

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
www.llanfaircommunitycouncil.co.uk

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held using a Zoom video/telephone conferencing platform on Monday 8 November 2021 at 7 pm.

PRESENT – Councillors Jayne Mayers [Chair], Keith Mouldsdale [Vice-Chair], David Baker, Wini Davies, Owen Evans, Tim Faire, D Eilir Jones, Osian Owen, Ceri Ranson, Steve Whipp and Eirwen Godden, Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE Mr Darren Millar MS and two members of the public. The Chair reminded everyone that the session would be recorded [destroyed when minutes are approved] and anyone wishing to receive more information on items discussed to email the Clerk.

APOLOGIES – County Councillor Hugh Evans.

PART 1

827 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillors Keith Mouldsdale as a trustee of Neuadd Eleanor's Management Committee, and David Baker as a member of Llanfair Church Council.

828 MINUTES – RESOLVED

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11 October 2021 were approved.

829 COMMUNITY MATTERS

829.1 Guest Speaker Mr Darren Millar MS Mr Millar referred to the challenges facing the Community Council as contained in the briefing paper received in preparation for the meeting. These include building issues [Elizabeth Owen Almshouses, the Neuadd Eleanor Village Hall, the former Llanfair School/Playing Field], together with transportation, connectivity and traffic issues affecting the area. He is aware of the challenges for the empty almshouses, understands that Grwp Cynefin do not own the freehold, but considers there is still a duty of care and queried whether they could be agents registered in Wales to draw down Government grants. Insofar as the village hall is concerned, it could benefit from an upgrade with money from Welsh Government's Community Facilities Programme [CFP] which is now uncapped. The former school building is more complicated, applications for funding have to demonstrate that it can have a new lease of life, be economically viable and that it is not being delivered elsewhere locally. A project centred around skills development may be feasible. However, CFP funding is unlikely to be available for both projects in the same locality.

In response to concerns about speeding traffic Mr Millar stated that Welsh Government is planning to reduce 30 mph to 20 mph but these measures may not solve the problem; acknowledged that cameras and other measures may mean people avoiding those routes and moving the problem elsewhere. He also referred to Welsh Government's proposal to introduce road charging schemes to discourage people from using their cars, but cars are a lifeblood in rural communities and is working hard on resisting plans for the A525, A483 and A494. Members commented that it is not only speeding that is a problem but the resulting noise pollution is also a big issue.

Mr Millar will be in touch again regarding other traffic issues, speeding and the need for a regional review of trunk roads in due course but, in the meantime, has forwarded the following links regarding potential sources of funding for local projects - :

The Chair thanked Mr Millar for joining the meeting and for his expression of support.

829.2 Former School Site and Playing Field Llanfair DC [779.1, 789.1, 799.1, 809.1, 819.2] Submitted –

[a] steering group meeting notes 14/10/21 21. The Clerk confirmed that she had taken action regarding the recommendations included in the notes but was awaiting a response from DCC's legal services and Llyr Williams, Solicitor. The Clerk advised that the arrangements for future management of the playing field would have to be in accordance with the Community Council's Standing Orders. It was agreed that a playing fields sub-committee be established to include councillors and members of the steering group to manage the playing field following its transfer from the County Council to the Community Council. The next meeting of the steering group is to be held on Tuesday 16/11/21 at 7 pm. Quotations sought for various services would be dealt under Part 2 of the Council meeting.

[b] the action taken to send an expression of interest form to Cadwyn Clwyd for Green Communities funding to develop the former playing field was confirmed.

830 CORRESPONDENCE

830.1 Submitted - Email dated 14/10/21 regarding the Coed Plas y Nant Glastir Woodland Restoration consultation process. The Clerk had circulated the email to councillors on 15/10/21 for comment and the following response was sent to Simon Hunt on 26/10/21: No issue with the proposal which has been properly considered. This is a key bridleway route from the Vale up to the Clwyd Gate and onto the Offa's Dyke. The proposal says that it will be kept open as much as possible bearing in mind health and safety matters. It would be good for the forest tracks to be left in a good state once the works are complete as they currently become very muddy in wet weather. The track is used to cycle up to the summit but this is also used by ramblers. **RESOLVED** Action taken confirmed.

831 Feedback/Report[s] on Conferences/Training/Meetings

831.1 SLCC Clwyd Branch Meeting 09/12/21 Approval; was given for the Clerk to attend the meeting at Colwyn Bay.

832 PLANNING www.denbighshire.gov.uk/planning

832.1 Planning Applications Consideration was given to the following applications:

Application 20/2021/1076 re 33C Parc y Llan, Llanfair DC submitted by Mr & Mrs Glynne Williams on 29/10/21 – Erection of 2 storey extension to side of dwelling.

The form submitted by the architectural technician agent is inaccurate, for example, it states that the development would not give rise to an increase in roof area. It would

appear that the description of the proposed works and the plans/drawings do not tally. If this is the case, then the application ought not have been validated, so DCC ought to put this right, in line with current guidance. An alternative approach would be for DCC to provide an extension to the consultation process and use that time to get new drawings or works descriptions. The standard of detail on the plans is insufficient to properly understand what is being proposed. It was also suggested that a site visit be arranged in consultation with the applicant.

RESOLVED that Planning be informed of the Council's concerns, there is insufficient detail to form an opinion and to ask for an extension to the consultation process.

Application 20/2021/1056 re Eyarth Old Hall, Llanfair DC submitted by Mr Peter Stevens on 01/11/21 – Installation of replacement oil fired boiler and radiators [Listed Building application]

RESOLVED that the application be supported.

833 HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT - General Update on Ongoing Highway and Other Matters –

833.1 Footpaths [790.1, 803.1, 813.1, 823.1] [a] **Footpaths over Llysfasi and Llanbenwch Land** Submitted – report prepared by the Chair, Councillor Jayne Mayers following a meeting held at Llanbenwch on 27/10/21. Present were Councillors Jayne Mayers and Osian Owen; Gwion Evans, Llanbenwch landowner; Adrian Walls, DCC Footpaths Officer; Heather Martin, Ramblers Association, together with the Clerk. The purpose of the meeting was to agree a route change to join Paths 79 and 80 to create a circular footpath. Agreement could mean there is no need for Llysfasi to change the paths on Llysfasi land. The Ramblers Association can assist with the supply of trees, kissing gates, footpath signage and leaflets for the new route which could be distributed with the local Cronicl and posted on the Council website and display boards.

However, since the meeting held on 27/10/21 an issue had arisen which meant that the original plan to route the path through the fields to the east of the A525 was not feasible. Gwion Evans, Llanbenwch landowner has suggested an alternative route which was passed on to the other group members before circulating to councillors. He is happy to maintain the new section of footpath over his land. Adrian Walls has also made positive comments about provision of pedestrian crossing signs.

RESOLVED that the Community Council applies for funding to pay for fencing [standard agricultural fencing, without barbed wire, approximately 190m long] from Capel y Gloch alongside the A525 for access from Path 80 to the Llanbenwch driveway..

[b] **A525 Footpath Llanfair to Ruthin** A report was awaited from Messrs Tim Towers and Tony Ward, DCC following a site visit held on 13/10/21.

833.2 Speeding Device Graigfechan [823.2] Estimated costs for purchasing, installation and maintenance/management for a speeding device have been received from Mr Ben Wilcox-Jones. The Community Council would need a budget of £4,500 to cover purchase and installation; an extended warranty can be bought for an additional £200-£300; the device records data 24/7 which can be monitored remotely by DCC

officers. This device has been bought by Llandrillo and Llanrhaeadr Community Councils. Members considered the cost to be too high and that further consideration be given to speed cushions near the smithy crossroads. It was also suggested that an article on the matter be published in the Cronicl. **RESOLVED** that the matter be referred back to DCC with a request for another resident survey, including cost of options/other measures to slow down traffic, including consideration given again for speed cushions instead of a speeding device.

833.3 Flood Prevention Schemes [761.1, 751.2, 741.2, 803.3, 813.3, The Clerk confirmed that she had invited Messrs Alex Bebbington and Wayne Hope to attend the December meeting of the Council.

833.4 Other Matters [813.4] [a] Resurfacing between Graigfechan and Llandegla [b] Condition of Road from Graig Farm Pentrecoch to Pen y Frith on the Silff [c] Road Closure from Llanfair to Graigfechan [d] Overgrown Hedges/Bushes at Crud yr Awel and Meadowside Llanfair [e] Overgrown Hedge covering the 20 mph Sign at Hafod y Bryn Llanfair The Clerk reported that DCC had confirmed that all matters listed were being dealt with. However, there are still reports that the Silff road remains treacherous.

[c] A525 Surface Repairs at Llanfair had been carried out but other parts have deteriorated. **RESOLVED** that Tim Towers, DCC be informed and asked what could be done to remedy the matter.

[d] A525 Llanfair Village Sign **RESOLVED** that DCC be requested to move the village sign to the new 30 mph sign.

833.5 Request for Provision of Litter Bin by the Bus Stop in Llanfair on the A525
The Clerk confirmed that she had written to DCC. A response was awaited.

834 FINANCIAL MATTERS

834.1 Payment of Accounts/Invoices Agreed as follows:

[a] £298.33 AVOW [underpayment of tax to HMRC]

The Clerk reported that a letter dated 21/10/21 from HMRC indicates that their records show the Council owe overdue payments as an employer going back to April 2016; some payments had been made but the outstanding balance, including interest, amounted to £298.33 as at 29/10/21. It appears that the original charge arose following the death of the former Clerk in March 2016. The Community Council was not made aware of the debt at the time until the letter from HMRC dated 21/10/21.

[b] £368.94 AVOW [Clerk's November salary inc payroll fee]

834.2 Requests for Financial Aid None received.

834.3 Precept Submitted – updated precept paper showing actual figures as at 31/03.21 in comparison to the budget set for 2021/22. Members were advised that it was necessary to start the process of preparing a draft budget for 2022/23 now. The following matters required careful consideration - increased costs associated with the

proposed community asset transfer processes; Council election costs in May 2022; member allowances, and increasing the Clerk's hours by eight hours per month. It was agreed that draft budget figures for 2022/23 be prepared for consideration at the December meeting.

835 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS [Venues TBC, Councils have the option of holding remote meetings beyond May 2021 - LG & Elections (Wales) Act 2021] 08/11/21, 13/12/21, 10/01/22, 14/02/22, 14/03/22 Zoom meetings will continue for the time being. Hybrid meetings could be held at Llysfasi in future – the college is awaiting delivery of technical equipment to enable such meetings to take place.

PART 2 836 RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the following items:

836.1 Community Asset Transfer Process Submitted - an update on progress was received regarding obtaining quotations for professional and other services.

RESOLVED that contracts be awarded as follows –

- [a] Arboriculturist Survey & Report – ArbTech Chester
- [b] Fencing – Gethin Lloyd Fencing
- [c] Surveyor/Architect – Geraint Roberts Associates

836.2 Clerk's Salary RESOLVED that the Clerk's hours be increased from 28 to 36 per month from 01/12/21 [the Clerk's work log shows that the workload continues to increase including additional hours supporting the CAT process].

The meeting ended at 8.48 pm CHAIR

DATE