

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LLANGAMMARCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD AT 7.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 12th May 2021 by Zoom Pro**

Present: Cllr Sandra Wear, Cllr Mairwen Price, Cllr Jeremy Andrews, Cllr Jon Hather, Cllr Anne Woods, Cllr Kay Coldrick, Cllr Jon Hather, Cllr Barbara Thomas

In attendance:

Clerk & RFO: Sue Lilly

Apologies County Cllr Timothy Van Rees

2798 Casual Vacancies.

We have a vacancy now. The clerk will contact Powys and start the process of filling the vacancy. It would be helpful if someone from Tirabad could come forward.

2799 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th March 2021

These were agreed as accurate and Proposed by Cllr Hather and seconded by Cllr Callan.

2800 Matters Arising

- Removal of the hedge on the building plot in Cefn Gorwydd-paperwork in 1998, shows Cllr Van Rees having permission to remove the hedge. **Action: The Clerk** was asked to clarify this with Cllr Van Rees. The conditions of Conditions of planning application may still need looking at about replacement of the hedge. **Action: The Clerk** to investigate further and, if necessary, go to the archive in Gwalia.

- Lake and Spa Hotel with respect to dog walkers. The owner confirmed that they provide dog waste bins and bags for those staying at the hotel.

- Cllr Price confirmed that she had investigated the dog waste. Cllr Thomas confirmed bagged waste had diminished but unbagged waste is still an issue in the first two fields. Notices put up about dog on leads have vanished, again.

2801 Riverside Gardens Update

-Pathway was redone and has not proved to be satisfactory. At the moment it is cordoned off for safety. There was a lot of discussion about the remit and cost. This was agreed by the council in November – Minute 2723, with the work on the railings and path carried out under their safety aspect. Money was vired from reserves to cover costs of this and the work on the trees.

-There was a lot of discussion over how much the council were paid for the remaining logs after felling. The donations are in the accounts. There was another situation where a trailer-load was removed in lieu of monies being used to pay some of the staff who helped with the felling of the large ash tree.

-There was discussion over how any work is done, given that the wood pile on the lower part of the gardens needs further cutting. In the past volunteers were relied upon to do work. This works well when people come forward and are prepared to sign Insurance Disclaimers to remove the council's liability over their activity.

-The pathway needs further steps. This will be done in the near future.

With regard to the wood-pile it was agreed that the Clerk should advertise for someone to volunteer to cut the large logs down. Should no-one come forward before the next meeting, then a paid worker would need to be found.

-The Clerk confirmed, for clarity, that three young ash are still in the gardens. These were deemed to not be immediately in need of felling (please see tree survey that is

on the council website and that was sent out to everyone as a hardcopy in November 2020).

- the remaining large ash are outside the council's land. NRW have made it clear that trees on the riverbank are not their remit either, unless in a flood prevention area. The Clerk will pass the emails about this onto Cllr Wear for her information.
- The Land Registry is underway and the limits of the land have been made clear. From just behind the Poityn memorial in a line down to the riverbank, to a line level with the bench near the butterfly garden.
- email of thanks was sent to those who removed the large ash tree, near the butterfly garden.

2802 PCC and other Correspondence

- a request from Tenovus for money. The Clerk to enquire to where the money is being spent. The Council prefers to support charities who are locally active, like Macmillan.
- Fay Jones MP sent a letter to the council. There has been no meeting with an MP for some time. There is also the new MS member. Suggestion that the council invite our representatives when we are sure face-to-face meetings will be operational.
- letter from The High Sheriff of Powys (Peter James MBE) following our letter congratulating him on his new post.
- letter from the Assistant Private Secretary to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on our letter of condolence. The condolence book signing went well and we have an idea how to set things up when and if we need it again.
- email from PCSO about still trying to get speed gun training started.
- letter from Powys CC about the RoSPA playground inspection. It was agreed to pay the £72 to enable this. This was proposed by Cllr Hather and seconded by Cllr Woods.
- letter from One Voice Wales about the next pot of money available for local charities. Copies were sent to both Tirabad and Alexandra Hall Committees.
- report from Powys Action on Climate Emergency meeting attended by the Clerk. The main issue for this council is the restarting of the Repair Café and supporting the working party we have on the environment and biodiversity.
- letter from the working party about planting around Llangammarch. This to be sent with the agenda for the next meeting for proper discussion.

2803 Planning Matters

Building works have started at Cefn Llan. There have been issues about the times of working, the security of the site at night and damage to the verge from in-turning lorries. Residents have also made their observations known. The Clerk approached Powys Building Control, but they suggested contacting The Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The website address on the notice at the site is not in use, however the phone number is. The Clerk contacted Rossco Civil Engineering Ltd, Pontypool, the parent company of ButlerWall. This was followed by a return call from the company. They were made aware of the situation and agreed to deal with it. In the meantime, a resident did contact HSE. They were asked to provide photographs, which has been done.

2804 Public Conveniences

- Letter from Refill Wales, asking if our tap for fresh water is active -The priorities were discussed for the toilets as the Ladies is now finished. It was agreed that a donations box was needed, to be inset into the outside wall.
- Toilet Twinning to be discussed at the next meeting as there is a question whether a donation or an actually twinning would be preferable. Cllr Hather to prepare something.
- the flower bed might need to be moved to give access to a donations box.
- the bulbs in flower beds need removal to be left to dry. Cllr Coldrick offered space for these to dry out.
- it was agreed that the flagpole does not need any climbing prevention measures.

2805 Councillor Updates

- Cllr Woods asked about the presence of mink. They are not notifiable pests and special traps are available. The Wye and Usk Foundation might be able to help.

2806 Finance

a) Receipts and Payments for 31/3/2021 and 30/4/2021. These were agreed unanimously and signed off by the Chairman for all to see.

b) Cheques for signature, Payments for Approval

One payment was left over from the March Meeting as the invoice included payment for the Clerks training to SLCC for a day conference with SLCC/OVW that needed to come from 2021-22 accounts.

£128.25 comprising £74.25 to WIX for hosting on .wales website, £54.00 to SLCC for 13/5/2021 conference

£84.62 comprising £18.00 to SLCC for elections webinar on 7/4/2021 and 66.62 for llangammarchcc.com mailbox. These were unanimously agreed.

c) Annual Payments list approval.

This has been extended to include direct debits for the toilet electricity and water. These were unanimously approved and signed off by the Chairman.

d) Hall Grant Applications

Tirabad Hall confirmed that they are having a new electricity meter installed. They also received a £10K grant from Powys under Covid Support. The new hall committee have said that they do not require any grant support from the council, this year.

Alexandra Hall did not get a grant from Powys. Their accounts were submitted. For fixed costs these came to £1337.13. The Council awards up to 60% of fixed costs. This amounts to £802.28. It was unanimously agreed by the councillors who have no links to the hall to award this grant. Proposed by Cllr Woods and seconded by Cllr Wear. Cllr Woods enquired about what happens to the unused, excess earmarked funds for hall grants for 2021-22. These go back into the unearmarked reserves.

e) Allowance forms for Councillors.

These forms were given to everyone. They are to be returned to the Clerk as soon as possible.

f) Audit 2020-21 report and signing

The full report was sent to everyone via pdf. The short report included with the Agenda in hardcopy

The Annual Governance and Audit Report was wet-signed by the Chairman. The comments from the Internal Auditor in the full report have already been addressed in the Annual Meeting, by the signing of the Risk Assessments. (Minute 2792). These were unanimously accepted. Proposed by Cllr Hather and seconded by Cllr Callan.

g) the reserves were confirmed unanimously as accurate as of 31/3/2021.

h) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman delivered the Clerk's Appraisal.

i) The Annual Report was sent out as a pdf with the Agenda and was accepted unanimously.

2807 Matters for the Next Meeting or referral to Powys County Council

Vehicles parked permanently near the bridge

Double yellow lines by the Church gate

Rights of Way

Next Meeting on the 14th July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Alexandra Hall (Covid restrictions permitting)

The Chairman thank everyone for their attendance to both meetings.

Meeting closed at 2110

Signed..... Date.....