

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 3 October 2022, at the Llangennech Community Centre.

PRESENT: **Councillors:** I M Williams (Chair)
G Thomas, I Griffiths, H J Davies,
A J Parry, J Leeuwerke,
L D J Armishaw, M I Slader, G R Jones.

APOLOGIES: **Councillors:** J A Seward, L M Morgan, N Lloyd

1. Condolences

The Chair extended to Councillor G R Jones the deepest sympathy of the Council and Councillors on the recent passing away of his mother. The Council showed its respect in the usual way by holding a minute's silence.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

3. Public Participation

The Chair asked Mr Emyr Williams, LBSA, to address members.

Mr Williams had come to the meeting to update the Council on the present position with regard to the proposal to develop the recreation ground.

- a) Referring to the 10 year licence document he informed the Council that the LBSA has not received the promised grant from the Football Association of Wales. Emyr Williams stated that he has been in touch with the officer concerned and was promised that the grant will be paid in the near future.

Emyr Williams also stated that the LBSA will suggest some minor amendments to the 10 year licence agreement document.

- b) With regard to the MUGA project Mr Williams gave details of costings received from the South Wales Sports Grounds Company.

For a tarmac surface the project is estimated to cost £195,000 plus VAT and for a 3G pitch the cost is estimated at £231,500 plus VAT. Floodlighting would cost £50,300 plus VAT.

These costs do not include for the cost of moving the playground to the tennis court area.

The total cost of the project would therefore be in the region of £500,000 plus VAT.

Mr Williams stated that funding options are being looked at and an initial enquiry has been made under the Welsh Government's Community Facilities Programme.

- c) Mr Williams referred to some vandalism in the recreation ground with damage to football equipment resulting.

Mr Williams asked if the Council would consider giving permission to install a goal fixture on the area beyond the hedge in the recreation ground.

Mr Williams will provide further details on this proposal and will also provide details of costings submitted by South Wales Sports Grounds.

Mr Williams did also raise the need for a CCTV system to be installed in the recreation ground.

Councillor M I Slader asked if the area beyond the hedge is currently being used. Mr Williams replied that investigations had been carried out some two years ago to develop the area at a cost of £24,000.

Councillor G Thomas asked as to what is the effect of moving the playground to the tennis court area. Mr Williams replied that there would be an additional cost for this which is not included in the costings provided by South Wales Sports Grounds.

Councillor Thomas also referred to the site meeting held on the 15th September when Councillors I Griffiths, N Lloyd, L M Morgan and herself were in attendance. The consensus that night was that moving the playground to the tennis court area would be too costly and could not be financed by the Council.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th September 2022

It was proposed by Councillor G Thomas and seconded by Councillor I Griffiths that the Minutes be accepted.

It was so RESOLVED.

i) **Youth Club**

Councillor M I Slader informed members that the County Council has appointed a second supervisor and it is hoped that the Youth Club can start in November. Michelle Jenkins needs to visit the Pavilion prior to the restart and it will be necessary for the key to the new door be copied and given to her.

ii) **Centre Barrier**

The Surveyor reported that further damage to the barrier has occurred and the barrier will have to be taken away from site to be repaired.

Councillor L Armishaw asked whether a CCTV system could be installed and he also asked whether an insurance claim could be made. With regard to the latter the Council has not made claims for small amounts of damage on the grounds that any claim will affect the insurance premium payable.

Councillor G R Jones will seek information on costings for a CCTV system from a company he has dealt with.

5. Surveyor's Report

i) **Bridge Inn**

The Council's Solicitor has been on holiday during September and there is no update available on the position of selling the land to the Bridge Inn.

ii) **Japanese Knotweed**

A new 3 year contract will have to be agreed with regard to treatment of this problem.

iii) **Cae Pownd**

A petition has been received from a Mr A Gough with regard to requesting improvements at the Cae Pownd playground.

There are some 172 names on the petition with only 20 from the village and the remainder from all over the United Kingdom.

The Surveyor has included improvements to Cae Pownd in a possible 5 year programme for the Council to consider at budget setting time.

The Surveyor asked for the Council view on whether to go to tender so that Costings are available for consideration at budget time.

This was agreed.

iv) **Approach Road to Centre**

The Surveyor has raised concerns with regard to parking by customers and Bridge Inn staff on the roadway during day and evening time. There is a danger for vehicles entering and leaving the Centre and also ambulances and fire tenders would have extreme difficulty in using the roadway at present if required.

The Surveyor suggests that perhaps Councillors could contact the landlord of the Bridge Inn. He cannot offer a solution to the problem but extending the existing car park at the public house may in due course help to alleviate the problem.

v) **Suggested Three Year Improvement Programme**

The Clerk and Surveyor have discussed possible projects that the Council could consider. The conclusion is that the following projects are feasible.

a) **Year 1 (2023/24)**

Renewal of Play Equipment at Cae Pwnd

Cost £25,000 inclusive of VAT.

b) **Year 2 and 3 (2024/26)**

Conversion of the Tennis Court into a “kick about area” catering primarily for informal/formal games including football, netball, tennis etc. This would result in a medium sized MUGA.

Cost £50,000 inclusive of VAT.

c) **Year 4 onwards (2026/27)**

Upgrading the Play Equipment at the main recreation ground.

Cost £30,000 inclusive of VAT.

d) **Workshops and Storage Area**

These buildings are in a bad condition and unfit for the purpose. Insufficient information is available at present to give a reasonable estimate of costs to replace but it is likely to be in the order of £100,000 plus VAT.

The Surveyor commented that the tractor is stored at the home of the groundsman at present because it cannot be stored in the recreation ground. The groundsman also does some Council repair work at home because there is no facility in the recreation ground storage sheds for this work.

vi) **Future of Tennis Court and Children's Play Area**

A site visit took place on the 15th September 2022 and it was generally agreed that moving the playground to the tennis court would be costly and beyond the means of the Community Council at present. The best option was to create a small MUGA area on the tennis court.

Councillor M I Slader was against moving the playground into the tennis court area as it would be "out of the way".

The Surveyor felt that the present location of the playground is in the best location. He is in favour of developing the tennis court into a small MUGA area.

vii) **Rights of Way Programme**

Councillor G Thomas raised the issue of the need for dropped kerbs at the entrance to Cae Pownd to accommodate wheelchair users such as Sue Patterson. The County Council will carry out the work and it was agreed that Councillor G R Jones will follow up on the matter.

6. **County Councillor Report**

Councillor G R Jones updated as follows:

- i) There is not much business at the County at present and it is training that is the priority.
- ii) Energy Crisis. The County is in the process of preparing a plan and Community/Town Councils will be part of the plan.
- iii) National Holiday for St David's Day. This is due to be discussed at the Cabinet shortly. The proposal being discussed is that teachers will be excluded and it is estimated the likely cost of granting another day's holiday is around £300,000.
- iv) Section 106 Money. Councillor Jones is not making progress with County officers. There is a need to establish the exact process of dealing with Section 106 Money when it arises. Councillor Jones will come back to the Community Council when he has clarified the process.

v) **Brynhyfryd Footpath**

Councillor J Leeuwerke reported that she observed a lorry reversing down the path with the intention of dropping gravel on the path. She is concerned with bio diversity issues on the path.

A series of "E" Mails between Councillor G R Jones and Caroline Ferguson, County Countryside Access Manager had been copied to members. She stated that the Countryside Access team has responsibility to maintain the path including clearing surface vegetation which would include dealing with the Japanese Knotweed problem.

The Surveyor does not believe that the County Council has the responsibility to deal with the Japanese Knotweed problem on footpaths. The person he dealt with regarding improvement work on the Heol Y Parc to Aber Llwhwr path was a Mr Alan Warner and perhaps he could be approached.

- vi) School and Litter picking. The school is to take part in a litterpick in the near future.
- vii) Footpath Signposts. There is a programme to erect more signposts as part of a tourist information scheme.

7. Festival of Light - Monday, 14th November 2022

The Chair and consort will attend the above event which is organised by the Ty Bryngwyn Hospice Trust.

8. Planning Applications

It was RESOLVED not to object to the following:

PL/04586 - Refurbishment of existing steel framed bungalow and rear extension at 58 Station Road

PL/04670 - Addition of first floor to bungalow at 5 Hendre Close

PL/04686 - Take down existing garage and build new detached garage at 7 Station Road