

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 8th April 2019, at the Llangennech Community Centre.

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor: M I Slader

1. The Chair informed members that Ysgol Iau Llangennech had got to the final of Cŵr Cymru for Primary Schools, which was broadcast last night. Although they did not win they are to be congratulated for progressing to the final and a letter should be sent to the school.

They will also appear on Dechrau Canu Dechrau Cannol which will be broadcast on April 21st and will also appear in the Noson Lawen broadcast.

Councillor Nicky Lloyd's son is a member of the school choir.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

Councillor W D Griffiths declared an interest when correspondence from the Llangennech Cricket Club will be discussed. He is a member of the Cricket Club.

3. **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present.

4. **Translator**

The Chair welcomed Mr Steffan Wiliam, who will now be the translator at Council meetings.

5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th March 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor G R Jones and seconded by Councillor W D Griffiths that the Minutes be accepted.

It was so RESOLVED.

(i) **Public Spaces Protection Order**

The Clerk informed members that Mr M Roberts had visited him and provided two different sized signs for erection in the recreation ground. Additional signs can be provided, if necessary, and the enforcement officers have been instructed to make additional visits to the recreation ground. He also encouraged people to detail offences and to note whether offending takes place at regular times and to pass the information on to the enforcement team.

Councillor I M Williams asked that signage be erected at the old locations in the car park.

Councillor R Willock asked that signage be placed near the bins.

The Chair stated that perhaps the Facebook page could be used to encourage people to use dog waste bags and to embrace good practice.

Councillor I M Williams asked that County members request larger sized signage.

(ii) **Footpath Accident – Path 35/16**

There has been no contact to date from the solicitors acting for the Council. The Clerk is to follow up on the matter.

(iii) **Highway Issues – Yellow lines etc.**

Councillor G Thomas informed members that she had spoken to Peter Hughes Griffiths regarding the implementation of yellow lines at Heol y Parc and no right turn signs at Maes y dderwen.

The Chair asked if yellow lines could be requested for Park Lane since vehicle parking at the entrance is a highway hazard.

Councillor J C Lee asked if PCSO S Lloyd could investigate.

Councillor G F Davies also referred to a similar problem at the entrance to Maes Road.

(iv) **Station Road – Back Lane**

Councillor G R Jones informed members that some 30 people have signed up to contribute to the work. They have agreed to contribute £100 each. A further 7 people are yet to be contacted.

(v) **Urdd Eisteddfod – Fundraising**

The Chair reported that the event went well and “E” Mails are to be sent out with further information to people.

(vi) **Fforwm Cyswllt**

Councillors G Thomas and M I Slader attended the meeting.

Discussion took place on the new development plan. There are some 926 candidate sites throughout the County and there has been over 4000 responses to date.

It was felt that new development should have an emphasis and be important to create new employment opportunities.

One Voice Wales attended and reported on the likelihood that Community Council roles will change with extra duties being passed on to them.

There was also discussion on Future Generation Issues.

6. **Surveyors Report**

(i) **Cemetery**

The landscaping work has been completed and the cost was under the budget sum. The invoice from D N Davies was for £520 and there was some overtime paid to B Gould, the groundsman. The budget sum was £3,500.

(ii) **Cemetery/Cae Pownd deeds**

The declarations will be completed shortly and then passed to the Council Solicitor to progress the Statutory Declaration process.

(iii) **Bryn Play Area**

The trees have been cut down and a new barrier installed at the entrance. The concrete slabs for the new seats are being laid today.

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

These have been installed.

(v) **Centre Trees**

These need to be monitored.

(vi) **Cemetery Gate/Railings**

These have been painted but they are deteriorating in condition but there is no need to address the issue at present.

(vii) **Bryn Play Area**

The lease has been signed by the Community Council and has been sent back to the County Council for counter signing.

The Surveyor will make a claim shortly on the balance of £7500 left in the Section 106 Fund.

(viii) **Maes Ty Gwyn**

Maintenance/repairs is required but there is no serious issue at present. The signing of a lease could be a long time away because of the legal issues. The Surveyor cannot understand why the £2500 will not be released.

It may be necessary for County members to take up the matter at County level.

(ix) **Pavilion Showers**

Work has commenced and the old drains have been removed.

(x) **Bryn Hall Parking**

The Surveyor is pressing for this to be completed.

(xi) **Bryn Hall Decorating**

The Surveyor requests permission to start the decorating work. The under spend on the cemetery landscaping will allow virement to finance this work.

It was agreed to proceed.

7. **County Council Report**

Councillor G Thomas reported:-

- i) A meeting took place at Llanelli today to discuss the process of appointing senior officers. There will be two appointment panels and Panel A will have some 16 members and appointments will be confirmed by full Council.

The new Chief Executive will have a salary which will be £30,000 a year less than is paid to the current Chief Executive.

- ii) There will be a new education curriculum.

iii) Llanelli Town Centre Local Development Order

The County Council is implementing this Order.

- iv) **Culture Award Ceremony** - This took place last Friday at the Ffwrness Theatre and the event was sponsored by Carmarthenshire County Council and Media Wales. It was a wonderful evening of entertainment and an opportunity to celebrate achievements.

Winners were chosen from six categories and the judging panel selected winners in two special categories.

Councillor G R Jones reported:-

- i) Housing developers are now starting to charge for services such as grass cutting on housing sites.

Councillor W D Griffiths referred to his daughter's experience of being charged for services. These charges apply to both leasehold and freehold properties. It could become a serious problem.

Councillor G Thomas informed members that the Machynys residents have requested that the highway in their site be adopted.

Councillor G R Jones stated that the County's Jake Morgan will examine planning conditions set out for developments with regard to legality of these charges.

- ii) House Finding Service. This is now live and is a weekly service.

- iii) A charity event took place recently with a duck race down the river Morlais . Councillor Jones mentioned that there are two grills which are blocked with material at present. They need to be cleared and he will make enquiries on whose responsibility this is.

Councillor W D Griffiths stated that the River Morlais is a Natural Resources Wales responsibility.

8. **Appoint Chair of the Council for the year 2019/20**

It was proposed by Councillor G F Davies and seconded by Councillor W D Griffiths that Councillor G Thomas be the Chair of the Council for the 2019/20 year.

It was so RESOLVED.

9. **Appoint Vice Chair of the Council for the year 2019/20**

It was proposed by Councillor R Willock and seconded by Councillor G R Jones that Councillor N Lloyd be the Vice Chair of the Council for the 2019/20 year.

It was so RESOLVED.

10. **Bryn Hall Committee**

The Chair of the Committee had written to the Council asking for permission to locate a Christmas Tree outside in the front of the Bryn Hall. The Committee also asked if the Council would contribute to the cost of providing the Christmas Tree. The total cost is estimated at £1,600 including VAT and the Committee plans to hold fundraising events. The request is whether the Council would be prepared to contribute if there was a shortfall in funds raised to cover the cost of providing a tree.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to contribute towards the cost of providing a tree. There is no budget sum for this but virement could be made from the contingency sum budgeted.

11. **Letter from Cricket Club regarding permission for erecting a Marquee on the 10th August.**

The Cricket Club is planning to provide a hospitality area on the 10th August when Llangennech Cricket Club are hosting a match against Llanelli Cricket Club. There will be a small bar (licensed) with responsible staff in charge.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to give permission for the proposal.

The Cricket Club also requests permission to place a power point in the small store room adjacent to the kitchen. They plan to place a fridge/freezer in this room.

The Surveyor has no problem with this request.

It was agreed to allow the request.

Councillor I M Williams raised the matter of the Rugby Club being instructed to remove the freezer from the switch room at the entrance to the pavilion.

The Surveyor replied that the switch room had a gas boiler and control switch gear and locating a freezer in this room and plugged into a socket for electricity supply to a boiler was not acceptable.

The Surveyor would be prepared to consider a request for another part of the building to house a freezer.

Councillor G Thomas stated it would be somewhat unjustifiable to say yes to one body and no to another body.

12. **Letter from Cricket Club regarding proposal by Council to amend the management of keys for the pavilion**

The Cricket Club is the only body that has replied to the Council letter to users of the pavilion.

The Cricket Club requests that it be given three sets of keys for the pavilion. This would be one set for the first and second eleven, one set for the junior section and one set for the person responsible for maintenance of the cricket square.

Councillor I M Williams was of the view that one set of keys would be sufficient.

Councillor W D Griffiths felt that the Cricket Club had given an acceptable reason why they needed three sets of keys and proposed that three sets of keys be given to each group.

After due discussion it was agreed that the view of the Council insurers be sought on control of supplying keys to users and that the matter be considered in the June meeting of the Council.

13. **Understanding Welsh Places Project**

An "E" Mail has been received from Elinor Shepley, Understanding Welsh Places Project Officer, asking if the Council could contribute to a new website to be launched this summer. She requests that the Council draft a short narrative describing Llangennech for inclusion on the website.

It was agreed that a statement be prepared for consideration on the June meeting of the Council.

14. Employer Discretionary Policies

There is now a need to undertake a review of the Council's discretionary policy following the introduction of the Local government Pension Scheme (LGPS) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 on the 14th May 2018.

The Clerk had copied the Policy Statement for members consideration. The Policy Statement referred to various regulations and the recommendations.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to accept the document as set out.

15. Maintenance of Recreation Ground Field

The Clerk had copied "E" Mails between the Sports Association and himself and the observations of the Surveyor.

The Sports Association informed the Council that the last match this season would be on the 5th May 2019. The Clerk and Surveyor commented that this meant that the maintenance programme will not be able to be started until after the 5th May.

Last year there was a match on the 22nd May and with the hot dry spell in June the maintenance work was delayed considerably resulting in the field not being available until late September.

The ideal position is that work commences in mid April and the Surveyor's recommendation is that the Council informs the Sporting Bodies that the field will not be available from mid April rather than the Sporting Bodies deciding on the date of the last month.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED that this will be the position in 2020 and sporting bodies will not be able to play on the field after the end of the second week in April.

16. Kidwelly Town Council – Young People Representation

Councillor S Hughes had "E" mailed the Clerk with details of the proposal by Kidwelly Town Council to co-opt two youth representatives on the Council. The young people will be between 16 and 25 and entitled to attend the Full Council and all Council Committees with full speaking rights.

Members considered the possibility of a similar scheme for Llangennech Community Council.

Councillor Willock suggested approaching the Youth Club.

Councillor N Lloyd agreed it would be a good idea especially since the Council provides a recreation ground which is used by a considerable number of young people.

Councillor G Thomas suggested approaching the local schools and there is a need to reach out.

Councillor G R Jones suggested that interested young people could write a CV and appointment could be by interview.

The Chair suggested that the representatives could be appointed for yearly periods.

Councillor G F Davies proposed that approaches be made to Kidwelly Town Council to establish the method they employed to appoint representatives.

After due discussion it was agreed to make enquiries with Kidwelly Town Council and consider the proposal later in the year.

17. Recreation Ground Safety Reports

The Surveyor had received safety reports on the 3 parks taken over from the County Council.

The reports were provided free of charge and extremely detailed with a considerable number of photographs. The reports did not have any costings regarding maintenance work required.

The Surveyor commented that the Council has appointed Wickstead to carry out annual inspection on the parks it owns. The reports from Wickstead are more concise and set out what is required with costings.

The Surveyor suggests that the Council appoint Wickstead to carry out inspection on the 3 parks taken over from the County Council. The cost of the inspection would be £50 per park per year. He accepts that this is additional cost for the Council but it does ensure that a more suitable report is received.

Councillor G F Davies asks that County members follow up on the matter.

Councillor W D Griffiths suggested that Peter Hughes Griffiths be approached.

After due discussion it was agreed that the Surveyor will write a summary report and “E” Mail County members who then can bring it up at County level.

The Surveyor will also include details regarding the removal of the zipwire from Maes Ty Gwyn Park.

18. **Planning Applications**

It was RESOLVED not to object to the following applications:-

S/38663 - Construction of rear single storey extension at
7 Hendre Road

S/38536 - Non material amendment – change position of rear
doors and size of two windows at 81 Hendre Park

19. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

It was RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted, the following matters be considered, in private, and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised.

- i) “E” Mail from Llangennech resident regarding the dumping of grass cuttings in the public cemetery flower bin by a resident of Heol Morlais.

It was agreed that the Surveyor make contact with the Heol Morlais resident.

ii) **Translator**

The former translator had made accusations of irregularities against the Council. It was agreed that the translator be informed that the Council had acted properly as per its Standing Order 28(k).