

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 13 December 2021 at 7 pm.

PRESENT – Councillors Jayne Mayers [Chair], David Baker, Owen Evans [from 7.30 pm], D Eilir Jones, Steve Whipp and Eirwen Godden, Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE 2 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 – Councillors Wini Davies [family commitments], Tim Faire, Keith Mouldsdale [prior engagements], Osian Owen, Ceri Ranson; County Councillor Hugh Evans [work commitments]; Guest Speaker Mr Wayne Hope, Flood Risk Manager, DCC [public meeting re the Central Prestatyn coastal defence scheme]

PART 1

837 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillor David Baker as a member of Llanfair Church Council.

838 MINUTES – RESOLVED

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 November 2021 were approved.

839 COMMUNITY MATTERS

839.1 Update - Mr Darren Millar MS 8/11/21 [829.1] Reported that Mr Millar is still awaiting a response from the Minister regarding traffic issues but will chase up and report back once a response has been received.

839.2 Former School Site and Playing Field Llanfair DC [779.1, 789.1, 799.1, 809.1, 819.2, 829.2] Submitted – steering group meeting notes 16/11/21 21. The Clerk confirmed that she had acted regarding the recommendations included in the notes. Contact had been made with the appointed solicitor; a tree condition survey awaited from Arbtech together with a response from Geraint Roberts regarding a condition survey of the former school building. The initial response to submitting an expression of interest form to Cadwyn Clwyd for Green Communities funding has been positive - £30,000 may be available and Llanfair Council will be expected to contribute £4,300 in match funding. Other funding opportunities are also being explored and a positive meeting was held with Cadwyn Clwyd on 09/12/21. A report on the open day held on 10/07/21 and questionnaires completed would be available at the right time.

839.3 Elizabeth Owen Almshouses - Reported that Mr Arwyn Evans, Head of Development, Grwp Cynefin, has taken over responsibility for the houses from Noela Jones. Discussions are ongoing between Grwp Cynefin's solicitor, the Charity Commission, and the Almshouse Association regarding disposal of the properties. It is Grwp Cynefin's intention to re-invest any money accrued into new properties in Llanfair for local residents. A further update, a timeline and a way forward are expected in the New Year.

The Clerk was asked to forward the above update to Mr Darren Millar MS.

840 CORRESPONDENCE

840.1 Submitted - Email dated 17/11/21 from OVW drawing attention to key decisions taken by Welsh Ministers in recent weeks in respect of the Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Wales) (Rules) 2021 and local elections (Communities) (Wales) Rules 2021. Several additional draft rules have been included and Ministers have decided on how these and other changes will be progressed –

Candidate's home address; statement of political party affiliation; personal statement for candidates; electronic submission of candidate nomination forms; counting agents and polling agents' formula and timetable and consequential rules. Members were asked to note the changes.

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

841.1 Submitted Draft Self-Assessment Toolkit for Governance & Financial Management The Clerk had attended a SLCC Virtual Training Seminar on 17/11/21. Llanfair Council [along with several other Councils] has agreed to take part in a pilot to road test the toolkit before it is rolled out to all community and town councils in Wales to complete. The toolkit has been developed jointly by OVW, the SLCC and Welsh Government to support community and town councils in Wales to:
[a] review the financial management, governance, and accountability arrangements they have in place; and [b] consider how effective these arrangements are, and how they might be improved. The toolkit covers five key areas – vision, purpose, and community planning; leadership and people; community engagement and partnerships; business processes and resources and financial management.

The health check is designed to be completed primarily by the Clerk, working with the Chair or a small group of members as appropriate to assess whether fundamental governance and financial management arrangements, policies etc are in place, and to highlight any action that needs to be taken, and report back to full Council or a designated committee. The Chair and Clerk had also attended a virtual toolkit briefing session organised by OVW on 01/12/21. The Chair suggested that from May 2022 all Councillors should have separate email addresses for Council business and that two new policies be written on Community Engagement and a Procedure for Awarding Grants.

RESOLVED that the Clerk, Chair and Councillor Steve Whipp form a small group to work through the self-evaluation toolkit.

841.2 SLCC Clwyd Branch Meeting 09/12/21 Feedback is to be provided at the Council's January meeting.

842 PLANNING www.denbighshire.gov.uk/planning

842.1 Planning Applications RESOLVED that the following action taken regarding the following applications be confirmed -

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 -

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

It was reported that Planning had since responded to the queries raised about the application form and improved wording; confirmed that all neighbours adjoining the site and adjacent to the site were written to; as there was no detail submitted about drainage arrangements – this could be controlled by condition if granted planning permission; Planning had conducted a site visit to assess the impact of the extension on the visual amenity/street scene/density; and confirmed there is 0.8m between the garage/room and the proposed extension – this is currently 4m from the main side wall or 2.5m from the porch.

The Clerk was asked to thank Planning for clarification on the application, that Members were happy with the response and looked forward to a satisfactory resolution.

Application 20/2021/1112 re Islwyn, Pentre Celyn submitted by Mr Julian Harrington on 18/11/21 – Installation of an air source heat pump – Planning was informed that the application was supported - no objections had been received.

Application 20/2021/1147 re Plas Tirion, Pentre Coch submitted by Wilson on 22/11/21 – Erection of a single storey side extension and associated works – Planning was informed that the application was supported - no objections had been received.

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

843.1 Impact of Ash Dieback and Implications for Graig Wylt – Submitted – Email dated 29/11/21 from Jordan Hurst, N W Wildlife Trust. Ash dieback has spread significantly across the UK, the Trust is undertaking a tree safety audit across all its nature reserves and has focussed on assessing trees which are close to footpaths, neighbouring property, roads, and overhead cables. Due to the extent of affected ash at Graig Wylt, contractors will be brought in to do much of the works. The felling of these dangerous trees will encourage diversity in age and sizes of woodland, which will benefit birds, invertebrates, and fungi, which is one management objective for the reserve. The Llanfair-Fyw group will be kept aware of any developments that are likely to be happening in the future on the matter.

A comment was made at the meeting that local landowners are responsible for acting and for taking reasonable measures for health and safety. It was suggested that an article be published in the Dyffryn Clwyd Chronicle.

843.2 Footpaths [790.1, 803.1, 813.1, 823.1, 833.1] [a] Footpaths over Llysfasi and Llanbenwch Land An expression of interest form had been completed and submitted to Cadwyn Clwyd for funding to pay for fencing from Capel y Gloch alongside the A525 for access from Path 80 to the Llanbenwch driveway and further along Llanbenwch land to the west as far as the minor lane off the A525 that runs past Ty Newydd. The length of fencing required is 400m. It was reported that Heather Martin's plan [Ramblers Association] for general footpath improvements had been approved by Welsh Government, but separate funding for fencing would be required. However, the application to Cadwyn Clwyd was not expected to be successful. **RESOLVED** that

provision be included in the Community Council's budget, circa £5000, towards the cost of fencing as the Council's contribution towards the project.

[b] **A525 Footpath Llanfair to Ruthin** [833.1] A report was awaited from Messrs Tim Towers and Tony Ward, DCC. Unfortunately, the site visit scheduled for 13/10/21 had not taken place due to Tony Ward's illness.

843.3 Speeding Device Graigfechan [823.2, 833.2] Submitted – Email dated 30/11/21 from Mr Ben Wilcox-Jones who is unconvinced that traffic calming such as build-outs or speed cushions is a viable solution for Graigfechan. DCC does not have an internal budget for traffic calming schemes of this nature and any funding would need to be sourced from Welsh Government's Road Safe grant. He suggests revisiting the situation with Go Safe and believes a compelling case can be presented for them to undertake an enforcement campaign in the village over the next few months. Following on from this the speed limit will potentially be reduced from 30 to 20 mph in Graigfechan in 2023, as part of changes being introduced by Welsh Government. A Councillor commented that snow ploughs may be unsuitable for roads that have speed cushions.

RESOLVED that Mr Ben Wilcox-Jones be thanked for his report and that the Council would appreciate assistance with Go Safe to carry out speed checks.

843.4 Flood Prevention Schemes [761.1, 751.2, 741.2, 803.3, 813.3, 833.3. Minute reference 839.2 refers. It was reported that Mr Wayne Hope, Flood Risk Manager, DCC could not attend Llanfair Council's meeting as he had to be present at a public meeting about the Central Prestatyn coastal defence scheme on the same evening. He had, however, written the following update –

[a] Graigfechan – the business justification case for a future scheme was submitted this summer to Welsh government [WG] for approval when queries were raised and addressed. The business case is back with WG for sign off. DCC has notified WG that, subject to the availability of WG grant and DCC match funding, the Council would like to carry out a scheme to reduce flood risk in the next financial year [2022/23].

[b] Llanfair DC [Tyn Twll] – satisfactory progress has been made to identify a scheme that will reduce flood risk to Tyn Twll and neighbouring properties, working with landowners to look at opportunities for upstream flood storage during very heavy rainfall. Discussions and negotiations are ongoing, but DCC is hopeful that a solution can be found. The work would be funded through WG's Natural Flood Management grant.

[c] Eyarth – DCC's Tim Towers, Highways, is currently investigating a resident's enquiry regarding a drainage pipe beneath the highway at Eyarth Crossroads.

RESOLVED that [i] Mr Wayne Hope be thanked for the update [ii] he be asked why the gullies and drains proposal for the Eyarth Station site had not been addressed and [iii] he be invited back to a future meeting.

843.5 Request for Provision of Litter Bin by the Bus Stop in Llanfair on the A525 Reported that DCC has run out of stock and that it will take some time to replenish due to supply issues.

843.6 Other Matters [813.4, 833.4] [a] **A525 Surface Repairs at Llanfair** had been carried out, but other parts have deteriorated. Tim Towers, DCC had responded saying

that unfortunately the work carried out had failed. Remedial action would be taken at the right time.

[b] A525 Llanfair Village Sign It was reported that there is no adequate village sign near the 30 mph sign on the approach to Llanfair from Ruthin. **RESOLVED** that Mr Ben Wilcox-Jones be asked to review the signage situation.

844 FINANCIAL MATTERS

844.1 Payment of Accounts/Invoices Agreed as follows:

£470.78 AVOW [Clerk's December salary inc payroll fee]

£27.00 SLCC [Virtual Regional Training Seminar Wales 17/11/21]

£112.00 SLCC [Membership Fee]

£84.50 Cllr Keith Mouldale [Reimbursement to cover cost of purchasing Christmas Tree]

£616.44 Sandra Williams [Translation Service – Purchase Order Nos 50, 57 & 66]

£150.48 Sandra Williams [Translation Service – Purchase Order No 62]

£706.80 Arbtech [Tree Survey] [Payment to be made when report is ready for despatch]

844.2 Requests for Financial Aid

£50.00 Urdd Gobaith Cymru [Denbighshire Eisteddfod Centenary May 2022]

£800.00 Neuadd Eleanor [Dyffryn Clwyd Chronicle]

844.3 Precept Submitted – draft precept paper for 2022/23 for consideration. The proposed budget took account of resources required for existing and future projects. It was acknowledged that the Neighbourhood Plan required updating, prioritising and to include costings ready for potential funding opportunities.

RESOLVED that the draft precept paper be approved as written and that the Council applies for a precept sum of £30,000 from DCC.

845 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS [Venues TBC, Councils have the option of holding remote meetings beyond May 2021 - LG & Elections (Wales) Act 2021] 10/01/22 [virtual], 14/02/22, 14/03/22 Zoom meetings will continue for the time being. Hybrid meetings could be held at Llysfasi in future.

PART 2 846 RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the following items:
No items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 8 pm

CHAIR

DATE