

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held via Zoom
7pm on Tuesday 8th December 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cllr R Wells (Chairman), Cllr J Morgan, Cllr E Brown, Cllr J Carter, Cllr R Francis and Clerk to the Community Council, D Workman.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor J Gibson-Watt

APOLOGIES: Cllr V Price, Cllr R Lewis (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Hood and PCSO Jackson

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

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

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

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Castle Estate play park and housing development update
 - On 14th November Chairman Wells carried out some planting as part of the Keep Wales Tidy wildflower garden project. He planted several types of bulbs including English Bluebell, Snow drops, Wood Anemone and Snakes Head Fritillary and a couple of seed mixes of containing butterfly and bumble bee friendly wildflowers.

He also had an onsite meeting on 24/11/20 with the site engineer, John Watson, Racheal Probert (Ecologist Powys CC) John Richardson, and Trish Richardson to discuss the hazel trees that are shading their garden, it was agreed that Powys would coppice the row of 3 hazel on the park side and Mr & Mrs Richardson would be given permission to trim the row of hazels nearest their boundary. In three years or so when the coppiced hazel has grown sufficiently to provide a screen the second row can be coppiced and so on a three- or four-year cycle. Jon Watson will also arrange the removal of an ash tree that needs felling due to ash die back concerns.

They also discussed the repair of the path and works required for reinstating the swings and slide from the old play park. These works will be carried out in the new year when the contractor will hope to be on site. The park is being referred to as the “Butterfly Park (Parc Pili Pala in Welsh)”, Chairman Wells thinks this name seems to be quite fitting.

John Watson and Chairman Wells also discussed the idea of the Community Council taking on the Butterfly Park as part of their responsibilities from Powys, John said that prior to handing over to the Community Council Powys would carry out works to bring it up to sufficient standard so that no major works would be needed when CCC first take over responsibility.

Chairman Wells has been in touch with Glasbury Community Council Chairman, Barbara who explained how they are going through a similar process. It involves Powys drawing up a licence for Clyro CC to take responsibility for the area, this is a two-way agreement so that Clyro CC can ensure that the area is protected but responsibility and maintenance commitments are not too onerous. Chairman Wells opened the meeting to a discussion regarding this licence and how Cllrs feel about going forward. Cllr Brown raised his concerns about the legal and financial concerns in the future but as Chairman Wells has answered all these concerns so far, he would be happy to be guided by Chairman Wells to negotiate an agreement that could be put before Clyro CC for approval. He added that without the Community Councils backing the area could deteriorate into wasteland over time, something that no one would want. Cllr Morgan is also cautious, she picked up the path needing repair already, financial liability could be a worry. She is unsure of the benefits of Clyro CC taking ownership over Powys CC taking ownership. If Powys will keep it maintained, then why would the Community Council take it on? Chairman Wells explained that if we do bits to the park but not take total responsibility it makes it more difficult to organise Community activities. Powys would be in charge, for example the Community Council might like to put a Christmas tree up or organise some other community activity. If Powys retain control, then they could deny permission. Residents are also more likely to get involved if it is a Community owned and run project, if Powys run it then residents may expect Powys to maintain it and tend not to get involved. Cllr Francis thinks it would be good for the Community Council to hold the licence for the area. He feels that the Community Council should take it on for 12 months and see how we get on. Chairman Wells also agreed with this, if it is too much for the Community it gets passed back after 12 months. Cllr Carter likes the idea of taking the park on as long as it can be passed back should the need arise in the future. Chairman Wells proposed that subject to seeing the licence, the Community Council would be happy to take on a rolling annual licence for the Butterfly Park. Chairman Wells asked for a vote to enable him to go to Powys to move forward on this. All Cllrs voted in favour of progressing the matter to negotiate a licence that can be put before the Community Council for approval.

2. Housing Development – A name needs to be put forward as a suggestion. A resident, Stewert Roberts emailed his suggestion of Dan y Castell this translates as Below the Castle. Cllrs discussed other names but decided unanimously that Dan y Castell should be given to Powys as the Community Councils suggestion. Chairman Wells will write to Simone Hodges at Powys with this suggestion.
3. Donations – A detailed discussion was held around the amount that should be given as donations and to which charitable organisations. Cllrs looked back at past years and considered the need at this time of each organisation. Cllr Brown proposed £250 to four organisations, MIND (Brecon), Hay Dial-a Ride, Wales Air Ambulance and Brecon Advice Centre. Cllr Carter seconded this proposal. The Cllrs voted three in favour with two abstentions. Cllr Brown gave his apologies and left the meeting at 7.55pm to attend another meeting.
4. Haygarth – Cllr Morgan feels annoyed with the outcome from the Extraordinary meeting that was held by the Powys Community Health Council, Executive Committee that was organised at short notice. As noted in November's minutes the CHC had made the decision to report Powys Health Board for not ensuring that Haygarth carried out sufficient consultation with patients and stakeholders before any decisions were made. This Extraordinary meeting has overturned this and arranged another meeting for December 9th. The Community Council requested that the Clerk email Powys CHC reiterating our offer of support to help all parties engage to improve the Haygarth practice for all concerned.

PLANNING MATTERS including updates on applications:

1. **Application [20/1761/FUL](#)** Erection of a replacement lattice tower at Cefn-y-Blaen, Clyro – no objections were raised.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: County Cllr Gibson-Watt reported to the meeting that Clyro School has had a discussion with Powys about its budget position, the loss of budget due to the fair funding formulae that is used by Powys has left Clyro with a deficit that Powys will not allow to continue. He explained that in the past these type of deficits would have been overlooked as often school roll numbers fluctuate and it may balance out over time. He also pointed out that there are Secondary Schools that are running at a much higher deficit that they will never get out of. Powys are tightening up their policy and Clyro is a casualty of this.

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. Precept – Cllr Morgan flagged up an apparent flaw in the figures quoted for the precept that Community Council receives. This item will be discussed at January's meeting to allow the Clerk time to investigate and provide clarification.
2. Clyro School, – *Yrs 3 and 4 requesting a Clyro Castle history information board* – Chairman Wells explained that as the Castle is privately owned and not accessible to the public it would not be appropriate to site a public notice board by the Castle mound itself. An updated Clyro history board in the village or in the new play park may be possible in the future and more information on the website on the website would be good and could include children's pictures/models/stories. Chairman Wells proposed that he replies to the letters from the children offering to work with them to produce a Clyro Castle Page on the website and in the future updated information boards that include the Castle. Cllrs were in favour of this.
3. Welsh Government – *Volunteering recovery grant* – no action required.

FINANCIAL:

Bank balances: Current £3,844.05 (on 4th November 2020) Reserve £1845.22 (on 30th October 2020). Payments to include BT direct debit (£30), Clerks Salary (£160), PAVO (£30), Clerk Homeworking Expenses (£75), Hay Dial a Ride (£250), Brecon MIND (£250), Brecon Advice Centre (£250) and Wales Air Ambulance (£250). Proposed by Cllr Francis and seconded by Cllr Morgan.

AOB: Chairman Wells mentioned that a resident had raised an issue regarding an overgrown Laurel Hedge causing a visibility problem. The Clerk asked that this be referred to Powys Highways department as it is their area of expertise. This can be easily reported via the Powys website under highways. Chairman Wells will advise.

The Clerk asked to set a date for the AGM in the New Year, County Cllr Gibson-Watt told the meeting that he thought that AGM's had to be held by the end of the calendar year not as the Clerk thought the end of the financial year. The Clerk will double check this and action a meeting asap.

The meeting was closed at 8:11pm

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

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Cllr R Wells, Chairman)