

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for meeting Wednesday 28th August 2019 at 7.30pm at Clatter Community Centre.

Present: Chair Cllr B O'Sullivan, Vice chair Cllr D Collington, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr E Thomas, Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr L George, Cllr P Breese, Cllr R Davies, Cllr L Gethin, Cllr M Harding, Cllr I Astley.

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer

Members of the public present: None

1. **Apologies:** None
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.*
None given
3. **Councillor Vacancy:** vote on who to co-opt for the vacancy if interested parties have come forward. Clerk confirmed that one person has contacted her regarding the vacancy. Mr Michael Cheshire emailed the Clerk with details of how he qualifies for the position of Councillor in the ward of Caersws. Cllrs discussed and unanimously agreed that they were happy to co-opt Mr Michael Cheshire onto the Community Council. Clerk to contact Mr Cheshire to let him know and pass on the details of the next meeting.
4. **Minutes** of meeting held on 17th July 2019 were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr E Thomas and seconded by Cllr L Gethin.
5. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)
No members of the public present.
6. **County Cllr Les George:** Report
 - **Two new gateways have appeared recently.** One is on the level crossing near Weig Lane Crossing. There is also a gateway at the small piece of land next to the Unicorn. The area has been fenced off and a new gateway put in which comes out onto the road. It may be the same person who owns both parts of land. These have not come through planning and the location of both gateways are in potentially dangerous locations. Clerk to contact PCC Planning Dept regarding these as there is a concern over safety.
 - **Severn Trent** have opened up the roadway to get to the drainage on a number of occasions. Clerk to contact Severn Trent to ask for some information about what they are doing and whether the issues have been resolved.
 - **New Development Plan:** Llandrindod Wells and Newtown have been mentioned as towns they are looking to develop and build more housing. This will potentially support CCC's Village Plan. Developing at the top of Caersws would be beneficial to this project. This needs to be included within the Village Plan.
 - **Caersws Village Workshops:** Coco Pizazz, chocolate company has two units and is looking to acquire a third one and will approach PCC about this. Cllr L George has concerns that not all of the units are being used properly and will look at finding out who at PCC is responsible for them so that CCC can ensure to be involved in what happens here.
 - **PCC is starting to look at tax rates** for next year. PCC deliver hundreds of services to 13,000 residents. 58,000 households. The services are funded through council tax, income and revenue such as car parks and the Welsh Government. Welsh Gov give PCC 70% of its income but Powys has had a decrease to its income each year for the last 7-8 years and need to save over £100 million. PCC are planning to change the way they deliver services which is why there are cuts. The next year PCC will need to look at saving another £13million because it is illegal not to balance the budget. If the budget isn't balanced the Welsh Government will take over the Council. The low population is used as a means to keep cutting funds and services.
7. **Projects:**
 - a) **War Memorial:** Management and Maintenance Plan has been completed. Clerk went through it with the Cllrs who approved it unanimously. Clerk to forward to PCC. It was agreed to inspect the memorial twice yearly in September, prior to Remembrance Sunday and again in May around the time of the AGM.
 - b) **Village Plan:** Clerk has been continuing to add to the Village Plan and has more information regarding what to include and how to make a start and engage with the local community about the plan. Cllr L George has spoken with someone at PCC who has confirmed that PCC are in support of councils doing village plans. Clerk to contact Martin Wheel at PCC regarding the support that PCC can provide. Clerk to also contact Delma Thomas as she may have further information to add.
8. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Pavement widening between Spar and car park:** No update at present from the Welsh Government regarding whether they will fund the pavement widening. Clerk to chase the Trunk Road Agent for an update.

- b) **Planning issue:** Entrance to poultry unit in Pontdolgoch. PCC Planning Dept has responded to the Clerk to state that works have been completed but they will need to carry out another inspection to see whether further works are required. Cllrs discussed this and agreed unanimously that further works will be required in order to make the entrance and the roadway fit for purpose for the large vehicles that use it as two lorries would not be able to pass here. Clerk to confirm Cllrs discussion and opinion to PCC.
- c) **Defibrillator (Llanwnog):** Following the last meeting the Clerk contacted the school that owns the old school in Llanwnog to ask for permission to locate the defibrillator on the side of the building. They have responded to say that they have not used the property for some time and will be looking to sell/auction the property at some point. The Clerk has contacted the Church in Llanwnog to ask whether they would give permission to have it on the Church which they would be happy to give permission for. Llanwnog Barn would also be a good place or the telephone Kiosk. Clerk to look into these options. Cllr P Breese stated that a training session was held in Clatter following the defib being fitted. 20 people were in attendance but not many from the immediate village which was disappointing. Cllr E Thomas asked whether the defib is insured as there have been reports of defibs being stolen in Rhayader. Clerk confirmed that they should have been added to the Council Insurance but she will double check this.
- d) **Dog fouling:** Clerk has chased but received no update from PCC about whether a bin will be provided at the pastures. She has also asked them to add extra signs as soon as possible. Chair Cllr B O'Sullivan stated that people at the Football Club in Caersws are emptying the dog fouling bins as they are not emptied by PCC. Clerk to ask PCC about this. There was also a discussion about whether dog fouling bags are biodegradable. Can PCC provide biodegradable bags by the bins? Clerk to look into and report back at the next meeting. It is currently not an offence for people to leave dog fouling on areas which are not maintained by Powys CC. They are looking into this.
- e) **Men's Shed Caersws:** Clerk confirmed that she has not yet heard back from Network Rail about whether the Waiting Room could be used for a Men's Shed and whether any funding might be available. Cllr A Wallbank stated that he had hoped that the old waiting room may one day be reinstated as a waiting room again. There is also the old ticket office which might be able to be brought up to standard to be used again. Clerk to chase Network Rail and Cambrian Rail Partnership about possible options. Chair Cllr B O'Sullivan asked whether the current spaces that we have could be used for the Men's Shed instead such as one of the village halls for example. Clerk to contact Wendy Cheshire regarding this.
- f) **Caersws CC Logo:** Clerk confirmed that Delma Thomas is going to help look into whether there is someone locally who would be able to draw a new logo for CCC.
- g) **Bench plan:** As mentioned at the previous meeting it would be beneficial to have a plan of the benches across the wards, where they are, who purchased them, whether they have a plaque and what material they are made from to allow CCC to plan and budget for when benches need repair or removal etc. Add a map to the village plan which can be used to pin point the benches, cemetery etc. Clerk to look into putting some info together.
- h) **Parking on pavements at Chapel Street:** Clerk has spoken to the people who look after the Chapel and they have said that they are very happy to help in any way that they can. Cllrs discussed and agreed that the problem is during the week overnight when vans get parked on the pavement and block the pavement and road. Clerk to draft a letter for the residents of Chapel Street after speaking with the Chapel again.
With reference to the above issue Cllr L George confirmed that he feels that CCC should push harder again for a car park to alleviate the problems within Caersws that the lack of parking creates.

9. Correspondence:

- a) **Keep Wales Tidy:** Project to survey hedgerows. Information noted, no action.
- b) **One Voice Wales:** Revised Model Financial Regulations. Clerk confirmed that the alterations are very minor. Clerk will make the changes and forward to Cllrs for approval.
- c) **Powys CC:** BT programme of intended public payphone removal consultation. Cllrs discussed but decided that they have no objection
- d) **Powys CC:** Supplementary Planning Guidance for LDP consultation. Cllrs discussed and noted that the paperwork produced is so detailed and complex that it makes it very difficult for Councils to digest the information and be in a position to comment effectively on such a consultation. No action.
- e) **Welsh Government:** National Development Framework Consultation. This consultation is similar to the above in regards to the amount of paperwork produced and detail within. No action.

10. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) **Refurbishment:** Clerk confirmed that she still only has one quotation for the refurbishment work but another one was promised before this evening. Cllrs agreed to extend the tender until before the next meeting.

11. Cemeteries:

- a) **Llanwnog & Shiloh Clatter Cemetery Risk Assessments:** Cllr I Astley for August.
Cllr A Wallbank completed the risk assessment in July and confirmed that
Cllr I Astley completed the risk assessment for Llanwnog and Shiloh for August. The shed at Llanwnog needs staining and the roadway still requires attention.
Add Cllr D Collington to the risk assessment

Can the council be the trustee rather than the individual Cllrs?? Clerk to look into prior to the next meeting.

12. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: Proposed development at Pertherin, Pontdolgoch, Caersws;** extension to free range egg production unit including silos and all association works.

Cllrs discussed the above proposed planning application. Cllr L George stated that part of the original planning application was a strict requirement that the entrance was completed prior to significant development of the unit. This has not yet been completed to this time and a second shed is being applied for. Cllr I Astley feels that no further sheds should be added to the area. The regulations calculating the levels of nitrogen are being misused. There is discussion about the timescales of spreading manure on ground being changed.

Cllrs agreed that there are great concerns within the community about the amount of poultry units within the local area.

CCC are in objection to further units being added new or to existing poultry units until the combined effect of the units that are present is confirmed and the application should not go through when the entrance is not yet complete from the original development.

Clerk to draft a letter to PCC covering all points discussed.

13. Finances

- a) **Bank Balances:**

Current Account = £3,134.34
Reserve Account = £33,300.47

- b) **Transfer letter to be signed to transfer funds of £5,000 from reserve account:** transfer letter was confirmed and signed by two signatories.

- c) **Bills for payment:**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary & expenses (August 2019)	£704.66
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk	£23.20
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at Caersws W/C plus parts for urinal and new padlock	£257.79
Carl Jones	Holiday cover for cleaning at WC	£48.00
Andrew Evans Landscape Ltd	Grass cutting (Caersws & Clatter)	£TBC
<i>No invoice was received for the last month, Clerk will ask if there is an invoice to be paid in September.</i>		
Border Janitorial Supplies	Supplies for WC	£50.40
Ian Jones	Installation of Defibrillator in Clatter	£336.00
Martin Obbard	Repair of Ladies door at Caersws WC	£40.00
Southern Electric	W/C Electricity (Direct Debit)	£25.66
Hafren Dyfrdwy	Water @ cemetery – May-Aug (Direct Debit)	£29.12
Hafren Dyfrdwy	Water @ WC – May-Aug (Direct Debit)	£486.64

Bills were proposed for payment by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr P Breese.

- d) **Revenue Received**

W/C revenue 26 June – 16 July 19 £188.39

14. Councillors Comments:

Cllr R Davies: and Cllr E Thomas would like to attend the One Voice Wales Conference and AGM in October. Cllrs were in unanimous agreement to make this booking. Clerk to make booking.

Cllr I Astley: proposed that CCC send a sympathy card to a resident who has recently lost her husband.

Cllr M Harding: thanked Cllrs for her card following her operation a few weeks ago.

Chairman Cllr B O'Sullivan: confirmed details of an event being held in Caersws on 7th September by the Recreation Association.

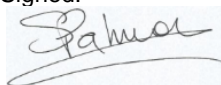
Clerk: two invitations have recently been received for upcoming events which will be forwarded to Cllrs. There is also an event coming up in Clatter and the poster will be displayed.

15. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Chairman Cllr O'Sullivan thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.53pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)