrs present were all in agreement to take this on legally as soon as possible. Clerk to action and chase the solicitors.

15. Finances:

a) Account balances:

Current Account = £32,634.92

Reserve Account = £42,133.73

b) Account review:

Accounts for 2022/23 sent out to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. Clerk to meet with Cllr A Wallbank and Cllr D Collington in order to go through the audit responses recently received and go through the accounts information for the 2022/23 year.

c) Bills to be paid:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (Apr 23)	£830.15
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (Apr 23)	£42.77
M Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Apr 2022)	£33.82
Hugh Jones	WC Cleaning	£192.00
EOM	WC retainer (Apr 23)	£60.00
EOM	Gents taps replacement	£268.30
Border Janitorial Supplies	WC Consumables	£117.96

Direct Debits:

Southern Electric	Caersws WC Electricity (Apr 2023)	Not yet received a bill
PC-Q Solutions	Laptop security, maintenance, virus protection, Office 365	£28.23

Cllrs discussed bills to be paid which were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr M Cheshire and seconded by Cllr A Wallbank.

a) Income received:

WC revenue	11.01.2023 – 19.04.2023	£310.15
Leach & Son Funeral Director	New burial	£236.25
Mrs Mumford	New Cremation Tablet	£158.63

16. Councillor Comments:

Cllr C Knapp: Raised the issue of electric car chargers and that this is something to look at as these will be needed. It was confirmed that this has been raised previously and Powys CC put CCC off looking into positioning a charger at the public conveniences as they have a plan of where they would be sited and the WC was not one of them. Clerk stated that she would add this matter as a future agenda item.

Cllr A Wallbank: Requested that the Clerk's pay review is added to the May agenda.

There is a rail committee meeting coming up, Cllrs had nothing to put forward to be raised. Clatter Community Centre are organising a Coronation Tea which everyone is invited to.

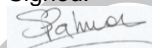
Cllr S Sargent: Asked for information of the Cllr remuneration. Clerk to send details of this to all Cllrs.

17. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 7pm for the AGM to be followed by the Ordinary meeting at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Chair Cllr P Breese thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.37pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)