

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held via Zoom
7pm on Tuesday 13th April 2021

MINUTES

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr Gibson-Watt and members of the public Becky Davies and Jasper Fforde.

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Carter, Cllr E Brown and PCSO Jackson.

MINUTES: The Minutes for March were agreed as true 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. Clyro Community Council received one applicant for the casual vacancy, Jasper Fforde gave a brief history of his previous time serving on the Community Council between the years 2015 and 2018. Chairman Wells proposed Mr Fforde be co-opted as a Community Councillor, Vice-Chairman Lewis seconded, and all Cllrs voted in favour of this proposal.
2. Cllrs were reminded that the annual payment form that was sent out with the agenda needs completing and returning before next month's meeting.
3. Play park update –Chairman Wells shared photos of the new equipment and the reused equipment in the new play park. The butterfly garden and new trees are growing well. Residents who fill the bird feeders commented that the park was being used by many people who all enjoyed the new space. Chairman Wells ran through the proposal that Clyro Community Council take on the play park from Powys to enable Cllr Fforde to have the information. Cllr Fforde questioned the public liability insurance, Chairman Wells explained that our current insurance already covers this. Powys are arranging to carry out coppicing during the autumn as birds are nesting now so this cannot be done now. Powys have shared some drone footage of the new housing development; Chairman Wells will put these on the Community Council website.

PLANNING MATTERS including updates on applications:

1. **Consent given** 20/1761/FUL – replacement lattice tower, Cefn-y-blaen, Clyro, HR3 5SH

2. **Application 21/0307/FUL** - Erection of a new storage building associated with holiday park to replace existing building to be demolished, Borders Hideaway, Clyro, HR3 5SG – *No objections were raised.*
3. **Application 21/0277/HH** - Erection of an annex to provide additional living accommodation for relatives, Mill Cottage, Clyro, HR3 5SE – *All Cllrs entered discussion surrounding the description of the application being an annex, as the new build is not attached to the existing house. The applicant, Becky Davies was invited to explain this, Becky said that the planning agents advised them to apply for an annex. Chairman Wells proposed that the Community Councils response should question the annex description as it is clear that it is a standalone dwelling. Cllrs made it clear that they would not object in principle to providing additional accommodation for relatives on this site but agreed that the annex description should be questioned. Cllrs also raised concerns from a local resident regarding the importance of complying with the ecological and environmental conditions on the current building work taking place on the site.*

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: See Appendix A

POLICE REPORT: See Appendix B

SCHOOL GOVERNORS REPORT: The whole school has returned to learning actually in school, and breakfast club is back up and running. Powys is running the financial side of the school and there is no update on how the redundancy process is going. 80 pupils on roll so 11 pupils short of the number required to keep the separate classes.

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. One Voice Wales Annual Membership, £130, all Cllrs in favour of renewing this membership.

FINANCIAL:

1. Internal Auditor – The Clerk suggested that she approach Rachel Davies to carry out the internal audit again this year, all Cllrs were in favour.

Bank balances: Current £2,997.82 (on 4th March 2021) Reserve £1845.28 (on 26th February 2021). Payments to include BT direct debit (£30), Clerks Salary (£160), Microsoft Office (£59.99) HMRC (£125.40) and One Voice Wales (£130) Vice-Chairman Lewis proposed, and Cllr Bate seconded.

AOB:

Cllr Morgan raised a resident's concern that work on a development in Clyro is taking place outside the hours agreed in the planning application, the resident has raised these concerns with Powys. Chairman Wells explained that the Community Council does not have any jurisdiction in this area, the resident has done the right thing by contacting Powys Planning department.

Cllr Bate has been asked by residents Gerard and Wendy Green if they could put a bench in the new play park in memory of their daughter Chloe who sadly died recently, the whole Community Council were supportive of this request, Chairman Wells will consult with Powys to see how this can be achieved. Cllr Bate also brought to the meeting attention that Patrick Keylock (until recently a resident of Clyro) has written a book following the story of his son, Jack, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour. The proceeds

from the book are going to The Keith Leighton Neuro Fund, a local charity that has helped the family. Chairman Wells will put the link for this on the website.

Chairman Wells has put some signs up to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs. He will remove the signs when they become tatty. Vice-Chairman Lewis will ask the school if they could get the children to make some signs.

Chairman Wells announced to the meeting that at next month's AGM he will be standing down as Chairman. Cllrs are asked to consider their role on the Community Council in readiness for the AGM. At this time there is no guidance on when meetings in person will be able to start again.

The meeting was closed at 8.25pm

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

13/4/21

REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.

Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre

All school pupils in Wales have been able to return to school for the start of the summer term, with appropriate safety precautions in place of course. Parents report that Gwernyfed High School has worked its pupils hard at home during lockdown, which is a good thing but has been difficult for some pupils and their families, so the return to school is welcome from that perspective, as well as being much the best thing for the vast majority of pupils.

Clyro C in W Primary School

In last month's report I mentioned that the issue of the missing ALN funding for the school has now been in part resolved. However, the amount of extra money the school received and the process followed for its allocation was an important part of the meeting I had with senior education officers and the Cabinet member for Education. Despite the officers' explanation I remain firmly of the view that the school has been badly treated by Powys CC and re-building the relationship between the school and Council will be a long process. At the meeting the Cabinet member was adamant that the school had not applied for more ALN support until January 2021, but subsequently information from the ALN department revealed that the school had indeed applied before that, in July 2020.

A new ALN funding system is now in place in Powys. It remains to be seen whether that will improve the support available to the school.

Please also see my email forwarded to the Clerk earlier this evening.

Planning & Housing

Progress on the new houses adjacent to Castle Estate still seems to be going well, encouraged by the recent drier weather. The new recreation area is developing well and is being used a lot I think. The Chair and Community Council should be congratulated on their efforts and I would like to put on record my thanks for the work the Council has put in, to very good effect.

I am pursuing the issues of concern raised by local residents about the work ongoing at Clyro Mill with planning officers.

Highways

No major issues to report, although following complaints from local residents I have asked Highways officers to inspect the C-class road that links Newgate Cottage to Crowther's Pool, which is in a poor state of repair.

Test Trace & Protect and Vaccination

Powys is still doing well with the vaccination programme. Infection rates continue to fall (now at about 6 per 100,000 population) and the number of people in hospital with Covid-19 is also thankfully very low.

Powys County Council Budget

Local residents will have received their Council Tax bills for 2021/22, with its 2.9% increase applied. Thanks to substantial grant support from the Welsh Government the County Council is now forecasting a net surplus of over £7m in 2021/22, which does rather beg the question of why any increase in Council Tax is required, although there is no doubt that the outlook for local government finance is very uncertain post-pandemic and post-Brexit. I must report that although information about the extra funding was made available to the Council's management team and Council's Cabinet prior to the meeting in late February at which the 2021/22 Budget was set, the extra funding was NOT made known to the wider Council membership until the actual meeting itself, when it was far too late to formulate alternative proposals to take account of that extra funding. This turn of events has further eroded trust between Opposition Groups and the senior management team and will be one of the issues I will be discussing with the Chief Executive at our next meeting shortly.

Appendix B

Hay Station covering: Felinfach, Bronllys, Talgarth, Gwernyfed, Glasbury, Velindre, Hay,
Clyro, Painscastle and Rhosgoch

Crime and Incident Report for 6 March to 6 April 2021

Patrol Plans

- Rural patrols for suspicious vehicles – machine theft/dog theft/sheep worrying

- Patrols for Talgarth Hospital – ASB and drug use
- Patrols for Talgarth derelict junior school – youths entering and damaging
 - Op Rover relating to Off-Roading – various locations

There have been 143 calls received that required attendance from Police.

Crimes: Burglary (non-dwelling) x 6 Fraud x 8 Assaults x 3 Safety Welfare x 21 Criminal Damage x 5 Suspicious Activity x 25 Theft x 7 Traffic related x 17 Harassment x 4 RTC x 6 ASB x 3 Animal x 1 Crime Other x 3 Domestic x 7 Sexual crimes x 2

Burglaries during this period include an outbuilding at Porthamel where tools were taken, tools taken from an outbuilding in Trefecca, a cottage in Clyro that was unoccupied, an alarm disturbed them, and nothing was taken. A door was tried in Clyro and a quad stolen from a barn in Ffynnongynydd. We had several reports of the same vehicle in the area which has assisted enquiries.

Anti-social driving and behaviour/crimes are still occurring at Talgarth especially the Mid Wales Hospital due to social media. Officers are regularly conducting stop and search at the Hospital and occupants are being moved on, dealt with for traffic related offences or drug offences.

Majority are from out of the area.

Telephone/cyber scams are progressing all the time, whatever they are offering, remember never give them any details, not even your name or address. Report to www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040. If you would like any information, give us a call.

COVID restrictions are now lifting but large gatherings are still illegal.

If you have any information relating to a crime, no matter how small you may think it is, please report via 101 (or 999 if in progress) online or via your local PSCOs Emma Jackson 8188 and Hazel Jones 8076 email addresses being emma.jackson@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk and hazel.jones@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk