

**CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7pm on Tuesday, 14th May 2024**

PRESENT: Chair Fforde, Vice Chair Wells, Cllr Bate, Cllr Richardson, Cllr Crichton-Stuart and Clerk to the Community Council, D Workman.

IN ATTENDANCE: A Jetley, M Jetley, J Jetley, K Glastonbury, S Rothwell, V Williams, and A Williams.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Price and Cllr Morgan

MINUTES: These had been agreed as a true record at the meeting in June 2023.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023-24: Chair Fforde gave his report to Councillors as follows:

The Clyro Community Council met every month this past year aside from the August meeting which was cancelled due to it being inquorate. I was able to chair all but two meetings, which were chaired instead by Vice-Chair Roger Wells.

At the start of the year, we had eight councillors. Cllrs Smith and Brock have resigned during the year and for their service we are very grateful. Cllr Crichton-Stuart has joined us, so the current standing is seven.

Our clerk is Diane Workman, of whose service and expertise to the community we are very grateful.

The Clyro Community Website has recently been overhauled, and my thanks to the web managers, Cllrs Wells and Crichton-Stuart. It is an excellent resource.

The following issues are worthy of reporting; `

Clyro Village Hall.

The Clyro Village Hall has been moving from strength to strength, and the council recognises the huge social benefit to the community. It is understood that a new lease is to be soon negotiated with the diocese, and after that, larger funding applications can be made for greater improvements.

Clyro Community Gardens

The Clyro Community Garden has moved on greatly this year with the lease now signed with Powys. Trish Richardson and Roger Wells have already received numerous small funds and grants, and it is worth reiterating here that the gardens are self-funding and do not rely on any funds from the CCC's precept. Conversations with Clyro Primary and Black Mountains College for potential tie-ins are currently on the cards, and the gardens look set to be an excellent community project for the years to come. Our thanks also go to Christian Gwilym and for all the other members of the Gardening Club.

Environmental Policy/Clyro Climate Action

The Chair attended the Powys Environmental forum on the 14th of June and reported back to the council that we could form a Climate Action Group. A meeting was held, and it was agreed that much of what we are doing already partly reflects the potential goals of a Climate Action Group, but limited resources in both time and funds would only permit us to tackle a few projects at a time. The scope of the Clyro Climate Action Group would be written into the Clyro Environment policy, which is currently pending. It was agreed that aside from the Garden and the traffic calming and the improved footway, a plan to wildflower the area outside the Filling Station be implemented. Powys are very positive of the plan, but how this should be done, who should do it and the issues involved are currently being examined.

Bus Stop

The legal standing of the area outside the bus stop has once again been called into question, and without recourse to the funds to legally establish whether this is highway or not, we have had to reluctantly leave the question unanswered, but all agreed that irrespective of the legal standing, the area should not be used as a short cut for vehicles on safety grounds.

The bookshelves in the bus stop have now been joined by a noticeboard, and the use of the bus stop as a community library and information area has been very successful, and the council supports this.

Speed Indicator Devices

Suppliers of devices that are compliant with Powys rules were sought and found, and it was agreed that the cost should be met by raising the precept. This involves an average increase of £10 per household per annum. Since the Community overwhelmingly supported the notion of speed calming in the survey and the modest sum involved, the council approved the increase.

New issues have been raised about the suitability of the chosen devices, but once the issues are ironed out with Powys, we can move forward.

Footway to Hay

Time was spent in the early part of the year to examine ways in which a separate footway could be brought from Clyro to Hay as an alternative to the Footway alongside the busy B4351. Due to the costs involved, Cllrs Wells and Fforde went to listen to a group with a scheme to build a Greenway for cycles and pedestrians all the way from Hereford to Brecon. This plan would pass through Hay, so we are currently of the view that we would review the possibility of a hay to Clyro footpath as part of this grander scheme, of which they are currently looking at funding for a full feasibility study.

The state of the current footway has also come under review, after recent damage from the rains. It is understood that the footway is Powys' responsibility, and after being contacted, they have agreed to do so as soon as is practically possible as other rain damage is taking precedent.

Council Policy on support.

A policy was agreed whereby any applications to seek the Council's support to add our name to an issue be looked at on an individual basis.

Planning

A new sewerage treatment plant is currently being built which has been highly welcomed, as pollution of the Wye and underinvestment in treatment plants is an ongoing concern.

Budgeting

The council has taken a more robust view of budgeting and finance this year and has applied for a precept for 2024/25 of £11,553, partly to cover increased running costs, and partly to purchase the Speed indicator device and the poles to support it. The average cost to Clyro residents for the Clyro Community Council is £19.47p per household, per annum.

Jasper Fforde, Chair, Clyro Community Council

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: There was one nomination for the position of Chair this year, Cllr Richardson nominated Cllr Fforde who accepted the nomination noting that this would be his last year as Chair. Cllr Crichton-Stuart seconded this nomination and all Cllrs agreed to the appointment. The position for Vice-Chair had one nomination and this was Cllr Wells proposed by Cllr Richardson and seconded by Cllr Fforde. All Cllrs agreed to this appointment.

Chair 2024 - 2025 Cllr J Fforde
Vice-Chair 2024 - 2025 Cllr R Wells

ACCOUNTS: The Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer gave Councillors the financial position of Clyro Community Council

Balances as at 31/03/2024
Current Account - £2644.39
Reserve Account - £1878.51

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.10pm