

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2015

1. Present : R.Morgans (Chair), A-L.Morgans, A.Freeman, H.Williams, J.Jones, R.Jeremy, A.Evans and C.Atkins. Also present was County Cllr D.B.Davies
2. Apologies : None
3. Declarations of Interest : C.Atkins, Local Government Officer and Cllr D.B.Davies, Vice Chair of Planning, CCC.
4. Minutes of Last Meetings proposed correct by A.Evans and seconded by T.Griffiths.
5. Neighbourhood Watch and Police Matters. The Clerk is to remind PCSO Taylor regarding speed measurement through the village.

6 Matters Arising

2641 Horses on Field : It was reported that there is very little water available. The RSPCA is aware of the horses.

2649 Pavement project at Smyrna chapel. The Clerk reported that he had contacted the County Council to add the project to the Council's priority list. He was told that this would be done but the Council officer warned that there were over 200 projects already on that list.

2654 Village Telephone Kiosk. The Clerk had contacted the Council's Insurance providers who stated that the public liability cover already in place could include the kiosk. He had contacted BT to find out whether they had immediate plans to remove the kiosk and was awaiting their reply. The Clerk will now also ask the County Council if planning permission is required for change of use. Noted.

2655 Traffic strip in Dol-y-Dderwen. It was reported that vehicles were still travelling at dangerous speed through the estate. The previous strip was apparently sited in an inappropriate place and should be sited by number 35. The Clerk is asked to contact CCC have further tests at that location.

2656 Oak Trees at Smyrna crossroads. Further trimming will be done in the Autumn.

2660 Local Government Transparency Act (Section 55). Further work is being done with some links to village organisations already established.

2661 Penycoed Junction and Smyrna crossroads.

1. Penycoed Junction. The Clerk stated that he had written to Mr John McEvoy regarding the Council's concern about that lack of vision and the potential resultant danger to motorists and that the Community Council would hold the County Council totally responsible for any future incident or injury at that junction. He read out a reply from Mr McEvoy noting the Council's concerns.

He will also report back regarding the ranking of the junction within the Council's Road Safety and Footway improvements schedule.

2. Smyrna Crossroads. The Clerk had written to County Council regarding the lack of vision at the junction and asking whether a mirror could be placed opposite the junction. He read out a reply from Mr John McEvoy stating the the Council's insurers would not allow them to place a mirror in that it would not show the speed of vehicles approaching and as such would not be safe. However, in some extreme circumstances the Count Council could apply to the Welsh Government for permission to undertake such action and asked whether the Community Council wished him to do so. It was decided to ask the Clerk to contact Mr McEvoy to do so.

Church Rd. It was reported that the foliage blocking the vision on the main road junction had been removed.

2662. Code of Conduct Training 9/06/15

The Chair reported that both himself and the Clerk had attended the training session run by the County Council and had found it very instructive and informative. It emphasised the need for the responsibility to act properly when representing the Community Council. It also outlined the need to declare an interest when necessary in order to show no bias when decisions are made and for the public to be assured of this. He reminded the Council of the Cwrtmalle situation and the various interests for and against. The Clerk reported that within declarations of interest, Councillors could ask for dispensation to speak on various matters before the Council. These dispensations are obtainable from the County Council's Standards Committee. He would get the application forms from the Council in time for the next meeting. He also stated that in accordance with the requirements of Section 55 of the Local Government Act such information will be available on the village website.

The training notes will be made available to Councillors for their information and retention by the July meeting. They will then be responsible for all their actions in accordance with the information and advice provided.

7. Correspondence

One Voice Wales. Annual Meeting and Area Meeting on 30th June at Kidwelly - none available to attend.

CCC. Independence for Older People - consultation from 1st June to 31st July – information posters on Noticeboards.

8. Planning Applications - None

9. Finance /Approval of Payments

2662. Annual Accounts - The Clerk reported that the Accounts/ Governance Summary had been forwarded to the Auditors.

2663. D.I.Griffiths £294.38 Clerk's Salary / Expenses.

10. 2664 Review of Policies/ Assets and Risk Management

1. The Clerk reminded the Council that this should be done annually. After some discussion, it was resolved that the existing policies formulated as per the guidance of the Welsh Government and the County Council to adhere to the legal requirements of a Community Council and updated as necessary were adequate to protect the Council.

2. Asset Register. The Clerk reported on the register with its value. It was resolved that the nominal values placed were correct but it was suggested that Councillors should each be given a copy in order to assist the Clerk in his evaluation.

3. Risk Management Strategy. The Clerk reported that the present comprehensive policy had been drawn up by himself and approved by the external Auditor. It was resolved to retain the present policy.

The Clerk advised members that all policy documents are available from him should anybody wished to have sight of them.

11. County Councillor's Report

2665. Cllr Davies reported that the Plaid / Independent partnership was working well. He also suggested that if the Labour Party were the majority party in the Assembly elections, then the Local Government reorganisation process may mean the re introduction of the previous Dyfed County Council model.

12. Any Other Business

2666. It was reported that the Church Authority is to place a safety barrier around the Church to avoid accidents.noted.

2667. Cefnglas footpath (25/5). It was reported that the path had become overgrown in some areas. Clerk to contact the County Council.

2668. Dog Fouling. It was reported that there was dog fouling on Church Road / Dol-y-Dderwen footpath areas.

2669. Benches. Cllr.Williams reported that the bench at Smyrna Square needs refurbishing and also some other older benches - Cllr.Williams asked to arrange.