

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor: W D Griffiths

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. The Chair asked the two representatives from the Llangennech and Bryn Sports Association to address members on the report copied with the agenda papers. The two representatives were Mr P Willock and M Williams. The report was produced by a Sub Committee which included representation from the Community Council of Councillors I M Williams, M I Slader, L M Morgan, J A Seward and R Willock. The report set out a proposal to develop and make greater use of Cae Pownd for sporting purposes mainly to provide additional space for the juniors of the Soccer and Rugby Clubs to train and play games.

The Sports Association asks for permission to reposition the current footpath to allow the creation of a 40 metres by 60 metres playing area on Cae Pownd. The footpath will be moved by at least 15 yards towards the cemetery.

The Association has obtained quotations from 3 companies to re-locate the path and these were £3550, £4500 and £5910 all subject to VAT.

The Association aims to fundraise through charity events and seek grant aid. It believes that the project is achievable within a reasonable timeframe.

Following the address by Mr P Willock the Chair asked for comments or questions from members.

Councillor I M Williams commented and supported the aim of the Association to seek grants.

Mr P Willock agreed that the Association will be seeking grant aid.

Councillor G F Davies referred to the non use of the School playing field by the Soccer Club even though it was specifically provided for them.

Mr P Willock stated that the proposal set out by the Association will be for the benefit of both Rugby and Soccer. There were issues with the terms and conditions of hire of the School playing field resulting in the withdrawal of the Soccer Club from using it.

Councillor J A Seward commented that the proposal under consideration will be for the benefit of soccer and rugby. Mr P Willock is asking for a consent from the Community Council to move forward on the proposal.

The Surveyor commented that there is likely to be opposition from local residents to the proposal. He has confirmation from the Planning Officer that a planning application will not be required.

Councillor N Lloyd stated that there will be parking issues but hopes that they will not be too significant.

Councillor J A Seward stated that the parking problems near the recreation ground will ease if Cae Pownd is developed. Councillor G R Jones believed that there is a need to draw a line under the School field project and move forward.

The Chair wishes the Sports Association well and hopes the proposal will be successful.

Councillor J A Seward moved that consent be given to the proposal from the Sports Association.

Councillor L M Morgan seconded the proposal.

It was agreed unanimously that the Council give permission for the proposal as set out. It requests that the Association keep the Council informed of progress and planned timing of commencement of work.

Councillor R Willock asked whether the Council groundsman could give assistance to moving the path.

The Surveyor believed that there should not be input from the Council groundsman on the grounds that he has very little spare resource time and that for Scheme Management purposes it should be carried out by a contractor.

3. **Declaration of Interests**

There was a declaration of personal interest by Councillor R Willock as he is the father of Mr P Willock who addressed members earlier in the meeting on the Cae Pownd proposal by the LBSA.

4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th June 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor G F Davies and seconded by Councillor I M Williams that the minutes be accepted other than to add to Minute 6(ii) that Wendy Walters was the current Director of Regeneration and Policy.

It was so RESOLVED.

i) **Public Spaces Protection Order**

Further signage has been provided by the County Council and erected on gates, fences etc.

Councillor I M Williams is of the view that the signage provided is confusing and encourages people to take dogs into the park. The previous Community Council signs were better in his view.

Councillor N Lloyd reported that Facebook comments were indicating that the problem with dog mess is improving.

The Chair is to ask for more visits by the dog warden.

Councillor I M Williams stated that some people have been prosecuted.

Councillor G R Jones asked as to whether the Community Council could also put up its own signage.

The Surveyor referred to previous signage being put up but believed that it had little effect and there is also the legal issue with regard to enforcement.

The Chair recommended that advice from the County Council be sought. This was agreed.

Councillor J A Seward asked for signage to state that dogs should be on a lead in the recreation ground.

Councillor M I Slader asked that the dog warden be approached.

ii) **Highway Issues – Yellow Lines etc.**

Yellow lines have been painted on the road at Heol y Parc.

The request for additional yellow lines at Maes Road and Park Lane will have to be raised with the Highway Inspector.

The Chair referred to a recent “E” Mail she received stating that No Right Turn signage at Maesydderwen were to be erected by the 2nd July 2019. This has not happened and the Chair will follow up on the matter.

iii) **Maes Ty Gwyn Park**

The Surveyor reported that there are still issues regarding the bin and domestic refuse is being placed in it by local residents. The bin is emptied every fortnight but this is not sufficient. Residents are abusing the use of this bin. He is unclear as to what to recommend to the Council. Councillor G R Jones suggested a leaflet exercise as part of the antisocial behaviour exercise.

The Surveyor suggested that the large bin be taken away and just provide a small bin near the playground area.

Councillor J A Seward commented that the problem could be arising following tighter controls at the Recycling Centre.

Councillor G R Jones referred to a bin survey that is to be carried out by the County Council. Councillor G F Davies agreed with the Surveyor’s suggestion of removing the large bin.

Councillor M I Slader felt that the County restriction of 2 black bags a week could be contributing to the problem.

Councillor G R Jones suggests that the matter be left until the September meeting of the Council.

The Chair asked if everyone was in agreement with the latter proposal to which the answer was affirmative.

The Clerk reported that a licence for Maes Ty Gwyn has been signed by both parties.

Councillor L M Morgan asked if this meant that the land ownership issue had been resolved and the Surveyor replied that this was not the case. The licence merely means that the Community Council can now make an application for grant aid.

5. **Surveyors Report**

- i) Bryn Hall decorating – according to the Caretaker the best month would be August and therefore work will be programmed for this month. The Caretaker also reported problems in the gent's toilet area which will have to be addressed.

ii) **Section 106 Money – Bryn Park**

The Recreation Sub Committee held a meeting on the 1st July 2019 to meet County Councillor D Cundy, Bynea Ward, to discuss the availability of Section 106 Money that could be transferred from the Bynea Ward to Llangennech Ward. Previous discussions between the Surveyor and the County Council indicated that some £60,000 was remaining and this needs to be spent/committed by August 2019.

Councillor Cundy informed the Sub Committee that he can only commit some £25,000 to Llangennech. The remaining £35,000 will be used on two schemes in his Ward. The Surveyor informed the Sub Committee that he will have to retender the project because the new Scheme will be considerably different to the original proposal.

The Surveyor referred to the financial appraisal of the Community Council finances carried out by the Clerk for 2019/20 and 2020/21. The Clerk in his report indicated that the Council could find up to £12,000 for a scheme in 2020/21. A scheme costing £30,000 plus VAT could be funded by £25,000 Section 106 Money and £12,000 Community Council Money.

The Surveyor will also apply for grant support for the project. The Surveyor has investigated possible Lottery Money but he is not very hopeful of being successful. In all Lottery Schemes demand needs to be proved to the satisfaction of the Lottery Assessors. He stated that the maximum grant from this source would be £5,000.

The Surveyor also mentioned the possibility of being successful in a grant application to Play Sufficiency Wales Scheme.

The Surveyor will include provision for toddlers, older age group and disabled in a proposal.

The Surveyor is planning to go out to tender in August and certain items such as fencing will not be included in the specification.

Councillor M I Slader asked if the proposal should include for fencing to which the Surveyor replied in the negative.

Councillor J A Seward believed that the Council needs to make a commitment for this proposal at the Bryn Park and proposed that the Council proceed. Councillor N Lloyd asked for an option to add on additional items in future years when Council money could become available.

The Surveyor replied that he will allow for phasing.

Councillor J A Seward referred to the possibility of the Bryn Hall Committee becoming involved in the future to raise money and perhaps apply for grants.

Councillor I M Williams agreed that there was a need to proceed and therefore seconded the proposal from Councillor J A Seward.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED to accept the recommendation and proceed with the Scheme.

6. County Councillor Report

Councillor G R Jones reported:

- i) Solar farm. A Jessica Taylor wishes to arrange a presentation/public consultation event at the Community Centre in the next three weeks. This will be regarding a development proposal for a solar farm at Blaenhiraeth.
- ii) Surfacing lane behind Bridge Street. A date for the work has not been set yet.
- iii) Property at 58 Station Road. Repairs are ongoing.
- iv) Farmers Arms – repairs are to take place.
- v) Parc Morlais - there are two properties which appear to have been abandoned and are in a poor state.
- vi) Antisocial behaviour - patrols by the police are to be increased.
- vii) Attended a bio diversity forum which was interesting.
- viii) Councillor G R Jones circulated a leaflet detailing contact numbers for reporting on County Lines/Counter Terrorism.
- ix) Aber Llchwyr - land has been cleared and there are concerns with the method of dealing with existing Japanese Knotweed. Development is probable.
- x) There is a French evening organised at the Bryn Hall this evening.

Councillor G Thomas reported:

- i) Brynhyfryd property, No. 147, has been empty for some time.
- ii) Fly tipping - this is still an issue as exemplified at Gipsy Lane.
- iii) Bus Shelters – new shelters to be provided at both sides of the road at Brynhyfryd. Councillor J A Seward felt that all the shelters in the village are a bit scruffy and dirty, as exemplified with the one outside the Coop.
- iv) Teenage Cancer event - a successful event took place last weekend at the Community Centre, organised by Marion and Chris Slader. This raised over £2000.

7. Internal Audit Report for Year Ended 31.3.2019

A copy of the Internal Audit Report had previously been circulated to members with the agenda papers for this evening's meeting.

The Auditor was pleased to confirm that all the prescribed tests in relation to the Council's internal control systems have been satisfactorily completed and as a result there are no matters that need to be brought to the attention of the Council on this occasion.

It was RESOLVED to accept the report and it was agreed that Mr Lyn Llewellyn be appointed as the Council Internal Auditor for the year ending 31.3.2020 and he be allowed to take as much time as necessary to complete the Internal Audit work which has to take place within the deadline for completion and approval of the Annual Return as set out by the External Auditor.

8. Community Fund Seminar 26/7/2019

The Surveyor will attend the Seminar which is to be held at the Botanical Gardens, Llanarthne.

9. Presentation for T G Lewis

Councillor I M Williams suggested that a presentation be made to former Councillor T G Lewis at next year's annual meeting.

10. Fforwm Cyswllt

Two documents were circulated to members following the recent meeting of Fforwm Cyswllt.

i) **Adjacent Landowners and the Public Highway**

This is a guide to roles and responsibilities and in summary the document sets out the following responsibilities with regard to highways.

- a) Roadside boundary trees and hedges are the responsibility of the adjacent landowner.
- b) Roadside ditch is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner.
- c) Highway verge is the responsibility of the Highway Authority.

ii) **Town and Community Council – Community Lighting Project**

A report has been prepared by the Highways and Transportation Services Manager indicating that supplies of low pressure sodium replacement units are being phased out as the industry changes to LED lighting and that there is currently only one supplier in the market which is Philips. The company has stated that from July 2019 they will stop taking orders for the low pressure sodium units.

Llangennech Community Council has 28 low pressure sodium lighting units and the capital cost of replacing these would be £3,892.

The County is offering a loan to finance this expenditure which has been backed by the Welsh Government which would be repayable over an eight year period.

The loan repayments would be £486.50 per annum over an eight year period. The electricity cost of these lamps is estimated at £271.41 per annum compared to the present cost of £870.40 per year.

The County Council requires confirmation from Llangennech Community Council by the 19th July 2019 whether it wishes to take up the offer.

In the current financial year the County Council will charge Llangennech Community Council as follows:

Energy	£833.33
Maintenance	<u>£1435.51</u>
	£2268.84
VAT	<u>£ 453.77</u>
Total	£2722.61

The Clerk has sent an “E” Mail to the County asking for clarification of how the new proposed charges will compare with the present charges.

On face value it would appear that the charges should be less but there has been no response to date from the County Council.

11. Western Mail – Plant a Tree

The Scheme is to plant 15 cherry and oak trees this year in Wales to commemorate the 150 years that the Western Mail has been publishing its paper.

Western Mail asks for nominations for locations for trees to be planted and reasons for suggesting planting at that location. Nominations need to be received by the 15th July 2019.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED not to make a nomination for a location in Llangennech.

12. Disabled Parking near Junior School

The County Council proposes to create a disabled parking spot on the highway outside the school.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED that the matter be passed for consideration at the Governors Meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

13. Hywel Dda University Health Board – Developing Trauma Services

The Board is proposing to develop Glangwily Hospital as the Interim Trauma unit in the years leading up to the building of a new Urgent and Planned Care Hospital. This is alongside work by the national Major Trauma Network to locate a Major Trauma Centre for South Wales at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff.

All current acute and emergency services will remain at Bronglais Hospital and Withybush Hospital and they will continue to deal with less severe traumatic injury.

The engagement period will run from 24th June 2019 to 5th August 2019.

There will be a consultation session at Carmarthen Bowling Club, Picton Terrace on the 29th July from 3pm to 6pm.

14. Financial Appraisal for 2019/20 and 2020/21

1. There is a budget deficit planned for 2019/20 of £8,220.
2. The General Balance at 31/03/2020 is likely to be £39,510. This is slightly below recommended level.
3. In the financial year 2020/21 there is likely to be a slight budget surplus with no increase in the precept required if expenditure and income levels follow the current budget. This will be as a result of the budget sum of £5,300 for the renovation of the pavilion drains in 2019/20 no longer required in 2020/21 and also the effect of the significant increase in burial charges in 2019/20.
4. To create a significant surplus of funds in 2020/21 for a specific project the budget sums in the Financial Year 2019/20 for the removal of trees and landscaping at the Cemetery, £6,500 and removal of trees at the Community Centre, £3,750 will need to be reduced to say £2,000 and the balance re-allocated to a specific project in 2020/21. This would allow a sum of £8,250 being made available to contribute to funding work such as improvements at the Bryn Park.
5. If the precept is increased by 2% above inflation a further sum of £4,400 would be available in addition to the £8,250 above making a total sum of £12,650. A sum of £25,000 Section 106 money is being made available for the Bryn Park and therefore a scheme costing £37,650 could be funded in 2020/21.
6. The above is based on current day prices and does not take account of inflation.

15. Planning Applications

It was RESOLVED not to object to the following applications.

S/39045 - Proposed single storey rear extension at 7 Maes Road

S/38968 - Discharge of condition 8 on S/38053 (surface water drainage Scheme) on land adjacent 31 Bridge Street

16. **Post Office**

Councillor M I Slader reported that the proposal to locate a permanent sub post office at the Coop raises the issue of it being too close to the post office at the Bryn.

It was agreed that she will make further enquiries and report back next meeting.

17. **Sponsored Walk**

This will take place this coming Friday with the aim of raising money for the Urdd Eisteddfod in two years time.