

# **Llantrisant Fawr Community Council**

## **Incorporating the wards of Llantrisant, Llangwm and Llansoy**

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Llangwm, on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Cllr. Glyn Williams (Chairman), Cllr. David Williams (Vice Chairman), Cllr. John Watkins, Cllr. Bob Trigg, Cllr. James Hawkins, Cllr. Gwynfor Gardiner, Cllr. Malcolm Hatfield, Cllr. Steve Jolliffe, County Cllr. Rachel Buckler, Mrs. Jayne Stoodley (Clerk). County Cllr. Fay Bromfield joined the meeting remotely.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Mr Carl Touhig Monmouthshire County Council (Neighbourhood Services).

### **2. Visit by Carl Touhig of Monmouthshire County Council**

Due to unforeseen circumstances Mr Touhig was unable to attend the meeting. However, it was agreed the visit should be rescheduled for next month if possible.

### **3. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18th July 2023:**

The Clerk advised there had been an error on the Financial Expenses sheet which stated the Llangwm Hall rental charge was for May when it should have stated June. This was NOTED. The minutes were then Agreed as a correct record by all present and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Matters Arising from the Council Meeting held on 18th July 2023:**

#### **Llangwm Parish Hall**

Following on from last month's meeting when Councillors were joined by two members of the Parish Hall committee for a discussion on where future Council meetings should be held. The Chairman asked Councillors if having had time to reflect on the points raised, they had now reached their decisions.

The Chairman confirmed his opinion had remained unchanged since the initial merger that meetings should be shared equally between the villages of Llantrisant and Llangwm.

Cllr Jolliffe said the Greyhound Inn Llantrisant were happy to host Council meetings and confirmed the room available for use was suitable for disabled access due to it being located on the level with no steps involved.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Councillors further discussed their individual opinions and the Chairman asked whether they agreed that some meetings could be held away from the hall. He asked for a show of hands for those in agreement and the result was a majority in favour of this decision.

Cllr. Hawkins proposed One in Four meetings should be held at the Greyhound Inn Llantrisant and a majority seconded this proposal. It was agreed the new proposal would start from the next calendar year and should be kept under review.

Dates for next year's meetings will be agreed when the Council meets in October.

A further point raised by the Parish Hall Committee members had been the name of the Community Council which they felt was unrepresentative of the areas it served.

County Cllr. Buckler had been asked to establish with Monmouthshire C.C. whether there was a possibility the name of the Council could be altered. The matter had been raised with Democratic Services but as the name was given to the Council following changes in Electoral boundaries brought about by the Welsh Government in May 2022, it was confirmed there was no possibility for it to be changed.

The Clerk suggested in future she could incorporate the names of the Wards within the Council's title which appeared on Agendas/Minutes and correspondence. Councillors agreed this would be a good option.

### **'We Don't Buy Crime' Presentation**

A further discussion on the presentation given by the 'We Don't Buy Crime Team' earlier in the year had been postponed due to time restraints. Councillors agreed it was a very good solution for both deterring and solving Crime in rural areas. But added it would require full commitment and backing from the local Communities themselves.

It was agreed the best approach would be by using local social media platforms where key points and benefits could be outlined, the feedback received would allow Councillors to gauge how much interest there was in such a Community Engagement project.

The Clerk suggested she could put together a short paragraph outlining the requirements and details of the scheme which Councillors could then use to present to their individual communities.

### **Broadway Broadband**

County Cllr Bromfield advised no updates had yet been received from Cath Fallon at Monmouthshire C.C. saying that both herself and Cllr Buckler had asked for a meeting to establish any progress made and would report back in due course.

### **Llantrisant Fawr Community Council Website –**

The Clerk confirmed she had spoken with Matthew Hammond of the IT Medic with a view to rectifying the current issues experienced with the setting up of the individual Councillor email addresses in relation to the new Llantrisant Fawr Community Council Website.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew Hammond advised he had come across a similar issue previously and dealt with this by using an alternative platform to rectify the problems experienced.

Councillors agreed there was very little option other than to enquire about the cost of this as the public should be able to contact their individual Community Councillors with any questions or issues they have.

The Clerk agreed she would speak with the IT Medic and update Councillors once the information had been obtained.

The Clerk also confirmed the old Llantrisant Fawr Website had now been closed which would stop confusion when searching for the new website.

Isobel Brown had also removed Llanbadoc from the list of Wards displayed on the new Web Site in error.

### **Bridge Inn Llangwm**

The Clerk advised she had received an update from Monmouthshire C.C. confirming the work required on the building to make it safe had now been completed by the owner. County Cllr Buckler has spoken with Andrew James, the Enforcement Officer, regarding the poor state of the land around the building and is currently awaiting a response.

It would appear nothing further can be done at this point and that any planning proposals put forward by the owner would be notified through the normal channels.

### **Defibrillator updates**

The Clerk confirmed the Defibrillators situated at Llantrisant Church and the Gwernesney Phone Box have both now been registered with Co Guardians. Ensuring regular maintenance and upkeep. This will be carried out alongside Phil Hill who supports the Council in this role.

It is extremely important these Defibrillators are kept in good working order by the Council for use at any time by the public and Emergency services.

Both Defibrillators are currently awaiting easily accessible storage boxes to maintain their condition and to help keep them free from damp. Plans are underway to move the site of the Llantrisant Defibrillator to the Bus Shelter nearby, making it easier for those who have no knowledge of the area to be able to retrieve it more easily and safely. Cllr Glyn Williams will speak to the Church Warden to advise him of this proposal.

The Telephone Box which currently houses the Gwernesney Defibrillator is to be overhauled and repainted to make the site more noticeable and easier to locate.

Cllr Jolliffe and his wife are in communication with Phil Hill regarding the installation of a further Defibrillator for the Greyhound Inn at Llantrisant and will keep the Council updated with any progress.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Renovation of the bench and noticeboard at the site of Llangwm Parish Hall**

Unfortunately, no progress has been made with finding a volunteer to carry out the work required. Following some discussion, it was suggested by Cllr Gardiner that he approach the Governor at HMS Prison Usk, to ask whether this may be a task their workforce could assist with. He understands the Prison workshops are keen to support local communities and this may be something they can complete on the Council's behalf. Cllr Gardiner will report back on his request at the next meeting.

### **5. Highways Issues: Update on Matters reported:**

#### **Llantrisant Highways Issues**

Cllr Glyn Williams confirmed that work had been completed on R113 towards Wentwood. He gave thanks to County Cllr Bromfield who had provided support with this, adding he was very grateful for what had been accomplished. The Cllr said there is still more work needed on Bridges locally and County Cllr Bromfield confirmed she would be keeping on top of renovations for these Bridges going forward.

County Cllr Bromfield confirmed the signage for the new speed limits in Llantrisant/Llanllowell are awaiting installation and will now take place after the 8<sup>th</sup> October. The Cllr has also requested a meeting to discuss the possibility of Flashing Speed Signs for the area also.

#### **Llangwm Vehicle speed issues**

County Cllr Buckler confirmed that she had received feedback from the Police regarding vehicle speeds in the village of Llangwm following the covert camera operation. In relation to the data collected it has now been confirmed that the 'Go Safe' police vehicle will be used in the village to continue monitoring vehicle speed going forward.

It was also felt installing Flashing Speed Signs within the village would be a good deterrent and Police report they have produced significant improvement to speed in many other areas. This matter could be raised with Monmouthshire C.C. in due course.

#### **Gwernesney road conditions – Monmouthshire C.C. Reference :16583772**

The Clerk reported an issue earlier this year regarding the dangerous Road conditions faced by local children walking along Lower Raglan Road towards Gwernesney to meet their school buses. The School Transport department were looking into whether there might be an alternative option for the school bus pick up and drop off, but no further updates have been received. The Clerk has checked for progress and this currently states – Work in progress.

The Highways department previously confirmed the authority would not support any road alterations due to the minimum width required for the road and so pavement could not be installed. However, Araf/Slow markings could be considered along with 'Pedestrians in road signs. County Cllr Bromfield has agreed to investigate this matter further.

### **New Highways issues raised by Councillors:**

None reported.

### **New issues raised by others:**

None reported.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Crime Prevention:

Reports were received and forwarded to Councillors.

## 7. Monmouthshire County Council Report:

Councillors were kept informed and updated throughout the meeting with issues concerning their local Communities by both County Councillors.

## 8. Finance:

a) Financial Accounts: Statements of Expenditure and Income for the period ending 1st August 2023 and 1st Sept 2023 were received, AGREED and signed by the Chairman.

b) Bank Statements: For the period 1st July – 1st August 2023 and for the period 2nd August – 1st September 2023 were received and signed by the Chairman.

c) Expenditure: The following expenses were APPROVED.

Clerks Salary August 2023 (incl additional 10 hours worked during July)- £690.67

Clerks Expenses July 31st – September 1st, 2023 - £43.84

The Green Grafter Grass cutting Llangwm August 2023 - £152.

**Total £886.51**

Clerks Salary September 2023 - £561.17

Clerks Expenses September 4<sup>th</sup> – September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - £28.49

The Green Grafter Grass cutting Llangwm September 2023 - £152

Llangwm Parish Hall Hire cost with Electricity for July 2023 - £46.14

Beverly & Williams Accts - Charge for Payroll Administration July – Sept 2023 - £36

Zurich Municipal Indemnity Insurance for Llantrisant Community Council 2023/24 - £300

**Total £1,123.80**

d) Annual review of Clerks Salary and Contract –

Cllr Glyn Williams agreed as Chair he would prepare an annual appraisal for the Clerk and Cllr Watkins agreed he would review the current Salary Scale for Clerks and both would report back at the next meeting.

e) Annual renewal of Llantrisant Fawr Community Council Indemnity Policy 2023-24

The Clerk had received a quote from Zurich Municipal providing cover for the Council for the coming year and the cost for this had remained unchanged. Councillors AGREED to accept the quote and proceed with renewing the Policy.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Correspondence:

Correspondence received throughout the month was actioned by the Clerk as necessary. Numerous Agenda for Meetings and Training sessions for online attendance were received and NOTED by Councillors.

## 10. Planning -

Application received: Number DM/2023/01061

Conversion and alterations from Barn to Dwelling – Great Llanolway, Llansoy NP15 1DA

Councillors had no comments to add on these proposals and agreed there was no reason to object.

Cllr Trigg raised the issue of the current Sale of Mill Meadow Cottages Llangwm. The Estate Agents' literature from Right Move (ref: 137814935) stated there is room for expansion at the site and shows an Army vehicle being used as a secondary chalet for which Cllr Trigg was unaware of any planning permission. He advised Councillors the original Planning Permission was for one building to be used between the months of March and October and said this had been disregarded over the last two years.

County Cllr Buckler will investigate this with the Planning Office and report back to Councillors.

A further issue was raised regarding the Planning Application ref DM/2020/01463 – Wern Panna Llangwm. Buildings have now been erected but although the original plans showed the Entrance Gate to be 5 Meters back from the carriageway, this was currently not the case.

County Cllr Buckler will investigate this with the Planning Office and report back to Councillors.

Cllr Hawkins had previously raised concerns over the hard landscaping depot which had been erected on common land at Allt Y Bella and asked whether Planning Permission had been received for this.

County Cllr Buckler had already raised the issue with Planning and was awaiting an update.

## 11. Ward Reports –

Cllr Gardiner highlighted an issue regarding a large tree overhanging telegraph lines alongside the gateway into the field on the main road in Gwernesney. He said a call had been made to B.T. who had advised him it wasn't their issue to resolve. Cllr Gardiner concern was that the telegraph wires appeared ready to snap and agreed he would photograph the tree and its location and send this to County Cllr Bromfield who confirmed she would speak to the Tree and Enforcement officer at Monmouthshire.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. HMPS

A future date for a meeting is still to be announced.

## 13. Any Other Business:

Cllr Trigg raised the issue around the planned proposal to close the minor injury unit at Neville Hall between 1am – 7 am each day. County Cllr Buckler said she felt this was appalling but they were not supported in their opposition to this. Cllr Watkins confirmed he would raise the issue on behalf of the Council with the Health Authority and report back to the Councillors.

Cllr Trigg raised the question of whether School Bus routes were gritted throughout the Winter Months. County Cllr Buckler agreed that she would look into the current Policy and report back on her findings.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

**Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 17th October at 7:00 PM**

**Date of future Meetings for 2023:**

17<sup>th</sup> October and 21<sup>st</sup> November.

It was agreed by the Clerk that a meeting in December would not be necessary and that the 2024/25 Budget and Precept proposals could be put forward instead at the November meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_