

Cyngor Cymuned **Penybontfawr Community Council**

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING Held at Canolfan Pennant on Tuesday 31 March 2015.

Present:

Councillors: JE Jones (Chair), MH Jones, DR Lloyd, DG Smout, G Roberts, P Williams, Clerk
GD Bradley

1- Apologies for Absence

Cllr DR Lloyd, Cllr RP Williams, County Cllr D Mayor

2 - Declaration of Interests

None

3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting (24 February 2015) were approved, and signed (Proposer: Cllr. P Williams / Seconded: Cllr. DG Smout).

4 - Matters arising from Minutes

No items raised

5 Correspondence

- *Hirnant Community Centre Trustees – Thankyou letter for £95 s137 donation.* The Clerk commented that neither of the church recipients had acknowledged receipt and he requested that this be mentioned to them as formal receipts are needed for the annual audit
- *Cffi Dyffryn Tanat YFC – request for funding towards towards costs of their involvement in a national pantomime competition.* This took place in March and Cllrs decided that a retrospective donation was not needed
- *Powys County Council – Confirmation of revised library opening times*
- *National Energy Action (a charity) - Case study about fuel poverty in Wales*
- *Welsh Government – Consultation about review of Designated Landscapes in Wales*
- *Russel George AM – Monthly Newsletter*
- *The Plunkett Foundation – Event about support available to help setting up of community owned amenities*
- *One Voice Wales – Consultation about withdrawal of local authority discretion to charge Council tax on long empty and second homes in Wales*
- *Powys County Council – Update about proposed overhaul of secondary education in the County*
- *Welsh Hearts Centurion Club - raising funding towards a defibrillator*
- *National Eisteddfod – update*
- *Powys County Council Archives section – Newsletter*
- *One Voice Wales- Notification of consultation events about Wales Government White paper 'Reforming Local Governnet – Power to the Local People'*

- *Wales Government – Notification that the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Act 2012 takes effect wef 30 March 2015*
- *Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Information about Strategic Plan 2015/20 and Annual Improvement Plan 2015/16*
- *BT – Information about its 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme. This offers communities the opportunity to adopt remaining phone boxes for £1.00. The scheme was briefly discussed and may be interest to the Community Council as the power supply could supply a defibrillator if this progresses. Agreed to bear this in mind for the future. Otherwise, probably not of interest as it would add a potential maintenance liability.*
- *Llanfyllin mayor – Letter expressing concern about ambulance cover in the area and notification of meeting on 27 April*

6 - Clustering

The Clerk updated Councillors about the meeting that he had attended in Welshpool, expressing concern that there continue to be many 'grey areas' about this proposal, an opinion shared by representatives of other Community Councils present. At the meeting, Llanfyllin Town Council, as the potential lead for this area, agreed to call an urgent meeting of the potential local cluster group councils to discuss ideas further. However, this has not occurred and in the meantime a letter had arrived seeking information about which services each Community Council might wish to request. The Clerk produced a list of possible services on offer and these were discussed by Councillors. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform Llanfyllin TC that that possible service areas of interest to us were as following:

Playgrounds, Tourist information, Street scene maintenance, Bridlepath/ footpath maintenance (with considerable reservations), Road verges, Litter Bins, Cemetery maintenance.

7 - Annual Meeting date - Chair/ Vice Chair nominations for 2015-16

The Clerk advised that the sequence previously reviewed/ agreed would bring forward Cllr DR Lloyd as Chairman for next year with Cllr G Roberts as Vice /Chairman. No-one present at the meeting opposed this. The Annual Meeting would take place prior to the next Community Council Meeting on 28 April.

The Clerk produced for discussion a provisional list of forward dates for Community Council meetings in the next financial year. These were agreed but it should be noted that three of the Meeting dates (May, June and September) were changed to the penultimate Tuesdays of those months, this being a departure from the usual meeting date pattern

8 - Finance

8.1 Current Bank balances were advised as:

Current Account - £2562.02 (as at 4 Mar 2015)

Deposit Account - £2743.15 (as at 4 Mar 2015).

The Clerk advised that, taking into account the anticipated expenditure in the current financial year, and disregarding the £500 'carry forward' from 2013/14 not yet expended on the website, the Current Account would be in nominal positive balance at the end of the year.

8.2 The following payments were authorised :

- Clerk Honorarium - £1000.00 from which is deducted £200.00 PAYE due to HMRC. Cheques therefore issued to:
 - G Bradley (net payment) - £800.00
 - HMRC - £200.00
 - (Proposer Cllr G Smout/ Seconded Cllr P Williams)

- Powys CC - £72.00 (RoSPA Playground inspection charge - Proposer Cllr G Smout/ Seconded MH Jones)
- National Eisteddfod- £100.00. Note: At a previous meeting it had been agreed that this s137 donation could only be made in the 2015/16 financial year. A cheque was drawn up at this meeting, but post-dated 5 April 2015 and was approved for payment on this basis (Proposer Cllr G Roberts/ Seconded Cllr P Williams)
- Annual Audit – The Clerk advised that he had now received the Audit ‘pack’ and noted that a set scale of fees was now included. However, every query raised by the auditors attracted an additional payment above this scale fee and he feared that as this Community Council had challenged the auditors fees for last financial year, we might be targeted in the forthcoming audit process.

9 – Risk Assessment/ Asset Register

The Clerk presented an updated Risk Assessment which was approved (Proposer Cllr G Smout/ Seconded Cllr M H Jones).

The Clerk advised that he had revisited the assets listed on the Asset Register, and taken up-to-date photographs. He had also noted several that were not on the register and had added these, as following:

- (i) Noticeboard on wall of Hirnant Churchyard - A new enclosed board has been acquired during 2014/15. Reinstatement cost £500
- (ii) Water tap in box inside Hirnant churchyard gate. This has long existed and as no water rates are paid by the Community Council, is presumed to draw from the Hirnant Community centre supply. Reinstatement cost £250
- (iii) Nine inch thick brick wall, three sides around Hirnant War memorial. Reinstatement cost £1000
- (iv) Concrete rubbish bin adjacent to bench opposite St Thomas Church. Re-instatement cost £250
- (v) Half circle stone /wood bench within wall near telephone box. Reinstatement cost £500
- (vi) Replacement rubbish bin on concrete plinth at end of playground. Re-instatement cost £500
- (vii) Approx 100 metres of chain link fence with wood/ concrete posts at back of car-park. Reinstatement cost £1000

The above have been added to the Asset Register which was then reviewed and approved (Proposer Cllr G Smout/ Seconded Cllr P Williams)

10 – Council Assets - maintenance

It was agreed that although funds had been reserved in the current financial year to carry out the minor repairs to the playground equipment advised as precautionary in the last RoSPA, these would now be deferred until after the 2015/16 report is received.

The Clerk suggested that the disused notice board (opposite Penybontfawr shop) which is poor condition should now be removed. Cllr JE Jones kindly agreed to deal with this.

The Clerk reported the wall (item 9 (iii) above) is deteriorating and some minor repointing may be necessary. Similarly the bench (item 9 (v) above) was noted to be in poor condition. Cllr JE Jones kindly agreed to look at these and report back.

The clerk advised that the external paint on one side wall of the bus shelter had deteriorated. Cllr MH Jones agreed to investigate this.

The Clerk was pleased to confirm that the kissing gate near the playground (which is not the responsibility of the Community Council) has now been repaired by Powys County Council , and

at the same time their workforce had replaced the defective posts supporting the chain link fencing at the back of the playground (which is the responsibility of the Community Council).

11 - Planning

Notification received from Powys County Council of Planning Application P2015 0286, Caecrimon, Hirnant (erection of two storey extension).

The proposal was discussed and no objections raised. Clerk to notify PCC accordingly

12 – Highways

Cllr G Smout confirmed that those residents who had previously objected to the proposed parking amendments have recently re-iterated their concerns direct to Powys CC. He also commented that the Powys CC proposals continued to go beyond those previously agreed with the Community Council, despite his raising this again with the Highways officer.

13 – Any Other Business

The Clerk advised that, as no progress has been made, he had requested County Cllr Darren Mayor to intervene in the Dolafan drainage issue in an attempt to get this resolved.

14- Date of Next Meeting

Agreed as 7.30pm, Tuesday 28 April 2015.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm