

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Informal meeting held at the Village Hall.
Tuesday 14th June 2022, 7pm.

MINUTES

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr J Morgan and County Cllr Gibson-Watt

IN ATTENDANCE: M Brock and B Morgan.

MINUTES: The minutes from April's meeting were agreed to be true so were signed by Chairman Fforde.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ASSETS: Annual update to register, Chairman Fforde and the Clerk have checked all assets. The only update to the register is the addition of the new laptop and the nominal value for the old laptop that will be retained for times where two screens are required.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Risk Assessment, code of conduct and standing orders review. Vice-Chairman proposed that as the code of conduct and standing orders were thoroughly reviewed two years ago both should be adopted as they stand. The risk assessment was also proposed as complete for the year ahead by Chairman Fforde. Cllrs all agreed to these proposals.
2. Annual return – Cllrs had the opportunity to review the annual return, the internal auditor has completed her inspection and found all was in order. Chairman Fforde proposed that he signs the annual return, and the clerk will get it sent to audit Wales before the deadline at the end of June. Cllrs were all in favour.
3. Co-option of Cllrs – The Clerk has not received any interest in the Cllr vacancies, Vice-Chairman Wells has been recruiting and has a few residents who might be interested. Maggie Brock being one of them was present at the meeting, Maggie offered herself as a Community Cllr and after a brief discussion the Community Council co-opted her onto the Community Council. Cllrs were encouraged to talk to residents and encourage them to become Cllrs.
4. Village Hall update – Chairman Fforde invited Cllr Brock to report on the village hall, she told the meeting that the diocese had agreed to extend the lease by a year. This

gives the management committee time to go through the lease and hopefully make some changes to future proof the running of the hall. The committee has met, and they have attracted new members. Ideas to make use of the hall have been put forward, pop-up pub, flix-in-the-stix type activity and Maggie gave an interesting talk about Shed Cwmru that may be something that would go well in Clyro. The licence for the pop-up pub can be costly, it may be that having a one-off licence each time is more economical than purchasing an annual one. Chairman Fforde suggested applying for grants that might help with set up costs.

5. Clyro traffic calming/cycle route – Chairman Fforde had circulated the questionnaire to Cllrs for comment. Cllr Morgan who was unable to attend the meeting had sent comments and Cllr Bate offered to help deliver the questionnaire. All Cllrs were happy for Chairman Fforde to action the printing and delivery of the questionnaire. Chairman Fforde put before the Council the idea of applying for funding via the Powys Social Value Forum Development Fund 2022-23. He proposed that he and one other Cllr get together to put together a set of rules of how any funding would be spent on the Cycle Path and traffic calming. Cllr Bate was of the opinion to go for one area for funding. Chairman Fforde proposed applying for the funding to cover a consultation on the Cycle path initially. Vice-Chairman Wells suggested checking with One Voice Wales that the Community Council can apply for these avenues of funding. The Clerk will action this. All agreed to Chairman Fforde starting the process in readiness for the next meeting. Chairman Fforde has contacted Hay Town Council to arrange for himself and Vice-Chairman Wells to attend a monthly meeting to introduce themselves with a view to future collaboration.
6. War Memorial flowers, Mr and Mrs Anthony – The Clerk visited Mr and Mrs Anthony who have been purchasing and attending to the War memorial flowers for twenty years, the clerk reported that they are happy to plant and tend to the flowers but the cost of buying the plants has become too much, last year they cost £40. Cllr Bate proposed buying the flowers for Mr and Mrs Anthony to plant. All Cllrs agreed to this proposal giving a budget of £50. The Clerk will action this.
7. Clyro bus stop – The use of the Clyro Bus Stop as a 'cut through' for cars was raised at Council due to concerns raised on social media. Due to a disagreement within council members over the legal status of the area in question, the Clyro Community Council will contact highways to secure a definitive statement one way or another regarding the legal status of the bus stop.
8. Jubilee Celebration – Chairman Fforde read a letter from the Jubilee organisers thanking the Community Council for the donation and reporting that the day was a success with all attendees having a great time. There will be a commemorative bench with plaques to thank the organisations that helped make the day a success. Chairman Fforde thanked Brian Morgan and requested that he pass the Community Councils thanks to all who were involved in making this celebration happen.

PLANNING MATTERS inc updates and decisions:

1. **Application:** Construction of an enclosed swimming pool within the domestic garden and a new rooflight to the dwelling (part retrospective). Cwmhir Court Barns, Clyro, HR3 5LE. [22/0711/HH](#). – The Community Council had no comment to make on this.

2. **Consent:** Proposed development of three holiday units (shepherds huts) at Tymawr, Brilley, Whitney-on-Wye, HR3 6HN. 22/0354/FUL (this was discussed at Aprils meeting)
3. **Consent:** New replacement 4-bedroom eco dwelling together with the retention of the existing farmhouse at Lower Noyadd, Clyro, HR3 5JS. Ref 21/2118/FUL (this was discussed in January and Februarys meetings)

POLICE REPORT: We have not heard anything from the Police, it was requested that the Clerk contact them and ask for some information regarding policing in the local area.

GOVERNORS REPORT: The Community Council discussed the new representative to attend the Governors meetings, Cllr Brock was offered the position and she accepted. The Clerk will send Cllr Brocks details to the Powys Officer for school governors.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: See Appendix A

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. Settlement Audit – Cllr Morgan was asked to have a look at this form.

FINANCIAL: Bank balances: Current £3,563.71 (on 4th May 2022) Reserve £1,845.61 (on 29th April 2022). Payments to include BT direct debit (£30) and Clerks Salary (£171.54). Cllr Bate proposed the payments and Vice-Chairman Wells seconded, all Cllrs agreed.

AOB: Chairman Fforde asked the Clerk if she had any issues, she asked that a letter be signed for the bank requesting a replacement signatory as Cllr Brown has retired. This was actioned.

Chairman Fforde has received correspondence from a resident complaining about a planning issue. A discussion was held, Vice-Chairman Wells explained that the Community Councils role in the planning process does not include individual complaints regarding planning applications these have to be directed at Powys County Council and then if Powys fail to meet the needs of the complainant, they will have to contact the Ombudsman.

The meeting was closed at 8.53pm.

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

14/6/22

REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.

Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre

The new Administration in Powys is reviewing the Schools Transformation strategy started by the previous Administration. This will include looking again at the original re-development scheme agreed by the school governors, Powys CC and the Welsh Government but abandoned by the previous Cabinet. I will update the Council in due course.

Clyro C in W Primary School and Schools Transformation in Powys

I remain determined to promote a cluster-based, collaborative approach to schools transformation, as opposed to the previous Cabinet's preferred option of closing small rural schools, even when they are performing well. This does not mean that every school in Powys will remain open for ever, but the aim is to preserve as much provision as possible across the communities in Powys.

Planning & Housing

Progress on the new houses at Castle Estate has appeared to be slow over the past few months. As far as I am aware all the dwellings have been allocated to new tenants and they will be moving in next month (July).

Highways

No major issues to report. The newish policy of only doing a safety grass verge cut of about 1 metre along the main roads, which is much better for preserving wildlife biodiversity, appears to be working well. The first main cut is due next month.

Covid-19

Covid-19 has definitely not gone away and anecdotal evidence suggests that the recent influx of people to the major events in the area over the half term break has increased the incidence of the infection locally. Test, Trace & Protect is being wound down somewhat, although may need to be revived in the autumn.

Powys County Council 2022/23 Budget

Council will recall that the then County Council's Independent/Conservative Cabinet finally got its 2022/23 Budget proposals through after a second attempt, having reduced the proposed 3.9% Council Tax increase to 3.39%. The then Opposition groups proposal to freeze Council Tax was defeated but has since been further justified by the end-of-year

outturn that showed a £7m+ surplus in the county council's budget to carry forward to 2022/23. However, with general inflation increasing towards 10% per year, the Council will face significant budgetary pressures in the coming months.

Platinum Royal Jubilee

The various events to celebrate the above all around this area were well-attended and successful over the 4-day celebration period. The weather was unkind on the Sunday, but this appeared to do nothing to lessen the enthusiasm of people to take part. A unique national event.

The Progressive Partnership for Powys

The County Council elections produced a significant change to the make-up of the Council, resulting in me being elected as Leader of the Council. I have formed a partnership Administration between the Welsh Liberal Democrat (24) and Welsh Labour (9) groups, with the support of Powys's lone Green councillor. We make up exactly 50% of the Council but I received almost 100% support from council members to become Leader. I am determined to run an Administration that works across the whole council, involving members from all groups in the formulation of council policy, and remove as far as possible the 'them and us' approach adopted in previous councils. For example, the Council needs to produce a refreshed Corporate Plan that will guide its operation over the next 5 years and I have asked for two working groups made up of members from all groups to work with officers to produce a draft for the Cabinet to consider.

I will keep the community council updated monthly on how matters are progressing.