

**Minutes of Trawsgoed Community Council held at Lisburne Hall, Llanafan on
Monday 22 February, 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. C. Lloyd-Morgan (Chairman)

Cllr. H.M. Evans

Cllr. Sh. Edwards

Cllr. B. Jenkins

Cllr. E. Lewis

Cllr. J.J. Powell

Cllr. L.L. Owen

Cllr. R. Jones

Apologies

Cllr. T.A.G. Davies, Cllr. A. Evans, Cllr. J. George.

Personal Matters

Best wishes were extended to the Chairman, Cllr. C. Lloyd-Morgan after her recent operation. Condolences was expressed to Mr. Gareth Bound, a former member of the Community Council on the passing of his father recently.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting, 11th January 2016 were confirmed as a true record of the meeting, this was proposed by Cllr. Byron Jenkins and seconded by Cllr. L. Owen.

Matters arising from the minutes

Assets and Risk Assessment

No matters to report.

Sewerage at Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn Village

Correspondence was received from Mr. Alan Davies, an Officer with the County Council informing that water tests were still being undertaken in the village. To date it has been found that seven houses have their sewerage pipes connected straight into the road surface water drainage system. By now six out of the seven houses have undertaken improvements to their sewerage systems and arrangements are in hand for the seventh house to try and resolve the situation.

Action: The Clerk to keep in contact with Mr. Davies regarding the situation.

Trees at Llechwedd Dyrys on the B4340 Llechwedd Dyrys

Cllr. L. Owen reported that he had attended a site meeting with Rob Duke from the County Council and that they had walked along the site and identified a number of trees that needed attention for felling or cutting back for safety reasons.

Discussion took place at the meeting of the concerns and it was felt that the land owner did not acknowledge the severity of the situation with regard to the safety of the public as they do not act upon statutory notices issued by the County Council to undertake work on site. It was felt that Officers of the County Council also do not realise the severity of the situation either and that pressure needs to be implemented on them to act and complete the relevant work.

It was resolved that Cllr. L. Owen would contact Rob Duke the following day to obtain an update and to encourage the County Council to undertake work before end of March.

Action: Cllr. L. Owen to contact Rob Duke.

Water near New Cross

A response was received from an Officer of the County Council who was present at the site meeting and that no minutes were taken and suggesting that the Community Councillors present could give a report. It was noted that a verbal report had previously been received by the said Community Councillors. It was resolved that the Clerk contact the County Council asking for the work to be completed as a matter of urgency as the water accumulates at the site in severe weather making driving conditions difficult at the location. It was understood that a drainage system needs to be placed through the neighbouring field and that the land owner has agreed to the work to be undertaken on his land.

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council to put pressure for the work to be undertaken as a matter of urgency.

Broadband within the Area

Reference was made to the S4C Programme *Y Byd ar Bedwar* who had broadcasted a programme on the lack of broadband service in Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn.

Ditch between Brenan and Llwynbrain

The problem persists.

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council as a matter of urgency as the situation is getting worse.

Website

A meeting has been held between Nigel Callaghan and representatives of the Community Council and arrangements are in place for a new website for the Community Council.

Dolgwybedig Hill

The Clerk reported that work had been undertaken on the road on the 4th February. Representatives of Llanafan referred that the problem persists and that they had not seen any recent improvements to the road. It was noted that the condition of the road is getting worse and the roadside is quickly eroding .

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council as a matter of urgency explaining the above and enquiring what work had been undertaken on site at the beginning of February.

Trees at Ffordd Uchaf Llanafan

A response was received from Haydn Lewis, Ranger Officer and Countryside Rights of Way Ceredigion County Council. He confirmed that a contractor has been employed by the County Council to widen the path following unsatisfactory work of draining water on the path whereby the path had been left in a dangerous condition for horse riders. It was noted that the County Council were not aware of who undertook the work of the water drainage.

Cllr. L. Owen confirmed that the water drainage work was not satisfactory and that it would be advantageous to arrange a site meeting with Mr. Haydn Lewis to discuss the path and also the cutting of trees at the location.

Action: The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements for a site meeting.

Donations

Letters of appreciation were received from the following for the donations received from the Community Council:

Mair Gwynne Carruthers, Headteacher Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn School;

Mari Davies, Secretary of Trisant YFC;

Mark Stevens, Area Development Manager, Wales Air Ambulance.

New Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that information had been received from the County Council noting that it could cost around £2,000 to install a new street light in the area, all depending on the location etc. It was agreed that it was necessary for the relevant officer to attend a site meeting to discuss locations and obtain a more realistic cost.

Action: The Clerk to make enquiring regarding a site meeting.

Matters requiring attention of the County Council:

The Clerk referred that confirmation had been received that the following work had been completed and that other outstanding issues that had been reported were still on the list requiring attention.

Water Drain near Bryngibdda: the drain had been emptied during the week 8-13th February and that a new signpost indicating bridleway had been replaced near to Trawsgoed bridge.

Trees near Rhydygarreg Llanafan

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the land owner who's trees were leaning out into the road at the above location. Although he lived outside the County the land owner planned to visit the site and had promised that the trees would be cut back within the next week or two.

Maes y Felin, Llanafan

Responses were received from Ceredigion County Council and Tai Ceredigion regarding the lack of parking spaces at Maes y Felin and it is noted that Tai Ceredigion has responsibility for Maes y Felin site. June Blake, Housing Adviser, Tai Ceredigion contacted the Clerk noting that Tai Ceredigion were aware of the problem of lack of parking spaces because there were some vehicles parked that were no longer in use. A letter had been sent to residents in December referring to the situation. June Blake confirmed that following the Community Council's observations she had visited Maes y Felin and spoke to residents and that some of the owners of the vehicles no longer in use had confirmed that they would be getting rid of the vehicles. Although acknowledging this action the Community Councillors were concerned to note that June Blake had noted that one of the vehicles in question was in use although it has a SORN on it and therefore the owner would be breaking the law when using the vehicle.

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Community Police Officer enquiring about the legality as members of the Community Council could not condone law breaking.

Financial Matters

It was reported that the financial situation of the Community Council is as follows: £6,271.44 in the Current Account; £27.68 in the Playing Fields account and £1,985.01 in the Savings Account.

Clerk's Wages and Expenses

The Clerk presented her expenses for the year which included £25 towards the British Legion; £1.35 card; £20.89 ink and paper for the copier and £20.00 e-mails/telephone calls for the year. It was agreed to pay the expenses of £67.24. Payment was proposed by Cllr. L. Owen and seconded by Cllr. J. Powell.

It was also resolved to pay the Clerk's wages of £1,500: £1,200 to Lis Williams and £300 to HMRC for the Clerk's PAYE.

Payment was proposed by Cllr. B. Jenkins and seconded by Cllr. E. Lewis.

The following communication was received:

Enquiry from One Voice Wales if the Community Council would like to join as a member. The letter was received and it was resolved that the Community Council would not be joining.

A communication from Welsh Government was discussed regarding the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales whereby it was noted that under Section 10 of the Annual Report members of Town and Community Councils have the right to receive a payment of £100 each towards costs and expensed for undertaking work as a Community Council representing the community.

Members of Trawsgoed Community Council unanimously agreed that their work as a Community Councillor was undertaken on a voluntarily basis and that no payment for their work or expenses should be received for serving the Community on the Community Council.

Donations

Communication was received from *Tenovous* and *Bereavement Care* making requests for donations. Following discussion, it was resolved that as the organisations were not located within the area that no donation would be sent to them.

Following request from the Papur Bro Y Ddolen it was resolved to send a donation of £150 to Y Ddolen.

Payment was proposed by Cllr. L. Owen and seconded by Cllr. B. Jenkins.

ANY OTHER MATTER

Matters requiring the attention of the County Council

Reference that water and mud were accumulating on a number of the small roads in the area following agricultural vehicles constantly using the roads.

Action: The Clerk to contact the land owners noting the concerns of the Community Council.

Temporary Road Closure:

Information has been received that the C1022 Road passed Cwmnewydion, to the East of Abermagwr will be closed from the 15th February to the 14th March to undertake maintenance work on the road.

Brynhyfryd, New Cross

For a number of years the Community Council have been in communication with the County Council trying to ensure that the owners of the above house have complete work on the road near their property as per the requirement of the original planning application. In April 2015 the County Council served a Statutory Notice on the owners to complete the work and the owners appealed the Statutory Notice through the Planning Inspector. The Community Council received notice through reading public documents of Ceredigion Planning Committee Meeting of the 10th February that the Statutory Notice had been objected to by the Planning Inspector, more or less as so much time has elapsed (10 years) since the original planning application had been approved. Disappointment was expressed by Community Councillors as they had been campaigning for nearly 10 years for the benefit of the community to resolve the situation and now there was no more that can be done further.

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council expressing disappointment regarding the decision and also that the County Council hadn't contacted the Community Council directly whereby the decision had to be learned of through a public document.

Adoption of Paths Project

Communication from Ceredigion County Council enquiring if there was interest within the Community Council for the adoption of footpaths project, whereby the Community would become involved in maintaining and trimming back footpaths. Following discussion it was resolved that the Community Council would not be interested in adoption of paths.

Representative of the Community Council on Governing Bodies.

Information was received from Governors Section, Ceredigion County Council that Cllr. John George's term on the Governing Body of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn School comes to an end on the 25th February, 2016 as a Community Council representative and that a nomination for a representative is required.

Following discussion Cllr. John George was re-elected to represent the Community Council.

Action: In the absence of Cllr. George, the Clerk to contact him to confirm that he is willing to be re-elected and following his response to contact the Governors Section.

National Eisteddfod Ceredigion 2020

A letter was received from Ceredigion County Council addressed to Town and Community Councils enquiring if there was an interest in a suitable location to hold the National Eisteddfod in 2020. It was decided that there wasn't a suitable location within Trawsgoed Community Council and to respond accordingly.

Review of post 16 transport between Home and School/College and Spare Seats Provision.

The above review was received from Ceredigion County Council and a lengthy discussion took place regarding the proposal to charge a fee of £390 per year on relevant pupils that fall into the above category.

It was resolved that the Clerk should respond by strongly objecting to the proposals noting that families would not be able to afford such additional costs and that the County Council would be differentiating between certain classes of pupils.

Some families would have to make the difficult decision of not sending their children to post 16 education as they could not afford the additional travel costs.

When there was consultation on post 16 education in the Tregaron area a promise was made by the County Council that there would not be any additional costs on families in the Tregaron area and now the County Council have taken a U-turn by proposing to charge these exact pupils.

Regarding charging pupils that obtain a spare seat the Community Council object to this as well as it would entail pupils having to walk to schools via dangerous roads, without safe walking routes.

It is noted that residents of Ceredigion rural areas are being targeted once again by the rise in Council Tax but the services that is being received being reduced all the time.

It was also discussed that the Clerk contact neighbouring Community Councils to share the voice of Trawsgoed Community Council regarding the consultation.

Dangerous Trees

Reference was made that there are two trees on the road passing Llanerchryroen, Cnwch Coch that need urgent attention as a danger to falling onto the road.

Water Drains need emptying

The situation continues and contact to be made with the County Council that there is a general problem within the area.

Street Lighting

There are two street lights in Llanafan that are not working and need urgent attention. It is understood that Cllr. L. Owen has been in contact with the County Council regarding these and will be following up.

Road Signs

The 40 m.p.h. road sign on the outskirts of Abermagwr towards New Cross has turned and needs attention.

Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting is to be held on Monday 4th April, 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn Community Primary School.