

Llangurig Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 17th October 2017

Minutes of meeting held at the Llangurig Community Centre on Monday 18th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

In attendance: Cllr J Dore (Chairman), Cllr L Higgitt (Vice Chairman), Cllr I Bound, Cllr J Lewis, Cllr B Jones, Cllr C Davies, Cllr R Williams.

Clerk Mrs S Palmer.

PC Karen Jones 11

0 members of the public in attendance

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr P Windsor and Cllr M Bound. County Cllr P Davies also left a message with the Clerk not long before the meeting stating that he had been held up and was unsure whether or not he would make it to the meeting.
- 2. Confirmation of minutes:** Minutes for meeting held on 21st August require a couple of alterations but on the basis these are made Cllr L Higgitt proposed these minutes as true record and Cllr I Bound seconded. Minutes for 18th September 2017 were proposed as a true record by Cllr L Higgitt and seconded by Cllr B Jones.
- 3. Declarations of interest to be made for any matters on the agenda.** Cllr R Williams declared an interest for item 5.4 on the agenda and Cllr L Higgitt declared an interest for items 5.3, 6a, 7c.
- 4. PC Karen Jones 11 in attendance to discuss various issues in the community:**

Cllr J Dore stated that there have been issues across the village with illegal parking in kerbs and people parking in the car park for but not using the Blue Bell Inn. Not all Cllrs agreed that there is an issue with parking. Some people park on the road near to the Post office but generally are not parked there for too long.

PC K Jones confirmed that she had been told by Chairman Cllr J Dore that there were some issues with parking and following this made several visits to Llangurig at different times of day as well as asking her PSCO's to do the same during evening shifts and at no point did they come across any offenders. PC K Jones stated that she has spoken to County Cllr P Davies who has stated that Powys CC is looking into the dropped kerb near the Blue Bell Inn so this is currently in hand.

Cllr J Lewis suggested that there used to be chains around the monument which could be reinstated which would also stop drivers being able to park on this kerb. This would however also restrict the lorries who need to mount the kerb here in order to make the turn up the narrow road running up past the Blue Bell Inn.

PC K Jones also confirmed that if there are no restrictions then drivers are within their rights to stop in the areas and the Police would not get involved unless an obstruction is apparent. Cllr J Lewis confirmed a general feeling of Cllrs that no one wanted double yellow lines through the village as this would have a very negative impact on the village and local businesses.

PC K Jones asked whether a complaint has been made in writing regarding parking in the village and at the Blue Bell Inn car park. Cllr J Dore confirmed that LCC has not received a written complaint.

Cllr R Williams stated that he feels that this is not a matter for LCC but one for the Blue Bell Inn landlord and those utilising the car park incorrectly.

Cllr B Jones stated to PC K Jones that farmers are often stopped for carrying non-agricultural loads or carrying too much weight. PC K Jones confirmed that the correct licenses are required for carrying certain types of materials and they are looking into an open advisory session in order to clarify the different rules and licenses etc required.

PC Karen Jones 11 was thanked for her attendance and for answering these queries and left the meeting at 8pm.

5. Highway Matters

1. **Disability access, kerbs and crossing required.** No updates available at this time. Clerk to chase up.
2. **Drains require unblocking on the road facing the Blue Bell Inn.** No updates available at this time. Clerk to chase up.
3. **Parking issues at Llangurig Community Centre and across the village.** Discussed within item 4. Nothing more can be done other than clearer signage directing visitors to the village car park. Clerk to find out if PCC would put up additional signage.
4. **Wind Farm: updates regarding deliveries, electricity supply etc:** Cllr J Lewis stated that he was contacted today by Kevin Jones who has a business in the village. The utilities company looking to put lines in for the wind farm have contacted him and asked whether they can use his car park/forecourt as a base when they put lines in under the ground by using a mole. If they do not do this they will need to put lights up either end of the village as they would need to dig up the road in order to lay the lines which would be more invasive. Cllrs agreed that it was a hard decision to make with little information. Cllrs agreed that they were happy for Kevin Jones to make a decision for what he felt was best. They added that the scenario using the mole would be the best option if it was not disruptive and no chance of hitting any cabling or pipes in that area. Cllr J Lewis to respond to Kevin Jones.
5. **Village Car park: discuss resurfacing.** Cllr L Higgitt feels that the village car park should be resurfaced. Clerk to ask PCC for confirmation of ownership of the car park. Cllr C Davies asked what is happening with the old toilets by the Community Centre. Cllr L Higgitt confirmed that the idea is for the toilets to be used as storage for the Community Centre and the disabled toilet to be used as a public toilet but funding is needed and PCC hasn't passed the keys on yet. In regards to funding Cllr L Higgitt suggested that he contact Mr S Radford regarding Community Benefit Fund from the wind farm. Cllr J Lewis proposed and Cllr I Bound seconded this.

6. Matters Arising:

- a) **Land registry:** update regarding boundary between Church House and Village Green (**Cllr L Higgitt**). Land Registry had confirmed that the Curig Charity already owned the land in question (small strip by the Community Centre). This information however, is not correct and Land Registry has asked for evidence of this. A statement has been provided by E Jones along with pictures. Cllr L Higgitt has suggested that with this statement and pictures, an application could be made to Land Registry to redraw the boundary to where it should be. Cllr I Bound proposed this suggestion and Cllr R Williams seconded it. Cllr L Higgitt also stated that the whole Village Green needs to be registered at some point but it would be better to sort the other issue out first.
Also discussed in relation to the Community Centre and Village Green was that there are 2 posts still sticking out of the ground from the old sign. Could you Community Centre put up a new sign which would incorporate a noticeboard? Cllrs were in favour, proposed by Cllr I Bound and seconded by Cllr J Lewis.
- b) **Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Clerks contract:** Drafts/queries for discussion. More time required to complete drafts and compare to other documentation used by various Councils. Clerk to add to the next agenda.
- c) **Training attended:** Chairman Cllr J Dore has attended 4 training sessions. One session invoice will be covered by LCC, The other sessions will be paid for by Chairman Cllr J Dore.

- d) **Repairs required at steps leading to Village Green:** Quotes for discussion. 1 quotation received for £20 from Martin Obbard. Others contacted either were not available until next year, didn't do this type of work or didn't get back to the Clerk. Cllr R Williams proposed using Martin Obbard and Cllr B Jones seconded this. Clerk to contact him to ask him to carry out the work.

7. Correspondence:

- a) **Veronica Grant:** Letter received asking whether LCC would consider funding a cycle path from Llangurig to connect with the one from Cwm Belan to Llanidloes using the Community Fund from the windfarm. Cllrs clarified that at present there is no Community Benefit Fund. A cycle route would not be able to come through Bwlch Garreg corner as this has been an issue previously. All Cllrs present agreed to revisit this request if and when a Community benefit Fund is set up.
- b) **Andrew Jones (Chairman of Gwernyfed Community Council):** Concerns about Powys Planning Policy. All Cllrs present agreed that the issues raised by Andrew Jones are not problems that are faced within the Llangurig ward at present. Clerk to respond.
- c) **Cllr L Higgitt:** Procedure for using the Village Green in conjunction with the Community Centre. Cllr L Higgitt has been approached by someone looking to hire the Community Centre who has asked whether it would be possible to put a marquee up on the Village Green. Cllrs discussed and have concerns over who is liable if something happens, whether there should be a hire charge for using the green in this way. Clerk to contact insurance company with queries.
- d) **Cllr J Dore:** Church porch/gate listed status. Cllr R Williams stated that he did not feel this was a matter for the Community Council to deal with. The matter was not discussed.
- e) **Welsh Government:** New budget for Wales and Welsh Tax Policy Report. No action.
- f) **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales:** Draft Annual Report 2018/19. Cllrs would like to comment that if all Cllrs have to take £150 as compulsory then the precept for LCC would be increased by almost 50% which they do not agree with. This amount should be optional. Clerk to forward these comments.
- g) **The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales:** updated guidance on the conduct of community reviews by principal councils. Cllrs would like the Clerk to ask County Cllr P Davies whether PCC are likely to review LCC.
- h) **Welsh Government:** Review of Community & Town Council Sector. More information is expected, Clerk to forward further information as and when received.

8. Planning Applications: None received

9. Finances:

- a) **Accounts record:** Accounts spread sheets sent to Cllrs prior to meeting. Clerk explained how the accounts were set out which all Cllrs present were happy with.
- b) **External audit complete:** points raised by auditor noted.

Monies in: None

Bills to be paid:

Sophie Palmer (Clerk) salary	= £193.30
Sophie Palmer (Clerk) expenses <i>(including £17 for remembrance wreath and £4.44 vat for Norton Antivirus paid in last months expenses)</i>	= £38.00
Chapel vestry room hire	= £10.00
One Voice Wales training	= £90.00
AON Insurance <i>(1st & 2nd chqs sent in May & June both bounced)</i>	= £354.87

Cllr L Higgitt proposed and Cllr C Davies seconded the bills to be paid. Clerk had reached the end of the cheque book and not realised so arranged to meet Cllrs the following day to have the agreed cheques signed by two signatories.

Clerk asked for confirmation that the following meeting in November would be when the Council look at setting the precept. All Cllrs were in agreement to discuss this at the November meeting. Clerk confirmed that she will send all relevant information to the Cllrs prior to the next meeting.

10. Councillors comments:

The issue of the current bank account used not being set up for payments other than cheque. Clerk to look into options with current bank and others that are geared up specifically for organisations such as Community Councils.

11. Date of next meeting: Next meeting will be held at Llangurig Community Centre on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 7.30pm.

Chairman Cllr John Dore thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.33pm.