

CYNGOR CYMUNED CAERSWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at **Caersws Community Centre** at 7.30pm

Present: Chair Cllr C Woosnam, Vice Chair Cllr D Lowe, Cllr C Knapp, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr M Cheshire, Cllr S Sargent, Cllr P Skitt.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr A Wallbank, Cllr L George, Cllr M Carroll
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 Woosenam – Funding Application Football Club, Cllr C Knapp – Funding Application Mid wales Arts centre
3. **Public Speaking Session (15 minutes maximum time allocated)**
No one in attendance
4. **Clerk's Resignation & Absence:** Councillors thanked the resigning clerk Mrs Sophie Plamer for her hardwork and welcomed the new clerk Jennifer Turner
5. **Minutes** of meeting held on 29th April 2024 were proposed as an accurate record. Proposed PS, seconded MC
6. **Priority Projects:**
 - a) **Caersws Footbridge:** Chair Cllr C Woosnam has contacted Russell George MS but has not received a response. It may be possible to liaise at a local event due to be held on 27th May
 - b) **Caersws Train Station Parking:** PS has contacted the landowner, but has not received a response and will contact again. Additional parking is urgently required and the CC could charge for this, although planning would be required.
7. **Long Term Agenda Items and Projects:**
 - a) **Pedestrian crossing in centre of Caersws:** No updates to report
 - b) **Caersws bridge:** No updates to report
 - c) **Roundabout scheme:** No updates to report
 - d) **Pavement widening on corner of Premier Shop:** This now needs resurfacing
 - e) **Road markings at Weig Lane crossing:** No updates to report
 - f) **Manthrig Brook Flooding issues:** Councillors discussed if the CC could invest in this project. It may be possible to bring in an outside consultant to review this problem. CB to contact consultant and provide a brief. Proposed by SS, seconded MC
8. **Place Plan Committee** No new information or updates on either of the below items
 - a) LDP
 - b) Active Travel Plan
9. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Website:** CB is leading on this and the project is progressing
 - b) **Ownership of war memorial:** On going project. We are still awaiting a response from the solicitor
 - c) **Removal of bus shelters:** Councillors discussed bus stop locations on both sides of the road. Buses only now stop at bus stops. PS to continue with this
 - d) **External items e.g. benches to be discussed:** No update as yet.
 - e) **Information Boards** – Will be reviewed after new website goes live
 - f) **D Day** : A Beacon will be lit in Caersws
 - g) **CCC Logo:** Waiting for website completion and then Cllrs will look at this.
 - h) **Pole leaning into road near road, Clatter:** This has been removed
 - i) **Council Insurance Renewal** – clerk to get quotes
10. **Correspondence:**
 - a) **Severn Valley water Management Scheme** – two letters received from residents making us aware of consultation
 - b) **D Day** – Beacon will be lit. CW and CB to lead
 - c) **EMRTS:** Air Ambulance Review (PS declared an interest)
 - d) **Powys Public Service** – Well Being Plan
 - e) **Green Gen:** Green GEN Vyrnwy Frankton Project. Information noted, no action
 - f) **Resident:** two letters regarding Penyborfa Planning Application 23/7084/FUL. Councillors discussed this at length, including the impact on residents of planning decisions and their confidence in the Community Council. The Council role is to listen, take on board local views, to have an impartial view, to understand technical issues and make representation to Planning well supported with factual evidence. It is felt the Council followed this procedure. There are two vacancies on the Council and local residents would be welcome to join the Council under co-

option rules. Clerk to respond explaining our position regarding the planning application inviting resident to join the Council

- g) **School:** Letter of thanks from school pupils

11. S137 Donation Requests any funding applications received will be sent to Cllrs to consider at the May meeting. It is felt that donation requests need to follow the process and provide full information. When the new website goes live better information will be provided for applicants

- a) Caersws Junior Football Club – approved PS, MC
- b) Caersws Football Club – approved PS, MC
- c) Clatter Community Centre – Declined. Feed back information to be provided
- d) Mid Wales Arts – Declined. Feed back information to be provided.
- e) Caersws Village Club - Declined. Feed back information to be provided

12. Planning:

- a) **Application Reference: 24/0366/FUL** Grid Reference: E:301146 N: 291748 Proposal: Above Ground Slurry Store Site Address: Coed Y Parc, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5HR
Already approved
- b) **Electricity Act 1989: Overhead Lines (Exemption)** (England and Wales) Regulations 2009. Reference: 24/0727/ELE Grid Ref: E: 301028 N: 292274 Proposal: Applications made under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989: Overhead Lines (Exemption)(England and Wales) Regulation 2009 for upgrade to existing overhead line, replacing existing two wires with three Site Address: Land At Gate Farm, Caersws, Powys SY17 5RE
Approved

13. Caersws Public Conveniences:

- a) PAVO Grant – DL to provide update
- b) Maintenance – Further minor issues being dealt with. Reported Baby Changing cubicle is blocked. Clerk to report

14. Cemeteries:

- a) **Risk Assessments:** AW to provide update in June
- b) **Shiloh Clatter Graveyard:** Grass needs cutting. Clerk to report
- c) **Llanwnnog sunken graves:** 1 quote received for the grave levelling. Quotes are being chased and a meeting may be arranged with one contractor following receipt of these
- d) **Llanwnnog cemetery mapping:** Ongoing project

15. Finances:

a) **Account balances:**

Natwest Current Account = £14,596.42
Natwest Reserve Account = £42,699.86
Unity Trust (New) Current Account = £8,874.67
Unity Trust (New) savings Account = £0

b) **Bills to be paid:**

Sophie Palmer	Clerks salary (May)	£894.65 (net) [£911.47
Sophie Palmer	Clerks Expenses (May)	£0
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax for Clerk (May)	£16.82
Hugh Jones	WC Cleaning (Feb – not drawn)	£148.00
Hugh Jones	WC Cleaning (April/May)	£192.00
EOM	WC retainer (April)	£50.00 (net) [£60 total]
Caersws Community Council	Transfer of funds from Natwest to Unity Trust	£20,000.00
Robert Evans	Grass cutting (Shiloh 2023/24)	£1,143.00
One Voice Wales	Clerks conference	£60 [net] (£72 total)
Severn Trophies	Bench plaque plus postage	£31.00
Andrew Evans	Grass cutting Caersws and Clatter	£766.80
C Breese	Defib batteries	£78.00

Direct Debits:

Southern Electric	Caersws WC Electricity (May 2024)	£125.38
PC-Q Solutions	Laptop security, maintenance, virus protection, Office 365	£29.31

Approved PS, SS

a) **Income received:**

Powys CC	Welsh Government toilets grant	£5,000.00
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b) Reserves breakdown

RESERVES HELD	
PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Public Convenience	£14,559.39
Unforeseen Maintenance costs for Cemetery	£8,000.00
Precepted amount for new website	£2500.00
Training costs	£512.00
Precepted amount for village halls	£10,000.00
Reserves for any extra costs unplanned at the time of precept	£8,000.00
Cllr Remuneration	£1,592.00
Care Costs in case required/requested from Cllrs	£4,500.00
TOTAL RESERVES HELD	£54,232.00

- c) **Internal auditor:** Clerk has made contact with an auditor. Council would like to contact Morgan Griffiths to provide a quote for audit
- d) **End of year account internal audit**
- e) More signatories are required for the bank to make payments easier. PS to be added

16. Councillor Comments:

CB welcomed the new clerk and commented it would be good to share best practice with other councils

Meeting dates will be changed to accommodate the new clerk schedule – third Wednesday of each month

17. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 7.30pm at Clatter

Chair Cllr C Woosnam thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.53pm.