

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
meeting held at the Village Hall.
Tuesday 11th April 2023, 7pm.

MINUTES

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr P Bate and Cllr C Smith

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr Gibson-Watt and PCSO T Davies.

MINUTES: The minutes from March's meeting were amended to show that the bench above the school was refurbished and not replaced. The connection with Hay to Brecon Greenway is at this stage a suggestion not a firm link as the draft minutes stated. The minutes were then agreed to be true so were signed by Chairman Fforde. Chairman Fforde took the opportunity to propose that the titles Chairman and Vice-Chairman be degendered going forward, the titles Chair and Vice-Chair will now be used.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ASSETS: Chair Fforde has checked all assets and found to be in good order.

POLICE REPORT: PCSO Davies introduced herself and explained the way the PCSO's rota works, herself and PCSO Jackson work opposite shifts covering the area from 9am through to 10pm. If residents need to get in touch with the Police, she asked that residents call 101 for non-emergencies and 999 for emergencies. The online contact form can be found at www.dyfed-powys.police.uk this is monitored 24hrs a day and someone will reply. PCSO Davies explained that the area the PCSO's cover is big so in the rural villages like Clyro their presence will more than likely be in a vehicle and not on foot this allows for more coverage of the area. However, attendance on foot can be arranged if there is a community event planned. PCSO Davies told the meeting about some fraud attempts that have been happening in the area, residents should be very careful when being asked for bank details, cash etc. Cllrs asked questions including Vice-Chair Wells who brought the speed indication devices to the conversation, PCSO Davies offered speed watch as a source of information for help towards getting the devices in place. Chair Fforde thanked PCSO Davies for her attendance and she left the meeting at 7.25pm.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Clyro traffic calming/cycle route subcommittee. Vice-Chair Wells took the Cllrs through the terms of reference, Cllr Brock proposed accepting the terms of reference, Cllr Price seconded, and all Cllrs agreed to the proposal. Cllr Price asked if the subcommittee meeting is a public meeting. The Clerk will investigate the rules for subcommittees. Vice-Chair Wells reported the work that has gone on regarding the SID's (speed indicator device), Chair Fforde has compiled a pre application for the positioning of these and this will be discussed with Powys Highways Department. Cllr Richardson commented on the state of the path between Clyro and Hay, the grass has grown over the path making it thin in places and the path itself needs resurfacing. County Cllr Gibson-watt was invited to comment. He explained that a

strong weed killer was not in use anymore and therefore the grass can't be killed off meaning that it will keep growing, he will ask about getting some repairs done to the pathway.

2. Bus stop update – Cllr Bate sent his apologies for the meeting so this will be discussed at May's meeting.
3. Coronation Tree Planting, new play area update and Community Garden. Vice-Chair Wells told the meeting that he and Chair Fforde transplanted a young oak tree for the Coronation. It has been put in the new play area and a dedication will follow. Vice-Chair Wells will get the correct wording and source a plaque to put with the tree.

Cllr Richardson and Vice-Chair Wells are investigating the idea of forming a Community Garden, Cllr Richardson has been looking at funding avenues for projects of this size and they are going to meet to get an application to Powys County Council asking to use the piece of land between the new play area and the castle tump.

4. Training plan, budget, financial regulations, and annual report website publication. All areas are being worked on; the training plan has been published on the website. Vice-Chair Wells and Cllr Richardson have developed a budget in readiness for publication. He explained how the Community Council does not have a surplus in revenue, the costs that we must pay are rising and bills (audit fees, that we receive are disproportionate to our budget. Vice-Chair Wells will update the budget ready for approval at May's meeting. The Clerk will send Cllr Morgan the annual report information.

PLANNING MATTERS inc updates and decisions:

1. Listed building planning application – Installation of new oil-fired internal boiler, standard flues and radiators. 25 The Village, Clyro HR3 5SF. Application reference: 23/0341/LBC – after discussion the Community Council had no comment to make.
2. Tree felling application - to fell x8 Leylandii trees within a conservation area. Sacred Cottage, Clyro, HR3 5SE. Application reference: 23/0446/TRE - after discussion the Community Council had no comment to make.

GOVERNORS REPORT: Cllr Richardson reported that the pupil numbers are still causing concern, there are 77 pupils at present and this is set to reduce to 73 after the summer holiday. The concern is that to lose pupils has a knock-on effect to the structure of the school.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: See Appendix A

CORRESPONDENCE (incl):

1. Written statement on electoral reform – Cllr information
2. <https://www.gov.wales/written-statement-digital-health-community-and-town-councils> - Cllr information

FINANCIAL: Bank balances: Current £2,275.98 (on 3rd March 2023) Reserve £1,852.03 (on 28th December 2023). Payments to include BT direct debit 8/2/23 (£66.82), Microsoft Office Annual fee (£59.99), HMRC (£134.60) and Clerks Salary (£183.34).

Chair Fforde proposed these payments, Cllr Richardson seconded, and all Cllrs agreed.

AOB: The Clerk asked for signatures to request a new cheque book. The defibrillator has had new batteries fitted and is working order, these batteries were acquired free of charge from NHS Wales.

The meeting was closed at 8.43pm.

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, Chair)

DRAFT

Appendix A

**CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL 11/4/23
REPORT BY COUNTY CLLR JAMES GIBSON-WATT.**

Gwernyfed High School & Community Sports Centre

No further news at present, although the physical condition of the school remains a source of significant concern. The school's performance of Grease at Theatr Brychieniog on Wednesday 15th March, which was mentioned my March report, was indeed a great success and a credit to all involved.

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

No further news re. Clyro School or Archdeacon Griffiths School at present.

Planning & Housing

The problems with heating systems and the operation (or non-operation) of the solar panels experienced by residents of Dan y Castell in Clyro continue, with residents receiving much higher electricity bills than should be expected and many having difficulties controlling the temperatures in their homes. I have asked the Head of Housing to provide me with a report on what exactly has gone wrong and what exactly has and is being done to rectify matters, which I will report on to the council when received in due course. Although local housing officers have done their best to support the residents, the performance of the homes has clearly been very disappointing and concerning; and not at all as expected. There are many lessons to be learned for future developments of this type.

The phosphates issue remains as was as far as I can tell, which is becoming a source of great frustration for me as council Leader, given the negative impact it is having on the progress of current and future housing and economic development projects. Unless solutions are found that will allow a reduction in the strict development restrictions in the Wye and Usk Special Areas of Conservation imposed by Natural Resources Wales the future economic and social viability of our communities will become increasingly threatened.

Highways No significant issues to report.

Health & Care Services

The situation in health and social care services in Powys remains fragile, although the coming of spring should ease the pressures somewhat over the coming weeks. However, unless new models of care are quickly developed and agreed by the Powys Teaching Health Board and County Council over the summer months, to create increases in capacity within existing budgets, the crisis will return next autumn and may well be more severe. As Council Leader I will continue to press for greater pace in integrating health and social care services as a means of achieving that aim.

Powys County Council 2023/24 Budget

I will report on the outturn of the council's 2022/23 budget when the figures are available but early indications are of an improving picture, due to careful budget management by service managers and a rigorous approach adopted by council Cabinet Portfolio Holders working with Heads of Service and the council's finance officers. Given the circumstances, this is very pleasing. However, the challenges faced in 2023/24 are likely to make delivering the full range of services within budget that much more difficult.

Powys County Council Corporate Plan – Stronger–Fairer–Greener

The new council Administration's corporate plan for 2022-2027 is now available on the council's website.