

Llangurig Community Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 16th July 2019

Minutes of meeting held at the Llangurig Community Centre on Tuesday 16th July 2019 at 7.30pm
In attendance: Cllr J Dore (Chairman), Cllr L Higgitt (Vice Chairman), Cllr L Sephton, Cllr C Davies, Cllr B Jones, Cllr M Bound, Cllr I Bound (arrived 7.35pm).
Clerk Mrs S Palmer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr R Williams, Cllr C Howells
2. **Declarations of interest** *whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion.*
Cllr L Higgitt declared an interest in agenda items 8a and 8e.
3. **Minutes** for meeting held on 18th June 2019 were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr B Jones and seconded by Cllr L Higgitt.
4. **Public Speaking** *15 minutes allocated for members of the public to speak on items on the agenda*
No members of the public were present.
5. **Public engagement with local residents and groups:** some local residents have spoken to Chair Cllr J Dore and asked what the Community Council do and what its purpose is. This raises the question of why residents don't know what the Council do and how LCC can inform the local community more, engage with them on local matters and include them in the decisions being made.
Cllrs discussed how this could be rectified and the suggestion of a Facebook page was made by the Clerk as the other Councils that she works for both have a Facebook page and it helps with community engagement and can be used to make polls and ask the community for it's thoughts on certain issues, projects, suggestions for the village etc. Clerk confirmed that she is able to create a Facebook page and that the Council would not incur any costs in doing so. The creation of a Llangurig Community Council Facebook page was proposed by Cllr L Higgitt and seconded by Cllr B Jones.

A discussion was raised in regards to the planning application discussed at the previous meeting in relation to the incorrect information within it. It was noted that these points have been raised within the letter sent to PCC from LCC. It will be left with PCC now to initiate revising/amending the plans as necessary.

A local resident has raised the question as to why the minutes are not published until after the following meeting. Cllrs discussed this and confirmed that the system will be left as it is as most Councils operate in this way and it was unanimously agreed that Cllrs would not wish to publish draft minutes at any point and therefore the minutes can only be published once approved at a meeting of the Council and therefore made legal. Clerk to respond to this query.

6. **Standing Orders:** the suggestion was made to revisit the section in the standing order which details the running of meetings and particularly when there are members of the public present who wish to participate. The Clerk had a copy of the current Standing Orders and read out the relevant section. Cllrs discussed and agreed that some revisions may be required to ensure the Standing Orders are clear enough and not too rigid. Clerk to re-draft the relevant section and send through to Cllrs.
7. **Highway Matters:**
 - a) **Drainage at Llanerch corner:** still no updates on this issue as PCC are not getting a response from the developers. Clerk to continue to chase.
 - b) **Slates from Black Lion Hotel:** Cllr P Davies has emailed the Clerk to state that he will chase up again but there is no liability on PCC and with it being so close to the road and requiring scaffolding it is an expensive undertaking. Clerk to contact the Trunk Road Agent to ask whether they have any knowledge of this issue and whether they can help at all with this matter.
 - c) **Flashing 30mph signs & Pedestrian crossing:** This item is with the Welsh Government now but it has been agreed to leave the item on the agenda until an update is received.
 - d) **Parking issues and restrictions in the village:** The issues with parking and obstructing road users and pedestrians keep cropping up. Cllrs discussed the various

issues and the suggestions that have been made in regards to preventing them. The conclusion was reached that there were no specific measures which all Cllrs felt would make a positive change as some measures could create an entirely different issue. Cllrs concluded therefore that residents raising any issue of illegal or obstructive parking in the village should be referred to speak directly with the Police.

- e) **Recent road closures: notifications:** Local businesses have complained that they were not informed about the recent road closures over night which affected their businesses. Clerk contacted the Trunk Road Agent to ask what the procedure is for notifications. The Trunk Road Agent responded to confirm that due to the long stretch of the works it was not time or cost effective to inform everyone who may be affected. They also stated that this type of work is unlikely to be carried out again for a very long time and so such a long stretch of road is unlikely to be closed again. Cllrs still thought that due to the closures being over night it was easy to work out which businesses may be affected by it and therefore they could have been contacted. Clerk to feedback this information to the Trunk Road Agent.

8. Matters Arising:

a) Village Green Various matters:

Fence – No quotations have been received following the Clerk sending out invitations to tender. Cllrs had some other suggestions of who may be able to quote for the works so they will ask if those people are interested and ask them to contact Cllr L Higgitt for more information if they are.

Black Lion – Landlord has asked whether a gate could be kept on the border of the Black Lion to the village green as there was a gap previously and then a gate installed by the landlord. The current suggestion is for the new fence to close the gap where there is currently a gate. Cllrs discussed this request and feel that it would be better for the fence to continue all the way and not install a gate due to the increased risk of someone using it incorrectly as a right of way or if the gate is left open and someone falls down the steps. The motion was passed unanimously not to leave a gap or a gate and continue the fence all the way as originally proposed. Clerk to write a letter to confirm this.

- b) **Village Play Area:** following the last meeting the Clerk sent a letter to a local landowner who owns land which has been suggested as appropriate for a village play area. The Clerk has received a reply confirming that the land, mentioned is either unsuitable, tenanted or earmarked for other uses. It was however suggested that LCC may want to contact the owner of church meadow or the field next to the car park which could be suitable if available. Clerk to draft a letter for next meeting.

- c) **Council Insurance:** Clerk has contacted One Voice Wales regarding the issue of the trees on the village green and what OVW suggests in terms of risk assessment and surveys. Clerk has not received a response from OVW as yet and the information found elsewhere does not specifically state that a qualified person must survey the trees. Clerk to chase up this information for the next meeting.

- d) **Llanidloes School Governors:** Clerk has emailed the secretary to the Governors but has not yet received a response. Clerk has contacted County Cllr Gareth Morgan who is a governor who has confirmed that the board of governors may be different following the federation of the two schools in Llanidloes. Clerk to stay in the loop with this in order to find out if and when a position for a governor arises.

- e) **Electric for Christmas tree:** The Christmas Tree lights for the lights on the green are currently utilising electricity from the Black Lion Inn. An alternative has been suggested to have an electric point installed alongside the lights which are due to be installed at the steps to the green. Cllrs are in favour of this and the suggestion will be put to the electrician who will be installing the lights at the steps.

9. Correspondence:

- a) **Llanidloes Town Council:** Meeting regarding Llanidloes Hospital. Clerk confirmed details of a meeting being held by Llanidloes Town Council regarding the patient beds at Llanidloes Hospital and the future of the hospital on 22nd July at 2.30pm. Chair Cllr confirmed that he will try to attend. *Following the LCC meeting, the meeting at Llanidloes Town Council was cancelled.*

- b) **Llangurig Roundabout:** local residents have spoken to Chair Cllr J Dore about the roundabout and asked if it is possible to plant some flowers there. Cllrs discussed and agreed that low shrubs, daffodils or wild flowers would look nice and be fairly low maintenance. Heather would also look good and won't over grow like shrubs do. Clerk to speak to the Trunk Road Agent about what is possible here.

- c) **Llangurig Post Office:** Response to LCC letter received thanking LCC for congratulations and confirming how pleased they are with the award received.

- d) **Powys Lotto:** Funding for local groups and organisations will now be available through the introduction of the Powys Lotto. Details noted, Clerk to share this information on website and with local organisations and groups.
- e) **Wales Air Ambulance:** Thank you letter received for the donation from LCC.
- f) **HSBC:** Letter regarding changes to the account. Information noted, no action.

10. Finances:

a) **Account balance =** £8,803.07 (up to 15.06.19)

b) **Bills to be paid:**

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| Sophie Palmer (Clerk) salary (July) | = £229.65 |
| Sophie Palmer (Clerk) expenses (July) | = £32.16 |
| HMRC PAYE tax payable (July) | = £10.80 |
| The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC membership renewal 2019/20) | = £52.00 |
| Sophie Palmer (Clerk) salary (August) (<i>dated 20.08.19</i>) | = £202.30 |
| HMRC PAYE tax payable (August) (<i>dated 20.08.19</i>) | = £3.80 |

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr M Bound and seconded by Cllr C Davies.

11. Councillors comments:

Cllr L Higgitt: a local resident who has previously brought up the issue of light pollution and has asked about this area being a dark skies area has asked again about this and what the council can do. Clerk to email resident to ask for more information on Dark Skies and what exactly he is wanting for the area and how he thinks LCC can help and to invite him to a meeting of the council to present his ideas directly to Cllrs or provide further details via email if unable to attend a meeting.

Cllr I Bound: On behalf of Llangurig Show Committee requested the use of a marquee on the Village Green. Cllrs discussed and were in unanimous agreement to grant permission as long as the Society ensure to provide the insurance for the marquee and leave the Village Green as it was found.

12. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 17th September 2019 to begin at 7.30pm. There will be no meeting in August unless it is deemed necessary to hold an extraordinary meeting.

Chair Cllr J Dore thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.34pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)