

Llangain Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 26th October, 2017.

1. Present : Cllrs. Terry Griffiths (Chair), Carl Atkins, Anne Evans, Roland Jeremy, Haydn Williams, Ralph Morgans, Anne-Louise Morgans, and John Jones. Also present was County Cllr. Carys Jones.

2. Apologies : Cllr. Angela Freeman.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting : Proposed correct by Cllr. H. Williams and seconded by Cllr. C. Atkins.

4. Matters Arising.

2672. Church Closure. The Clerk reported that no planning application regarding any new entrance had been received. It was reported that a number of ex-members had written to the Church Authorities regarding the issue but had not received a reply. Noted.

2707. Defibrillator. Cllr. Jeremy reported that he had ordered a Zoll+Automatic machine and a heated outdoor case from Defibshop at a total cost of £1,737 including VAT. The Clerk had some concern that payment was required prior to the receipt of the equipment. He reported, however, that he had spoken to the firm who had assured him that they had supplied many councils etc. on the same terms. He had also checked that the firm is a registered company on the Companies House website. It was, therefore, resolved to carry on with the purchase and the Clerk asked to pursue grant options. The Chair thanked Cllr. Jeremy for all his work in the matter.

2715. HGV sign for Church Road. The Clerk reported that he had contacted John McEvoy, CCC to confirm the request for a long vehicles sign.

2719. Alternative Routes for Heavy vehicles - Alltynap / Cwrtmalle. Cllr John Jones reported that he had accompanied John McEvoy on the suggested alternative routes who had agreed subject to some provisos that they were feasible. John McEvoy will now report back to the relevant County Council officers.

2723. Coed Dylan. It was noted that the promised concealed entrance sign has now been erected. Ms. Elen Bowman has written to the Clerk to ask whether the sign was satisfactory. Councillors commented that the sign was in fact too near to the entrance and as such does not give drivers enough notice of the entrance. Also, if some bushes could be cut back, then the entrance would become much clearer. The Clerk was asked to write to Ms. Bowman expressing the Council's concerns.

2729. Speed Limit near the School. Having regard to the probable delay in establishing such arrangements, the Clerk has written to Mr John McEvoy to ask whether a contribution from the Community Council would speed up the issue.

2730. Maesyrawel Hedge. The Clerk reported that he and Cllrs. Jeremy and Williams had met Mrs Susan Llewellyn of the Housing dept. The hedges will be cut as necessary. Cllr. Williams has since written to Ms. Llewellyn suggesting that the hedge cutting could be included in an annual maintenance programme.

5. Correspondence.

WAG - Public Services Ombudsman Bill - consultation link.

WAG - Capital Finance and Accounting(Wales) Regs. 2003 - consultation on amendments.

WAG – Local approaches to poverty consultation.

Royal Town Planning Institute - Capturing Planning in Images.

Mid and West Wales Fire Service Stakeholders review.

Review of Electoral Arrangements for Carmarthenshire. It was reported that by these proposals, Carmarthen west and Carmarthen East would again come back into Carmarthen. Noted.

6. Planning Applications – nil.

7. Finance/Approval of Payments.

2731. The Clerk reported that his salary had increased in accordance with the LCC pay award effective from April 2017 as follows :-

Present hourly rate = £9.30 increased to £9.39, an increase of £0.093.

Llangain Clerk increase = £0.093 x 6 hrs p.w. x 52 = £2.42 p.m.

The new rate per month = (£241.77 + 2.42) salary + £60 expenses = £304.19. Noted and approved.

2732. The following payments were approved :-

British Legion - £25 - donation for wreath.

D.I.Griffiths - £301.77 – Salary / Expenditure – October (old rate).

D.I.Griffiths - £16.94 - Arrears of Pay award April to October.

Imperial Training - £1737.60 - Purchase of Defibrillator.

Wales Audit Office -186 .00 - Audit Fee.

8. County Councillor's Report. See attached below.

9. New or Any Other Business.

Cllr. Jeremy reported that new LED streetlights were being placed in Dol-y-Dderwen.

Cllr. Williams circulated an article giving examples being made of red kiosks.

It was reported that once again there was much mess of Heol Smyrna due to water etc. running off Cwrmtalle fields onto the road. There have also been tractor problems on Church road. Both noted.

Cllr. Williams reported that the British Legion branch was being rejuvenated and that both himself and Cllr. R. Morgans had become members.

2733. Remembrance Sunday. The main Service on 12th November will be held at the Memorial Hall, Llangain at 10.45 am. The Community Council resolved to give a donation of £25.00 to the British Legion towards the cost of a wreath or general expenses.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

ROAD SAFETY

I have conducted a road safety "recce" between Johnstown and Llansteffan. There are a total of 45 red triangular warning signs plus road markings to encourage drivers to slow down. There are 3 posts without signs. John McEvoy has agreed to drive the route with me, when we will also consider the extension of the 40mph down to Green Castle Car Park. I have also enquired about the possibility of chevrons on the Pantyrathro bend (site of recent fatal accident).

INDUSTRIAL FARMING

Following the recent accident in Llanybri on the junction of the C2082 and C2039 involving the school bus and two cars, and several other incidents involving mud on roads due to maize harvesting, I have met with Cefin Campbell (Rural Affairs Cabinet Member) and am liaising with other parties to prioritize road safety before the "slurry season" begins, and to formulate an overview of the situation moving forward.

SAT NAV

Following another case of a lorry getting stuck near Wern Ddu due to Sat Nav directions, I have requested suitable signage at the junction of the U2121 with the C2078.

FOOTPATH 25/12 – BROOK (Bwthyn-y-Felin to Pentrewyman)

Following a complaint the ranger has now attended to the path.

NATIONAL GRID

I recently attended a public meeting in Llangynog arranged by the National Grid. Between this month and October 2018, substantial repair works are to be carried out on the pylons between Swansea and Pembroke. There will be some disruption in the area, mostly affecting Llangain and Llangynog. All activities will be clearly signed, and all vehicles clearly labelled, so please direct any queries to me and I will direct them to the company handling all PR. I have been assured that any complaints will be dealt with immediately, and that every vehicle is chipped so that speed / location/ drivers can be identified. I'm investigating the National Grid Community Fund to see if we will fit the criteria for some project funding as compensation for the disruption. I attended the recent Llangain Hall committee meeting, and am investigating the possibility of grant support for Green Energy refurbishment work. Please inform me of any other projects you may wish to have considered.

SCHOOL BUS

Following a query re. school bus routes and times to Queen Elizabeth and Bro Myrddin, pupils of the latter are now arriving at school on time, and spending half an hour instead of 1 hour en route.

LLANSTEFFAN HUB

In November, Llansteffan Hall will be piloting three Hub mornings on Thursdays to bring people together for "tea, chat and fun" - targeting loneliness in the community, and aiming to help prevent problems such as Dementia and mental health issues. Everyone is welcome, from anywhere, of all ages and abilities. It is called the Llansteffan Hub at present, with a view to rolling out the idea of Llanybri, Llangain and Llangynog Hubs in the future. Please contact me for information if you know someone who may benefit - transport can be arranged.