

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting Wednesday 24th July 2024 at **Caersws Community Centre** at 7.30pm

Present: Chair Cllr C Woosnam, Vice Chair Cllr D Lowe, Cllr C Knapp, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr M Carroll, Cllr A Vaughan,

1. **Apologies:** Cllr L George, Cllr S Sargent, Cllr P Skitt
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 one in attendance
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 19th June 2024 were proposed as an accurate record. Proposed DL, seconded AW
5. **Priority Projects:**
 - a) **Caersws Footbridge:** LG has contacted Russell George and Gareth Price by email. He has received a negative response from Jackie Charlton (Cabinet Officer) and will continue to chase this with WAG and Russell George to progress. CW to email Russell George
 - b) **Caersws Train Station Parking :** A survey has been completed at varying times of the day and there were only three occasions out of approximately twenty-two where there were no spaces. It is hard to justify spending a lot of money if there isn't a need, however Councillors felt this was dependant upon whether the Community Council was to take a reactive or proactive approach as more travellers could be encouraged to use the train service if there was more parking available. Signs saying 'DO NOT PARK' are obscured. MC suggested contacting Network Rail and making a case with them to increase parking. The only area suitable is the field with the Roman Fort and a planning application would need to include protection of this fort as mitigation. Planning application preparation will be expensive and may be an inefficient use of funds when no complaints or requests for additional parking have been received. Clerk to check how long this has been on the agenda as this is not included in the Place Plan. AV to speak to level crossing manager and feedback regarding risk assessments/problems. It may be that Network Rail could push this forward.
6. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Pavement widening on corner of Premier Shop:** Awaiting update from TRA
 - b) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** CB explained there is some confusion over where the white lines are required, he has supplied a photograph and information to be forwarded to Highways. White lines on the main road are to prevent overtaking and therefore accidents
 - c) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues:** CB has contacted the Flood Action Group as there is no evidence of properties flooding, they cannot take this any further. CK highlighted that there is an issue with raw sewage and CB explained how property drainage works, with only one storm drain from each property, however it is felt that the two issues are possibly connected as flood water conveys sewage water. CW felt that some properties have suffered flooding and clerk to check with local resident. The Brook is silted up and overgrown and is therefore unable to cope with the water flow after heavy rainfall. Dredging may help but may also increase the problem in Caersws centre. A survey would cost £5000-£8000 but would provide a detailed report to use in negotiation with Powys County Council. It was felt that this cost would be negated by the benefit to the Community. CB to write brief and obtain quotes.
7. **Place Plan Committee** No new information or updates on either of the below items
 - a) LDP
 - b) Active Travel Plan
8. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) Website, Information Boards and Logo – Ongoing project managed by CB, clerk to email pages required
 - b) Request for pavement in Pontdolgoch – LG has sent further emails to Highways
 - c) Ownership of War Memorial – MC to contact Church of Wales to enable transfer
 - d) Defibrillator – Pontdolgoch – PS reported this has been delivered and will be fitted shortly. MC has carried out health checks on all devices in July.
 - e) Removal of bus shelters – Update from Peter awaiting information

- f) Asset Register (including benches) – DL to review all items and feedback
- g) Trailer near Caersws School – Confirmation that a Statutory Notice has been served and this must be removed within 10 days or will be confiscated
- h) School Panels – MC has spoken to the school secretary, who is keen and is awaiting a call back from the Headteacher. AV to send contact details to MC for request for funding from Network Rail
- i) Clerk Contract – Reviewed by AW, some minor changes. End of probationary period meeting scheduled for August where contract will be signed. Clerk to arrange pension scheme

9. S137 Donation Requests *any funding applications received will be sent to Cllrs to consider at the September meeting.*

Caersws Village Club application email was not received in May, reviewed by councillors who would like to support this application, Clerk to invite applicant to next meeting to provide further information

10. Planning:

Application Reference: 24/1012/REM Grid Reference: E:302133 N: 293814 Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition no 10 of outline approval P/2017/0368 (drainage details) Site Address Land at Church House Farm, Caersws, Powys – No Comment

There is flooding from a private house on Cemetery Road. CB to review

11. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) Maintenance – minor issues resolved by Hugh. There are some signs still up saying there is a charge, MC to remove

12. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Completed by LG. Clerk to send risk assessment rota to AW, DL and LG
- b) **Shiloh Clatter Graveyard and Grasscutting:** Hedges haven't been cut, but these should wait until September – Rob Evans is the contractor. Andrew Evans Landscapes cuts Play Park, Clatter and Llanwnog. All grasscutting will be retendered in October. C Breese to dispose of plaque
Carno Road hedges are overgrown – AV to contact landowner and possibly CB to cut after approval
- c) **Llanwnog sunken graves:** CW to chase second quote and arrange a meeting.
- d) **Llanwnog cemetery mapping:** Ongoing project. It would be ideal to be able to provide a 'search by name' facility through the mapping. DL it is a legal requirement to keep a record of burial mapping. It will be necessary to transcribe information from the records which will be very time consuming.
- e) **Scribe Cemetery App** – CB invited to demo on 6th August
- f) **Cemetery Regulations** – Clerk to ask Llandinam if they will share this information. To be reviewed at next meeting

13. Finances:

NatWest: Current account = ££3,706.33
Reserve account = £60,210.72
Unity Trust: Current account = £14,000.27
Savings account = £0

Bills to be paid:

Clerks salary (July) £741.37
 Clerks Expenses (July) £26
 Previous Clerk salary £182.52
 HM Revenue & Customs PAYE Tax for Clerk (July) £185.40
 Hugh Jones WC Cleaning (June/July) £240
 EOM WC retainer £227.06
 Clatter Village Hall £150
 Andrew Evans Grass cutting Caersws and Clatter £511.20
 OVW £309
 Scribe £42
 Border £72.03
 CFC Goals £5,243.26 (Paid June)

Direct Debits:

SSE £108.06

Hafren Dyfrwdry £373.97

Income received: £196.86 interest, £17,314.00 Precept

Payments approved proposed by MC, seconded by M Carroll

Clerk to email Councillors regarding allowance

a) Reserves breakdown

RESERVES HELD	
PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Public Convenience	£14,559.39
Unforeseen Maintenance costs for Cemetery	£8,000.00
Precepted amount for new website	£2,500.00
Training costs	£512.00
Precepted amount for village halls	£10,000.00
Reserves for any extra costs unplanned at the time of precept	£8,000.00
Cllr Remuneration	£1,592.00
Care Costs in case required/requested from Cllrs	£4,500.00
TOTAL RESERVES HELD	£54,232.00

14. Correspondence : Request for funding Cerebral Palsy – denied

15. Councillor Comments:

CK – information regarding Healthy Communities could be beneficial to Caersws residents. CK to send details to clerk

CK – Would like to promote walks in Caersws

AW – information regarding pump on The Green. To be discussed

DL – A van is parked long term on the village carpark near toilets – No action

Clerk to add Clatter WiFi to next agenda

16. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21st August 2024 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall

Chair Cllr C Woosnam thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.48pm.