

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Meeting held at  
7pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
In the Village Hall at Clyro

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Wells (Chairman), Cllr P Bate, Cllr V Price, Cllr D Hood, Cllr J Morgan, Cllr E Brown, Cllr R Francis and Clerk to the Community Council, D Workman.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** J Cooper-Lally and L Cooper.

**RESPONSIBLE PERSON** for the duration of this meeting for fire regulations: Chairman Wells who pointed out all fire exits and advised that the meeting point was by the church gate. Chairman Wells added that the meeting is recorded.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr R Lewis (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Carter and County Councillor J Gibson-Watt.

**MINUTES:** The Minutes for the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman Wells.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Cllr Price declared that he would not take part in Planning Matters number 2.

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL ASSETS:** Chairman Wells has checked all assets, and all is in order.

**PLANNING MATTERS:**

*Chairman Wells explained that this month has many tree applications this is not because the trees themselves are protected but the area they are growing in is within the conservation area within Clyro village.*

- 1. Application** 20/0162/TRE, 24 The Village, Clyro. Pollarding of a birch tree – *Pollarding was discussed, and all Cllrs voted in favour.*
- 2. Application** 20/0238/FUL, Borders Hideaway, Clyro HR3 5SG. Change of use of land from the permitted use for the siting of tents for up to 28 days in a calendar year to a seasonal use for the siting of tents from 1<sup>st</sup> March – 31<sup>st</sup> October each year. – *Concerns were raised around the impact that more people will have on the road, the added waste and increased pressure to water systems. 3 Cllrs voted in favour and 4 Cllrs abstained.*
- 3. Application** 20/0163/TRE, Baskerville Arms, Clyro. Coppice ash and hazel trees reduce an ash tree and leylandii trees and prune cypress's and sycamore. – *All in favour*
- 4. Application** 20/0165/TRE, Waverleigh, Clyro HR3 5SE. Pruning of an ash and a sycamore tree. – *All in favour*

5. **Application** 20/0166/TRE, Waverleigh, Clyro HR3 5SE.Reduction of a rowan and sycamore tree. – *All in favour*
6. **Application updates** – As listed on the agenda these updates are received from Powys Planning and are given for information only.

#### **MATTERS ARISING:**

1. Cllr Hood requested at February's meeting during AOB for information on a cabin/structure in Clyro, the Clerk relayed that the structure is a Summer House and that it received planning permission in 2011. Application P/2011/0252.
2. PCSO Emma Jackson is our local Police contact, she will be invited to our next meeting.

#### **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT:** See appendix A.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE** (incl)

1. Playground checks – Powys County Council -*no action required as Clyro's playground is decommissioned until the new play area is developed along with the housing development.*
2. One Voice Wales – Annual Membership – *Cllr Hood proposed continuing with membership, Cllr Bate seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.*
3. Hay & District Luncheon Club – request for donation - *Cllr Hood proposed £50, Cllr Brown seconded, and all Cllrs were in favour.*
4. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual report - <https://gov.wales/independent-remuneration-panel-wales-annual-report-2020-2021> - *no action required*
5. Wales Audit Office – Invoice relating to Audit – *Cllrs questioned the increase of charges, the Clerk will ask for clarification on charges*
6. Town and Community Council Engagement meeting – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells. – *no action*
7. Keep Wales Tidy – Nature packages for Town and Community Councils – *The Clerk will apply for 1. Butterfly package, 2. Fruit package, 3. Wildlife package.*

#### **FINANCIAL:**

Current a/c £3895.47 (as at 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020) Reserve a/c £1844.23 (as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020)

Payments to be made BT Direct, Clerks salary (£160) Hay & District Luncheon Club (£50) Wales Air Ambulance (£250) and One Voice Wales membership (£120) Cllr Brown proposed and was seconded by Cllr Bate.

**AOB:** Clyro School thanked the Community Council for the donation towards the “Love Laura” project.

Cllr Hood flagged up that the tenant of 19, The Village is moving out, he requested that the Clerk contact the owners to ask them to politely remind new tenants that the village green belongs to the Community Council and has no vehicular access over it.

Chairman Wells asked Cllrs to be aware and offer help to any residents/businesses that may be affected by the flooding. He added that the Corona virus may become a problem and Cllrs should do their best to look out for residents who might have to self-isolate or be elderly/vulnerable and more susceptible to the virus.

The meeting was closed at 7.49pm

**Members of the public are invited to attend council meetings and to contribute at the end of business. Minutes and agenda available on request. Also displayed on website [www.clyro.org](http://www.clyro.org)**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Cllr R Wells, Chairman)

## Appendix A

### **CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**10/3/20**

### **REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.**

#### **Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre**

No further news at present. Following the setting of the County Council's 2020/21 Budget last week the capital funding for the redevelopment of the school is still in the council's forward capital programme. The 'transformation' plans for the Powys schools network and post 16 learning in Powys are still being developed, so further changes to the design of the scheme are still very possible. Further delay is also inevitable.

#### **Clyro C in W Primary School & Schools Funding**

The Headteacher and Chair of Governor's meeting with the county council's finance officers has taken place, but the Headteacher has indicated to me that they met intransigence from the council. I think that the Governors are still not prepared to reduce the number of classes from 4 to 3, as this will compromise pupils' learning and produce class sizes above 30 in Key Stage 1. I fully support the Headteacher and Governors' position and will continue to liaise with the Headteacher to provide whatever support I can.

#### **Powys County Council Education Service and Schools Transformation**

As previously-reported, Wales's educational inspectorate, Estyn, reported on its inspection of Powys County Council's schools service in September 2019. Estyn's judgement was that the schools service was deficient in many respects. It also indicated that, although the council has enough money in its education budget to provide an effective schools system in the county, the current schools network is unsustainable as it is and outcomes for learners are being compromised. The rationale for change and the principles upon which that change will be based have been discussed and broad agreement reached with school head teachers and governing body chairs via a schools conference held in October last year. A 'Vision for Powys Schools' document is now subject to further engagement with Powys schools, learners and the public. The council's

Cabinet will shortly consider actual proposals for change and how to implement the transformation process from the Schools Service next month. At that point we will all have something more tangible to work with. Papers covering the above are all available on the Powys CC website.

## Planning & Housing

I asked housing officers some time ago to look in to the parking arrangements at the bungalows in Castle Estate, because it had been pointed out to me that there are no dropped kerbs there and quite a lot of space is wasted because of the shape of the current car park.

A new proposal has been worked up and consultation with the tenants on the plans took place in the Village Hall in February and on-site more recently. The new scheme now has broad agreement with tenants and will be implemented this spring.



RE Castle Estate  
Clyro HR3 5SP Drair

The proposal can be viewed via this link:-

## Highways

Continuing heavy rain has caused intermittent flooding problems across the county's highways network. Storms Ciara and Dennis caused major flooding problems in Crickhowell and Builth Wells, as well as other parts of the county; and near-disaster in Glasbury, as the flood wall was on the brink of being over-topped during Storm Dennis. Serious deficiencies in the county council's emergency response system have been exposed and urgent work is needed to correct them. For example, despite my request that local county councillors be routinely provided with highways out-of-hours duty officers' mobile 'phone numbers, this has been refused. The Powys Careline number has proved to be almost useless during the storm periods, so for local members to be able to contact duty officers is very important in my view. Alas, senior officers and the council's Cabinet Member for Highways do not agree.

## Powys County Council 2020/21 Budget – Welsh Lib Dem-Green Amendment defeated

The county council's 2020/21 Budget was passed by a narrow majority last week. The Council Tax increase will be 4.8%, after a last-minute climb-down by the Cabinet when it became clear that its proposal for a 5% increase would be defeated. My group's amendment to reduce the increase to 3.75%, based on reducing the Corporate Services budget by £1.5m, was defeated by 4 votes. Our two attempts to submit full alternative budgets that would have prevented further cuts to the library service, cultural venues and the planning service were rejected by the Chief Finance Officer on technical grounds, which she has the power to do.

The 2020/21 grant settlement from Welsh Government shows a significant increase on 2019/20 of 5.4% gross (about + £10m), although that includes funding for the teachers' pay and pensions settlement, which will reduce the net extra amount to about £5m. But this is the best 'settlement' Powys CC has received for many years and should have been used to prevent cuts to valued local facilities and services. It should also have allowed a lower-than-expected Council Tax rise, but unfortunately it was not to be.

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