

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Clatter Community Centre** on **Wednesday 24th May 2023** at 7.30pm.

Meeting started at 8.03pm following the AGM.

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

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr M Cheshire
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 A Wallbank and Cllr S Sargent both confirmed an interest in agenda item 11 as they are both members of the Clatter Community Association Committee.
3. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public were present.
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 26th April 2023 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr A Wallbank and seconded by Cllr C Brooks.
5. **Councillor Co-option:** There is still a vacancy on the council. The notices will stay up and the Clerk will repost on Facebook.
6. **Cllr Les George Report:** Cllr L George confirmed that he had nothing new to report that could not wait until the next meeting.
7. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws: no updates
 - b) **Caersws bridge & Roundabout scheme:** Russell George has confirmed that this will go ahead but a time scale is yet to be confirmed.
 - c) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park:** Cllrs noted that the hedge has been removed. There has been no update regarding the pavement widening here.
 - d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** Although the road has been resurfaced the lining is yet to be done. Clerk to chase this up.
 - e) Manthrig Brook Flooding issues: no updates
8. **Place Plan Committee**
 - a) **LDP:** No further information/updates received
 - b) **Active Travel Plan:** No information received

As discussed during the AGM Cllrs agreed that there should continue to be a Place Plan Committee. Cllrs on the committee; Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr P Skitt, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr P Breese.

9. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Maesawelon car parked long term:** The cars are not on the Highway so the Police are unable to do any more than they have. Clerk is waiting for someone from Powys Housing to get back to her as the land is a parking area belonging to housing.
 - b) **Plan in case Clerk is unavailable:** Clerk has drafted a plan with details required if she is unavailable for any reason so there is a log of essential information. Clerk to forward the plan to the Chair and Vice Chair. It was agreed that all Cllrs do not need this information but it needs to be available and accessible by those that need it.
 - c) **Alternative bank account options (Unity Trust info):** Clerk confirmed that NatWest has stated that the Council cannot access the free version of Bankline. Clerk is waiting on a response from someone at NatWest to confirm what CCC is able to apply for in terms of accounts and will state that the council will need to take it's business elsewhere should a paid account be the only option.
 - d) **Farm Watch:** Cllr C Brooks has been told by the police rural crime team that they do not have the time and resources to attend Farm Watch meetings. Cllr C Brooks will update the council on the any updates at meetings.
 - e) **Bus shelter; cleaning:** This item is to be removed from the agenda.
 - f) **Website:** 1 estimate received, and 2 to 3 quotes are expected. Clerk will send to Cllr D Collington and Cllr C Brooks to discuss further once received.
 - g) **Drain blocked up the Bwlch y Garreg road overlooking the lake:** This has been completed and can be removed from the agenda.
 - h) **Lighting at Caersws Bus Stop (opposite Buck Inn):** The Clerk is waiting for confirmation of whether or not the wattage of the light has been altered.

- i) **Bench for the Kings Coronation:** Clerk confirmed that the Recreation Association will discuss positioning of the bench and tree and confirm following their next meeting.

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

- a) **PTHB:** NHS Heroes: Information noted, no action.
- b) **One Voice Wales:** Motions for 2023 AGM: Information noted, no action.
- c) **Caersws Allotments:** Update. It has been confirmed that all allotments are confirmed and paid in full.
- d) **Clatter Community Centre:** Coronation Event. Thank you received from Clatter for the donation towards the Coronation event which went very well.
- e) **Welsh Government:** Survey on Twinning. Information noted, no action.

11. S137 Donation Requests: Cllrs discussed the funding request from Clatter again and agreed that further information was required information is required. 2 quotes have been forwarded but 3 quotes are preferable to compare. Cllrs would like to also see the full details of these quotes as CCC would look to pay the net cost. A document with all information requested needs to be received so that Cllrs can make a decision which should include what Clatter Committee is looking for from the quotes and their preferred option and why. Clerk to request this so that a decision can be reached at the next meeting.

12. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 23/0501/FUL** Grid Reference: E:301110 N: 293688 Proposal: Change of use from Pub/Restaurant/B&B/Holiday let to dwelling and ancillary accommodation (retrospective) Site Address: The Talkhouse , Pontdolgoch, Caersws, SY17 5JE
Cllrs had no comments on this application due to it being retrospective.
- b) **Application Reference: 23/0625/HH** Grid Reference: E:305794 N: 293131 Proposal: Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of a garage Site Address: Rhydlydan Cottage, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys SY16 3HP
Cllrs had no comments regarding this application.

13. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Doors:** Following agreement by Cllrs at the previous meeting to go ahead with the estimate provided for the metal outer doors for the public conveniences the Clerk has requested a formal quote which has been received and forwarded to Cllrs. Cllrs present again agreed to proceed with these works to have the outer doors replaced and ensure that they open outwards instead of inwards. The inner store room doors to also be replaced.
Cllrs also raised the question of CCTV to be installed at the public conveniences. The Clerk confirmed that she has received no quotations from the two suppliers she has contacted. Cllrs confirmed and agreed unanimously to accept the one quote received in order to progress the works needed. Cllr C Brooks suggested that it would be worth while coordinating these works to be done simultaneously. Cllr C Brooks offered to liaise with the two trades to organise this effectively. Clerk to have a radar key delivered to Cllr C Brooks to access the disabled toilet.

14. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr D Collington carried out the risk assessment. Some graves need levelling, Clerk to contact Graham Jones Groundworks to ask if this is something he can do. There are 2 or 3 loose stones and one where the filler from the base has come out. Clerk to look into whether details for family can be found to contact to request repairs.
- b) **Shiloh Clatter Graveyard:** Clerk has contacted Robert Hanratty regarding getting the legalities in order to take over Shiloh Graveyard but is yet to receive a response.

15. Finances:

- a) **Account balances:**
Current Account = £42,039.45
Reserve Account = £42,175.60
Clerk to split out the reserve funds on the agenda in future to show clearly the funds held in reserve and what they are held for.

b) Bills to be paid:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (May 23)	£858.29
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (Apr 23) (Chq returned)	£42.77
Sophie Palmer	Clerks Expenses (May 23)	£55.46
M Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (May 2022)	£48.31
Hugh Jones	WC Cleaning	£192.00
EOM	WC retainer (Apr 23)	£60.00
Andrew Evans Landscape Ltd	Grass cutting, Caersws & Clatter	£478.80
R A Evans	Grass/hedge cutting Shiloh	£1,073.57
CP & MA Breese	Defib batteries x 2	£98.34
Clatter Community Centre	Meeting room hire (Oct, Jan, Mar)	£75.00

Direct Debits:

Southern Electric	Caersws WC Electricity (May 2023)	£195.56
PC-Q Solutions	Laptop security, maintenance, virus protection, Office 365	£28.23

a) Income received:

WC revenue	Not yet collected	
A C Evans	Inscription	£158.63
R Hamer Funeral Director	Burials x 2	£472.50
R A Owen	New memorial	£158.63
Powys CC	Precept payment (1)	£13,003.00

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

16. Councillor Comments:

Cllr C Knapp: a funding request has been made by the Arts Centre and they are looking for endorsement for the funding. A questionnaire was passed around to Cllrs to contribute.

Cllr C Knapp also suggested that there should be a campaign to try and stop littering. Clerk to ask Powys for bin bags for litter picking for those who are interested to organise this.

Cllr C Knapp also stated her concerns over accidents on the roads and whether there should be signage in hazardous areas and more education for young drivers.

Cllr to add the litter and dangerous roads issues to the June agenda.

Cllr A Wallbank: attended the latest rail liaison meeting. New trains will be coming soon.

Cllr S Sargent: noted that the bin by the Premier shop is often overflowing. Clerk to contact Powys CC to ask whether more regular collection is possible or an additional bin.

Cllr D Lowe: Stated that the new Chair had one a wonderful job.

Chair Cllr C Woosnam: Reminded all about 'Sws on the Loose' happening at the weekend which will be a fun day to remember local members of the community and raise funds.

17. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th June 2023 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

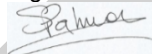
Closed meeting, confidential matters

Council will go into closed session for discussion of confidential matters. The Council has deemed that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

The closed meeting will start for Cllrs to discuss the Clerks pay review.

Chair Cllr C Woosnam thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.06pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)