

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting held at **Clatter Community Hall** on **Wednesday 29th June 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair Cllr P Breese, Vice Chair Cllr C Woosnam, Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr L George, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr D Collington

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs S Palmer, 1 member of the public

1. Apologies: None received

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 M Cheshire and Cllr P Breese declared an interest in agenda item 11d
Cllr L George declared an interest agenda item 11.

3. Public Speaking Session (15 minutes maximum time allocated)

Seven members of the public present in total

Two members of the public were present in order to listen to CCC's discussion of agenda item 11c

Four members of the public wishing to be co-opted onto the council were present

The two members of the public interesting in the Crematorium discussion put forward their view on the application.

Chair Cllr P Breese confirmed that he has applied to join the hearing so will attend if possible and as much of the discussion as possible.

4. New Councillor Co-option: The following members of the public who were interested in being co-opted were in attendance:

- David Lowe
- Cathy Knapp
- Chris Brooks
- Peter Skitt
- Matthew Price –not in attendance but wishes to be considered for co-option

Chair Cllr P Breese had previously asked Cllrs to each introduce themselves and for those interested in joining the Council to do the same.

All Cllrs present agreed to co-opt all interested onto the Council thus leaving one seat vacant on the Council.

5. Minutes of meeting held on 18th May 2022 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr L George and seconded by Cllr M Cheshire.

6. Cllr Les George Report:

- **Caersws Bridge:** The bridge is currently being pointed but it is taking a very long time. The lights will be left until the pointing is done and then it is believed that the lights will be removed.
- **Caersws Footbridge:** This was promised to be done along with a roundabout on long length to alleviate the railway crossing. This is now in review with the Welsh Government, which has raised the concern that these projects will not go ahead. Cllr L George believes more pressure should be put on Russell George MS and Craig Williams MP to ensure that these projects are not cancelled.
- **Caersws Workshops:** CCC is not involved at all with anything to do with the units. Cllr L George feels that CCC should be more involved and suggested that the Clerk contact Powys CC Property Services. Clerk to contact to put this forward and also ask if CCC can advertise locally when units become available.
- Cllr L George has been approached by a local resident regarding a small field in Caersws which has no vehicular access but would be potentially a site for tree planting and an outside area for people to enjoy locally. Cllr L George has suggested that CCC could potentially do a community asset transfer. Cllr Colin Woosnam thought that planting trees on good agricultural ground is not a good idea.
Cllr L George stated that it is just an idea at this stage and to keep discussion open for now.
- Cllr L George raised what are the powers and legalities of what CCC can do. Clerk confirmed that the documentation that cover these were sent out prior to the AGM in May 2022. These documents will be resent to all Cllrs and also are required to be sent out to all newly co-opted Cllrs.
- **Decision Matrix for long term issues:** This has been fully updated with any new information. Cllrs asked whether there is a link to the Community & Town Councils at Powys County Council. Clerk to look into whether there is a specific officer within PCC to send this on to.
- **Cemetery roadway:** Cllr L George has received a quotation for the roadway and is trying to get another one or two but it is struggling to find anyone else to quote. The current quote received is £4,700 + vat. Cllr L George will try and get two more quotes at least in order for the council to be able to make a decision on a contractor to get the roadway done.
- **Maeshafren residents;** the roadway behind Maeshafren is very bad and has a lot of potholes. Cllr L George has spoken with Highways who have been to inspect, Highways will repair the

potholes but Housing has responsibility over the roadway so they will be asked to inspect it and repair fully.

- **Foxes Pitch**, issues with the sides of the road and residents have said it is dangerous for those walking in the area. Cllr L George has reported this to Highways at PCC.
- **Queens Platinum Jubilee**: the committee had a final meeting and confirmed that everything arranged for the Jubilee went really well and very smoothly. Everyone who attended really enjoyed it. Trees and benches will be sited around the ward areas of Caersws. Well done to all involved in making the day very memorable and enjoyable for all.
- Information regarding funding available locally. Clerk to share the information.
- Clerk to update and send out the contact details of all Cllrs.

7. Long Term Agenda Items and Projects: *for the latest updates on the below please refer to the current Long Term Issue Matrix*

- a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws**
- b) **Caersws bridge**
- c) **Pavement widening between Premier Shop and car park**
- d) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing**
- e) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues**
- f) **Powys Decision Matrix for PCC:** This has been fully updated with any new information. Cllrs asked whether there is a link to the Community & Town Councils at Powys County Council. Clerk to look into whether there is a specific officer within PCC to send this on to.
- g) **Letter to Welsh Gov Minister for Finance and Local Government:** The letter agreed at the previous meeting to send to Rebecca Evans MS and copy to Russell George MS, Dr Caroline Turner (PCC CEO) and James Gibson-Watt (PCC Leader).

Cllr Cathy Knapp suggested adding the health and wellbeing case to the issue of highways – they are too unsafe for people to access the walkways etc.

8. Place Plan Committee & LDP: Cllr A Wallbank will continue as Chair for the Committee. There is a document (Settlement Audit) relating to the LDP which Cllrs have been sent. Cllrs will complete the questions asked and send to the Clerk for her to collate the answers together for Cllrs to approve.

9. Matters Arising:

- a) **Dog Fouling:** The dog fouling station is on its way to the Clerk for delivery, installation will then be arranged on the fence of Caersws Village Hall.
- b) **Signal box at station:** Clerk has received a response confirming that work has been scheduled for the signal box. No timescales received as yet.
- c) **Street light by Caersws Village Hall:** A review of street lighting is due to take place early next week in Caersws and the results will be sent to the Clerk thereafter.
- d) **Defibrillator maintenance:** The defibrillator in Llanwnnog has not been stolen. The electrician went to look into it and found it in the kiosk, in a black box below the cabinet. He was unable to get into the cabinet but has since been given the code for the cabinet which he will try in order to reinstall the defib and will check all of the wiring.
Defib at station – Clerk to ask who is responsible – railways
Caersws hall defib: The code will be moved into the hall so it will no longer be displayed on the cabinet.
- e) **Maesawelon car parked long term:** Police have confirmed that the car was not there when they went around the area. Cllrs are not sure whether this has been moved. Trailer parked here long term as well, Clerk to contact Police and Highways regarding this to free up the space for school users.
- f) **New Clerks Laptop:** A new laptop has been ordered and will be collected following the July meeting.
- g) **Council Insurance:** The renewal price for the coming years insurance is much higher than previous years so Clerk is gaining further quotations.

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

- a) **Powys CC:** Powys LDP Settlement Audit. Covered during agenda item 8.
- b) **One Voice Wales:** Finance & Governance Toolkit. This is a large document which guides councils through the documentation, policies etc required and suggested. Clerk has gone through the document and made notes and will go through again to draw up a list of actions for the council.
- c) **One Voice Wales:** Statutory guidance relating to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. This is the guidance relating to changes that have come into force for Town & Community Councils. Clerk to draw up a list of actions to ensure the Council is compliant with the new rules.
- d) **One Voice Wales:** Good Councillors Guide – updated. The new guide has been sent out to all Cllrs for their reference.

11. Planning:

- a) **Application Ref: 22/0561/FUL** Grid Ref: E: 302338 N: 293923 Proposal: Erection of detached garage Location: Plot 1 , Maes Y Cwm, Llanwnnog Caersws Powys

The above item was discussed at the previous meeting.

- b) Application Reference: P/2010/0890** Grid Reference: E: 306701 N: 303409 Proposal: Windfarm development comprising 18 wind turbines (installed capacity of up to 47.5 MW), anemometer mast, substation & control building, site entrance, new & improved access tracks and all associated building and engineering operations and landscaping together with highway improvements Site Address: Land At Esgair Cwmowen, Nr Carno, Powys
No comments to be made
- c) Application Reference: 3281704 (CAS-00037-Z8N0M9)** Starting Date: 20th January 2022 Applicant: Miss A Barrett, 46 Camden Road, London, United Kingdom, , Proposed Development: Construction of an all-new crematorium, including the erection of a crematorium building, change of use of land to provide a green burial site, creation of landscaped grounds to include a garden of remembrance, improved and new access arrangements, car parking area, sewage treatment plant and drainage and all associated works Site Address: Land At Ael Y Bryn, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys
This item was discussed earlier in the meeting when interested members of the public were present.
- d) Application Reference: 22/0973/HH** Grid Reference: E:302993 N: 292091 Proposal: Erection of an extension, to include change of use of land to form additional residential curtilage Site Address: Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws, Powys SY17 5EF
Cllrs discussed the above application and have no objections.

12. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) Lights repair:** This work is yet to be completed.
- b) New doors / hinges:** Clerk is waiting on quotes
- c) Beeping of coin boxes:** Healthmatic has responded to the Clerk to state that the beeping noise can be muffled but not turned off as such. Clerk will look into doing this if possible.
- d) Leaking toilets:** Clerk to get a plumber to go and sort out the leak.

13. Cemeteries:

- a) Risk Assessment:** Cllr L George completed the risk assessment this month.
- b) LLanwnog Cemetery:**
1) Gates and roadway repairs: Cllr L George has one quote but will try to get two more in order for Cllrs to make a comparison and choose the most appropriate quote.
- c) Shiloh, Clatter graveyard:** Clerk to chase Hanratty for a response regarding the details of taking over the Shiloh Graveyard.

14. Finances:

- a) Account balances:**
Current Account = £25,194.34
Reserve Account = £41,949.23
- b) Internal Audit:** The internal auditor has completed the audit paperwork. Cllrs approved and agreed to sign these off to be sent to the external auditor.
- c) Clerks Pay Review:** The Clerk left the meeting whilst Cllrs discussed this item. Cllr A Wallbank confirmed the discussion which includes confidential information. Details will be forwarded to the Clerk.
- d) Bills to be paid:**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (June 22)	£774.64
Sophie Palmer	Clerks expenses (June 2022)	£40.31
<i>(Breakdown of expenses: Home working allowance = £10.00, stationery & postage = £7.31, mileage = £23.00 (51.5 miles))</i>		
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (May 2022)	£5.77
Hugh Jones	Cleaning at W/C (May 2022)	£288.00
Andrew Evans	Grass cutting (Caersws & Clatter) May	£456.00
Anthony Richards	Internal Audit 2021-22	£110.00

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr M Cheshire and seconded by Cllr L George.

15. Councillor Comments:

- Cllr D Collington:** gave his apologies for the July meeting.
- Cllr C Woosnam:** confirmed that the 3G project in Caersws is all going ahead still.
- Cllr M Cheshire:** Looking forward to working with the new Councillors.
- Cllr C Brooks:** found his first meeting interesting and not like others he has been involved in. Looking forward to working with the Council.
- Cllr P Breese:** Gift for previous Cllr Paul Calvin-Thomas. Wording for an engraved gift was discussed. Clerk to action.

16. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7.30pm at Caersws Village Hall.

Chair Cllr P Breese thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting

Signed:  Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)