

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2019.

1. Present. Cllrs. R. Jeremy (Chair), T. Griffiths, H. Williams, A. Evans, A. Freeman, C. Atkins and J. Jones.

2. Apologies. R. Morgans, A-L. Morgans and County Cllr. C. Jones.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting. Proposed correct by C. Atkins and seconded by A. Freeman.

The Chair referred to Cllr. Morgans' accident and wished him well in his recovery.

4. Matters Arising.

2744. Footpath 25/09. Situation being monitored.

2747. Parking outside School. It was reported that yellow lines will be/have now been placed outside the school and further parking problems will be monitored. It was emphasised that more pupils to the school should be encouraged and, therefore, should not be discouraged by transient parking restrictions.

2749. Tarmac outside the Hall. See County Councillor's report.

2752. Letter to Angela Burns AM has been sent.

2763. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, February 2019. Because of the confusion regarding how to proceed, the Clerk wrote to One Voice Wales for advice as resolved in the May/June meeting. The reply from OVW is as follows :-

“ (a) As you will appreciate, members do not have to opt in to receive the payment and should be paid it, less tax, unless they notify the Clerk in writing that they wish to opt out of receiving the allowance. No member should be placed to opt out.

(b) It is recognised that there will be a cost involved should some or all members receive the allowance and this will need to be properly budgeted for and there may well be implications for the level of the precept.

(c) There is no consensus view on the allowance issue on the part of smaller Community Councils. You will recall that previously, the Panel allowed for smaller Councils to determine whether to pay the allowance or not. Based on their consultations around Wales, many smaller councils indicated their discontent with this approach and favoured a mandatory approach with individual members having the right to opt out.

You will appreciate that it is difficult for OVW to oppose the current mandatory approach given that the feedback given to the Panel was that the majority of smaller councils wanted this change of approach”.

The advice was accepted and the Clerk distributed Opt Out Forms formulated by OVV with individual councillors asked to return these by the next meeting when they have made their choice.

The allowance is subject to income tax and all allowances paid will be published on the Council's website annually.

5. Correspondence.

Woodland Trust – adopting a tree.

Welsh Government - update on Renewing our Democracy.

Older People Commission – Newsletter.

6. Planning Applications.

2768. W/39007. Proposed new wall and outbuilding at 1 & 2, Y Ffordd Cottages. No objection.

7. Finance/Approval of Payments.

2769. Annual Accounts/Governance. The Clerk reported that the necessary documentation has been sent to the External Auditor in good time.

2770. LCC Pay Award.

The Clerk reported that the above award had been approved payable with effect from 1st April with following effect on Llangain Community Council :-

Present Rate (SCP 18) = 18870 9.808 per hour

New Rate = 19554 10.163 per hour

Increase = 35.50 per hour

New salary for 6 hours per week.

$10.163 \times 6 \times 52 \div 12 = 264.23 + 60.00 \text{ expenses per month} = 324.23$

Salary/Expenses for June = $324.23 + 9.19 \text{ arrears for April} = 333.43$

Noted and approved.

2771. Approval of Payments.

D. I. Griffiths 333.43 Salary/Expenses and arrears of Pay Award (as above)

D. I. Griffiths 31.99 Printer Cartridge

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

9. New or Any Other Business.

Cllrs. R. Morgan, R. Jeremy and A. Freeman attended the British Legion D-Day 75th Commemoration at Llansteffan on Thursday, 6th June.

Cllr. Williams reported that he is pursuing the milestone renewal project dependent on grants and available finance.

Parking near Rhydygors. Email from County Cllr. Carys Jones regarding report from Cllr. Gareth John on his attempts to alleviate the problems. He reported that he would use the concerns from Llangain Community Council as ammunition to enforce the issue.

The Clerk reported that as a result of complaints from councillors and residents, the County Council had cleared the overgrown pavement at Pwntan, sprayed weeds in the village and other highways concerns within the community.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR 'S REPORT

LLANGAIN MEMORIAL HALL

At the recent AGM of Llangain Memorial Hall Committee it was decided to progress investigations re. grant funding for refurbishment works. Seeking grant funding will involve the whole community, and an event will be held at the end of the summer to garner views and investigate ideas. It is imperative that this event be supported by all ages and abilities, in order to establish the case for improving this valuable asset. I would urge members of the Community Council to get involved in this process, and input their knowledge and experience in support of this project.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

I recently arranged a site visit with Mike Jacob, Traffic Engineer, to view parking safety outside Llangain School. It will be possible to install yellow road markings on both sides of the road outside the school entrance. We will discuss further with the school and the community council.

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

I have arranged a visit to the Cwm recycling site to examine the in-county process of recycling all materials with a view to providing detailed advice on how we can all best recycle our waste. I will also be initiating a campaign throughout the ward to put pressure on suppliers to stop issuing single-use plastics when alternatives are available.

CCC "NEW" OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CENTRE

As part of my role on the Policy & Resources scrutiny committee, I recently visited the county's newly re-vamped Occupational Health Centre, which offers health and well being support to all the county council's 8,300 staff. The Centre is ground-breaking and offers support well over and above what is required, with the aim of reducing staff sickness absence. Members of our community who work for the authority are strongly urged to utilize this service for both physical and mental health support.