

Cyngor Cymuned **Penybontfawr Community Council**

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING Held at Canolfan Pennant on Tuesday 19 May 2015.

Present:

Councillors: DR Lloyd (Chair), JE Jones, MH Jones,, DG Smout, G Roberts, Cllr RP Williams, P Williams, Clerk GD Bradley, County Cllr D Mayor (for part of meeting)

1- Apologies for Absence

None

2 - Declaration of Interests

None

3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting (28 April 2015) were approved, and signed (Proposer: Cllr. MH Jones / Seconded: Cllr. JE Jones).

4- Matters arising from Minutes

None

5 Correspondence

- *Planning Aid Wales - Planning Training workshop 30 June at Welshpool Town Hall*
- *One Voice Wales - Update on progress of the Planning (Wales) Bill. The Clerk advised that he would be updating Members on the relevance of this after Stage 4 of the process has taken place*
- *Welsh Government – Statutory Guidance document regarding Access to Information on Community and Town Councils*
- *Powys County Council – Powys Garden Competition 2015 (for Council tenants). Deadline for entries 5 June 2015*
- *PAVO – May 2015 update on funding opportunities*
- *Russell George AM - May Newsletter*
- *PAVO – Powys Volunteer of the Year - Deadline for entries 12 June 2015*
- *One Voice Wales - Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs) in Wales. Relating to impacts on communities of severe weather and future climate change*
- *Welsh Hearts Charity – seeking new Trustees. The supporting document mentioned that there is only a 3% survival rate from sudden cardiac arrests outside hospital but this can be improved to 47-50% when a defibrillator is used. The Clerk will follow up shortly on the possibility of partial funding towards a defibrillator being set up in the village*
- *Mid Wales Housing Association - Information about new shared house ownership scheme*

6 - Finance

6.1 Current Bank balances were advised as:

Current Account - £4001.12 (as at 4 May 2015)

Deposit Account - £2743.54 (as at 4 Apr 2015). The Clerk advised that he will shortly be transferring £350 from the Current Account to the Reserve Account, this being approximately the surplus after expenses have been deducted from the Welsh Assembly grant for setting up the website

6.2 The Clerk advised that the Community Council Insurance cover was due for renewal wef 1 June. The premium has risen nominally to allow for a 3% uplift for both building and contents cover. This gives rise to an overall premium increase of 1.77% which is below the Budgeted figure (note: the Community Council entered into a 3 year agreement with Zurich Insurance in 2013). The Clerk commented that there have recently been some minor adjustments to the Asset Register but that in his opinion the insurance cover did not need to be revised as they would in effect be covered within the building uplift. Councillors agreed to renew the Insurance cover on the above basis (Proposer Cllr P Williams/ Seconded Cllr JE Jones)

6.3 The following payments were authorised :

- Zurich Municipal - £1089.78 - Annual insurance premium (Proposer Cllr P Williams/ Seconded Cllr J E Jones)

7 – Clustering

Cllrs G Smout and JE Jones, together with the Clerk, had attended at further meeting at Llanfyllin on 11 May and updated on the limited progress that has been made. Apparently up to 11 Community Councils have expressed an interest in being part of the Llanfyllin cluster which is a higher number than they hoped for in terms of practicalities. Powys County Council will now attempt to provide further financial information about the a breakdown of the costs of non-statutory services currently provided within these Community Councils area. A further cluster group meeting should be expected during July.

8 - Council Assets – maintenance

The grass cutting contract for Hirnant cemetery has been re-let to A Hughes at figure of £625 - increased by £15.00 from last year (Proposed : Cllr G Smout/ Seconded Cllr JE Jones).

The Clerk noted there has been some deterioration to the surface of the path across Hirnant Churchyard, and, as this is increasingly being used by visitors thothe Community centre, the unevenness might now be a concern. Cllr JE Jones agreed to inspect and report back.

The Clerk advised that, at long last and with assistance of County Cllr D Mayor, some progress was being made with the drainage issue at Dolofan. Powys CC were now looking to replace the existing collapsed drain (at an estimated cost of £13000 or £52000 depending on methodology). An approach was being made to the landowner to secure a new easement for a different 'drain – run'.

9 - Website information

Cllr G Roberts updated on progress, confirming that the website was now 'up and running' in respect of the obligatory Community Council information. Other pages would be added in the course of time.

The Clerk advised that he had not yet established the extent of personal information Councillors were required to declare on the website – more to follow. Other minor amendments to the current Community Council content were agreed

10- Planning

No items for consideration

11 – Highways

Informal notification has been received about closure of the Hirnant Road in connection with work to be done by BT. . All present were very concerned about this, given the difficulties and anger that arose when this road was previously closed and the considerable time overrun beyond the original Road Order closure dates. County Cllr D Mayor committed to urgently discussing the issue with the appropriate Highways officer. In the absence of the Clerk , Cllr G Smout kindly agreed to take the lead on this matter.

Again a large number of potholes issues were raised. The Clerk expressed dismay that it was now impossible to identify any Highways officer that would take responsibility for recording the necessity for work either in the short term or longer term. County Cllr D Mayor agreed to take this matter up with portfolio holder, surmising that number of staff had left recently probably giving rise to a lack of direction in this department

Advancing road edge collapses have been noted on the Hirnant Road in several places which need addressing urgently as this has B road status and in at least one place where the road is narrow, there is now a danger that vehicles could overturn down a hill. County Cllr D Mayor requested the Clerk to email him details of these issues, which he would pass on to the Highways Officer

12 – Any Other Business

County Cllr D Mayor updated on the local ambulance position. A change in the shift patterns was being considered with a view to providing increased cover at times of geater need i.e for instance, when the Llanfyllin surgery is not open. All of the vacant paramedic positions have now been filled

13 - Date of Next Meeting

Agreed as 7.30pm, Tuesday 23 June 2015.

The Clerk reminded Members that he would be abroad for most of the next four weeks

Meeting closed at 8.55pm