

BRO CERNYW COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
7:30YH 29TH MARCH 2023
HELD IN PANDY TUDUR

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1 All were welcomed by Clwyd Roberts (CR)

1.2 Present: Jane Roberts (JR), Ann Vaughan (AV), Myrddin Davies (MGD), Diane Roberts (DR), Mark Davies (MD), Sara Thomas (ST), Gwydion Jones (GJ), Einir Williams (EW), Catrin Griffiths Clerk (CWG)

1.3 Apologies: Austin Roberts (AR)

CR also welcomed member of the public to the meeting who had asked to speak beforehand – Non Davies and Julia Parry.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

AV - 6.3.

3 MINUTES TO APPROVE 22ND FEBRUARY 2023

Proposed correct by MGD and seconded by JR.

4 MATTERS ARISING

11- Dei happy to cut the grass for another year.

Dog fouling signs have been up for a week however disappointingly, more bags have appeared on the branches.

Field behind the school – discussion continues –(AR)

5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 0/50533: Bwthyn Gwennol – no remarks, all in agreement.

5.2 0/50557: DR hadn't been able to open – all in agreement.

5.3 0/50566: Youg family moving back to the area, all supporting local family.

5.4 0/50584: MD opposed due to extending opening time from 8 months to full time and the possibility of people living there permanently. DR hadn't been able to open. JR expressed concern at second homes. MGD said that this would put more pressure on local amenities. *EW arrived, had been in another meeting.*

6 COUNCIL MATTERS

6.1 Dog fouling bins - Austin in the process of finding out what can be done. Telegraph poles are fine, need to select which ones and also bins. EW – bags need to be biodegradable if the council are to dispense them. EW proposed that each ward looks for suitable poles, representatives from each area to look for suitable poles. CR will go around Llangernyw this weekend.

Agreed on 1 bin for Gwytherin, 2 for Pandy Tudur (top of the village and near the cemetery), 3 for Llangernyw – Bont Faen, Cricket Field and Glan Collen, total 6 bins in total need to be ordered.

Discussed the options as discussed in previous meetings. EW – need to ensure that replacement bins can be obtained easily and for reasonable price. Decided to order red ones so they are visible. *GJ arrived.* MD – need to ask for a pro-forma invoice and send a cheque afterwards, all in agreement for this. Discussion about the prices and bags and what would be best value for money. MGD also proposed that CR decide which option between 1 and 3 depending on availability when ordering with a pro-forma invoice, all in agreement. DR noted that this would be in the new finance year expenditure.

DR had seen members of the public in the playing field in Gwytherin with dogs, they had said they had a letter from Conwy Council noting they have a right to exercise their dogs since 2 years ago, happy for her to view if required. All in agreement to ask Austin to look into this matter to see if the Council has a record of this.

6.2 Operational Officer/Clerk – CWG was welcomed to the role. EW mentioned that a laptop needs to be purchased as soon as possible as passed during previous meetings. Will share a link with each councillor. Had seen one for £280 and a Microsoft package would need to be purchased additionally. DR said she felt this to be a reasonable price. All in agreement to press ahead with purchase and for EW to deal with this. CWG will use her own printer, all in agreement.

6.3 Moelfre Wind Farm Public Meeting

a) DR shared a report from the 27/2/23 meeting arranged by Society for the Preservation of the Heartland.

There were 95 present at Llangernyw with a good cross-section of audience. 2000 leaflets were shared by the Society. A presentation was given but no consultation with county or community councillor. Darren Millar is of the understanding from Bute Energy that an enquiry was done through Un Llais but this hasn't happened. Everyone in the dark, no democracy, no local voice, size of 850m within 70m to homes. Comparison to Pen y Gogarth. Conwy Council had refused 77m turbine in 2016, these are 3 times higher. Some had received letters offering money to not declare the agreement. Bute had started talking with landowners in September 2020 before others found out in January 2021. Wales produces two times the energy it uses from off shore wind – reaching the target – no need for land turbines. Policy guidelines not yet issued, jobs for outsiders – energy not sustainable, health and welfare, research not seen some at this scale. Flicker, sound effect, effect on child health issues, accountability, effect on local house prices, floods – Llanfair TH, Llangernyw, St Asaph. Landslide, A548 road dangerous as it is, concrete and steel, effect on water supply, in contact with groups over Wales. Doing nothing not an option. Scotland – enough is enough. Red kite in the area had disappeared, changing landscape will have other effects. EW thanked for reporting back.

b) Members of the public with questions:

Question 1:

Scotland is considering a large number of turbines. There are designated areas, without evidence that it had been assessed. Is everyone aware of the implications of the turbines and that they could change the community entirely? CR asked for responses to the question. MD advised that the assembly's policy isn't only for wind farms. It can also bring in alternatives such as hydro and solar expansively. DR was worried that it will have such an effect on our area and that the landowners are not sharing 'the secret'. DR had seen a letter one of the local residents had received by Bute mentioning that they could have £4,000 a year not to mention anything about it. DR reminded of the code of conduct – councillors to raise anything that is happening in the area. CR waiting for confirmation about this.

EW agreed with MD and had learned a lot about the obligations about different sources and believed that there is 'more to it' and proposed asking Assembly members what is the policy/plan. CR proposed asking an Assembly Member to come and discuss the policy. MGD noted that councillors are there to support the community as a whole and councillors' role, go to the policy makers, asking why the council hadn't received information. Future benefit act – future policy across all aspects of each policy and action – need to find out more about this. DR advised that it is possible to read about this online – page 78. All in agreement to ask Assembly member to speak with the Council. Darren Millar and Llyr Huws Gruffydd proposed. MD mentioned that it would need to be a member of the committee that drafted the policy. MGD –

first point of call Darren Miller as he is the contact point. All in agreement to ask him. Meeting may be on zoom. CR to arrange for more information about the policy.

Question 2:

What should the cost be to hire the hall for 2 hours from 7-9? CR asked if the cost was checked at time of booking. Julie had received a bill for £50. Julie noted that it was a public meeting, and that they had done a public service bringing the information to the attention of the public and they appreciate that. Julie asked how the fee was calculated and CR replied that it was the standard fee for any occasion. MGD explained that the hall at Canolfan Addysg Bro Cernyw is controlled by a separate committee to the Community Council. Julie asked the committee if they felt that the community council should have an influence on the fee. MD explained that he felt that any fee should have been discussed beforehand. Julie asked who would be responsible for that. DR noted that the council had contributed to other events in the past. MD reminded that the protocol needed to be followed. Julie noted that she was not aware of any protocol and asked if the community council could contribute towards the cost of hiring the hall and translator. Also, she brought to attention to guidelines that individuals who don't speak Welsh need to understand what is being discussed.

EW reiterated what MD said in that there should have been an agreement before the meeting and if the council contributes towards this then it sets a precedent for other groups to do the same and no financial contributions like this have been made in the past. She suggested that they ask Cronfa Bro Cernyw for money with GJ & CR also supporting this. CR also noted that the precept for contributions for the year had already been agreed.

CR again asked Julie if she enquired about the price before hiring the hall and she replied that she did not but felt that the council should contribute as this is her community. DR asked if Betws and Llanfair TH had raised a fee and the reply was that it was a nominal amount. They also had to pay for a translator at £35 an hour in addition to travelling costs. MGD noted that the hall is ran by the hall's committee therefore outside our remit. Julie again asked for support by the community council and MGD noted that requests like this need to be dealt with consistently and that the councillors serve the whole community and that they should ask Cronfa Bro Cernyw for support. DR said she was happy to contribute £100 out of her own money and Julie thanked her. All apart from DR in agreement that they should ask Cronfa Bro Cernyw for support. AV did not contribute.

6.4 Un Llais and Law Course Report:

DR had been in contact with John Morris from the Police Department who had suggested that the best thing to do would be to set up a group to tackle speeding in the village. DR had put posters up around Llangernyw (shop, Cwm Chapel and bus stop) but hadn't received a response. John had suggested if she wasn't able to set up a group then to contact the group in Llanrwst asking if they could come up to help and vice versa. DR will be recording registration numbers who are speeding over Easter and a further Un Llais meeting beginning of April.

DR also discussed the course with Catherine Craven and the fact that the council had been without a clerk for so long. The council has health and safety obligations over the whole community. DR mentioned the Annual Report – Election Wales Act 2021 and that this had been done. She mentioned that an environmental report needs to be prepared. The full council needs to approve the precept, this already happens. She mentioned that declaration of interest needs to be noted on the website, CWG aware as clerk and will update. CWG will also register with ICO.

DR also mentioned the Local Government Act – power of competence and white paper 2021 – that there are consequences for everything that the council does. Wendy will share leaflets and DR encouraged everyone to read these. EW & MGD said that the council does the best within its knowledge and abilities. DR – there is a lot of expectations from the council and it is the law of the land. AV asked for a report on the law – Catherine will provide this to Un Llais and then to the Council to read individually. DR reiterated that it was important for everyone to understand the consequences.

6.5 Empty Set:

DR had a name and permission – John Harris.

EW - prior to co-opting – need to put a notice up. Need to decide if election the process needs to be followed and notice up in the 3 villages. EW will contact Leanne in the elections department and include CWG on correspondence.

7 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Matters arising from the minutes – had received signs from the council regarding dog fouling and had passed these on to JR.

Electronic signs – the council had estimated they would be able to place the signs within two months. Richard Roberts from the Transport Department will contact CR regarding location. Discussed the 30 sign needs to be placed closer to coming into the village.

Ty'r Ysgol, Gwytherin – the committee have started the work of transferring the house back to the County Council.

Stag Yard lights – they will be there until the site has been made safe, the highways department along with the planning department are monitoring the situation.

On 27/2/23 I attended public meeting in Canolfan Bro Cernyw regarding the Bute energy plan, together with Chairman of the Community Council and Councillor Ifor Lloyd.

On 29/3/23 I went around Llangernyw with Emyr Jones of the Highways Department. I visited Hafod y Gôg to view a public footpath before visiting Ty'n Pistyll road and up towards Dolgoch and Holland Arms. Agreed to repair Ty'n Pistyll road and place scalplings in the passing places between Lead Inn and Dolgoch. We then came back to the village from Gosen. I will be going around Gwytherin and Pandy Tudur during May.

Austin was thanked for his work.

8 MONITORY MATTERS

MGD had made enquires about online banking with HSBC Mold. A primary user needs to be agreed and the council minutes shared with the bank. This is the person who would be making payments. There is possibility to have a secondary user – to do the work in the same way or to look at payments. Need to complete an online form – MGD has the link – the current signatories need to sign a letter confirming their agreement.

A daily spend limit needs to be set, noted that this should be confirmed in the minutes and the council to have agreed to online banking. Current signatories to confirm this. Payments by cheque still to have 2 signatures. AV mentioned that this had been done for another committee. CR said that we need to move with the times – all in agreement to continue. MGD was thanked for his work. MGD proposed that he be the secondary user and the clerk to be the primary user. Passed unanimously by the council. Regarding daily spend limit, there will be a lot of large payments to be made soon. MD proposed that large payments should still be done with cheque. MGD mentioned that there is usually a lot to pay together, sometimes on the same day. All in agreement to set this at £15,000 and DR proposed reviewing the daily spend limit in a few months. MGD – need to accept the minutes next month before progressing further.

9 CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

10 BILLS

Enlli £175.72, agreed to pay.

11 LOCAL MATTERS

Enlli was thanked for her work.

EW – need to discuss language policy and translation next time.

DR – Brookhouse – had agreed to award a certificate of lawfulness Trigfan but cesspit not working. MD– council had not received tax. DR had made further enquiries with the council but no change to the decision as discussed during last meeting. MD – due to the certificate it is now a dwelling. MD – what is the criteria for a certificate? Daily Post, Times, BBC aware.

MD– complaint about the trees but owner had asked for permission for these to be cut. DR – tree roots raising tarmac. Hedge of the remembrance garden needs to be cut.

GJ – complaint about dog fouling in Pandy. JR gave signs for GJ to place.

MG had replaced the sign in the cemetery on 2 poles, he was thanked for his work.

JR – thanked MD for painting the bus stop.

AV – flower tubs – snow and ice had killed the plants near the Cwm. Asked if it was possible to have bike safe signs at the start of the new season – decided to contact Austin to enquire about this.

12 NEXT MEETING

26th April 2023 in Gwytherin

Meeting concluded 9:30pm

Minutes taken by CWG.