

**CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGERNYW
LLANGERNYW COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Community Council was held on Tuesday night, January the 9th 2018 at 6.00pm in Gwytherin Community Centre.

1. Welcome and Apologies: Gwyn Williams, Gerallt Evans, Elwen (Clerk).

Present:

Diane Roberts, Emlyn Williams, Gwynfor Davies, Ann Vaughan, Elen Edwards, Clwyd Roberts, Einir Williams (Chairman for tonight's meeting),
County Councillor Garffild Lloyd Lewis.

Garffild agreed to take the council minutes as the Clerk was absent.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – IF THERE IS ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA THAT IS LINKED TO A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, THEY SHOULD DECLARE AN INTEREST.

No declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on December the 19th 2017

Minutes from the meeting held on December the 19th were discussed. They were proposed as being a correct record by Elen Edwards, Gwynfor Davies seconded the proposal.

4. Matters arising from the minutes (for information purposes)

4.1 74.4 Councillor Garffild Lewis confirmed that he had contacted Iwan Ellis from the Highways Department. He said that Iwan confirmed that he had already measured the speed near the school once before Christmas and was intending to go again before the end of January. There was some confusion as the Clerk had also received a letter from Vic Turner, one of the Department's chief officers, saying that the County Council isn't able to provide a project to slow down traffic. However, Iwan will be dropping by to measure the speed to be able to prepare a report for the County and Community Councils.

There was a discussion about the whole matter and regarding other possible measures to slow traffic down in the village. Clwyd Roberts asked if it was possible to find out when and what time Iwan Ellis intends to visit the village. Garffild was asked to contact Iwan Ellis to receive confirmation of his arrangements.

4.2 74.15.9 There was a discussion regarding the difficulty with appointing a new Clerk. The following points were discussed:

4.2.1 Sharing some of the Clerk's duties and responsibilities between the members as a temporary measure. (It was agreed to put this suggestion on the agenda for next month's meeting, to draw up a rota and share the duties during the next meeting).

4.2.2 Consider employing one Clerk to serve 3 – 4 Community Councils in the area. This is already the case in some areas and communities. Councillor Garffild said that this is a growing problem in a number of areas and that he raised the matter in the County Council's Cabinet Meeting today to address the problem. The County Council have arranged a County and Town Council Forum on January the 31st and it was agreed the Forum would be an appropriate and suitable setting to discuss the matter further. Elen Edwards said she hopes to be present and shared an open invitation for any other members to accompany her. The Councillor Garffild will also be attending.

4.2.3 The members discussed the idea of appointing a 'freelance' Clerk through a jobs agency. Usually, the agencies charge a lot more than £8 an hour and there was also some uncertainty regarding Community Council's right to employ agency staff. Einir Williams was asked to contact One Voice Wales to ask for guidance – regarding the right to use an agency and the right to pay more than the statutory rate. Ann Vaughan mentioned that cleaners and other agency workers received at least £10 an hour so it would be very hard to compete with those rates.

4.2.4 The possibility of advertising for a Clerk on the County Council's website. Elen Edwards agreed to contact the appropriate officers to ask for their consent.

4.2.5 Two other matters regarding advertising were discussed – using the Community and Town Council Clerks' website (Diane) and advertising on Social Media (Clwyd). Diane agreed to research the Clerks' website and Einir said that she had already advertised the post on Social Media and hadn't received a response as of yet. She will continue to advertise the post on Social Media.

- 4.2.6 Gwynfor Davies said that part of the problem was trying to measure how much work is involved and how many hours? Elen Edwards said that they could develop a more flexible system with some of the duties being shared amongst the members. But, she said, the work involving taking minutes in meetings and dealing with correspondence could be completed by an external individual. This matter will be discussed in more detail in next month's meeting.
- 4.2.7 To bring the matter regarding the Clerk to a close, it was noted that Elwen should display an 'Out of Office' notice on her Community Council Clerk address until a new Clerk is appointed. Einir Williams was asked to contact Elwen to arrange this.

5. Matters regarding the Roads and the Environment:

- 5.1 It was said that Hendre Ddu Bridge has now re-opened following months and months of work. Clwyd Roberts asked if anyone had seen an 'artic' lorry crossing the bridge and he was concerned that there was a bend in the middle of the bridge. Ann Vaughan said that she was aware that lorries had used the bridge without any trouble and that she had also driven a Land Rover and trailer over the bridge without any trouble.
- 5.2 Ann Vaughan said that she had contacted the County Council's regional office in Llanrwst to complain about the condition of the ditches near Bryngwylan and the need to resurface the road on Cefn Coch Hill, that a ditch was flowing into the road on Ty'n Pistyll Hill (the County Council has asked a farmer to clear it) and Ann explained that several different departments in the Council deal with different matters and areas.
- 5.3 The Councillor Garfield Lewis explained that an effective system was in place to record any matters such as those above (roads and the environment) on Conwy Council's website. He also said that the Department for Roads and the Environment were required to respond within 10 days once a problem has been recorded.

6 Budget and Tax (precept)

- 6.1 Elen Edwards explained that the budget needs to be updated for the last three months of the year to include the Clerk's costs and any additional costs. The budget was updated to include the reimbursement costs as compensation for the deficit in the wages since 2014. Einir Williams confirmed that the sum was £534.17 and it was agreed to pay the sum through the usual wages system. Emlyn Williams proposed and Elen Edwards seconded the proposal.
- 6.2 There was a discussion regarding tax (precept). It was noted that the Eisteddfod was coming to the area in 2019 and that the Community Council could make a donation by raising the precept. Rather than the previous suggestion, it was agreed that the Appeal Committee should submit an application to the Community Council for a financial donation instead of including it on the precept.
- 6.3 Diane Roberts proposed increasing the tax rate by 2% and Einir Williams said that this would add £256 to the coffers during the next financial year. Elen Edwards suggested that the council should consider a higher increase so that there would be reserves available to go towards any unexpected expenditure in the future. Diane Roberts' proposal (2%) was seconded by Ann Vaughan.
- 6.4 The Councillor Garfield said – to give some context – the County Council are considering increasing the Council Tax by up to 5% but there will be no confirmation of this for some weeks.
- 6.5 Clwyd Roberts proposed an amendment to change the 2% to a specific increase of £300. This was seconded by Gwynfor Davies. The amended was accepted by the members.
- 6.6 Elen Edwards offered to complete the paperwork for the Precept and to present it to the County Council by the specified date.

7 Correspondence:

- 7.1 Einir Williams mentioned correspondence by One Voice Wales containing a report on the organisation's work. There was also another letter from One Voice Wales regarding a presentation by North Wales Police in Llansannan on January the 24th. (Emlyn Williams will be attending).
- 7.2 Correspondence by Conwy/Denbigh area's Health Committee including a training programme – Diane Roberts mentioned a presentation from the Health Council and that she had asked for the presentation slides to share them with members.
- 7.3 Letter from the Urdd asking for a financial donation.

8 Paying bills:

- 8.1 It was agreed to pay the following bills –
- Y Gadlas £4.00
 - Clerk £875.78
 - Election £140.60, £151.47, £139.01
 - The Centre £57.00

9 Local Matters:

- 9.1** Ann Vaughan – “the legal papers regarding the toilets have arrived and have confirmed that Bro Cernyw Fund are the building’s owners by now. Legal bills to be paid (Steve Teale to pay costs).”
- 9.2** Diane Roberts – more salt is needed for the salt box near Glan Collen (Diane to contact Conwy Council). She also mentioned that one of the villagers had raised the need to place a CCTV camera near the toilets to prevent vandalism and misconduct (Ann had to clean some mess that had been left in the toilet recently).
- 9.3** Diane has received an application from Community Wellbeing officers to give the Council a presentation (Diane to contact them to arrange a date). Discussion regarding possible grants to grow wild flowers in the village (Diane to research this further and submit an application if applicable).
- 9.4** Emlyn Williams – roads in the area need to be cleared following the recent inclement weather.
- 9.5** Clwyd Roberts – the wall near the Remembrance Garden needs to be fixed and tidied up (Clwyd to use Conwy’s ERF website to record this matter).
- 9.6** The situation regarding cutting the grass on the football field. The Councillor Garffild Lewis explained the background and said the situation between the School, the County Council the Centre’s Committee and the Football Club was complex. There is a Service Level Agreement between the School and the Council to cut the grass during the school terms and cutting the grass after these periods would cost around £140 a go. This isn’t the School’s responsibility. Garffild suggested that the Club and Centre’s representatives should meet the School’s Headteacher to agree on a way forward.
- 9.7** Gwynfor Davies – none
- 9.8** Elen Edwards – none
- 9.9** Councillor Garffild Lewis – received an apology from BT regarding the delay with the plan to complete the Broadband connection for Gwytherin village. The reason for this was the recent inclement weather. The company will endeavour to complete the work as soon as possible. One of the Gwytherin residents contacted the Councillor to ask him what the situation was regarding the mobile phone mast that was meant to be placed on site near the village some years ago. Emlyn said that they won’t be proceeding with the work and Elen said she had some information to be passed on to Garffild.
- 9.10** Einir Williams – Einir said that a planning application had arrived late so isn’t included on the agenda. It was agreed to include it on the committee’s next agenda and Diane Roberts was asked to contact the County Council to ask for an extension to offer comments on the application after the specified date of January the 30th.
- 9.11** The Council also needs to formally approve the decision to give grants to local societies and organisations. It was agreed to address this in the next meeting.

Date and location of the next meeting:

February the 6th in Llangernyw.

Garffild Lloyd Lewis

Recorded on January the 9th 2018