

**Minutes of Trawsgoed Community Council held at Lisburne Hall on
Monday 8th May, 2017 at 7.40 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. Hefin M. Evans (Chairman)

Cllr. T.A.G. Davies

Cllr. Sh. Edwards

Cllr. A. Evans

Cllr. J. George

Cllr. E. Lewis

Cllr. C. Lloyd-Morgan

Cllr. L.L. Owen

Cllr. M. Davies

Personal Matters

Reference was made that neither Byron Jenkins nor John Powell had wished to be re-nominated at the recent Election at the beginning of May. It was decided that the Clerk would send a letter of appreciation to both for their service towards the Community whilst being a member of the Community Council. In the same respect, it was decided that a letter also be sent to Rowland Jones, Llanilar for his long-standing service of over twenty-five years whilst serving as a County Councillor on the Ystwyth Ward.

Cllr Meirion Davies, Rowland Jones' successor was welcomed to his first meeting following the election of last week whereby he was elected as Ceredigion County Councillor for the Ystwyth Ward.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd April, 2017 were confirmed and accepted as a true record of the meeting. Cllr L. Owen proposed this which was seconded by Cllr. C. Lloyd-Morgan.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Risk Assessment and Assets

No matters arising

Sewerage System at Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn Village

There were no developments to report although it was understood that the sewerage odour had improved over the last few months, the problem is still there occasionally. It was resolved that the Clerk would contact Ceredigion County Council enquiring about the possibility of installing a new sewerage system through Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn Village.

Broad Band Situation within the Area

Mr. Martin Jones, Wales Project Manager within BT attended a special meeting of the Community Council on 19th April following an invitation by the Community Council and an update was received by Mr. Jones of the current situation regarding connection to Superfast Broadband within the area.

It is the intention of Welsh Government to ensure that as much as possible of households and businesses have connect to Superfast Broadband in Wales by the end of 2017 with BT having won the contract of actioning this through Openreach. At present 80% of residents in Wales can receive the service if they so wish, with the remainder being on track for the project to be completed.

An update was received of the situation in the villages within the Community Council area and a timescale of when the service can be operational in those areas. It is intended to connect from the 'Cabinet' at Trawsgoed and as some individual houses are too far from the 'Cabinet' those houses and business will be unable to receive a superfast service. From some of those properties mentioned by Mr. Jones that would not be able to receive such service members drew his attention that BT/Openreach Contractors had been on site along those routes installing new thick cables. It was decided that a list of the houses that Mr. Jones referred to as well as locations of where new cables have been installed be sent to Mr. Jones.

Matters to be draw to the attention of the County Council

Water near New Cross on the C1052 Road

No further information was received but it was resolved that the Clerk make further contact with the County Council for an update and urging for the work to be undertaken as a matter of urgency.

Dolgwybedig Hill

No further update to report but the Clerk to continue to contact the County Council drawing their attention that work needs to be initially undertaken on the water drains along the road before undertaking work on the road surface.

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council.

Maes y Felin, Llanafan

It was understood that the vehicle in question remains at the location. It was resolved that the Clerk urges Tai Ceredigion to action the removal of the vehicle.

Proposed new Street Lighting in Llanafan

The Clerk referred that it was possible to make an application for a Community Grant from Ceredigion County Council for 50% of the costs of installing an additional street light at Llanafan. It was resolved that the Clerk should submit and application for grant.

Drains from the Terrace, Cnwch Coch to Rhydyfagwyr and from Cwmnewidion to Rhydyfagwyr.

The situation remains. It was resolved that the Clerk makes contact again with the County Council drawing their attention to the problems.

Overhanging Hedge at Cwmnewidion Isaf

The overhanging hedge at Cwmnewidion remains a problem as the hedge has grown quite high and overhangs out into the road whereby vehicles must travel in the middle of the road. It is acknowledged that it is not appropriate to cut back hedges at this time of the year

but it was resolved that the Clerk make further contact with the County Council asking if there could be an exception to the rule as a matter of health and safety of the public along this section of the road, whereby the hedge could be cut now.

Sewerage Odour at Llanafan

No further information was received regarding the odour of sewerage at Llanafan but it was reported that for the past few days black pollution was visibly present in the water at Pant yr Haidd River. It was resolved that the Clerk make urgent contact with the relevant Authorities to draw their attention to this pollution and to ensure that they find the origin of the pollution.

Water Drains requiring attention in the Area

Many water drains in the area need emptying.

A Grid has become loose on the culvert at Cwm Rhydyfelin leaving a deep hole in the road. No further updates have been received from the County Council therefore the Clerk to make further contact with the County Council to try and get work undertaken on the Culvert.

A drain has blocked near the entrance to Sarnau Farm.

Although some of the potholes on Rhiw Hari, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn have been filled in by the County Council others have appeared resulting in an uneven road. There are also several large potholes on the road near Blaenmagwr and Brynmagwr.

Road Signs

It was reported that the road sign directing towards Ponrhydygroes near to the junction to Cnwch Coch has been re-hung but the road sign indicating the way to Llanafan Village near to Erw Lon has since disappeared.

Action: The Clerk to follow up further with the County Council for a new sign.

Bridge near to Glanyrafon, Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn

The curb on the side of the bridge is still loose and needs urgent attention.

Action: To follow up with the County Council.

Trees at Ffordd Uchaf Llanafan

Cllr. L. Owen reported that a contractor on behalf of Aberystwyth University had started work of felling the trees.

Vehicles parking within New Cross Village

In addition to the response received from the Community Police Officer at the last meeting a response was also received from the perspective of Ceredigion County Council. The response noted that the parking bay near to the notice board within New Cross was not maintained by any parking restrictions therefore vehicles are legally able to park at the location, on the understanding that they have insurance and relevant tax. The response referred that it would be a Police matter if vehicles are parked causing obstruction and danger to others. It was suggested by the County Council that it would be advantageous to have a polite word with the registered keepers of the vehicles encouraging them not to leave vehicles at the said locations for a substantial period. The understanding of the Community Council from responses received from both the County Council and the Police was that if it was seen that vehicles do park at a location causing obstruction and danger to the public to contact the Police immediately. It was agreed to keep the item on the agenda.

Wooden Railings

The wooden railings opposite to Berllanber, Abermagwr have not been mended to date. The Clerk to make further contact with the County Council.

Cutting of Corner

The Clerk also to continue to contact the County Council drawing their attention that vehicles are cutting a corner across a piece of green land near to the junction towards Llannerch yr Oen from the direction of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn.

Wooden Railings opposite to Plas y Creuddyn

The wooden railings opposite to Plas y Creuddyn have deteriorated over the years and needs renewing. The Clerk to follow up with the County Council.

The C1052 Road from Penuwch Fach to New Cross

It was confirmed that from Penuwch Fach to Sarnau that there was a need for passing places and not towards New Cross. It was resolved to continue to contact the County Council regarding the situation.

Blocked Water Drain near to Minafon, Llanafan

There has been no further action with regards to the blocked drain. The Clerk to follow up with the County Council to enquire when the work will be completed.

Dangerous Tree

Following the previous meeting contact was made with officers of Aberystwyth University regarding the dangerous tree opposite the old school at Llanafan towards Maes y Felin junction. Arrangements were immediately made to fell the tree for the safety of the public.

Road Markings

It was resolved that the white road markings within the area needed re-painting.

Action: The Clerk to contact the County Council to draw their attention to this.

Street Light near to Gerynant, Cnwch Coch

It is understood that the problem of the noise on the street light is not such a problem at present but there is still a need to keep an eye and if the problem arises again to make immediate contact with Ceredigion County Council.

Financial Matters

On 8th May, 2017 there was £8,631.13 in the Community Council Current Account; £27.68 in the Playing Field Account and £1,986.41 in the Savings Account.

The Clerk presented a balance sheet noting the spending and anticipated spending for the remainder of the financial year. The balance sheet was received.

As there was a substantial amount in the Current Account it was resolved to transfer to the Savings Account. Cllr L Owen proposed the transfer which was seconded by Cllr. Sh. Edwards.

Precept

A sum of £3,000 for Precept was received by Ceredigion County Council as part payment of the £4,500 requested. The remainder of the precept is expected to be received in October.

Payments**Insurance**

The renewal of the Insurance Premium is due. It was resolved to renew the insurance at a cost of £361.90 for the 2017/18 year, in line with the decision made the previous year to enter into a five-year contract with Zurich. Cllr C Lloyd-Morgan proposed the payment which was seconded by Cllr. Sh. Edwards

Maes y Felin Playing Field Association

A letter of request was received from Maes y Felin Playing Field Committee for a financial contribution towards the running costs of the Playing Field.

It was resolved to send a donation of £500 to the Committee. Cllr C Lloyd-Morgan proposed payment and seconded by Cllr A Davies.

Cllr L Owen declared an interest in the item and deferred from any discussions and decisions.

An additional letter was read from the Committee of the Maes y Felin Playing Field Association referring that the lease on the Playing Field is due to end in January 2018 following a period of 21 years. In accordance with the terms of the current lease a further 21-year period of extension can be obtain if the Trawsgoed Community Council notifies Ceredigion County Council of the intention before six months of the termination date of the current lease. At the Annual General Meeting of the Maes y Felin Playing Field Association held in April the Committee agreed to ask Trawsgoed Community Council to make the necessary arrangements with Ceredigion County Council to extend the current lease.

Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk contacts Ceredigion County Council giving notice of the intention to extend the lease for a further period of twenty-one years.

Cllr A Davies proposed this arrangement which was seconded by Cllr C Lloyd-Morgan.

Tender for the Cutting of Grass as Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn and trimming at Ffordd Uchaf, Llanafan

At the Special Meeting on 19th April an additional item was included on the agenda to discuss the above. It was resolved to confirm the resolution at the meeting in that it was resolved to receive the tender from the only applicant which was (£180) for the cutting of the common land at Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn and (£170) for the trimming etc at Ffordd Uchaf.

Cllr L Owen proposed acceptance of the tender which was seconded by Cllr E Lewis.

Action: The Clerk to confirm via letter both tenders had been accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Wales Audit Office

A letter was read from the Wales Audit Office to Town and Community Councils in response to concerns raised by some Community Councils of the fees submitted for the auditing of the 2015-16 audit and matters arising from the audit.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that many pot holes had recently appeared on the road towards Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn passing the school and the County Council acted immediately to fill the pot holes when the problem was reported to them.

A water drain has fallen through near to the entrance to Llwynbrain.

Reference was made to overhanging trees near to Minffordd, Llanafan towards the forestry entrance at Brynafan Hill which causes problems for high sided vehicles. It was resolved to contact Natural Resources Wales to bring their attention to the situation asking for the trees to be cut back as a matter of urgency.

Complaints have also been received regarding a piece of land in the middle of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn that has overgrown as well as a building that is falling there. It was decided to contact the land owner asking for attention be given to these issues.

Co-option of Members from the Community

Following the recent Election there were two vacant seats on the Trawsgoed Community Council. These vacancies were discussed and eligible names were suggested that could have an interest in being a Community Councillor. As more names than vacancies were suggested a secret ballot was held and two members were elected on the Community Council. Names to be confirmed at the next meeting following confirmation of acceptance by the individuals in question.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Monday 19th June at 7.30 p.m. at Ysgol Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn School.