

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
meeting held at the Village Hall.
Tuesday 13th December 2022, 7pm.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cllr R Wells (Vice-Chairman), Cllr J Morgan, Cllr M Brock, Cllr Richardson and Clerk to the Community Council, D Workman.

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Fforde (Chairman), Cllr P Bate, Cllr Price, Cllr C Smith, and County Cllr Gibson-Watt

MINUTES: The minutes from November's meeting were agreed to be true so were signed by Vice-Chairman Wells.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ASSETS: Vice-Chairman Wells has checked all assets and found to be in good order. Cllr Richardson brought to the attention of the Community Council the state of the bench that is located above the school. Vice-Chairman Wells explained that the bench was discussed during previous council meetings, and it had been decided that the location of the bench was such that it wasn't used so no upgrade would be required, as it may be used by residents Vice-Chairman Wells will go and have a closer look at it.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Village Hall update – Cllr Brock reported that the Village Hall AGM is planned for 17th January 2023 at 7pm, all welcome.
2. Clyro traffic calming/cycle route – The sub-committee held their first meeting prior to this meeting. The sub-committee is going to look primarily into the Speed Indicator Devices as these were the most popular form of traffic calming measures that residents requested on the survey. Draft terms of reference are being developed to give the sub-committee the direction that the Community Council would like to go in.
3. Bus stop update – Cllr Richardson is pleased with the usage of the book bank and reported that people have started to use the back wall for event posters.
4. Clerks annual review – Cllrs will meet next month at 7pm and discuss this privately.

PLANNING MATTERS inc updates and decisions:

1. **Approved:** Copper beech tree to be felled in conservation area, Rose Cottage, Clyro, Hereford HR3 5RZ, application ref: 22/1788/TRE
2. **Consent:** Erection of an extension, Chapel Cottage, Bronydd, Clyro. HR3 5RX. 22/1420/HH
3. **Application:** Erection of extensions and replacement garage, Cock-y-Roostyn, Clyro. HR3 5SQ. 22/1776/HH – no comments to make
4. **Application:** Erection of balcony, enlarging of existing opening to form doorway, minor roof extension to form covered porch, replacement of existing velux rooflights with conservation rooflights. Hendom Barn, Clyro, HR3 5JX. 22/1846/HH – no comments to make

GOVERNORS REPORT: Cllr Brock informed the Community Council that she has stepped away from her role as School Governor. The amount of work involved has proved to be

more than she is able to give. Vice-Chairman Wells thanked Cllr Brock for taking the role on and asked for any interested Cllrs to come forward to fill this position.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: See Appendix A

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. Precept 2023-24 – This must be decided by the end of January, it was agreed that it will be discussed fully at the January meeting as we don't have the up-to-date electoral role yet.
2. Appropriate sum expenditure limit 2023-24 – this has been set by Government at £9.93 per resident.

FINANCIAL:

Bank balances: Current £2,439.98 (on 4th November 2022) Reserve £1848.23 (on 30th November 2022). Payments to include BT direct debit (£30) and Clerks Salary (£171.54). These payments were proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Richardson. All agreed to this.

AOB: Cllr Richardson informed the Community Council that Baskerville Hall Hotel are offering a warm space for residents in need. A small charge will be made for refreshments. Vice-Chairman Wells reported back to the Community Council that meetings had been held to discuss the planting of trees on the green in front of the garage. Whilst Powys officers were positive about the idea the garage owners were not in favour of having trees obstructing the view from the road to their business. Powys Officers said that the new play park would be a better place for planting as there wouldn't be any issues with residents/businesses. Vice-Chairman Wells is going to contact the outdoor recreation officer, Steve Butcher for some advice. He is also going to speak to "On the Verge" group about rewilding the green in front of the garage.

The meeting was closed at 7.56pm.

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 J Fforde, Chairman)

Appendix A

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

12/12/22

REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.

Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre

I can confirm that rumours that Powys County Council is considering the closure of the school are unfounded. However, as Members should by now be aware, the school has been placed in Special Measures by the schools' inspectorate Estyn, due in part to concerns about leadership within the school. A new Headteacher has been appointed recently, following the retirement of the previous Headteacher, and he has a fine track-record of leading the improvement of secondary schools in the county, so I am confident that matters will quickly improve at the school.

Concerns about the physical condition of the school remain and the schools service at Powys CC is looking at the options for rectifying the situation there, following the, in my view, disastrous decision by the council's previous Cabinet to abandon the previously-agreed capital scheme to redevelop the school campus.

Clyro C in W Primary School, Archdeacon Griffiths School and Schools Transformation in Powys

No further news re. Clyro or Archdeacon Griffiths C in W Schools at present.

A review of the Crickhowell HS catchment has been completed and proposals for the future of Llanbedr C in W School and the configuration of schools in that area will be coming to Cabinet on the 20th December 2022.

The review of the Llanfyllin HS catchment is well-underway.

Planning & Housing

Problems in the new homes at Dan y Castell in Clyro have persisted and in the main have been rectified by PCC housing officers and contractors as they have occurred, although tenants have also commented about how pleased they are with their new homes.

Highways

Gritters have been out at 3pm and 3am over the past several days to keep the main roads and school bus routes clear of ice and snow. I would be grateful if members could inform me or the depot at Boughrood of any salt bins on side roads that need filling, or gaps where the gritters normally go but are not doing so at the moment.

Covid-19 and Winter 'Flu

'Flu appears to be the main concern at the moment as it is increasing across the country. This re-inforces the need for people to receive the seasonal 'flu vaccine, as well as the Covid-19 booster.

The Progressive Partnership for Powys and the 2023/24 Budget

Intensive discussions with council member and officers about the preparation of a draft budget for 2023/24 continue. The UK Chancellor's autumn statement on the 17th November provided some hope that the Welsh Government's 2023/24 Block Grant from Westminster will be increased by as much as £1.2bn as a result of the increase in spending announced for health and social care in England, although with inflation running at over 11% this is viewed by Welsh Government officials as a 'flat cash' settlement. For Powys County Council this may mean a small increase in the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) it will receive in 2023/24, but it remains certain that some very unpalatable decisions may be forced upon the county council while we lay the ground for making fundamental changes to the way the county council operates and services are delivered in future. The draft RSG settlement is expected to be announced later this week.

Protecting front-line services and the most vulnerable remains the council's Progressive Partnership's top priority while setting a balanced budget that can be delivered, as the law requires.

Powys County Council Corporate Plan – Stronger–Fairer–Greener

The new council Administration's draft corporate plan for 2022-2027 has been published and can be found here on the council's website:-

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/13663/Have-your-say-on-our-Corporate-Plan-Survey>

I would urge members to click on the link and take part in the public consultation on it. It does represent a change in direction for the council, although future actions are still inevitably going to be very much shaped by the budgetary situation, which will remain very difficult for many years to come. However, much of what the Progressive Partnership wants to do will help to reduce the costs of service provision, e.g. the measures to reduce the council's overall carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency and 'greening' the economy. The consultation ends on the 23rd December, so members' early attention to this would be appreciated, with apologies for the timing just before Christmas!