

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANNON COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Llannon Community Council
On

Wednesday 15th June 6.30pm

Held remotely via Zoom

Meeting commenced at 6:03pm

Minute no. 36 - Members Present

Cllr M Jones (MJ)
Cllr L Williams (LW) (arrived late)
Cllr C Davies (CD)
Cllr E Dole (ED)
Cllr R Lloyd-Davies (RD)
Cllr J Owen (JO)
Cllr R Jones (RJ)
Cllr D Jones (DJ)
Cllr L Davies (LD)
Cllr S Stewart (SS)
Cllr P Owen (PO)

Also present: Mrs Clare Hope – Clerk

Translator: Mr Hefin Jones

Minutes taken by: Mrs Wendi Freeman

The Vice-Chair, Cllr J Owen presided over the meeting.

Minute No.37 – Apologies for absence

Cllr Christopher Bowkett – Personal Reasons

Minute No.38 – Declarations of interest

Cllr Dot Jones - Carmarthenshire County Council & LEA appointed governor of Tumble & Llechyfedach Federation; Cllr Rhys Jones is her son.

Cllr Llinos Davies – Carmarthenshire County Council; married to Cllr Christopher Davies.

Cllr Sarah Stewart – Parent governor Ysgol Penygroes.

Cllr Christopher Davies – Married to Cllr Llinos Davies.

Cllr Rhys Jones – Son of Cllr Dot Jones.

Cllr Ruth Lloyd-Davies – Committee Member of Cyfeillion y Coetir.

Minute No.39 - To consider policing matters.

The clerk informed the council that no information had been passed on to herself, however DJ and LD have both requested the Clerk is invited to future Neighbourhood Police Team meetings.

DJ recently attended the Neighbourhood Police Team meeting - 14 anti-social behaviour notices had been issued in the Cross Hands area and they are monitoring the use of off-road motorcycles.

<p>Cllr Lesley Williams joined the meeting and as Chair continued to preside over the meeting from this point.</p>

Minute No.40 - Confirmation of Minutes.

a) The Annual Council meeting held on 18th May 2022.

ED proposed the minutes for meeting held on 18th May 2022 were correct.

JO – Seconded.

All members present in favour.

b) The EGM held on 25th May 2022.

RJ proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2022 were correct.

SS -Seconded

All members present in favour.

Minute No.41 - Matters arising from Minutes ratified.

LD asked if the Family Centre received a donation towards the Jubilee celebrations and if so, how much?

The Clerk confirmed a donation of £300 has been made.

Minute No. 42 - To receive a report from the clerk.

The Clerk noted she had previously circulated her monthly report. There were no further questions.

Minute No.43 - To discuss the following planning applications:

PL/03414 - Shed for personal storage of land maintenance equipment such as Kawasaki Mule and trailer, flail topper, sit on lawn mower, self- propelled lawn mower, strimmer chainsaw, hedge cutters, hay and straw storage, log store and assorted tools. Also, a hard standing area (originally installed when applying for garage conversion planning permission in 2015) (Retrospective) - Ponderosa, Pontarddulais Road, Cross Hands, Llanelli, SA14 6PD.

No observations noted

b) PL/03933 - Discharge of Conditions 5, 6, 9 & 10 on S/36934 (Construction Environmental Management Plan, Environmental Protection Statement, Ecological Design Scheme and Planting Plan).

No observations noted

c) PL/04100 - Non-Material Amendment to S/35926 (Site Plans and House Types).

DJ has liaised with the residents in the area and said the residents have concerns regarding the site access while building takes place as there is very little room to manoeuvre vehicles, that are delivering building materials.

LD suggested to the council they write a letter of support for the residents.

Minute No. 44 - To receive information regarding Llannon Community Pub/Hub.

The Clerk informed the council she had met with the group and offered support from the community council. The council suggested it would be good to have county and community councillors' representation on the groups committee, to offer help and advice. The Clerk will pass this on to the group.

Minute No. 45 - To receive information regarding Cross Hands Recreational Ground.

Issues with the cesspit have been reported to the county council, along with photographic evidence of it overflowing. DJ has requested a site visit with CCC officers with no reply as yet.

Signage has been ordered for the recreation ground to deter the use of motorised vehicles on the field.

Discussions are ongoing regarding the pitch usage. Cefneithin Rugby Club, Drefach Football Club, Tumble RFC & AFC & Merched Mynydd Mawr Ladies Rugby Team have all shown a keen interest in taking on the site.

Cross Hands Carnival committee have asked for an extension on the relevant paperwork requested. The Clerk has offered her advice if the committee need it for the risk assessment. The Clerk had received a bank statement from carnival committee and the bank balance appears to be very healthy. The Clerk noted that a deposit was recently made which was from the previous carnival, held three years ago. They have been unable to produce accounts.

ED proposed a one-week extension to provide the paperwork and due to the lack of accounts and healthy balance no financial donation is to be given.

Seconded- PO

All members present in favour.

Minute No.46 -To discuss Tumble Safe Routes Bid.

A bid has been put together for upgrades on footpaths in the area for walkers and cyclists. Since the bid was put in the government have changed things slightly and are now looking at safer routes for outside schools, as a result, in some areas roads directly outside schools are being closed at certain times of the day, e.g., 08.00-09.15am. With regards to Heol-y Neuadd this would not be possible at anytime of the day, so, safer routes are looking at redirecting the school entrance to Bethesda Road. DJ had previously raised concerns over whether children would think the road is closed all time, in the summer holidays, for instance, and endanger lives. Expressions of Interest must be in by the end of July and the Clerk will update the council of progress.

Minute No. 47 - To discuss council-owned playgrounds.

The Clerk advised requests for upgrades of the smaller parks have been received. As Cross Hands is the priority at the moment, the Clerk recommended the smaller parks are maintained as and when required. All the parks are inspected on a regular basis.

ED proposed the council follow the clerks' recommendations.

Seconded- JO.

All members present in favour.

Minute No. 48 - To discuss councillor training.

The Clerk informed the council that the uptake of offered training has been disappointing. Code of Conduct training is compulsory, and the council must have a training and development plan by law.

LW- Has attended three of the courses offered and informed the councillors that the courses have improved considerably in the last few years.

Minute No. 49 - To receive the Auditor General for Wales's Audit Certificate and report for the year ended 31st March 2021.

The Clerk referred to the circulated report and advised the council have received a qualified audit as a result of not producing an employment contract for the previous Clerk and insufficient PAYE arrangements. There was also rounding up/down issues on the Annual Return.

Minute No. 50 - To ratify the appointment of an internal auditor for 2021/2022 accounts.

The Clerk advised that due to illness of the previously appointed internal auditor it has been difficult to find a new one and many councils have faced the same problem. The Clerk has managed to engage LHP Accountants, Carmarthen and requested the council consider their appointment as the council's internal auditor for the financial year 2021/2022.

ED proposed the council ratify the appointment of LHP Accountants internal auditor.

Seconded – RLD

All members present in favour.

Minute No. 51 - To confirm signatories for the council's bank accounts.

The Clerk advised more signatories are required for the council's bank accounts. Currently LW, LD and MJ are existing signatories. JO and PO offered to become additional signatories.

DJ proposed that LW, MJ, LD, JO & PO are signatories.

Seconded- ED

All members present in favour

Minute No. 52 - To discuss the purchase/lease of a new Kubota.

The Clerk advised the current Kubota is no longer fit for purpose and the preferred alternative is a new John Deere machine. The Clerk has obtained three quotes, the RRP is £28, :

1. RRP - £28,812.00 Price - £20,950.00 plus VAT
2. RRP - £28,812.00 Price - £23,062.00 plus VAT
3. RRP - £28,812.00 Price - £22,000.00 plus VAT

The Clerk stated that HP is available with John Deere for the purchase of the new machine.

ED proposed the council accept the first quote based on HP for a new John Deere machine.

Seconded- PO

All members present in favour.

Minute No. 53 - To discuss quotations for painting the outside of Tumble Hall.

Quotes have been received from three companies to paint the outside of the hall. The clerk had received 2 quotes excluding the cost of scaffolding and one including the scaffolding cost.

1. £4500 (excluding scaffolding)
2. £4800 (excluding scaffolding)
3. £6950 plus VAT (including scaffolding)

Despite many promises to call, only one company has quoted for scaffolding at a cost of £1975 plus VAT.

PO proposed the council accept the quote that includes the scaffolding.

Seconded- SS

All members present in favour.

Minute No. 54 - To discuss applying for a development package for a community garden from Keep Wales Tidy.

The chair requested that the item is deferred until the clerk and facilities officer have had more time to gather the appropriate information.

PO proposed minute No 52 is deferred to a later date.

Seconded – JO

All members present in favour.

Minute No. 55 -To discuss a request for financial assistance from Cyfeillion y Coetir.

Councillor Ruth Lloyd-Davies declared an interest so waited in the meeting room whilst discussions took place.

Cyfeillion y Coetir have become a constituted body and have requested financial assistance to purchase insurance and additional tools. They are asking for the sum of £300.00.

The good works of the organisation were discussed.

PO proposed Cyfeillion y Coetir are granted the £300.00 financial assistance requested.

Seconded- LD

All members present in favour

Minute No. 56 - To receive Councillor's reports.

The Chair notified the council there is a litter pick on Saturday 25th June 2022.

Minute No. 57 -To receive County Councillor's reports.

The Clerk advised LD's written report has been circulated.

DJ stated she had not written a report as she had been dealing with sensitive information and therefore cannot report on it. DJ added she had attended the last Ten Towns meeting.

Minute No. 58 - To discuss personnel matters.

At this point the meeting went into camera.

The Clerk noted that a review of the current staffing composition will take place by the Personnel Committee in July. The Clerk noted it is becoming increasingly difficult to run the hall and the council. The Clerk requested that PM & WF's temporary contracts are extended until September as this is when she expects to start recruitment of permanent officers.

ED proposed to extend the temporary contracts of PM and WF until September's meeting.

Seconded – PO

All members present in favour

The Chair thanked the Clerk and all of the staff for the hard work they have shown.

- A matter was discussed regarding a complaint made.
- A further matter was discussed regarding a staffing issue.

At this point the translator left the meeting.

- The safety of staff was discussed.

PO proposed that all council member's contact the Clerk to make an appointment in advance, should they wish to meet with her.

LD – Seconded

All members present in favour

- Request for reimbursement of expenses of £226.20 discussed from a former employee. The Clerk noted that these expenses were paid previously. Clerk was instructed not to pay the expenses and to advise the former employee accordingly.
- It was agreed that an event would be arranged to inform businesses of the works of the council.

A discussion ensued regarding the promotion of the council in general.

The Chair closed the meeting at 21.24pm

Signed

Date

Chair