

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LLANDYRNOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 21ST NOVEMBER 2023

1. Present: Cllrs R.Griffith,H.Wright, A.Evans,G.C.Evans,J.Mc Guire, E.Williams,G.Butler,E.Morris
2. Apologies; Cllrs Parry and Borthwick.
3. Declarations of interest : Cllr Evans in the application for financial assistance from Tuesday Club
4. Community Policeman

27/10/23 Attempted fraud. No money transferred. "Friend in need" scam. Scam process is that contact is made with the victim claiming to be a friend or family member with a new number, needing an urgent transfer to pay for a new phone/car repairs/to pay a bill.

See www.actionfraud.police.uk for numerous articles and updates about current scams and how to avoid becoming the victim of a scam.

10/11/23 RTC on Whitchurch Road. Damage to a wall. Negative breath test from driver.

From a Police perspective, we would support speed monitoring equipment. This would serve as a useful data tool to see if people are speeding and at what times.

If we have problem days or times of day where speeding is a problem I can request this location is added to our list of sites for staff to attend with the speed gun.

10/11/23 Residents may have noticed a number of firearms officers around the village location. Whilst I cannot go into why this was the case, no offences were committed.

17/11/23 Cold caller to rural address, offering farm gates/feeding troughs for sale. White Toyota Hilux. Area search carried out, no sightings. Intel submitted. Whilst there is potential that such sales calls may be genuine, it is a common tactic that criminals will use attending rural properties (with plausible sales pitches) to have a look around and assess security measures in place (locks on outbuildings, floodlights, CCTV) and whether any items are easy targets (insecure trailers, quad bikes left unattended, vehicles left in keys).

As the evenings get dark sooner and the weather becomes more wet/windy, please secure outbuildings and items that are desirable.

A storm is good cover for people to commit burglary, as people pay less attention to loud bangs and other odd noises.

As above, Police are supportive of speed monitoring equipment. The data serves as a useful tool to highlight if people are speeding and at what times it is worst.

If the data shows there are problem days (or times of day where speeding is a problem) I can request this location is added to our list of sites for staff to attend with the speed gun.

In view of the latest accident and previously reported incidents over the past twelve months It was decided to see if the PCSO and DCC could work together to deploy speed monitoring equipment on the stretch of road around the Green Farm corner.

The Clerk was also requested to seek assurance from PCSO that the firearms incident was an isolated incident and posed no threat to residents

5 Correspondence

- Request for financial assistance – Tuesday Club – following a request from the Organiser and further discussions it was decided to offer £100 from the now defunct Llandyrnog Charities towards their Christmas lunch.
- Standards Committee letter – no real concerns following the visit by Samuel Jones in July
- DCC - request
- Wheelie bin stickers – 20 is plenty - decided not to proceed
- CPRW Seminar 27th November
- Welsh Government – Managing Asbestos in public buildings – seek quote for management survey
- Offer of cleaning cocoa rooms In lieu of hire charge for Tuesday Club – following discussion Chair kindly offered to carry on cleaning the cocoa rooms FOC

6 North East Wales National Park consultation

The initial consultation closing date was 27th November and Cllr Elaine Williams had kindly taken time to study the survey and questionnaire. The Community Council felt that the short survey as <https://ymgynggori.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/north-east-gogledd-ddwyrain/national-park-designation-project-engagement-2023/consultation/intro/>

Whilst it was important that everyone responded as individuals it was such a divisive subject the community council decided not to respond until such time as more information was available – it's structure, function, funding, effect on council tax, planning restrictions etc – there were pros and cons but not enough information available to form a corporate view.

6 Minutes of the last meeting

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the October meeting as presented were a true record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman

7 Matters Arising

- The signs at Brynlllys corner had still not been replaced and given the history of incidents along this road Clerk to contact again.
- Bus timetables – following approach to DCC whilst some had been updated – Morrisons Denbigh for example others were either missing or out of date – Clerk to approach DCC again to see what their policy is.
- Although the road by Cross Keys had been cleared following storm Ciaran there had been a re occurrence and the gullies and pipes needed jetting to stop the water from reaching the roundabout and then find the lowest point usually around Capel Dyffryn – Clerk to contact DCC

8 Reports

- AONB – attached
- MCH had kindly supplied a notice board for the Llangwyfan area the code for the key safe to allow access being 1066
- Audio equipment – Cllr Mc Guire had been working hard on an application for funding for audio equipment to allow hybrid meetings – had received numerous letters of support and sought three quotations that would be brought to a future meeting – Cllr Mc Guire was thanked for his hard work on the project
- Planning – Cllr Butler had attended a pre committee site meeting at Wern on the 4th November organised by DCC to represent the Community Council who were mindful of the concerns of neighbours regarding noise generated. It was good to see that noise insulation works were actually being carried out – at the subsequent planning meeting on the 8th November planning was granted subject to conditions. Cllr Butler was thanked for representing the CC and giving of her time and expertise in such matters.
- Shop update – due to exchange soon and in the process of appointing the design team to design and oversee the refurbishment – Cllr Morris was thanked by the Chair for his perseverance with this project

9 Financial Report

Current account:£18,141.18

Business account: £19,542.73

10 Matters for Payment

HMRC	Tax and NI	£63.80
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J A Jones	Cae Nant Duties	£78.06
R B Davies	Wages	£176.45
B Davies – Green Fingers	Flowers for llangwyfan and celynog	£10.76
Village hall	Finance group – lower room not available	£17.00
british legion	wreath	£25.00
David Weyman	Grass cutting	£2450

It was also agreed to pay the Tuesday Club £100.00

11. Budget and precept

The Clerk presented the minutes of the November 2023 finance team

Cllr Parry had requested that fellow members consider including a sum in the draft budget for re surfacing the part of Hwylfa between Llangwyfan Road and the Cemetery Gates however it was felt that this would be unwise considering the uncertainty as to the ownership and subsequent responsibilities should there be a trip or fall

Draft budget 24/25 – for presentation to council for approval

	Budget 23/24	actual 23/24 – projected	Budget 24/25	Notes	
RECEIPTS					
Precept	11,783.00	11,783.00	12,372	up for discussion – shown an increase of 5%	
Interest - Charinco G.H Foulkes Acc					
Interest - Charinco Recreation Ground					
Interest - COIF Deposit Fund	2.00	12.66	15.00		
VAT reclaimed	200	200			
Donations	200	200	200		
Hire of Cocoa Rooms	200	250	200		

BUDGET TOTAL	12195.66	12787.00	This will be your total income for the year		
TOTAL RECEIPTS					

	budget 23/4	Actual 23/24 - projected	budget 24/25		
PAYMENTS					
Salary - Clerk	2200	2282.00	2,425.00	Includes additional £500 for work with finance meeting	
election	2000				
booking clerk honoraria	250.00	250.00	250.00		
bank charges	65.00	60.00	60		
HMRC	1,200.00	818.40	1,000.00		
Salary - Litter Cleansing	865.00	864.00	1,000.00		
Salary - Cocoa Rooms Cleaning	320.00			0	
Internal Auditor	1000	850	1,000.00		
website hosting	250.00	250.00	250.00		
Payroll services		200	200.00		
zoom	176				
Postage / Photocopying	50.00		50.00		
Electricity - Cocoa Rooms	400	492.00	300.00		
Fire Equipment - Cocoa Rooms	75.00		75.00		
Insurance	900.00	1310	1650.00		
Membership	150	120.00	150.00		
external audit fees	550.00		2000	Three years no bill	
Stationery	50.00		50.00		
Parc Ty'n Llan - Grounds maintenance	400.00	400.00	450.00		
Cae Nant - Grounds Maintenance	1,900.00	2,000.00	2,200.00		
Cocoa Rooms - General	500		500.00		
play equipment and maintenance	500	18,309.53	500.00		
Sundries incl Poppy Wreath	400.00	250	400.00		
church yard maintenance	400	400	400.00		
Donations	400.00	1075	400.00		
additional works to cae nant	250				
Training	500.00	138	250.00		
works to footpaths	1,000.00	£0.00	£500.00		
Update the website			£500.00--		
BUGET TOTAL	£34,280.00	£33,225.87	£14582.00		

The sum set aside for external auditor was challenged however Clerk explained there had been no bill for three years and that correspondence received from Welsh Audit indicated that there would be an invoice soon and that they expected prompt payment

The council unanimously agreed to the above and request a precept of £12,372.00

12 Planning

The consultation has been received post sending out the agenda however Chair allowed the matter to be discussed

application	18/2023/0774
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proposal	Refurbishment and alterations of existing care buildings including erection of single storey extension
location	Hillside and Ivy Highfield, Llangwyfan
Community council views	No particular objection however would like DCC to ensure strict compliance with the AONB Planning Guidance re lighting to protect the sanctity of the night environment and reducing artificial light levels that would allow the night to be visible in it's natural state.

13. Increase in Clerks Wage

2023/24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PAY AGREEMENT

We have been informed by the Local Government Association that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

The new pay rates for local councils are attached and have been agreed with SLCC and ALCC.

Employers are encouraged to implement this pay award as swiftly as possible.

For all spinal points to 43 the agreed award was a flat rate payment of £1,925. For scale points above that the award was 3.88%

The attached pay scale confirms the situation and your Clerk's salary is LC 1 points 12 to 17 and currently on increment 17 and therefore £13.73 an hour an increase of £1.00 per hour

The pay will be back dated to April 2023

14. Any Other Business

Hwylfa – being that the CC were not going to re surface that part of the Hwylfa between Llangwyfan Road and the Cemetery Gates it was requested that the Clerk contact DCC Footpaths Officer – this being a public footpath

Christmas Tree – In the event of there being no sponsor - Clerk given go ahead to purchase tree up to value of £90.00 with view of lighting up 2nd December

There was no time to prepare a submission to the High Sheriff for a nominee for outstanding individual in the community however it was decided to gather background information ready for next round.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:45