

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on Monday, 10th February, 2020, at the Llangennech Community Centre.

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

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

1. The Chair welcomed members of the public, representatives of the L.B.S.A and members to tonight's meeting.
2. She asked representatives of the LBSA, P Willock and E Williams, to address the meeting.

Mr P Willock stated that a licence was sufficient for the FAW Trust organisation but is not clear whether it will be sufficient for other grant bodies if their application is successful. The proposal does not qualify for Sports Association grant of £25,000. Confirmation of recreation ground security procedures was requested. The Clerk replied that from Monday to Friday the groundsman opens the gate in the morning and the security person closes in the evening at dusk. The Security person opens and closes the gate on Saturday and Sunday. Each sporting body has a key to the gate and the pavilion and if they are in attendance at the recreation ground the sporting body will have opened and closed the gate. In any case the security person will check in the evening after the sporting bodies have left the ground.

Mr Willock also stated that a response for a grant application to the Lottery Trust and CIFIW is awaited.

There is an attempt to build bridges between all sporting bodies in the village and there is a joint fund raising exercise taking place on the 24th April.

LBSA has no intention to carry out any work on the hedge on the edge of the cricket outfield.

The Surveyor informed the meeting that a draft licence agreement is nearing completion and copies will be sent out and discussion will then take place with the LBSA and the Cricket Club. There will be conditions regarding access to the field beyond the cricket outfield. No vehicles will be allowed other than contractor vehicles to carry out construction/maintenance work. Management of this area will also be important.

Mr E Williams asked that the Council carry out maintenance of this area as it does for the main recreation ground field.

Mr P Willock asked that there be two entrances be kept open for this area.

3. The Chair then asked for the group from the public who wished to speak on speeding vehicles along Penllwyngwyn Road to address the meeting.

Mr M Dyer of 73 Penllwyngwyn Road referred to his meeting with County Highways in 2018 when he requested speed retarders which has not been forthcoming. There is a need for more retarders than is currently in existence on this road.

The representatives asked for the assistance and support of the Community Council to achieve this.

The Chair stated that a meeting needs to be arranged with County Highways.

PCSO Stephen Lloyd agreed to raise the issue and concerns with the police tomorrow. He will attempt to organise that there is a more frequent attendance by the speed control vans along this road.

Councillor I M Williams again referred to the number of speed retarders along the highway at Three Crosses. This seems to be effective in controlling speed.

4. The Chair asked members of the public who wished to raise issues concerning Maes Ty Gwyn Park to address the meeting.

One concern was with safety on the pavement when walking to Llangennech School. The pavement level in their view is too low and there is a serious risk to users. They asked for a new path to be created.

Referring to Maes Ty Gwyn Park they are again concerned with safety to users. They were promised a phase 2 for the park which has not materialised.

The Surveyor detailed the recent history of parks in the village including the plan to close the three parks owned by the County Council. The Community Council last year agreed to take over the maintenance of these three parks. He mentioned that the safety flooring will be repaired next financial year and a new seat has been provided.

The residents felt that the provision of a fence should be a priority. The Surveyor replied that the provision of a fence would cost several thousands of pounds and is not budgeted for in the next financial year. He also stated that the bins are regularly emptied but there is a problem with a local resident using the bin provided in the park for depositing household refuse. Councillor G R Jones mentioned that there is an attempt to establish who that person is.

The preference of residents was that a fence be provided.

Councillor J A Seward suggested that a Committee be created by local residents with the aim of fund raising to raise money to improve the Maes Ty Gwyn Park and for other purposes. She referred to the success of the Bryn Hall Committee in raising funds and was a significant factor in the successful lottery grant application. Councillor G R Jones also mentioned that Section 106 money could be forthcoming from local development and referred to possible development on the land adjacent to Tafarn Morlais. A possible leaflet drop could be organised.

Councillor N Lloyd proposed that a Maes Ty Gwyn facebook page could be created.

5. The Chair asked PCSO Stephen Lloyd to address the meeting.

He gave details regarding crimes for the last 3 months and these were:-

November	7 crimes
December	21 crimes
January	4 crimes
February	5 crimes to date.

There were therefore 37 crimes between November and today and these are analysed as follows:-

18	-	Violence without injury/domestic
3	-	Violence with injury
3	-	Vehicle offences – two at Brynhyfryd/Nantygro
2	-	Shoplifts
2	-	Theft

- 2 - Crimes against society
- 4 - Public Order offences
- 2 - Criminal damage
- 1 - Possession of drugs

PCSO Lloyd referred to some cannabis issues on a Friday night. He requested that if members of the public notice offences then they should contact 07422076687. He also stated that there is a new police officer covering the whole area.

Councillor N Lloyd asked if there is a problem with county lines and the reply was that it seems to have gone away.

6. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

7. Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th January 2020

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

It was so RESOLVED.

i) Heol y Parc

There has been a series of “E” Mails from the County to Councillor G R Jones and the latest information is as follows:-

Roadway - the road is not on the resurfacing programme for 2020/21 but it is possible that repairs could be carried out.

Trees - there is a consensus that some of the trees are looking unhealthy. A meeting is to be arranged in the near future but no date has been fixed to date.

ii) Rhandir Terrace - letter from J A Griffiths to S Pillinger, Head of Transport.

Another letter has been received from T Voisey raising the same issues.

The Chair reported that the County Council is to carry out a detailed survey and measurement along this roads in the near future.

Councillor R Willock asked for traffic calming measures.

The Chair will enquire as to when this survey is to be carried out.

Councillor W D Griffiths stated that the Community Council needs to have the opportunity to consider the report when it materialises.

8. Surveyors Report

i) Possessory title

Still awaiting completion.

ii) Lottery Grant

The money has been received and the Lottery Commission suggested that the success of the application and details of the Scheme be publicised.

It was agreed to publicise on Facebook and Llangennech Notes in the Llanelli Star.

iii) Wicksteed

The Surveyor is to meet a representative from the company on the 25th February regarding the Bryn Park. They will also visit the Maes Ty Gwyn Park.

iv) Japanese Knotweed

This problem will be assessed in a couple of months time.

v) Bridge Inn – Sale of Land

The Surveyor will meet the lawyers tomorrow.

vi) Recreation Ground

Three trees will have to be removed and this will be done later this week. The cost will be £750.

vii) Cemetery

The Surveyor has met the contractor D N Davies to discuss various maintenance issues with regard to the roadway, grass cutting, roundabout and hedging. The work will cost £880 and soil might have to be purchased which would be an additional cost.

There is also a need to provide new fencing in the corner at the entrance. It was agreed to proceed.

viii) **Highway Issues**

Councillor W D Griffiths reported that road potholes need addressing at the junction of Maes Road and Afon Road and also at the Talyclun lights.

Councillor I M Williams stated that there are three manholes along Afon Road that need to be repaired.

9. County Councillor Report

County Councillor G R Jones reported:

- i) A tree has been removed from outside the Senior Citizen's Hall.
- ii) School transport – there are still ongoing issues.
- iii) Met Maes y Bryn residents to discuss views and any problems. There are still highway/traffic issues to solve.
- iv) Education Scrutiny Committee. He attended a recent meeting and was informed that there is an additional £2.4 million to be made available from the Welsh Government for school repairs.

There is an issue with regard to school mergers and it is possible that some 15-20 schools may have to merge.

There will also be a catchment review.

County Councillor G Thomas reported:

- i) There is a full council meeting on Wednesday and the plan is that County properties will be zero net carbon by 2030.
- ii) Corporate parenting. The Welsh Government congratulated the County on its work in this area. The first minister, M Drakeford visited the County recently.
- iii) There is a meeting next week regarding travel to School issues.
- iv) There will be a meeting tomorrow at the Gwendraeth School to discuss curriculum, budget and staff issues.

10. Precept for 2020/21

The Clerk had prepared a detailed financial statement setting out the probable position for 2019/20 and estimate for 2020/21.

The 2020/21 estimates are based on the following:-

- i) Costs have been increased in general in the range of 3% to 5%. Wages have been increased by 5% and Salaries by 2%.

- ii) The 2020/21 budget includes for the following:

	£
Cemetery	
Landscaping/Additional Maintenance	5800
Community Centre	
Removal of trees	1700
Playground Maintenance etc. (incl. Cae Pownd)	3000
Asset Transfers	
General Maintenance	5000
Maes Ty Gwyn Park	1000
Bryn Park – new equipment (net payment)	14000
Footpaths	
Japanese Knotweed problem	1000
Bowling Green	
Repair to Side	2000
Admin	
Web Site translation	2000
Pavilion	
New Fire Alarm System	1500

- iii) Charges for other Council services have not been increased. Burial charges were increased in April 2019.

- iv) The financial document is based on increasing the precept per property by 5% for 2020/21.

- v) The financial document as presented showed that there will be a surplus of £3450 for 2019/20 resulting in total balances increasing to £102,786.

There is a budget surplus planned for 2020/21 of £11,363. This is due to income from the sale of land to the Bridge Inn owner to create a new access. The sale is estimated to provide an income of £15,900. Total balances will increase to £114,149 with the General Balance increasing to £62,659. This is in line with the recommended level of 3 months expenditure.

After due discussion it was proposed by Councillor G R Jones and seconded by Councillor I M Williams that the precept per property be increased by 5%. This will result in the precept per property increasing from £113.81 to £119.50 with a resulting precept of £234,663 on the County Council.

It was so RESOLVED.

Councillor G R Jones was of the view that the Council needs to promote and publicise the work of the Council. Perhaps use social media and other methods.

Councillor W D Griffiths suggested that Wales on Line could be used.

The Surveyor referred to the need to promote the success of the lottery application for the Bryn Park and to publicise other work it carries out.

Councillor L M Morgan suggested preparation of a newsletter with a leaflet drop. Councillor N Lloyd stated that the public is unaware of the work the Community Council and the Council needs to develop this aspect.

Councillor W D Griffiths raised the matter of planting flowers/shrubs on the Troserch Roundabout. He asked that the Council looks at this again.

The Chair asked that the Council arrange for quotations to be provided for consideration by the Council with regard to flowers/shrubs for Troserch and Penprys roundabouts.

11. Local Development Plan

The Deposit Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) has been published for consultation along with the following documents:

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategies Environmental Assessment (SEA)
Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC Supplementary Planning Guidance.
Burry Inlet Supplementary Planning Guidance

The consultation on the Deposit Revised LDP and the above documents will be between 29th January and 13th March 2020.

The Deposit Revised LDP sets out the land use policies and proposals including allocation and use of land through to 2033.

Comments on the published documents should be submitted, in writing, preferably using the online consultation tools by no later than 4.30pm, 13th March 2020.

With regard to Llangennech and Bryn there are some 5 areas allocated to residential allocation. These are Maesydderwen, land near Tafarn Morlais, Clos Plas Isaf, Maes y Bryn and Harddfan.

Councillor G R Jones is against development at Clos Plas Isaf and Harddfan.

The Surveyor accepts that some development should take place in a village and was against allocating all of the land area at Harddfan for development.

After due discussion it was proposed by Councillor G R Jones and seconded by Councillor W D Griffiths that the Council should respond by commenting that there has been over development in the village and there is concern with the ability of the infrastructure to deal with such development.

Councillor R Willock put forward the proposal that the Community Council consider purchasing the parcel of land owned by the County Council at the top of Hendre Road and then retain it as a green belt. This land is not included in the current LDP for residential allocation.

The Surveyor commented that the County will not sell this land for housing development.

Councillor G R Jones stated that no development will take place on this land until at least 2033.

The Chair stated that it was important to keep this land as a green belt between Llangennech and Bryn.

12. Cricket Club Letter – Fencing at the Park for Sponsorship Boards

The Cricket Club requests permission to erect a fence (1 metre high by 50 metres in length) just beyond the outfield on the railway side of the ground to accommodate advertising boards.

Each board will be approximately 2m – 2.5m in width and will be removed at the end of the season. Planning permission will not be required.

The Surveyor commented that the proposal will result in obstructing one access point to the area beyond the outfield which is under discussion with the LBSA for use as a training/practice area.

After due discussion it was RESOLVED, in principle, to agree to the proposal subject to further discussions regarding its location, in particular, to the obstruction of one access point to land beyond the outfield.

The letter also asks for the Council to consider investing in security cameras at various locations in the recreation ground.

This matter needs to be further considered. There will be a capital cost to such a proposal which is not included in the budget for 2020/21.

Councillor R Willock asked for consideration of the hedge being lowered.

The Surveyor commented that further discussions will need to take place with the LBSA and the Cricket Club.

13. Proposed Prohibiting of waiting at any time, Park Lane, Afon Road

A proposal has been received from the County's Environment Department with regard to the above proposal to prohibit waiting at the junctions of Park Lane, Maes Road and Afon Road.

It was agreed to support the proposal.

14. Hywel Dda University Health Board Proposal

A letter has been received with regard to the Out of Hours service. The Health Board's Transformation Management Office has recently begun a process of mapping opportunities to remodel the Out of Hours Service and a multi-stakeholder workshop has proved successful in developing the vision and aspirations of the service.

There will be a temporary service change from the 9th March 2020. This will involve rationalising the overnight (11pm to 8am) Out of Hours GP shift in Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli and redirecting patients to the 24/7 GP at the Hospital's Minor Injuries Unit. The Health Board will also move the existing Out of Hours GP shift from Llandysul to Glangwili General Hospital, Carmarthen.

The letter and contents were considered and the view of the Chair was that she fears that this temporary proposal will become permanent,

15. Minimum Price for Alcohol

The Welsh Government is introducing a minimum unit price for alcohol of 50p. in Wales from 2nd March 2020.

16. Wales Audit Office Report

The timescale for Councils to publish their accounts are set out in law and yet only 486 Councils (66%) met this deadline in 2019. As at 30th November 2019 while a further 51 Audit had been completed, 38 Community Councils still had not submitted accounts for audit. In addition, the number of qualified audits is still too high at 218 Councils.

The comment does not apply to the accounts of Llangennech Community Council.

17. Wales Audit Office

From 2020/21 onwards the Wales Audit Office proposes a three year audit programme which is designed to meet statutory responsibilities while providing a sufficient level of audit assurance at a reasonable cost.

18. Community and Town Councils Conference

This will be held at Parc y Scarlets on the 18th March 2020 and will run from 10am to 4pm. This conference is organised by Carmarthenshire County Council and One Voice Wales.

The aim of the conference is to share information network and discuss some of the key issues for the County in the coming year.

There is a need to register if anyone proposes to attend.

19. Proposal to Divert Registered Public Footpath 36/112 and 36/114 – Brynmartin, Bryn

There is a proposal to divert sections of the above public footpaths, where they pass through the property of Bryn Martin, Pen y Bryn, Llanelli.

The Clerk commented that this diversion has already taken place and has been in existence for some five years.

The proposal was noted.

20. Planning Applications

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

S/40079 - Proposed replacement equine shelter at land off Troserch Road.

S/40100 - Proposed balcony to existing attic window/doorway at Acorn Cottage, Troserch Road.

S/40185 - Provision of off-street parking for single car to front boundary complete with drop kerb at 12 Maes Road.

The Chair raised the issue that a planning application for development at the ruins, Troserch Road is likely to come up for consideration soon. There is a need to refer back to the previous application and concerns raised at that time.