

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LLANGAMMARCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 11th November 2020 via Zoom Pro**

Present: Cllr Sandra Wear, Cllr Kay Coldrick (Chairman), Cllr Matt Callan, Cllr Jon Hather, Cllr Mairwen Price, Cllr Anne Woods, Cllr Jeremy Andrews

In Attendance: Powys Cllr Tim Van Rees

Clerk & RFO: Sue Lilly

2718 Apologies: None

2719 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Price for Item 5

2720 Casual Vacancy -The clerk to re-advertise this locally (**Clerk**)

2721 Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 9th September 2020 and the Planning Committee Meeting Held on the 23rd September 2020

These were unanimously agreed as accurate records of both meetings. These were then signed by the Chairman.

2722 Matters Arising

- There was no news about the electricity meter readings from Tirabad Hall. It is not being used at the moment, so an ideal time to check. **Clerk** to ask the Hall Chairman
- The noticeboards have been delayed until the 23rd.
- Maesyron - From the Powys Planning Portal, Highways have objected to the application. The application is going to committee anyway, at some point.
- Rights of Way – the footpath from the Post Office to Aberceiros is not accessible on its full length. **Clerk** to contact Powys CC to get it reinstated.
- Police: Speed gun training will commence as there are enough volunteers. The Speed gun will cost around £150, plus high vis jackets. The post on NextDoor was brought up. It was agreed it should be removed. Cllr Andrews subsequently initiated the process and the Clerk confirmed its removal.

2723 Riverside Gardens: Trees and Step Repairs

(Cllr Price left the meeting)

- An email from a resident was read out by the clerk concerning the beech tree nearest the Poityn memorial. It was a request to remove the tree. The Clerk confirmed it was not subject to a TPO. The following discussion covered all possibilities. It was agreed by a majority 5-1 to follow the tree surgeon's report and put that option to the resident. (**Clerk**)

(Cllr Price re-joined the meeting)

- Following requests from the clerk, a report from three tree contractors were obtained for dealing with the trees in Riverside, some of which needed urgent attention from a safety aspect. Two responded with a very brief outlines and one quote of £500. All councillors had been sent the third response which was very thorough and with the accompanying quote of £800. This was discussed. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote and to vire money from the reserves to pay for the required action. It was also agreed to invite the tree surgeon to do a further survey in three years, in accordance with the council's insurance.
- The Chairman explained the quote for the replacement of rails and step cutting in the gardens. Three local people had been approached by the Chairman and the meeting was shown the one quote that was received. It was unanimously agreed that the

work had to be done from a safety aspect. The total cost of this work is £678. It was unanimously agreed to vire funds from the reserves to pay for this.

- This brought the total of funds agreed to vire from the reserves to £1478. (see comments in Item

2724 Planning Matters

- Notice from Powys CC that the application from Pantointyn will go to committee

2725 PCC Meetings, Online Meetings and Correspondence

- The Clerk gave a brief account of online meetings with Powys CC; two meetings about Climate change which sadly reflected a split between the farming community and those keen to get things moving; (however locally we might be able to create a residents work party as we have several people with expertise); one with the Powys Teaching Health Board about the changes at Nevill Hall Hospital (all houses have now been sent a booklet); one with Welsh Government dealing with rural Wales (which did not have any Mid Wales representation) on examples on how to engage and market to tourists; Transport for Wales. Cllr Van Rees confirmed that the line between Llanwrtyd and Shrewsbury opened on the 9th. The line south may not be open until the end of January, but is mostly dependent on the speed work can be done with environmental issues around the diesel spillage.
- **Correspondence:** some information about fuel vouchers; confirmation that the RoSPA inspection of the playground has not happened yet; A request from One Voice Wales for a councillor representative; a request from the school in Garth for a governor; information from Llanwrtyd Wels Community Transport about shopping trips for those who need help.

2726 Public Convenience

- The work is almost finished. The outside tap still needs doing and a donation box. Cllr Callan as thanked for his hard work in transforming the toilets. The flag pole is ready to go back up again and a cover created for the electrics so the meter can be easily read. It was agreed that the clock should be adjusted for the lights to go on between 4pm and 11pm

2727 Councillors updates

- Cllr Coldrick thanked Cllr Price for acquiring enough large poppies for Cefn Gorwydd and Tirabad this year. It was also good to see a list of those local men who were lost in the wars (WW1-Korea).
- Cllr Andrews reported about a recycling drive in Powys and maybe look to creating a regular litter-pick here. (**Clerk** to put on NextDoor). He also reported the regular GPS jamming that is carried out locally. Here is the link to timings on Epynt <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/spectrum/information/gps-jamming-exercises>
- Query from Cllr Calan about the opening of Alexandra Hall. It is open for activity, but all COVID-19 requirements must be met.
- It was noted that a caravan is once again parked in the road in Llangammarch and the road around Tirabad has vehicles permanently parked again. – **Clerk to notify and cc Cllr Van Rees and Highways**

2728 Finance

- (a) Receipts and Payments up to 11/11/2020 were unanimously agreed and the accounts were signed by the Chairman.
- **(b) Payments for approval:**
- Cllr Price £50 for the large poppies. (Cheque issued)

- Clerk – for Defib replacement Pads (Cefn Gorwydd and child's pads for Tirabad - £168.59, Rust remover for the Gent's loos - £17.99, SLCC membership £133.00 – total £319.58
- Queries across the board for clerks in the UK about the weekly allowance agreed by HMRC for homeworking. Up until April 2020 it was £4 a week, after April 2020 £6 a week. This has not been applied correctly for the Clerk, so Cllrs Coldrick and Hather will look into the underpayment.
- (c) The Budget and Precept Sheets were sent out with the agenda. Cllr Hather and the Clerk looked at these in detail several weeks ago. It was unanimously agreed that the precept should not be raised. The Budget for 2021-22 includes some changes as we now have a toilet cleaner to pay. Both Cllr Hather and the Clerk warned that next year is going to be tight, especially with the agreed virement of sums earlier in this meeting. Having said that, much has been achieved in the last 18 months. The Budget was also agreed unanimously.
- (d) Everyone was sent the Audit Report when it was received. Our Audit was unqualified, but with some advice to the Internal Auditor* which was accepted. Next year things will change as Welsh Audit is taking over from Grant Thornton. We have been warned the law will be more strictly applied. *The Internal Auditor and The Clerk will ensure the governance is better recorded and acknowledged, which means the Internal Auditor's Report will be longer.
- (e) The Clerk asked if anyone wanted digital copies of meeting papers, rather than the hardcopies that are now sent out. Cllrs Coldrick and Andrews preferred digital.

The next meeting will be on January 13th 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21.24hrs