

# CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 11th March 2019, at the Bryn Hall, Bryn.

**PRESENT: Councillors:** J A Seward (Chair),  
W D Griffiths, G Thomas,  
J C Lee, I M Williams, N Lloyd,  
R Willock, L M Morgan, G R Jones

**APOLOGIES: Councillors:** G F Davies, S Hughes, M I Slader

1. The Chair asked PCSO S Lloyd to address members.

PCSO Lloyd expressed his apologies for not attending previous meetings of the Council. This was due to a resources issue with staff being unavailable because of long term leave and other issues.

He drew the Council's attention to the fact that he is limited by Data Protection Regulations with regard to details he can provide.

He stated that there were 3 crimes in February and 2 in January of this year. There was a burglary in Pontarddulais Road, criminal damage in Troserch Woods and 2 attempted burglaries in Brynmead. The latter properties were unoccupied at the time.

He also stated there have been problems in Troserch Woods over the last 6 months with vehicles being driven through the forest. There has also been some antisocial behaviour in the station shelters.

He stated that there is an unmarked police vehicle making patrols in the village and through the County.

The chair referred to problems at the Farmers Arms, PCSO Lloyd said there is a band practice at this location every Wednesday and Thursday night with the agreement of the brewery.

Councillor W D Griffiths referred to damage to vehicles some months ago.

Councillor G R Jones referred to Parc Morlais problems with vehicle nuisance. PCSO Lloyd stated that "Operations Snap" could be used. It is an online service with a form being filled and a document attached to it.

Councillor R Willock raised the issue of cables being stripped near the Felin and remains being left on the Morlais river bank.

The Chair then thanked PCSO Lloyd for attending tonight's meeting.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors W D Griffiths and J C Lee declared an interest when grant applications are to be considered. They are involved with Clubs who have made an application for a grant.

3. **Public Participation**

Rhian and Lean attended the meeting to raise concerns with regard to dogs in the recreation ground. They believe that there is a serious dog mess problem and also a concern with dogs being off the lead and running out of control.

The Clerk informed members that the Community Council had signed up to the Public Spaces Protection Order in October 2016. Signage was promised and would be erected in the recreation ground. This has not materialised and therefore the order has not been enforced by County Officers.

Councillor I M Williams asked that County members follow up on this point and to request visits to the park by the enforcement officers.

Councillor G Thomas referred to a meeting she had yesterday and asked wardens to come to the village more often.

It was agreed that the Clerk follow up on the matter and will copy County members.

The Chair's view is that there is a minority of residents with dogs who do not follow the accepted requirement.

Councillor W D Griffiths believes that since the Council took down the old signage, as requested by the County, there appears to be more dogs in the park.

Councillor J C Lee referred to a similar problem along the river bank of the Morlais and suggested that signage be erected here as well.

4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor W D Griffiths and seconded by Councillor I M Williams that the Minutes be accepted subject to removal of the following sentence in paragraph 7 (page 8) of the Minute number 8.

“Councillor G Thomas proposed that a budget sum of £2000 be included for 2019/20”.

It was so RESOLVED.

**i) County Councillor Peter Hughes Griffiths**

He did respond on the asset transfer issue by stating that the legal issues regarding Maes Ty Gwyn are complicated and there is an application for adverse possession in process. The draft lease for the Bryn Park is in the possession of the Community Council's solicitor and action has now been taken to complete the lease and for it to be signed by both parties.

The highways issue is with the Head of Highways and will be reviewed by him who will then report back to Councillor Peter Hughes Griffiths.

**ii) Sports Association**

No meeting has been arranged for the sub group to date.

**iii) Footpath Accident – Path 35/16**

The Clerk reported that the Solicitor acting for the Council has requested a better quality photograph of the exact location of where the accident was deemed to have happened. This is to be provided by the Solicitors acting for the claimant. Once received further discussions will take place with the Clerk.

**iv) Station Road – Back Lane**

Councillor G R Jones reported that another meeting is scheduled and that the residents want to proceed with the work. Some businesses have promised to contribute financially to the work and there is ongoing process of pledging money to fund the work.

**v) Bryn Hall**

The defibrillator has now been fixed to the front wall.

**vi) Egni Coop**

Councillor R Willock did make enquiries but the scheme is of no benefit to the Community Council.

The Surveyor commented that he would be concerned with the consequences of fixing solar panels to Council buildings.

The Chair's view was that the Scheme and benefits had come to an end because of government policy changes.

**5. Employment Sub Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

The recommendation of the Sub-Committee was that the Clerk's salary be placed on point 39 in the LC3 range from point 34 in the LC2 range as set out in the National Agreement on Salaries and conditions of service of Local Council Clerks. This will be from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and the LC3 range is currently from point 39 to point 51. The new scale point range will be amended to point 33 to 45 from 1 April 2019 but the salaries will be the same in the new range as the old range. There is simply a merging of scale points with no change in salaries.

It was also recommended that the Terms and Condition of employment be renewed on an annual basis.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to accept and confirm the recommendations of the Sub-Committee.

**6. Surveyor's Report**

- i) Cemetery - all the trees have now been removed and the ground on the Maenol Glasfryn side has been graded. Seeding will take place in the near future.
- ii) Cemetery/Cae Pownnd deeds - the Surveyor has had a meeting with the Council's Solicitor. It is proposed that the Statutory Declaration process will commence shortly. The witnesses proposed are former Councillor T G Lewis, Councillor R Willock, the Clerk and Surveyor.

Councillor R Willock has obtained a copy of the relevant pages of the old Parish Council Minutes in the 1960's which refer to his letter requesting that the Council convert Cae Pownnd to be a play area for local children. As a result work was duly carried out on Cae Pownnd by the Parish Council to create a play area.

**iii) Bryn Play area**

The trees have been cut down and some additional work was required..

**iv) Playground (Recreation Ground) – Interactive Panels**

These will be delivered towards the end of March.

v) **Centre**

Some 15 trees were taken down and the Surveyor had circulated a photograph of one tree showing it was hollow in the middle and could have fallen down at any time and damage/injury could have been the consequence. There is still an issue regarding the fir trees at the entrance which will have to be considered later in the next financial year.

The Surveyor reiterated his view that you cannot be too careful with trees.

vi) **Tree Felling Generally**

Expenditure will be below budget and the Surveyor has arranged for the Cemetery railings to be painted and the work funded by the underspending on tree felling. The cost of the painting will be £350 and it was agreed to proceed with the work.

vii) **Bryn Play Area**

The County Council has authorised the use of the balance of £7500 in the Section 106 Fund to carry out work at the entrance to the play area.

Expenditure incurred by the Council on the tree report and felling will be refunded by the County on completion of signing the lease.

viii) **Maes Ty Gwyn Play Area**

Maintenance work is required at this location and will be carried out once the County releases the £2500 it is currently holding.

ix) **Pavilion Showers**

The drainage system has now failed and use of the showers had to be suspended following a flooding incident in the changing rooms. It is likely that the drains have collapsed and a contractor has been approached to carry out the repair work. There is a budget item for this work included in the financial year 2019/20.

x) **Bryn Hall Parking**

A quotation of £900 has been received to carry out the work. The rope to be used has a wire insert and the work will be carried out next month if the Council agrees to proceed.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to accept the quotation and proceed with the work.

## 7. County Councillor Report

Councillor G Thomas reported:-

- i) The direct bus service to Carmarthen every Wednesday has finished. The hope is that a re-tendering process in April could see the re-introduction of the service.
- ii) She has received complaints regarding dog fouling in the recreation ground and on the river bank.
- iii) The Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee's Task and Finish Group report will be presented to the Executive Board.
- iv) The Council Tax increase for 2019/20 will be 4.89% and the Band D equivalent for Llangennech will be £1617.54.
- v) Council lower paid workers will get an increase of between 4% and 6.97% from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, with a £9.18 per hour minimum rate.
- vi) The new Chief Executive, when appointed, will be earning £30,000 a year less than the current Chief Executive.
- vii) A training programme for members will be introduced.

Councillor G R Jones reported:-

- i) Attended an Environmental and Public Protection Committee meeting and the following matters were discussed:
  - a) Change lights with the aim of saving money.
  - b) The Environmental Enforcement Team deals with dog fouling, litter, fly tipping, duty of care – including waste related offences, graffiti and fly posting, abandoned/nuisance vehicles and highway offences. The enforcement team has been at the forefront of interpretation and implementation of laws and the current Public Protection Space Protection Orders.
  - c) Considered a report on household waste recycling centres. The proposal is to reduce opening hours by 1 hour each day from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, ban on commercial waste, residency checks, permit system from 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 and black bag sorting.

The Chair remarked that the blue bags in operation by the County are very thin and split quite easily.

- d) The 1<sup>st</sup> March event at the Bryn Hall was very successful.

- e) The Committee at the Bryn Hall are hoping to have a Christmas Tree for this year.
- f) Fund raising committee for the Urdd Eisteddfod has recently met and the next meeting is scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> March. The target sum for the Committee is £7000. The Community Council has agreed a contribution of £1500 over the next 3 years.

**8. Revision of Burial Charges**

A report had been prepared by the Clerk on the current charges and comparison with other authority charges. Details of charges operated by Llanelli's District Cemetery, Pembrokeshire County Council and Carmarthenshire County Council were provided.

Llanelli District Cemetery and Pembrokeshire County Council charges included the charge for opening of a grave but the Carmarthenshire County Council charge at Dyffryn Road, Ammanford, excluded the cost of opening a grave.

Llangennech Community Council charges currently include the cost of opening.

After due discussion it was proposed by Councillor I M Williams and seconded by Councillor G R Jones that the Llangennech Community Council charges be set as follows. There will be no differential charges for non residents and the charges will include the charge for opening a grave.

|           | £     |
|-----------|-------|
| New Grave | 1,000 |
| Re-open   | 800   |
| Ashes     | 400   |

It was RESOLVED that the above charges be implemented from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

**9. Grants to Organisations**

After due discussion it was RESOLVED that grant payments will be as follows :-

| <b><u>Organisation</u></b> | <b><u>£</u></b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Capel Salem                | 100             |
| Capel Bryn Seion           | 100             |
| Llangennech Parish Church  | 100             |
| Capel Bethesda             | 100             |
| Llangennech + Bryn Bowls   | 100             |
| Cymdeithas Llan ar Bryn    | 100             |
| Merched y Wawr             | 100             |
| Bryn W I                   | 100             |
| Trosersch Woodland         | 200             |
| Clwb Bowlio Mat Byr        | 100             |
| WEA                        | 100             |
| LBSA                       | 100             |
| Llangennech AFC            | 200             |

10. **Llangennech Cricket Club – Refund of Maintenance Costs**

The Cricket Club had supplied a statement of wicket maintenance payments incurred by itself for the 2018/19 year. This amounted to £2865.55.

The Community Council budget sum for the year is £2445 and has incurred direct expenditure of £495 and therefore the refund to the Cricket Club will be £1950.

It was agreed that this sum be refunded to the Cricket Club.

11. **Fforwm Cyswllt**

The next meeting is to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

It was agreed that the Council will be represented by Councillor G Thomas and hopefully Councillor M I Slader who is in Majorca at present.

12. **Bil Senedd ac Etholiadau (Cymru), i gyflwyno pleidleisiau y 16 oed/Senedd Elections (Wales) Bill to introduce votes at 16.**

The Assembly Commission is proposing a new law to renew democracy in Wales. It will empower 16 and 17 year olds to vote at Assembly elections.



13. **Llanelli Town Centre Local Development Order**

The County plans to introduce a permissive planning regime that would allow specified changes of use to take place without the applicant having to apply for planning permission. The Local Development Order was adopted by the County Council in September 2018.

14. **Renewal of Membership of One Voice Wales**

It was agreed that the Council will renew its membership of One Voice Wales.

The membership fee for 2019/20 will be £734.

15. **Extending Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016**

The Order came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 and it was for a period of 3 years. The Council wishes to extend the Order for another 3 years and is consulting on its proposal.

Closure of the consultation period is Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The Community Council agrees to support the extension of the Order.

16. **Planning Applications**

It was RESOLVED not to object to the following application.

S/38503 - Retrospective Planning Application for a garage extension at Cleddau, 47a Troserch Road.

