

Cygnor Bro Llanfechain Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30th November 2017
at Llanfechain Memorial Hall

Present:

Cllr G Marshall (Chair)	Cllr S Marshall
Cllr B Ellis (Vice Chair)	Cllr Whitmore
Cllr G Jones	County Cllr Thomas
Cllr I Jones	

Apologies: Cllr A Jones

Members of the public: 2

In attendance:

Lindsey Richards – Clerk to the Council

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr A Jones who was unable to attend due to injury.

2. **Public Observer Statement**

The public observer statement was read out by the Chair.

3. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

None declared.

4. **To Confirm Minutes of the Meeting held on October 26th 2017**

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr G Jones, seconded by Cllr I Jones and signed by the Chair.

5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes Not Elsewhere on the Agenda**

5.1 **Website Update**

Cllr G Marshall stated that the website was now live and in the early stages of development. Minutes are now available on the website. The next stage is for further development and for council email addresses to be set up linked to the web domain. A member of the public advised that the WI would be interested in having a presence on the site.

ACTION: Cllr G Marshall to progress website and liaise with the WI

5.2 **Driving Over Path Outside Memorial Hall**

Before the meeting Cllr G Marshall had requested that a member of the public move their car from blocking the wheelchair access to the car park. Cllr S Marshall stated that two collapsible bollards were being sought by the Memorial Hall Committee. Council agreed to take off the agenda and revisit in February.

5.3 **Young Footballers**

Cllr Ellis had spoken with Wyn Griffiths, Llanfechain Football Club (LFC) to discuss the future of young footballers who had been playing football on Friday evenings and linking them with the football club. LFC indicated they were happy to progress the idea. Cllr Ellis also advised that LFC would give the Council a schedule of their games.

ACTION: Cllr S Marshall to liaise with Tony North and Wyn Griffiths to progress.

6. Report from County Councillor Gwynfor Thomas

County Cllr G Thomas informed Council that Powys County Council (PCC) had committed £4 million to putting Children's Services right and since PCC are £8 million over budget this is affecting budgets affecting services across Powys.

Pot Holes The pot lorry delivered to PCC two months ago has broken down and is not currently in action - County Cllr Thomas to chase when it would be fixed.

Dog Fouling signs – still in hand.

Bridge - at Glan Y Nant – Engineer had been out to the bridge – awaiting report.

Brongain Bridge – Clerk to chase up current status

Cllr Ellis asked how often bridges in the area were inspected. County Cllr Thomas stated that whilst they were inspected regularly if bridges were unusable they would be closed given the current budget situation it was uncertain when work could be carried out.

ACTION: County Cllr Thomas to chase up outstanding issues.

7. Recreation Field

7.1 Inspection Sheet for October 2017

The inspection had highlighted that the hedge at the hall end of the recreation field needed some attention. Cllr I Jones offered to find out more about who owns the hedge and Cllr Ellis to work with the owner to find an appropriate solution. Cllr Ellis offered to get his contractor to cut the hedge.

ACTION: Cllr Ellis and Cllr I Jones to progress

7.2 Progress on Play Area

Cllr Whitmore reported that the Chair of the Playground Project Committee is stepping down and that the process for applying to the Big Lottery for funding had changed. Cllr Whitmore and Cllr G Marshall are hoping to meet with the Playground Committee in to discuss next steps and will report back when the meeting has taken place

ACTION: Cllr Whitmore and Cllr G Marshall

7.3 Community Asset Transfer

Cllr G Marshall apologised that she had not been able to progress this issue. The outstanding action to draft an email for Council's approval to be taken forward to meeting in January.

ACTION: Cllr G Marshall

7.4 Review of Safety Inspection of play equipment carried out on 7th October

Cllr Whitmore had reviewed the report from Morral Play Services. He advised that the report conclusion was that the play area was fit for purpose and no further action was needed at this time.

8. Cluster

8.1 Report from Cluster Meeting on 2nd November

Cllr S Marshall reported that the Cluster was still no further forward though the start date is still April 2018. There are a number of questions still remaining including insurances to cover the Cluster of 11 community councils. County Cllr Thomas commented that PCC have identified the Llanfyllin Cluster as an exemplar, that Llanfechain has committed to the cluster to carry out services within the 30MPH area. Cllr S Marshall confirmed commitment to the library on 1st April for £817 to be covered from the precept.

Cllr G Marshall requested that questions be asked at the forthcoming Cluster meeting about the schedule for when things will happen, whether there will be a cost saving and clarification of the costs to Llanfechain Council for providing a proper service and cluster figures for the budget.

ACTION: Cllr S Marshall to take to next Cluster Meeting

9. Finance

9.1 To Agree to Appoint an Internal Auditor

Cllr G Marshall reported that Doug Holmes had kindly offered to continue to provide internal audit services until we Council find a replacement more but that best practice states that the Council should not continue to use the services of the same auditor and that therefore Council need to think about appointing an internal auditor in the future which may be at a cost.

9.2 Review of Clerk's Salary 2018/19

Cllr G Marshall reported that the current clerk was recording hours worked and that there may be a need to increase the contracted number of hours in 2018/19. Additionally there will be a pay increase to consider.

9.3 To Consider use of Powys PAYE Service in 2018/19

Cllr G Marshall asked Council to consider using the Powys PAYE service to pay the Clerk for contracted hours from 2018/19. Council felt that this came with some expense. Alternatives were suggested and will be investigated.

ACTION: Cllr I Jones

9.4 To propose and agree the budget for 2018/19

The proposed budget was put to Council. However after some discussion around cluster costs it was decided to hold a further meeting to sign off the budget.

ACTION: Clerk and Cllr S Marshall

9.5 To Agree Precept Requirement for 2018/19

Due to the current lack of clarity around cluster costs it was decided to hold the budget and precept meeting over to a further meeting before the Precept deadline date.

ACTION: Clerk

9.6 Approval of Payments

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Wales Audit Office – External Audit – outstanding for 2015/16 £183.75 Proposed: Cllr Ellis, seconded: Cllr I Jones

Morrall Play Services – Playground Inspection £150.00 Proposed: Cllr G Jones, seconded: Cllr Whitmore

Andy Ellis Garden Services – Grass Cutting 2017 £665.00 Proposed: Cllr Ellis, seconded: Cllr S Marshall

Clerk, Lindsey Richards – Salary 20 hours £174.34 and expenses £3.36 Proposed: Cllr G Marshall, seconded: Cllr Whitmore

www.supportmycomputer.co.uk ltd – data cleanse council laptop £69.00 Proposed: Cllr S Marshall, seconded Cllr G Jones

A further invoice was considered in closed session.

9.7 To agree process for payment of invoices in December

The Clerk had raised this as an agenda item since the next planned meeting wasn't until January 25th. Cllr G Marshall suggested that Council might consider an agenda item in the New Year to look at future options for the payment of invoices.

ACTION: Clerk

9.8 Current balances and signing off of bank statements

Current Account balance: £10,919.24

Deposit Account balance: £697.71

Bank statements were signed by the Chair

10. Other Matters

10.1 Special Interest Groups including request from Ramblers

Council agreed that the principle of a watching brief on special interest groups which would report to council would fit well with the Business Plan and that the Council should ask for people to get involved through the newsletter.

ACTION: Cllr G Marshall

10.2 Dog Mess

Still awaiting signs

ACTION: County Cllr Thomas to chase

10.3 Raising Issues on the Powys Website

The Clerk asked Council to note that there is a tool on the Powys website to report issues that may be used by anyone and which may of interest to the community.

ACTION: Cllr G Marshall to put on website and in newsletter

11. Reports on Meetings and Training Events

11.1 Planning Training Event

Cllr S Marshall reported back on this free training event with a focus on planning law. He had some information which may be of interest to the community from Planning Aid Wales for the newsletter and the website. He was also able to confirm that the Local Development Plan (LDP) will be up and running in the first half of 2018.

ACTION: Cllr S Marshall and Cllr G Marshall

12. Correspondence

12.1 For decision

Llanfechain War Memorial Trust: Council considered a request from Llanfechain War Memorial Trust. Council discussed the offer from the trust to take receipt of approximately £3500. It was suggested that monies be ring-fenced to support the War memorial activities and events, including the upkeep of the Lychgate. It was also suggested that the Beacon created by Mr Jukes for the Beacon event in November 2018 could become a memorial to all of the soldiers of the village in both world wars. The request was proposed by Cllr I Jones and seconded by Cllr Ellis. All agreed. County Cllr Thomas advised that Powys provide match-funding for World War 1 memorials which may of interest and which Cllr Whitmore agree to investigate.

ACTION: Cllr S Marshall to liaise with the Trust

Llanfechain School Governors: Council considered a request from Llanfechain School Governing Body to consider nominating an individual to fill the role as a Community Governor. One councilor, Cllr Whitmore put himself forward with the caveat that he was not available for meetings on Tuesdays.

ACTION: Clerk to report back to Chair of School Governors

14.2 Correspondence previously circulated to note

One Voice Wales: Ombudsman Casebook Link - noted

One Voice Wales: Appointments NHS and Welsh Ambulance Service – noted

PAVO: PTHB and PCC Stay Well, Live Well, Age Well event – attendance was requested but was full.

One Voice Wales: Consultation Events Community and Town Council Review Panel – noted.

PCC Planning: Planning Decision List - noted

Llanfechain Memorial Hall Committee: Minutes and Agenda for next meeting -

ACTION: Cllr S Marshall to attend next meeting

PCC Local Development Plan – Additional Renewable Energy Hearing 10/1/2018 – noted

PCC Schools Transformation – Consultation – Plans for Powys Schools – noted

Letter from Doug Holmes – noted

CPRW Montgomeryshire Branch Committee – Advance notice Bi-Annual Best Kept Village Launch advance notice **ACTION:** Clerk – agenda item for January 2018

14.3 Late and Other Correspondence

PCC Precept Requirement

Dyfed Powys Local Resilience – Community Resilience Guidance for Practitioners link – noted and for circulation

Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner – 2018/19 Police Precept Consultation - circulated

The Chair reported that a letter had been received from a member of the public and the contents noted in closed session. However One Voice Wales had advised that the

letter should not be read out at Open Council.

The Chair also advised that Mrs L Richards, the current clerk had resigned due to a move out of the local area and that therefore steps would now be put in place to recruit a new clerk.

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Questions to the Chair

County Cllr asked whether Council would consider a request from a member of the public to place news in the News from the Community section in the County Times. All councillors were unaware of any news being in the County Times. Cllr G Marshall requested that County Cllr Thomas find out whether the individual receives a copy of the newsletter and if not ask if happy that Council arrange a personal copy.

ACTION: County Cllr Thomas

Date of next meetings:

4th January 2018: Extraordinary meeting to determine budget and precept requirement 2018/19

25th January 2018: Ordinary meeting

Lindsey Richards
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