

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st September 2022

Before the commencement of business the Chair paid tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II and a minutes silence was observed by all present.

1. Present. Cllrs. H. Williams (Chair), A. Evans, J. Jones, D. Roberts, T. Griffiths
2. Apologies. County Cllr C. Jones, Cllrs. C. Atkins, A-L Morgans, R. Jeremy
3. Minutes of last meeting.

Proposed correct by A. Evans and seconded by J. Jones.

In response to Cllr Williams apology at the July meeting Cllr Roberts raised some concerns regarding the timing of the draft minutes being made available to all Councillors. He suggested minutes be sent out within 7 days of the meeting taking place. Cllr Williams noted this request but felt this created unnecessary additional work or stress bearing in mind that the clerk's post is part time on flexible hours and it was resolved to continue with the current timetable. The clerk will contact One Voice Wales for guidance about best practice.

4. Matters Arising.

Footpath 25/03. Rhydlydan to Ystrad Walter. Clerk to *contact Jason Lawday, the Countryside Ranger at CCC.*

2827 – New church graveyard entrance. Nothing to report at present.

2829 – Queen's Jubilee celebrations. The Chair has investigated commemorative water bottles for the children attending Ysgol Llangain. Bottles are £4.50 each so 50 bottles would cost £225 + VAT. Manufactured by Hotline Branded Products based in Christchurch, Dorset. It was resolved to proceed with the purchase and they will be presented to the children before half term. Proposed by A. Evans and seconded by T. Griffiths.

2835 – Annual Accounts. Cllr. Williams stated that the community council had been selected at random amongst some other councils for a full audit by Wales Audit at this time.

5. Correspondence.

SLCC The Clerk magazine

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

Letter from Carmarthenshire Young Farmers Club requesting financial assistance.

Other items of correspondence sent to Councillors since the last meeting, for information.

6. Planning Applications. None.

Cllr. Jones asked about progress on a planning application number PL/03576 regarding the commercial polytunnel for Mrs Wasana Baudry, Lutece Farm Ltd. on land adjacent to, Penlan Fach, Alltynap Road. Clerk to check on county council website under Planning applications.

7. Finance/Approval of Payments.

The following payments were approved

I. Griffiths	£857.72	Salary July/August plus final holiday pay
A.W. Matthews	£33.90	Chairman Insignia name bar

Cllr Roberts expressed concern at the size of the LCC reserve in light of the current economic situation and suggested a plan was needed to reduce this amount going forward. It was felt that some of this will be needed before the end of the financial year for the noticeboards and this will be discussed when setting the precept for next year.

The chair also referred to the small reduction made in the 2022/2023 precept set last *January and that it was also felt that a substantial amount should be held in reserve in order to meet future community needs in terms of replacement noticeboards, the milestone heritage project and increased donation levels to assist local projects (S137 payments).*

8. New or Any Other Business.

Noticeboards. The Chair has begun investigations into replacing the two village noticeboards. Current quotes for recycled UPVC of a similar size with the same type of doors suggest an estimated cost of £2000 - £2500 but further quotations will be obtained and the results reported back in November.

Community website. Work to upgrade to latest version and increase security measures on the www.llangain.org was advised by Jamie King, the Webmaster or host. It is estimated at 1-2 hours work at a cost of £40 per hour. Resolved to go ahead.

Former Clerk's retirement. The Chair proposed a social evening at which a small gift might be presented to Iwan Griffiths for his long years of service as Clerk. The Falcon Hotel was agreed as a venue and the Chair will contact Iwan and make arrangements for either lunch or dinner at some time in October or November.

Dangerous tree branch. Cllr. Anne Evans reported a possible dead tree with a branch overhanging the highway on the left before Portis on Heol Smyrna approaching from Wauncorgam Fawr junction. Clerk to report to CCC.

Sunken drain cover. Cllr. Terry Griffiths referred to the problem which is located on the right in the S bend at Penycoed double bend on the B4312 when approaching from Old Castle. Clerk to report to CCC.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16th November 2022.