

## CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

**Present:** Chairman Cllr I Astley, Vice-chair Cllr R Davies, Cllr D Collington, Cllr P Breese, Cllr L Gethin, Cllr L George, Cllr N Francis, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr A Wallbank (arrived 7.35pm), Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas (arrived 7.37pm), Cllr P Pemberton (arrived 7.40pm).

**In attendance:** 5 members of the public, Clerk S Palmer.

### 1. Apologies: Cllr B O'Sullivan

Chairman Cllr I Astley asked the members of the public present whether they were looking to bring any issues to the Councils attention and welcomed them to speak before the meeting proceeded.

4 residents raised an issue of trees at the back of properties at Maes y Dre which have grown very large and are close to their properties. Residents have said that there are concerns over some low branches. In the spring & summer the trees block out light and in autumn acorns and leaves are dropped everywhere which are a hazard for older residents. The residents' properties belong to Powys CC who have been to have a look but deemed there to be no danger from the trees and therefore they will not cut them back. The trees are on someone else's land who has previously stated that he doesn't mind the trees being cut but he is unable to do this himself. It is the land owners' responsibility.

Cllrs discussed that maybe they could speak directly to the land owners to discuss what they are willing to/can do. Cllrs also discussed the possibility that someone in the area may be able to cut back/ down the trees in exchange for having the wood as firewood. Cllr L George to first speak to one of the land owners and take it from there. Clerk to add this item onto the next meeting agenda.

The 4 residents who raised this issue then left the meeting at 7.52pm

The other resident who was then present was invited to speak to the Council. The issue raised was that the speed limit on Main Street is too high particularly as there is a school and play area in the vicinity. This issue has been raised before and PCC have not agreed to lowering the speed limit or putting up flashing speed signs, however Cllrs agree that there is still an issue with speed through the village. The resident also mentioned that flashing signs have recently been installed in Machynlleth where they are working well to reduce speed. Clerk to add this as an item on the next agenda.

The resident then left the meeting at 7.56pm

### 2. Declaration of interests of any items on the agenda *Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any items for discussion.*

Cllr D Collington declared an interest regarding agenda item 12.b, Cllr P Breese declared an interest regarding agenda item 11, Cllr E Thomas declared an interest regarding agenda item 12.b, Cllr A Wallbank declared an interest regarding agenda item 8.c & 8.g.

### 3. Minutes of meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were proposed as a true account by Cllr L Gethin and seconded by Cllr P Breese.

### 4. Visit from Dafydd Wynn Morgan regarding Cambrian Mountains Initiative: The Cambrian Mountains Initiative started 10 years ago. Funding was applied for 2 years ago to revive activities within the area. Opportunity arose in 1972 for the area to become a National Park but this was rejected. Welsh Government are part funding the project, they say the region should be looking at a different status than National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The option left is Nature Park, which there are a lot of around Europe. Dafydd and a colleague are going to France to research Nature Parks next week.

Only 20% of businesses state they are in the Cambrian Mountains so the idea is to give this area/region a higher status to bring more interest/business/tourism. The initiative is looking at creating a large fold out map promoting the area and the businesses, organisations and activities available within the area. It has been described as the 'big green space' between the two National Parks as it does not have a specific identity at present.

The approach being taken is a 'bottom up' approach; not legislation that comes from Government but driven by stakeholders.

Cllr P Breese aired concerns about farming businesses not being able to keep livestock, being restricted to what they can do on their own land. Rules and regulations in the National Parks restrict the land owners greatly and the concern is that this will happen here too.

Dafydd confirmed that everyone's interests need to be taken into account. Communities in France choose whether they wish to be within the Nature Park and the hope is that this will work in the same way.

Cllr N Francis stated that this area is not mountainous like Snowdonia, it is farmland so the landscape is very different. Dafydd stated that the Cambrian mountains would not be a National park so the regulations etc would be different and probably not as restrictive.

Cllr P Pemberton stated that this initiative supports the idea of economic regeneration. People are quietly proud of the area but being part of the initiative would give the opportunity for people to stand up and be proud. This could put Caersws on the map as the Gateway into the Cambrian Mountains.

Chairman Cllr I Astley said that young people are the key to everything and especially to the future success of the area. Need to attract people back to the area with the right courses, jobs and affordable housing.

#### **Questions relating to the current Parc Naturel areas in France/Europe:**

- how many new businesses have started up within nature parks?
- Is it helping businesses develop and what type of businesses are they?
- find out whether more young people come to the area that are Nature parks for example.
- What restrictions are on land owners within these areas?
- People living and working within the area of the Nature Park need to be able to benefit from the initiative rather than feel restricted by it.
- Would the initiative increase the chance of young people staying, coming back to or moving to the area?

The Parc Naturel brand is very big in Europe; to be part of the only Nature Park in the UK could be a big draw to the area from across Europe and those from UK who have visited other Parc Naturel's in Europe.

Dafydd will send a report after going to France and could come back to speak to the Council at a later date.

Dafydd Wynn Morgan left the meeting at 8.40pm

#### **5. County Cllr Les George, PCC reports:**

Addition to the agenda for County Cllr L George to report on issues he has come across within the community.

- **Tenants in PCC properties** have a broken fence, PCC said it was not their responsibility. This has now been resolved.
- **Severn St** has never had a proper drainage system. Cllr L George has requested drains on this street. This will go on PCC agenda.
- New owners have purchased **Maesmawr Farm** caravan park. It will be a boutique resort. Owned by a family rather than a large national organisation. They are making a lot of investment to make a resort which will draw many people to the area.
- **Caersws footbridge:** Les has spoken to Russell George who has also not yet received any info following the consultation. Russell George will be meeting with Ken Skates. When the Maesmawr Farm Resort has been development that will increase the number of people using the footbridge into Caersws. Currently unsafe and many provisions are not suitable from the resort location to Caersws. Cllr L George has found details of a footpath which a new bridge could join up to potentially, This could provide more of an argument for the bridge. Maybe PCC could move the footpath to take it more directly to Maesmawr Farm Resort.
- **TCT:** Roman Event on 12<sup>th</sup> May, free event running for the second time.
- **Station Car Park:** Very positive in that more people are involved that want it to move forward i.e. PCC and Network Rail. The cost is going against it, CCC wouldn't be able to take the costs of the project on. Leave it to PCC, Welsh Government and Network Rail. Cllr L George has had a Meeting with Cabinet Officer who confirmed the project is registered.

- 6. Data Protection Regulations:** Will have a draft policy together to send to Cllrs prior to the next meeting.
- 7. Projects:**
- a) **Station Car Park:** Discussed during Cllr L George's report during agenda item 5.
  - b) **Maes y Dre Play Area:** Still waiting for update, original installation date was delayed due to snow. Clerk will chase up for the status of the project.
  - c) **War Memorial Refurbishment:** Clerk has only 1 quotation for the work. Cllrs confirmed for the clerk to go ahead with funding request.
  - d) **Village Plan:** It was decided by all present to defer discussing this until the next meeting.
  - e) **Electric Car Charging Point for Caersws:** Cllr P Pemberton has given Clerk the details for someone from PCC/Arwain to contact for information on funding for EV chargers.
- 8. Matters Arising:**
- a) **Hedge by Spar & narrow pavement:** Clerk has not had a response yet from the
  - b) **Car park, redrawing lines:** This has been done, redrawn as they were originally.
  - c) **Planning issues** with residents in Carno, Caersws. Clerk has received a response from PCC planning relating to the issues raised by neighbours. Council agreed for Clerk to send PCC response to the residents.
  - d) **One Voice Wales:** UK Government call for evidence to examine how charges or changes to the tax system could tackle the problems associated with single-use plastic waste. Send response in favour of something which will deal with the plastic waste issue.
  - e) **Montgomery Town Council:** Request for funding towards restoration of the County War Memorial. £125 per council in Montgomery to make up the short fall needed. Cllrs agreed unanimously not to donate any money at this stage.
  - f) **Consultation on Electoral Boundaries Proposal:** Send response supporting Carno.
  - g) **Clatter Community Centre:** Request for funding towards repairs. Defer until next meeting
  - h) **Caersws Village Club:** Project for repairs. Defer until next meeting
- 9. Correspondence:**
- a) **Powys Teaching Health Board:** Future Fit Programme consultation will be going ahead soon.
  - b) **PC-Q Solutions:** Information and quotation received relating to web hosting. Cllrs discussed the information received but agreed to wait until the renewal for the current web hosting comes up as it has only just been paid. A view will be taken at that time.
  - c) **PCC:** Info relating to Child Burial Fees. Clerk to respond to questions from PCC.
  - d) **PCC:** Evaluation of housing works received, not relevant to CCC.
  - e) **Local Resident:** local poultry farms: Concerned about the number of poultry farms in Llanwnnog, environmental issues, health etc. New ones shouldn't be agreed until we know the effect of the ones which are there. CCC's response is that the criteria is strict. Clerk to direct the resident to PCC as it is their responsibility to make sure the proper reports, surveys and regulations are met.
  - f) **Wales NHS:** Invitation to opening of new palliative care suite in Llanidloes. A number of Cllrs will be attending
  - g) **Introduction from new Cambrian Rail Officer:** Unable to attend due to illness.
  - h) **One Voice Wales:** Response to Town & Community Council Review. Information has been sent to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.
  - i) **Local Resident:** Asking about grants for local children for laptop. Clerk to look into this and respond.
- 10. Risk Assessment:** Cllr I Astley (April 2018)  
 Some graves need topping up which have sank.  
 Need a quote for making the road right. Damage when snow was cleared.  
 Fallen tree and overhanging branches to be dealt with now weather is more dry.  
 Clerk to take tree to Cllr N Francis. Cllr N Francis will carry out the next risk assessment.

## 11. Planning Applications

**Pre-Application Consultation – Article 1 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.** Erection of a Free Range poultry unit including silos and associated works at land at Parc yr Escob, Llanwnnog, Newtown.

No comments

Application Ref: **P/2018/0402**

Grid Ref: 302340.18/293923.42 for Full: Erection of a dwellinghouse with integral garage, formation of vehicular access and all associated works at Plot 1 Maes y Cwm Llanwnnog Caersws Powys  
In Favour.

## 12. Finances

### 1. Bills for payment:

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary	£532.33
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (April 18)	£55.70
<i>(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £6.66, stationery &amp; postage = £14.48 mileage = £34.56 (76.8 miles))</i>		
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk	£0
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at Caersws W/C	£192.00
Ian Jones	Electrical testing at Caersws W/C	No invoice received

Bills were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr E Thomas.

### 2. S137/S142 Payments to be discussed

**Due to the time taken up to this point of the meeting it was agreed by all present to defer this item until the next meeting.**

1. Tenovus Cancer Care
  - i. Eisteddfod Powys Bro Hafren
  - ii. Children's Wales Air Ambulance
  - iii. Welsh Hearts
  - iv. British Red Cross
  - v. Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution
  - vi. Ladybirds Toddler Group, Trefeglwys
  - vii. Citizens Advice Bureau
  - viii. Montgomery County Music Festival
  - ix. Llangollen Festival
  - x. Marie Curie
  - xi. TCT
  - xii. Ambulance Service Union
  - xiii. Friendship Hour
  - xiv. Caersws School

### Revenue received

W/C revenue	07 Mar 18 – 27 Mar 18	£177.45
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## 13. Bank balance

Current Account balance = £19,001.87 (up to 29 Mar 2018)

Reserve Account balance = £18,223.41 (up to 29 Mar 2018)

## 14. W/C Report

Broken bolt on men's door and lights are on constant: Clerk will contact someone who has done some work for one of her other Councils to see if he can help. Clerk will look at the lights to see if something has been altered with the sensors.

**15. Councillors Comments:**

**Clerk:** Council Insurance is up for renewal. Clerk is trying to get as many quotations as possible.

**Cllr L Gethin:** The potholes at Llys Rhufain are very bad on the other side of the footbridge. Clerk to contact PCC.

**Cllr P Breese:** There is also a large pot hole by the Talkhouse in Pontdolgoch which requires attention. Clerk to contact PCC.

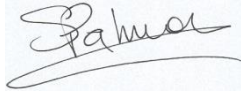
**Cllr P Pemberton:** Asked whether planning permission came through the Community Council for the new 'Seasons Café' in Caersws. It is believed that no permission is required as it is a movable unit.

**Cllr R Davies:** Someone has created an entrance on a council holding which doesn't appear to have had planning permission. Clerk to contact PCC Planning Dept.

**16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be the AGM held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7pm followed by the ordinary meeting at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Chairman Cllr I Astley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.10pm.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophie', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)