

Llangurig Community Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Minutes of meeting held at Llangurig Community Centre on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7.30pm.

In attendance: Cllr L Higgitt (Chairman), Cllr C Howells (Vice Chair), Cllr I Bound, Cllr R Jones, Cllr A Emanuel, Cllr H Pugh, Cllr R Williams.

County Cllr G Preston

Clerk: Sophie Palmer

Not present: County Cllr G Morgan, Cllr P Abel

1. **Apologies:** Cllr D Jones
2. **Declarations of interest** *whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion.*
Cllr R Jones declared an interest in agenda item 7b.
3. **Minutes** for meeting of 19th December 2023 were agreed and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr R Williams and seconded by Cllr C Howells.
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. **Highway Matters:**
 - a. **50mph signage off Llangurig roundabout:** Waiting for an update from TRA
 - b. **Site meeting with TRA and highways:** Waiting for an update from TRA
 - i. Repositioning of bus stop
 - ii. Path between cemetery and village
 - c. **Falling slates at Black Lion:** The barriers were removed following high winds that blew the barriers into the road and were causing a hazard for drivers. TRA want to know whether the slates are still falling in which case they will replace the barriers. Clerk to confirm that slates are still falling, and the barriers need to be put back and ensure they are weighted to hold them down.
 - d. **Flooding above Pencroeso:** PCC has confirmed that there are no works due to be completed but they will have a look again to check if anything needs doing.
 - e. **Road from A44 up to Henfaes Uchaf in need of repair:** PCC has confirmed that this work was completed on 22.12.2023. Clerk to remove from the agenda.
 - f. **20mph signage issues:** Waiting for an update from TRA
 - g. Grit bin near pavement to café request Waiting for an update from TRA
 - h. **Bad bend on Llanidloes road – more signage requested:** Waiting for an update from TRA
 - i. **Blocked drain on back road to Rhayader:** PCC has confirmed that a job has been logged here to unblock the drains.
6. **Matters Arising:**
 - a. **Drainage/Sewage issues in Llangurig:** Cllr H Pugh confirmed that the sewerage again backed up into her property the day before Christmas Eve. They were pumping it out late (11pm) on Christmas Eve and then the day after Boxing Day followed by every 2 or 3 days after that. It was then found that a pipe under the drive has been broken. This issue is a concern with the building of new properties whose sewerage will be going into the same plant that seems already to be over capacity.
 - b. **Bin surrounds:** This is in the pipeline to be done by PCC but not for a few months due to resources.
 - c. **Overflowing bins:** PCC has confirmed issues with the person who empties the bins as he has been having to cover other areas, but they do not have the resources to provide anyone else. Cllr G Preston suggested to continue sending pictures of overflowing bins to officers and the higher up members of PCC.
 - d. **Asset Register Review:** Clerks laptop to be added to the asset register.
 - e. **Lights at steps:** I have asked PCC to increase the wattage as much as possible on the light that is there but they will not add any new lighting. Clerk to remove from the agenda.
 - f. **Damaged post by memorial:** PCC Highways has confirmed that this is not their responsibility but that of whoever owns the memorial. Chair to speak to the resident who raised this originally and see if they are aware of who owns the memorial.
 - g. **External Audit Completion:** External audit reports for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 been received all together. One is unqualified and two are qualified which LCC does not fully accept. Clerk to respond to this effect.
 - h. **Reopening public toilets:** Chair Cllr L Higgitt confirmed that there have been conversations about reopening the toilets in the village. Cllrs discussed what they

thought about LCC taking this on. Cllrs felt that this was too much to take on for LCC as a small council with potential high costs involved.

- i. **Website issues:** The LCC website is no longer accessible and cannot be rectified by the current provider without building a new site.

The Clerk has forwarded a quote from the current provider for building a new site along with 3 other quotes ranging from £2,900 up to £4,200. Cllrs discussed and decided to get at least one more quotation from a local provider. Clerk to also look at getting a holding page up and running to ensure an online presence.

7. Ongoing (long term) Matters:

- a. **Village Green Boundary:** No update at this time.
- b. **Village Play Area:** Clerk to attend a Lottery workshop tomorrow in order to gain some tips and advice regarding the funding application process.
- c. **Community Wind Farm Fund;** Clerk will be submitting a funding request in March.

8. Correspondence: *All correspondence has been distributed to Cllrs and shared online as necessary.*

- a. **Bronwyn and Abbey:** Sweetlamb Woodland Creation Scheme. Cllrs discussed and have no objections to the proposal. Clerk to confirm.
- b. **Welsh Government:** New consultation: Future spending purposes for dormant assets funding in Wales. Information noted, no action.
- c. **WLGA:** Community Speedwatch. Information noted, no action.
- d. **Powys CC:** Powys LDP information and request for comments. Cllrs have no comments to make.
- e. **One Voice Wales:** Managing Green Spaces. Information noted, no action.

The next item was received following the agenda being posted:

- f. **Freedom of Information Request:** An FOI request has been sent to the council. Clerk has responded to confirm that LCC has 20 days to respond. Clerk confirmed that the Council has no information to provide in line with the request but will check with the 2 Cllrs not present in case of any Cllr activity that would need to be provided in line with the request.

9. Planning Matters: *None received*

10. Finances:

- a. **Account balance** = £11,765.28
- b. **Savings Account:** Paperwork sent, waiting for the account to be set up. Clerk to also complete the paperwork to add Cllr A Emanuel as a signatory.
- c. **Bills to be paid:**

Sophie Palmer (Clerk) salary (January) = £287.70 - £57.40 (PAYE) = £230.30 (Net)

Sophie Palmer (Clerk) expenses (January) = £34.79

HMRC PAYE tax payable (January) = £57.40

Cllrs discussed the bills to be paid which were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr C Howells and seconded by Cllr R Jones.

11. Councillors Comments:

Chair Cllr L Higgitt: Confirmed that a speaker/microphone was tested by himself, Cllr A Emanuel and the Clerk and it seems to be a good option to use to allow people to attend the meetings remotely. Clerk to create a Zoom meeting each month and add the login details for that to the agenda which is published in order for members of the public to attend remotely should they wish to.

Cllr C Howells: confirmed that there is a dead tree on the old road just before the vicarage. Branches have been coming down. Cllr I Bound is happy to go and speak to the landowner about this and what can be done in order to avoid any hazards to drivers or pedestrians if more branches fall.

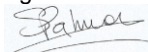
Chair Cllr L Higgitt: Are Cllrs still happy for LCC to order a replacement defibrillator case for the defib in Cwm Belan. Cllrs were all in agreement to place the order as soon as possible. Chair Cllr L Higgitt will find out what is required and Clerk to order.

Chair Cllr L Higgitt: water coming down the back road past The Bluebell is collecting and is missing drains. The collected water sprays one of the properties close to the Post Office/Shop. Clerk to contact Highways.

12. Next Meeting: The next meeting of Llangurig Community Council is to be held on Tuesday 20th February at 7.30pm at Llangurig Community Centre.

Chair Cllr L Higgitt thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.06pm.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)

