

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held via Zoom
7pm on Tuesday 10th November 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:

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ASSETS: Chairman Wells has checked all assets, and all is in order. The updated assets register was checked and agreed from last month's proposals.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Castle Estate play park and housing development update – Chairman Wells told the meeting that he had met with Powys Outdoor Recreation Officer Steve Butcher (Powys CC) at the play park to look at reusing some of the old play equipment from the playing field site. Steve said that the swing and the slide can be refitted in the new play park and identified the best location for them. He advised that although they would not conform to the latest RoSPA guidelines for play equipment, if we get a RoSPA report, these are recommendations, not a legal requirement for compliance. He advised that he would be satisfied that they are acceptable and appropriate for the level of usage.

The seed & bulb planting at the Butterfly garden project was cancelled last month due to the Covid lockdown so Chairman Wells suggested arranging another session for Saturday 14th November 9-11am Chairman Wells will send out email and WhatsApp notice - all are welcome!

Cllr Brown enquired about the repair of the path that has not been undertaken yet. Chairman Wells believes that this will be rectified when the contractors come back on the building site for the new houses.

2. Haygarth Surgery Meeting – Cllr Morgan attended the online meeting with the Executive Committee of the Community Health Council regarding the change of opening times at Haygarth Surgeries. The main discussion centred around whether there was enough consultation and discussion with patients before the change happened. Both surgeries are now operating with reduced hours. The Committee were concerned about the process and particularly the lack of consultation, but Cllr

Morgan said that they did not seem to have much authority to require changes. They made it clear that they were aware of concerns from patients and acknowledged that COVID had an impact. The key decision the committee was to decide is if there is enough evidence to report Powys Health Board for not ensuring that the Haygarth practice carried out sufficient consultation and patient engagement before taking the decision. The result was that they are going to report Powys Health Board to the Minister of Health. Something that they have never done before. They are stating that the Health Board did not ensure that Haygarth consulted with their stakeholders adequately before any changes were made. Both Chairman Wells and Cllr Morgan got the impression that this is more about the process rather than the actual decision of the practice. Cllr Morgan asked that we request to see the Quality of Service Impact Assessment which the practice carried out before taking the decision. Cllrs agreed that we should ask for this document. The Clerk will action this.

3. Powys County Council – Town and Community Councils meeting 15/10/20 – Chairman Wells attended this online meeting; minutes of this meeting have been circulated.
4. Clerks salary review – Chairman Wells has looked at the NALC (National Association of Local Council) pay scales and conducted research into where the Community Council sits on these scales. Chairman Wells concluded that scale 7 would be the correct area which is an hourly rate of £10.44. Whilst conducting the research Chairman Wells picked up that other Councils pay an annual amount to their Clerk for use of their home, electric, wifi etc. They vary between £50 and £100 per year. Chairman Wells proposed that the Clerk is paid £75 (reviewed in November annually) every December and that the Clerks salary increases to £10.44 per hour for 20 hours per month. All Cllrs were in favour. Cllrs also discussed with the Clerk whether 20 hours per month was still sufficient to carry out her duties and the Clerk advised that it was. Chairman Wells will write to PAVO requesting they update the payroll details from December.
Cllr Brown expressed his and the Community Councils thanks to the Clerk for all her work – particularly during these strange COVID times. The Clerk appreciates the kind gesture and returns her thanks to the Community Councillors for their support and guidance at this time.
5. Covid 19 regulations and community response – update, Chairman Wells would remind Cllrs that volunteers are still available to help as we enter the winter period which could see an increase in need. Please let residents know that support is there.
6. Active Travel – The Clerk read an email from Isobel Keith from Hay Town Council stating that Hay Town Council have submitted a formal request to Powys County Council for “locality status”. This would give us (Hay and District) eligibility to apply for Active Travel funding. This request was supported by Fay Jones MP, Kirsty Williams AM, Haygarth Surgery, Hay Festival and others. Isobel will update us as the application progresses.
7. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales DRAFT annual report- Cllrs were not aware that the Clerk submits a form that states that no Cllrs have received payments during the year. It was agreed that this form should be on the agenda every year even though no payments are applied for.
8. One Voice Wales – online training, the Clerk explained that only Cllrs can access the bursary for free training sessions. Cllr Brown proposed that the Community Council should pay £30 for the Clerk to attend that training, Chairman Wells seconded, and all Cllrs agreed. The Clerk will book on to the course.

PLANNING MATTERS including updates on applications:

1. **Approved** [20/0243/FUL](#) – Extension and creation of vehicular access, Mill Cottage, Clyro
2. **Application** [20/1567/HH](#) – single storey extension, Ty-Lle-Heulog, Clyro, HR3 5SG – no objections

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORT: Vice-Chairman Lewis sent a report in and Cllr Morgan read it to the Community Council, he reports as the school cannot have mass gatherings this year class one and two will have their own plays that will be videoed and sent out for people to view. Friday 18th December the children will be doing a Christingle Service in their own classrooms and on the 15th of December Christmas lunches will be held in the hall in the children's separate bubbles. No actual presents from Father Christmas this year but there are rumours of a virtual visit! Friends raised £116 from 290 kilos of old clothes donated recently.

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

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. Rural Development Plan – *Pilot project for solutions to improve broadband.* Chairman Wells will reply to the questionnaire expressing Clyro Community Councils interest in taking part in the pilot project. County Cllr Gibson-Watt said that some time ago there was a map that showed which properties in the Clyro area are connected to the Rhosgoch exchange and as a result have extremely poor broadband. He will see if he can find a copy of the map.
2. Audit – *Annual return report.* Cllrs received the report from Grant Thornton and were satisfied with the result.
3. Dyfed Powys Police – There are many scams going around now via telephone, email, and post. Even couriers turning up on doorsteps trying to con people.
4. Powys Health board – *Changes to Nevill Hall, public communication to share.* Accident and Emergency services will cease at Nevill Hall so Hereford would be Clyro's closest hospital for these services.

FINANCIAL:

Bank balances: Current £4,263.76 (on 2nd October 2020) Reserve £1845.21 (on 30th September 2020). Payments to include BT direct debit (£30), Clerks Salary (£160), PAVO (£30) and HMRC (£120). Proposed Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Carter, all Cllrs agreed.

AOB:

Chairman Wells expressed his sympathy to Vice-Chairman Lewis and family following the recent loss of his Mother – the thoughts of the Community are with the family.

The Community Council was represented by Chairman Wells and Cllrs Brown and Hood at the Remembrance Sunday Service held at the recently refurbished Memorial outside Clyro Church. Chairman Wells laid a wreath supplied by the Community Council.

Cllr Carter asked if a donation can be given to Brecon MIND, next month Cllrs are asked to bring suggestions for donations to suitable charitable organisations and these will be discussed at Decembers meeting.

Chairman Wells asked about requirements for holding an AGM, the Clerk will check if any updated guidance has been issued.

The meeting was closed at 8:10pm

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)

Appendix A

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

10/11/20

REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.

Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre

My Council group is due to receive a briefing from schools' service officers on Thursday 12th Nov on the schools transformation plans and I'll be in a better position to update the Council at its next meeting. Suffice to say that there are serious issues arising from the draft plans in some parts of the county and the future location of Gwernyfed High School is still uncertain.

Clyro C in W Primary School

The issue of the school bus route from Painscastle area has now been resolved and it is using the more suitable route past Border's Hideaway to and from the school.

Members may have noted that Wales's Education Minister, Kirsty Williams MS, has announced today that GCSE, AS and A level exams will not be sat as normal next summer, due to the disruption caused by Covid-19, but that grades will be awarded following teacher assessment through the year.

Powys County Council Education Service and Schools Transformation

See above

Planning & Housing

The start date for the new houses at Castle Estate was set as Sept 2020, but the Housing Department has apparently had problems getting some of the planning conditions discharged. New start dates of 26th October or 2nd November were proposed, but these have also been missed, again due to some planning conditions still not being discharged. I and housing officers are chasing the planning department and a start date of Mon 16th Nov is now hoped for.

I asked the senior planning officer for this area of Powys to check that the new houses opposite The Orchard in Clyro are being built according to the conditions of consent. It appears that the front fencing has been erected because the level of the front gardens is at the same height as the boundary wall, so would represent a risk to future occupants unless the fencing is there. Planning Officers are minded to accept this, but feedback from community councillors would be welcome.

Highways

Some progress has been made to remove weeds and debris from highways gutters and storm drains, but more work is still required.

Cont.

Covid-19 – Test, Trace & Protect (TTP)

Powys is one of the best performing areas in Wales, with about 95% of 'index' (positive test) cases successfully contacted and over 85% of their contacts traced. Testing results turnaround remains a challenge. At the start of the recent 'firebreak' lockdown Powys had recorded 120 cases/100,000 population, up from just 20 cases/100,000 3 weeks' ago. The latest figures show that this has dropped to 115/100,000. Small reductions in case rates have also occurred across the rest of Wales. So it appears that the firebreak has at least halted the increase, but if people do not adhere to the restrictions still in place then case rates are likely to rise again.

Contact: 01497 820434 or 07971048737 or cllrjgw@powys.gov.uk

DRAFT