

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: N Francis, P Breese, E Thomas, Mr L George, E Thomas, and R Davies (arrived 8pm)

1. Apologies: Cllrs I Astley and B O'Sullivan

2. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on 26 April 2017. Minutes were confirmed as a true account of the meeting of 26th April, proposed by Cllr P Breese and seconded by Cllr L George

3. Matters Arising:

1. Station parking: Clerk wrote response to D Pritchard as discussed at the last meeting. No response has yet been received. Clerk to chase this up.

2. Standing Orders plus other regulations etc need to be confirmed (Regs Committee): to be confirmed once Committees have been discussed and established.

3. Beacon for WW1 commemoration: Cllrs N Francis and L George do not have any information at present

4. Quotes for electricity for Public Conveniences: Clerk provided all quotes with further info to last meeting. All 6 Cllrs present agreed to change supplier to the cheapest quote.

5. Caersws level crossing: Clerk read out a response from PCC who have stated the plans previously set out by them and Network Rail will stand.

6. Grass cutting & overgrown weeds & Maes y Dre: PCC confirmed that their Contractors carry out grass cutting in the area by Maes y Dre and the schedule of cuts will be checked with them following the cutting of the grass by a resident. PCC will also look into the issue of the weeds to get that rectified also.

7. One Voice Wales, motions for the AGM 2017: No motions put forward as yet but there will be chance at the next meeting in June.

8. Dog fouling: Clerk clarified the process of reporting dog fouling on PCC website. Cllr R Davies has previously done leaflet drops which helped the problem for a short time. Cllr P Pemberton mentioned that some Councils use biodegradable spray to highlight the issue and to ensure people don't step in it, some people also carry bags to pass to people who have not picked up their dogs mess.

9. Brambles opposite School in Llanwnog: Clerk has been unable to confirm the owner but will chase this up before the next meeting.

10.CCC archives: Cllr P Breese has boxes of archives from the previous Clerk. PCC have confirmed that archives held at County Hall are normally just Council minutes. Clerk and Cllr P Breese will arrange to go through the archives held to confirm what can be discarded and what could be scanned and held on a hard drive instead of paper based.

4. Correspondence:

1. **OVW:** Upcoming training sessions confirmed

2. **OVW:** Names of representatives required. Cllrs R Davies and E Thomas put their names forward

3. **Marie Curie:** Host a Blooming Great Tea Party to raise money. Clerk to display poster.

4. **Wales Audit Office:** letter & info explaining the external audit. Information read out confirming that certain areas are being looked into more thoroughly at the external audit following a report by the Auditor General for Wales which raised concerns over financial management and governance within town and community councils in Wales.

5. **North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent:** Caersws bridge pedestrian footway trial. Feedback from residents and Cllrs as follows:

- One resident living close to the Moat Lane side of the bridge was unable to get into her property due to the traffic backed up by the traffic lights, she in turn was backing up the traffic coming the other way. Resident would like Highways Dept to come to speak directly to herself and the other affected residents to discuss these issues.

- CCTV camera which was put up to record the trial was only pointing in one direction, towards Caersws, should have been covering all angles to show possible issues.
- Due to there being 4 properties along the Moat Lane side of the bridge which require access, there should be yellow boxes on the road to show that cars waiting at the traffic lights on the same side of the road cannot stop in these areas in order to allow residents coming from the other direction to be able to turn into their property. This in turn could create an issue of the traffic backing up towards the junction at Moat Lane where there is also a level crossing.
- There was also an issue at the Caersws side of the bridge where drivers went right up to the traffic lights consequentially blocking the entrance to Severn street to drivers coming across the bridge from the other side.
- Residents living on Bridge Street were also requested not to park their cars along Bridge Street whilst the trial was taking place. This does not therefore make the trial a true reflection of the day to day situation in Caersws and if traffic lights were installed, residents could not be expected not to park outside their homes as they have previously been able to do. There is already an issue of parking in the village so this would exacerbate this problem if residents were stopped from parking here long term.
- Cllr L George also confirmed that he was travelling through the village on one occasion during the trial and saw 4 very large vehicles carrying machinery, animal feed etc driving through the village from Carno Road towards the bridge and Moat Lane junction. These vehicles luckily reached the traffic lights just as they turned green so continued straight across the bridge. If the lights had been on red they would have been backed up right through Caersws creating issues at other junctions potentially. They also only just fit across the bridge (which was made narrower for a channel for pedestrians) with no room to spare which could be very alarming to pedestrians crossing at the same time.
- The junction at Moat Lane was also more of a hazard due to the traffic lights trial. Normally traffic flows fairly well over the bridge and up to the junction but due to the lights being present, large stacks of traffic were getting to the junction at a time which is even more of an issue when the barriers are closed at the level crossing restricting the traffic flow even more.

6. **Donation 'thank you letters':** Received from Marie Curie, Hope House, Tenovus Cancer Care, Montgomery Music Festival & Citizens Advice. Noted.

5. **Risk Assessment:** Cllr N Francis (May 2017)

6. Planning Applications

Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any planning applications.

Application Ref: **P/2017/0368**

Grid Ref: 0/0 for Outline : Proposed residential development of up to 6 dwellings, formation of vehicular access and access road and all associated works (all matters reserved) at Land adj, Church House Farm, Llanwnog, Caersws, Powys.

Cllr L George declared an interest so was unable to comment.

Comments:

- **Development is outside the settlement boundary**
- **Nothing mentioned regarding it being a conservation area and the history of the area**
- **The homes are all large homes, not affordable housing**
- **Positive gain: planning gain for 30mph through the village**

7. **Bills for payment**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary & expenses	£639.06
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at Caersws W/C	£192.00
Border janitorial supplies	Supplies for Caersws W/C	£30.96
Ysgol Feithrin Caersws	Donation	£50.00
<i>(chq made out for £100 instead of £150 at last meeting)</i>		
Andrew Evans	Grass cutting (April 2017)	£264.00

8. W/C Revenue

Coin boxes not emptied due to Clerk not meeting R Burrows to go through this in time prior to the meeting. This will be updated at the next meeting.

9. Bank balance

Current Account balance (statement 28.04.2017) = £17,130.96

Reserve Account balance (statement 31.03.2017) = £18,218.77 *Note that this statement is only received every 3 months so total of accounts may be more than the actual balance*

10. Any other business

Chairman N Francis: There are vacancies for Councillors to co-opt onto Caersws Ward. Clerk to place a notice up tomorrow for 1 week in order to make the community aware and any interested parties to contact the Clerk prior to the deadline. Co-option of those interested will be the first item of business on the agenda for 28th June.

Cllr E Thomas: Grass is very long along the back road to Newtown (Llanwnnog to Newtown) and is particularly bad at the cross roads. Clerk to contact PCC regarding cutting this.

Cllr P Breese: The bus shelter across the road from Caersws Village had has a crack through the front guttering. Clerk to look into getting this mended.

11. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28 June at 7.30pm at Clatter Village Hall.