CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 5th September, 2022, at the Bryn Hall, Bryn.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

I M Williams (Chair)

G Thomas, I Griffiths, G R Jones, N Lloyd, J Leeuwerke, A J Parry, L M Morgan, L D J Armishaw

APOLOGIES: Councillors:

M I Slader, H J Davies, J A Seward

1. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

2. Public Participation

There were none.

3. Council Meeting Dates for next 12 months

Councillor I Griffiths is unable to attend for the next twelve month normal Council meetings that are scheduled to be held on the second Monday of each month.

Councillor Griffiths is available on the first Monday of each month and the Clerk pointed out that Council meetings had to be held during the covid pandemic on different nights according to the availability of locations.

The Clerk reported that Standing Order No. 2 states that Council shall hold in addition to the annual meetings ten other ordinary meetings for the transaction of business, such meetings being held at monthly intervals on the second Monday at 7.00pm or at an earlier time, if required, excluding the month of August.

It was proposed by Councillor G R Jones that this Standing Order be suspended for the next twelve months and that the ordinary meeting of the Council be held on the first Monday of the month.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor N Lloyd.

This was so RESOLVED.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th July 2022

It was proposed by Councillor G Thomas and seconded by Councillor N Lloyd that the Minutes be accepted.

It was so RESOLVED.

i) Emyr Williams LBSA

The Chair gave details of a meeting that took place in the recreation ground recently between himself, Councillors L M Morgan and M I Slader, Emyr Williams and a Sports Wales representative.

The purpose of the meeting was to look at options including relocating the playground to the tennis court area. A Scheme was to be drawn up with costings but this is yet to be forthcoming and is therefore awaited.

The Surveyor commented that in his view the playground is located at present in the correct position in the park and this would be for a number of reasons. The transfer of the playground to the tennis court is unlikely to be a starter on cost grounds alone. Major work would be required and the cost could approach £200,000.

Councillor N Lloyd asked if the tennis court area could be expanded and the Surveyor replied that there are restrictions imposed from "deadball" requirements of the rugby/soccer pitch and therefore it is not possible to increase the area of the tennis court.

Councillor L M Morgan also asked about the feasibility of moving the playground to the tennis court.

The chair suggested that the Council await the report from Emyr Williams and the LBSA before making any decision on relocating the playground and other matters relating to a revised proposal.

Councillor G Thomas also asked as to whether it was possible to redesign the tennis court area to provide a larger playing area.

The Clerk commented on the financial reserves of the Council and that it has a sum of £25,000 at present to finance any project that is to be considered by the Council. He also stated that the latest playground equipment was installed by the County Council some 12 years ago at a cost of approximately £50,000. The work was funded by Section 106 money.

Councillor N Lloyd asked as to the life expectancy of the present equipment and the Clerk replied that the items could last for another 5 years or so if properly maintained.

Councillor I Griffiths believed that there are two elements to consider. There is the safety aspect and secondly the cost aspect.

Councillor L M Morgan preferred to await the report from Emyr Williams LBSA before making a decision on the location of the playground.

The Surveyor stated that some of the playground items could be moved but there would be issues with spacing of swings and they would have to be dug up which could affect whether they would have to be replaced by new equipments. The other equipment would be affected similarly.

The Surveyor has agreed to draw up a report for Council consideration and he suggested a site meeting.

After due discussion it was agreed that a site meeting take place on Thursday, 15th September, at 6.30p.m.

ii) Recreation Ground new gate

The Surveyor reported that the new gate has been ordered and will be fixed in the near future.

iii) Youth Club

Councillor N Lloyd asked if there has been any development in the County Council appointing a second supervisor, there has been no response from the County Council on this matter to date.

iv) Judith Griffiths - 5 Rhandir Terrace

A letter of gratitude to the Council has been received from Judith Griffiths and Roger Williams and she states that the seat is proving to be an asset for themselves and other members of the community.

v) PCSO Catrin Nelson

Councillor L M Morgan reported that she has now been replaced by PCSO Sophie Jones and her contact number is 07970777054. Councillor L M Morgan reported that PCSO Sophie Jones hopes to attend a Council meeting if her shift pattern allows. Councillor Morgan will inform her of the change in meeting dates of the Council for the next 12 months.

vi) Gypsy Site Development

Councillor G R Jones had been in contact with County Councillor G John regarding outstanding issues. In an "E" Mail from the latter on the 12th July 2022 he agreed to follow up on the matters raised but there has been no communication since.

Councillor G R Jones will contact County Councillor G John.

5. Surveyor's Report

- i) **Bridge Inn.** An "E" Mail has been received from the Council's solicitor that they have received notice that the buyer of the land is Z and F Holdings Ltd., and two transfer documents have been forwarded to the company solicitors for approval.
- ii) Pavilion Fire Alarm Systems. This has now been installed.
- iii) **Rights of Way programme**. The County has acknowledged receipt of the Community Council's proposals.

The Surveyor also reported that he had met Sue Patterson with regard to her inability to negotiate barriers on footpaths in her wheelchair. The difficulty is that footpath users need to take into consideration that the land is owned by landowners and not the Council and there are issues, in particular, the need to control farm stock. There are special gates available but they cost approximately £3500. The Surveyor also reported on a particular issue at Cae Pownd since there are no dropped kerbs at this location which makes it difficulty for her to enter. There is a need to approach the County Council and it was agreed that Councillor G R Jones will contact the County.

iv) **Bowling Green Seats.** These have been installed and the Bowls Club will arrange for a plaque in memory of T G Lewis to be fixed.

v) Pavilion Grill Gate

Two quotations were received:

Tumble Forge £1360 + VAT

H T Structures £2510 + VAT

It was agreed to accept the lowest quotation.

vi) Japanese Knotweed

One treatment took place in July of this year and another will be applied in September. There will be no charge for the latter.

The weed has been treated for 3 years and the treatment will have to continue for a few more years.

vii) Bulb Planting

Equipment has had to be brought in for leveling work and 15 tonnes of soil purchased. Delivery of the bulbs is expected in the near future.

viii) Entry to Centre

The damaged lighting column has been replaced.

ix) Cae Pownd Playground

The equipment has been painted and a general cleaning up taken place.

x) Centre barrier

This was recently damaged and has to be repaired at a cost of £670.80 including VAT.

xi) Recreation Ground Gate

This was recently damaged but is repairable. Repairs will take place in the future.

xii) Ten Year Licence to the LBSA in respect of football/rugby pitch.

A copy of the licence has been circulated to members and sent to Emyr Williams LBSA. There have been no comments received to date from the LBSA.

The Clerk reported that he had "E" Mailed Eleri Williams, Football Development Manager, West Wales FAW on the 31st July confirming that a ten year licence would be granted to the LBSA.

An "E" Mail was received from Eleri Williams on the 11th August confirming that the LBSA's application for a grant was successful.

xiii) Tennis Court

The Surveyor had prepared a document for members consideration on the Llangennech Recreation Ground and the future of the Tennis Court.

He comments that the tennis court remains as a semi-derelict almost unused area which will continue to deteriorate. He believes that there is still an opportunity to upgrade the location for a useful purpose still resembling a MUGA but of a less costly formal design. There would be no additional management costs and the nature of the proposed structure would be fairly vandal proof.

The Surveyor estimates that the project he proposes would cost £50,000 inclusive of VAT.

The Surveyor recommends a site visit of the tennis court and thereafter consider a policy on a preferred option for its improvement.

6. County Councillor Report

County Councillor G R Jones reported:

- i) Path at rear of Brynhyfryd. There is a Japanese Knotweed issue and ownership is unclear at present. He agreed to follow up on the matter.
- ii) Energy Crisis. The County informed him that an "information pack" will be distributed to all Town and Community Councils in October in relation to the Cost of Living Crisis.
- iii) Cae Pownd playground. This has already been dealt with by the Surveyor.

7. One Voice Wales - Innovative Practice Conference

This is to be held remotely on Wednesday, 14th September 2022. The cost would be £45 per delegate for OVW members.

The Chair asked that if anyone is interested please contact the Clerk.

8. Cylch Meithrin

A letter of complaint has been received from the Cylch stating that their equipment was damaged during last Saturday's cricket match when players/supporters entered the hall to shelter from the rain.

The Cricket Club has been asked to comment.

9. Cricket Club Storage Shed

Work has commenced on this today.

10. Energy Prices

The Clerk reported Gas and Electricity contracts have been signed up to 2024 by the Council.

11. Code of Conduct Training 2022

A copy of the recent Code of Conduct training session organised by the County had been circulated to members.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to note the content of the document.

12. Planning Applications

The following is the response of the Council.

PL/03333 - Creation of 10 additional traveller pitches to the west of PL/00775 - (Plots 5-14) at Land at Maesydderwen.

The Council has written in previously opposing this application.

The Council does not object to the following:

- PL/04420 New dwelling at 39 Aber Llwchwr.
- PL/04376 Siting 5 No. Glamping Pods at Blaenhiraeth Farm.
- PL/04264 Non material amendment re: windows at 21 Aber Llwchwr.
- PL/04563 Retrospective application for retention of front window shutter at 65 Parc Morlais.

13. Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor I M Williams and seconded by Councillor L M Morgan that the following accounts be passed for payment.

It was so RESOLVED.