

# CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held remotely on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Chair Cllr D Collington, Vice Chair Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr L George, Cllr M Harding, Cllr B O'Sullivan, Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr P Breese, Cllr E Thomas (joined at 7.43pm)

**In attendance:** Clerk, Mrs S Palmer, Local resident, David Evans

1. **Apologies:** Cllr T P Calvin-Thomas, Cllr I Astley, Cllr R Davies
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 L George declared an interest in agenda item 9
3. **Minutes** of meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr A Wallbank and seconded by Cllr L George.
4. **Public Speaking Session** (15 minutes maximum time allocated)  
Local resident, David Evans was present and had some comments to make regarding the crematorium application so the agenda item 9a1 was brought forward for discussion.  
Clerk has previously written stating that the netting must be removed from the site of the Crematorium application which was refused. A letter has been received from a local resident who makes some very valid points in relation to the netting and that the application should be called in by the Welsh Government and points out that such a development is not on the LDP.  
David Evans has queried why there is no netting on the hedges at the West side entrance of the site. He also stated that a Welsh Government call in may or may not be a good thing.  
  
Cllrs discussed and asked the Clerk to draft a letter to be sent supporting a Welsh Government call in and again insisting that the netting be removed. It is also noted that the scrutiny of Highways on different plans is not consistent. Clerk to draft and send letter.
5. **Cllr Les George Report:**  
**Maes Y Dre:** PCC have now agreed to deal with the trees near the bungalows which have been an issue for some time. They cannot do anything yet due to the birds nesting.  
**Caersws Bridge, traffic lights:** Cllr L George has previously been in contact with Kevin Price from the Welsh Government and has sent several more emails/letters but has had no responses. Letter received from resident on Bridge Street will give Cllr L George ammunition as it is a strong letter.  
**Caersws public conveniences:** has been in touch with Cllr P Davies. The answer should be to connect the toilets drains direct to the main sewer.  
**Pontdolgoch Bypass:** Residents have been requesting cycle routes and footpaths at the new route which will be created in order to deliver the large wind turbines. Clerk to contact wind farm / PCC.  
**Cemetery:** some of the trees here look like they won't come to much and CCC could consider replacing them.  
**Cemetery Roadway:** It seems that PCC doing this when they are in the area will not come to anything so we should look to get quotations for this to be done.  
**EV Charging points:** has spoken to someone in Pontdolgoch who is involved with the Robert Owen Trust which may provide funding for EV chargers. Clerk to contact PCC regarding charging points at Caersws WC.  
**Small Holdings:** There will be two small holdings coming up for rent in July from PCC and the community should be aware as people are not always aware and miss out. Clerk to get the information and share it online.
6. **Highway Matters:**
  - a) **Double yellow line markings near level crossing, toilets and throughout the village** This agenda item should have been removed following the previous meeting.
  - b) **Caersws Bridge (correspondence from Welsh Government)** Cllr L George has received an email from a local resident who lives on Bridge Street opposite the Unicorn Hotel to say that the traffic lights are creating a problem along the street and the speed of vehicles entering and travelling through the village is far too fast. This again raised the query about Speedwatch. Clerk has not heard back as to whether those previously interested still are so will chase this up.
  - c) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** Clerk is waiting for TRA to respond about the possibility of a site meeting to discuss the options available for a safer crossing in the village.
7. **Matters Arising:**
  - a) **Benches:** A picnic bench made from recycled plastic from the company CCC has purchased from before will cost £425 assembled plus delivery charges. Cllrs agreed to go ahead to purchase this. The picnic bench will be at the pastures to replace the one previously there and the bench currently there will go to the allotments. Cllr B O'Sullivan to go to the allotments to see where would be a good siting for this. One bench with a plaque on will go into the cemetery. Clerk has been in contact with Nick Evans who is still happy to purchase a bench for the cemetery. Clerk to confirm the cost of this and ask where he would like it to be placed.

- b) **Defibrillator (Caersws & Llanwnog):** Defib in Caersws has been repositioned to the outside wall of the Premier (previously Spar) so it is once again available 24hrs a day. Defib will be installed into the phone kiosk in Llanwnog soon.  
Cllr M Cheshire confirmed that at a recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee in Caersws it was discussed that the defib that had been on the Spar should be moved to the Village Hall as this is a better place for it to be sited and the Hall are happy for it to be located there and to cover the cost of the electricity required for the cabinet. Cllrs felt that the defibrillator that was sited at the Spar (now Premier) and has been relocated to the outside wall should stay there as this was not solely organised by and purchased by CCC. Cllr M Cheshire proposed that another defibrillator be purchased to be located at the Village Hall. Cllr B O'Sullivan added the suggestion of locating it near the Doctors surgery. Cllrs discussed and agreed to try and get funding for/towards a second defibrillator for Caersws and make a decision on it's location at a later date. The cost of the defibrillator will need to be added to the precept at the end of the year if funding cannot be sourced. Clerk to look into prior to the next meeting.
- c) **NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021:** Cllrs discussed and agreed that the details of this should be promoted on social media and on the website as well as noticeboards. Clerk to action.
- d) **Dog Fouling:** Still waiting on a response about more bins from PCC.
- e) **PAVO: Listening to you visit/virtual meeting:** The person who was going to do this I no longer working with PAVO so I am awaiting the new person to confirm whether they are able to attend one of CCC's meetings and if not, Clerk has requested an evening in May on a Monday.
- f) **Community communications:** A summary was provided to Delma last month for Seren Hafren
- g) **One Voice Wales: New draft guidance on Code of Conduct:** This should have been removed from the agenda as it was discussed at the previous meeting.
- h) **Place Planning:** Clerk is waiting on confirmation of funding available to be able to fund the plan and what the first steps would be.

**8. Correspondence:** *All correspondence relating to COVID-19 has been forwarded to Cllrs and shared online where necessary*

- a) **St Gwynog's Church: Request to take over ownership of war memorial:** St Gwynog's has contacted the Clerk to state that there is some financial help available to cover the costs for their side to transfer ownership so CCC would only need to pay it's own fees. Cllrs felt that ownership does not need to be changed, the initial problem prior to the centenary was that it was not clear who owned the memorial but now that we know who to contact this isn't an issue and CCC is happy to continue ensuring that the memorial is kept clean and will aim to make any minor repairs as and when necessary.
- b) **Welsh Government: 40mph speed limit change either side of Moat Lane crossing:** This information was found by one of the Cllrs before it was passed onto the Clerk, Cllrs agreed that CCC should be kept informed of such information in good time. Clerk to report back to Welsh Government on this.
- c) **Local Resident: Concerns over variations from highways over similar planning: applications**
- d) **Clatter Community Centre:** Clatter Matters newsletter
- e) **One Voice Wales:** Consultation on Updated River Basin Management Plans. Clerk to forward this on again to Cllr A Wallbank to look at in more detail.
- f) **One Voice Wales Membership for 2021/22:** Renewal of membership was agreed at the previous meeting, a cheque to be drawn for the fee of £260.
- g) **Valuation Office Agency: Request for information (Llanwnog cemetery):** Clerk has received a letter requesting information about the cemetery for the Valuation Office Agency such as the area of land and how many burials etc. Cllr A Wallbank may be able to help with the information regarding the land area, Clerk to collate the information of burials.

**9. Planning:**

- a) **Planning Applications:**
  - 1) **Application Reference: 20/2087/FUL Crematorium:**
  - 2) **Application Reference: 21/0501/FUL** Grid Reference: **E:304970 N: 293250** Proposal: Erection of 3 holiday cabins, installation of package treatment plant and all associated works (resubmission of (20/0563/FUL) Site Address: Cleared Wood Field, Aberhafesp, Newtown, SY16 3H
  - 3) **Application Reference: 21/0440/FUL** Grid Reference: **E:303148 N: 295344** Proposal: Erection of holiday home and change of use of land to allow for the stationing of 2 shepherd's huts, installation of 2 septic tanks, creation of access and all associated works Site Address: Gwern Y Pwll, Llanwnog, Caersws, SY17 5PA

**10. Reports** Clerk attended the latest Powys CC meeting with Town & Community Councils. Slides and information shared will be sent on to Clerks to distribute to all. Cllrs agreed that the issue of the poultry units in Powys and specifically Llanwnog should be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**11. Caersws Public Conveniences:**

- a) **Blockages and leaks in both gents and ladies:** Clerk has so far been unable to get a plumber out to check the issues here, Cleaner has closed off the toilets where there is an issue.
- b) **Issues at neighbouring property with drains:** Cllr L George has been in contact with Cllr P Davies who may be able to help get PCC to help with this matter with Severn Trent.

Clerk also confirmed that the door to the gents is still broken but a new one is on order and will be fitted as soon as it is received.

## 12. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** Cllr M Harding and Cllr I Astley have been to the cemetery and Shiloh Graveyard and noted that there are some graves which need filling. Clerk to contact Graham Jones to see if he can do this.
- b) **Yr Ynys Island: Improvement works to be carried out:** Clerk has confirmed that the work has not yet been carried out but will be done soon.
- c) **Llanwnog: signage for taking away own rubbish:** Clerk has not yet purchased signs.
- d) **Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:**
  - 1) **Transferring from Trust to CCC:** Clerk is chasing the solicitor as to what stage this is at. Clerk has also spoken to Dilys who wants to keep hold of the graveyard paperwork and information for the time being as people visit the graveyard and she is close-by and also knows the history of a lot of the families there. Cllrs agreed that CCC needs to know more about the issues here before signing anything.
  - 2) **Concern over safety at the graveyard and works to be carried out:** There are considerable concerns over safety at the graveyard. Clerk has been in contact with Ian Hughes (Funeral Director) who has agreed to go and have a look at the graveyard and feedback as to what his suggestion to rectify the unsafe areas would be.
- e) **Finances: Bank Balances:**
  - Current Account = £5,016.30
  - Reserve Account = £39,923.99
- f) **End of year accounts and audit:** Last years accounts paperwork has been agreed and will be signed off by Chair Cllr D Colington. Accounts for 2020/21 are being finalised and will be sent to internal auditor.
- g) **Bills to be Paid:**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (Apr 2021)	£682.82
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (Apr 2021)	£36.94
<i>(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £6.66, stationery &amp; postage = £8.82, mileage = £21.46 (47.7 miles))</i>		
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (Apr 2021)	£6.60
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (Apr 2021)	£192.00
One Voice Wales	2021/22 Membership	£260.00
Jack Holley	Drain repairs at Caersws WC	£240.00
Anthony Richards	Internal Audit fee for 2019/20	£100.00

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr B O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr L George.

## 13. Items with no progress at this time:

- a) Electric Car Charging
- b) Pavement widening between Spar and car park
- c) Road markings at Weig Lane crossing

## 14. Councillor Comments:

**Cllr A Wallbank:** proposed that Cllrs discuss Clerks' salary review at the AGM next month which Cllrs present agreed to.

'No Through Road' signs are required at Ty Gwyn Lane and past Pandy Pitch also. Clerk to contact Highways to request signs.

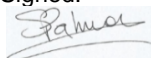
It was queried as to whether CCC might be able to meet face to face in May. Clerk will look into this and let Cllrs know.

## 15. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be the AGM held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm followed by the ordinary meeting at 7.30pm.

Chair Cllr D Collington thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.41pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)