

**Minutes of the meeting of Llangynin Community Council held
at the Bryn Chapel Hall
on
12 September 2023 7pm**

Present: Councillors Alison Wells, Les Murphy, Phillip Morgan, Caroline Jones, Rhydian Davies, County Councillor Dorian Phillips.

In the Chair - Councillor Phillip Morgan

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. To consider applications for co-option onto the community council

Applications having been received from Caroline Jones and Rhydian Davies it was **RESOLVED** that they both be co-opted. The Chairman welcomed them to the council.

Declarations of acceptance of office were signed by each and each provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct. Caroline Jones confirmed she is a trustee of the Bryn Chapel Hall and will declare an interest in the proceedings of the council at all relevant times.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 18 July 2023

It was **RESOLVED** that minutes of the annual and normal meetings of the Council held on 18 July 2023 be approved and signed as correct record. Proposed by Cllr Wells and seconded by Cllr Murphy.

5. County Councillor's Report

- 5.1. Cllr Phillips enquired about the extent of the roadside hedge cutting taking place in the community. There had been some delays due to County Council staff issues, but they were now resolved and the hedges should be done shortly.
- 5.2. Cllr Phillips had made initial enquiries of the County Council concerning dropping the curb by the post in the middle of the pavement. He reported that no progress would be made there until the 20mph limit was done and bedded in. The cost would be checked, but the contractors were all currently engaged dealing with speed limit changes. It was noted that for a change of this kind, the cost was likely to be something for the community council to address.
- 5.3. Penback Farm, Llanboidy update on the previous report: No response was received from the new land owners until last Friday. It had been agreed that there would be a site meeting. There was a preparation meeting for that site meeting taking place on 13 September at 6pm in Llanboidy.

6. Existing business:

- 6.1. OpenReach pole in the middle of the pavement – the matter having been addressed during

the County Councillor's report, it was carried forwards. It was noted that whilst dropping the curb around the pole would be a positive step, there were cars parking on the pavement through the village blocking the pavement which meant that users of the footpath had to step off and into the road. This situation had to be further considered for the safety of all and to make sense of any spending on dropping the curb.

- 1.1. financial assistance for upgrade to acoustics and projector /screen at Bryn Chapel Hall – as set out in the agenda, this topic sits in the context of forward planning exercise to be addressed below.
- 1.2. Matter of wider consultation and participation – the community council is waiting to hear from certain community members further, which is key to further discussion. Matter carried forwards.

7. New Business

7.1. Consideration of draft Policy in relation to mandatory payments and reimbursement for consumables: the clerk had circulated a draft in advance of the meeting. She noted that the draft had not included wording for recovery of payments (pro rata) if a member left after payment had been made for the year. The clerk suggested additional wording for this event, which was that the member be asked to repay such part. On that basis it was **RESOLVED** that the policy be adopted and implemented, with review annually.

7.2. Consideration of Asset Register – the members reviewed the existing register of assets and the majority **RESOLVED** that it was correct (new members excepted as this was their first meeting).

7.3. Consideration of proposed draft update to Annual Report: the members had considered the draft proposed update, and it was **RESOLVED** that it was agreed. No one had further suggested amendments.

7.4. Insurance – consideration of options available prior to renewal date 31 October 2023. The clerk reported that the current policy was available for renewal at the same price as last year. This was a web only policy with Zurich, which covered the council's current needs. The clerk had spoken with BHIB, a broker which worked extensively with councils. Their quotation had been with Aviva and was substantially more expensive. The clerk reported that this additional sum reflected a greater level of support provided by a broker as well as a generally higher level of cover. The clerk would check with Arthur J Gallagher, broker to see their offer. It was anticipated that, as last year, they too would not match the web based policy of Zurich but again, the service levels would be different as well as a higher potential level of cover. The member discussed the options and concluded that the clerk should check with Arthur J Gallagher but at present it seemed likely that the Zurich policy was sufficient for the council's requirements and also the cheapest. The clerk noted that extensions could be added to the Zurich policy in the event that further assets were acquired but the alternative was that it could be cancelled without penalty. **RESOLVED** that a) the clerk check with Arthur J Gallagher on their offering and feedback to the members; b) if it were a preferable/cheaper policy the matter be further discussed but otherwise c) renewal with Zurich be undertaken before the expiry of the existing policy on 31 October, with the payment authorized at the November meeting of the council.

7.5. Attendance at Remembrance Ceremony in November and donation for wreath. The clerk reported that this year's cost of wreath is £25. It was **RESOLVED** that a donation was made for a wreath. Clerk to confirm bank details with Royal British Legion – and also check if the wreath could be collected beforehand.

7.6. Training plan for consideration/adoption. The form of the plan as currently drafted was adopted. Members to consider the current training schedule circulated by OVW.

7.7. Consideration of draft outline Action plan/Forward plan and future budget setting. – having considered the outline prepared, it was agreed that there were a number of potential expenditures where the figures had to be secured and the timing scheduled to work with the current and future budgets. The community council was waiting for a number of wider issues to fall into place (e.g. the bedding in of the 20mph limit in the village) to firm up next steps. It was agreed that informal talks would be held with the Bryn Chapel committee to understand their priorities.

8. Planning Matters, if any: none

9. Finance and Payments (Contractual and invoiced).

- 9.1. **Budget monitoring** - review. Bank balances as at 31 August 2023 £6,264.67 current account and £5074.55 savings account (bank statement) and 12 September 2023 same figures. Second tranche of precept credited on 25 August 2023. The allocated reserves were considered and potentially whether some part of the general reserves might be used nearer the end of the year depending upon the progress of the discussed actions. Harder figures hopefully will be available for November's meeting.
- 9.2. **Confirmation** of payment of clerk's wages monthly (and HMRC) at each month end July and August 2023.
- 9.3. **Wreath** cost – Approved in the sum of £25. Clerk to check bank details with the British Legion and schedule for payment at the appropriate time.
- 9.4. Insurance premium payment – the payment is to be approved at the next meeting, in line with the minutes at 7.3 above.

10. **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 14 November 2023

Meeting closed 20:07