

Llantrisant Fawr Community Council

Incorporating the wards of Llantrisant, Llanllowell, Gwernesney, Llangwm and Llansoy

Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Llangwm, on Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr. David Williams (Chairman), Cllr Gwynfor Gardiner, (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Glyn Williams, Cllr. James Hawkins, Cllr. Bob Trigg, Cllr. Malcolm Hatfield, Mrs. Jayne Stoodley (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. John Watkins, Cllr Steve Joliffe, Cty Cllr Rachel Buckler.

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16th April 2024:

Agreed as a correct record by all present and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising from the Council Meeting held on 16th April 2024:

Grasscutting at St John's churchyard Llangwm

Following correspondence received from the Church confirming their intention to take over the cost of Churchyard maintenance for both St John's and St Jeromes Llangwm. The Green Grafter was contacted by the clerk to advise him of the situation. However, he was able to confirm that Sandy Blair (MA Treasurer for Heart of Monmouthshire Ministry Area) had already been in touch to say that future Invoices should be presented directly to the Church and to advise that he could continue his work as per usual.

Llangwm Parish Hall Funding Meeting

A possible date will be considered when the Parish Hall committee hold their next meeting.

Defibrillator updates

The Gwernesney defibrillator is still undergoing checks by Zoll the manufacturers, based in the United States. Notification has been received advising a report would be given once investigations were completed.

Following contact with the Insurers regarding the possibility of replacing the Telephone Kiosk with an alternative housing unit, a request was received for quotes and photographs to be provided which would enable them to determine the most cost-effective choice. The clerk passed this request on to Cllr Gardiner who has agreed to take a photograph of the new site and to investigate alternative defibrillator kiosks.

Signed _____

Date _____

The Llantrisant Defibrillator

Cllr Jolliffe confirmed the defibrillator had now been moved from the Church porch into the Llantrisant Bus shelter and he had advised residents of this change. The LFCC Website has now been updated to reflect the new location and the relevant authorities informed.

Event for D Day 80 6th June 2024 – Lighting of the Llansoy Beacon

Cllr David Williams confirmed the lighting of the Beacon would take place between 9 - 9.30pm on the 6th June. Although it was still unknown whether a BBQ would be likely to go ahead. Councillors agreed it would be best for residents to be told to bring along their own refreshments and if a BBQ was to happen it would be available for them to enjoy. The clerk will place a notice on the Llangwm Facebook and Councillors will use their own local What's App groups to send out messages regarding the event.

The Llansoy Postbox

Following the sealing of the Post Box at The Old Post Office Cottage, the clerk had sent a request to Royal Mail asking that it might be relocated. Residents were very keen to keep the Post Box as they felt it was one of the last services left available to them. In the last week the clerk had spoken with the local Royal Mail Collections Manager, who was able to confirm that a replacement post box would be provided and hopefully situated alongside the Bus Shelter. However, this could take some time as checks are required by various Utility groups to confirm the position is suitable. It was suggested in the interim, residents hand their post to the local Postman who would be happy to take care of this for them. The old Post box could not be removed due to the possibility of causing damage to the foundations at the current site.

Further correspondence was received from a local resident concerning the Planter/Tyre which had been discussed at a previous meeting. It was stated the planter had been positioned on a piece of Highways land located alongside the Old Post Office Cottage. This was said to be causing blockage on public land and was both a hazard and eyesore. County Cllr Buckler confirmed she would refer to Monmouthshire C.C. Legal dept to establish what advice could be provided on the situation. Once feedback had been received, she would update members.

4. Review of Policies:

- A) Data Policy - Reviewed and **ADOPTED**

- B) General Privacy Policy – Reviewed and **ADOPTED**

Signed _____

Date _____

5. Highways issues:

Update on Matters reported:

Bus Services in Monmouthshire – Route 63 and 65

Following last month's report on the cutting of vital bus services brought about by the re tendering with local bus companies. County Cllr Buckler suggested the Community Council write a strong letter to Monmouthshire C.C. expressing their concerns. Cllr Watkins agreed to do this and had since been in contact with Christian Schmidt – Planning and Projects Manager at Monmouthshire. Cllr Watkins asked if he would be able to join Councillors at a future meeting to discuss the issues faced by residents in view of these changes.

Mr Schmidt agreed he would be happy to come along to the meeting being held on July 16th 2024.

Cllr Hawkins suggested that as other communities in the area would likely be using the same bus routes, it might be beneficial for them to be invited along to join in the discussions.

The clerk agreed she would extend this invitation to other Community Council clerks locally and advise the County Cllr's who may like to do the same within their wards.

New Highways issues raised by Councillors:

Cllr David Williams raised the issue of the reappearance of Potholes in Llansoy on Route 60. He confirmed that some of the Potholes which had been filled recently had now reappeared following the recent heavy rains. The clerk advised that she would pass this information to Cty Cllr Buckler who had herself inspected the sites only recently.

New issues raised by others:

A Provision and Amendment of Traffic order was received from Monmouthshire C.C. advising those areas where updated traffic speeds were to be implemented throughout the County. Received and noted by Councillors.

Monmouthshire C.C. released a notice regarding the process for the review of the 20MPH speed limits. The Notice contained links for those wishing to submit valid reasons for roads they felt should be exempt from the 20MPH rule. Received and noted by Councillors.

Monmouthshire C.C. distributed a media release regarding County Council Transport Grants. This announced the £8.4m Award in transport funding which the Council stated would allow them to continue their work to make improvements across the Country.

Received and noted by Councillors.

6. Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Police updates:

Reports were received and forwarded to Councillors.

Signed _____

Date _____

7. Monmouthshire County Council Report:

County Councillors had informed and updated members on issues relevant to their local Communities throughout the month.

Cty Cllr Bromfield forwarded information to members of the new 'Community Ownership Fund'. Councillors considered the option and felt although it would not be of benefit currently, the Fund should be highlighted to Cllr Watkins as a matter of interest for review and future discussion.

8. Finance:

Councillors last month discussed the option of setting up a fund supporting local youth. It was agreed when budget planning took place later this year, members might consider the setting up of a fund to support this. Recently the case of Evie Andrews and her team of 6 from Llantrisant, had been brought to the Councils attention when they were chosen to represent Wales in the Equestrian Mounted Games in France later this summer. They need to raise £15,000 to support themselves in this venture and Councillors agreed Llantrisant Fawr Community Council would offer support alongside the wider local community who were busy fundraising. Cllr Hawkins proposed the sum of £500 be donated towards the fundraising and this was seconded by Cllr Trigg.

The Bank Statement: For the period 29th March 2024 – 29th April 2024 was received and signed by the Chairman.

- a) Financial Accounts: A Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period ending the 29th of April 2024 was received, AGREED and signed by the Chairman.
- b) A Statement of Reconciliation: For the period 29th March 2024- 29th April 2024 was received and signed by the Chairman.
- c) Expenditure: The following expenses were APPROVED:

Clerks basic Salary for May 2024 (plus additional 17 hours worked in April)
Total- £841.65

Clerks Expenses and Sundries from Monday 29th April – Friday 31st May 2024.
Total - £68.99

Green Grafter Grounds Maintenance
Total - £160

The Information Commissioner (Data Protection fee)
Total £40

The Internal Auditor – Mr John Turner
Total £200

Total £1,310.64

Signed _____

Date _____

9. Correspondence

A list of meetings and agendas were received from Monmouthshire CC throughout the month and advised to Councillors. NOTED

Correspondence was received from Deryk Evans of Audit Wales to advise he was currently rounding off the work on the accounts he was completing on behalf of the Llangwm Community Council.

He had queried the 10 cheques written on the Llangwm Bank Account between May – September 2022 and asked who had signed these. The Clerk confirmed to the best of her knowledge all cheques for that period had been written by the signatories from Llangwm Community Council and that the cheque book stubs held the initials of two of their own signatories.

Mr Evans also enquired whether LFCC had only received the residual balance from the Llangwm Bank account and whether this had been recorded. The clerk confirmed this had been the case in both instances. NOTED

Update received from David Davies

Councillors commented they didn't feel the need to receive such updates from any political party, as the Community Council remained totally impartial. Cllr Hatfield said he wished to make it quite clear that the Community Council's only concern was that our County Councillors always reported back on what was important and affected us and our local communities. He went on to say this they did in a totally professional and impartial way, always showing total commitment to our communities. Members agreed the County Cllr's were highly valued for their attendance at meetings and for the work they carried out on behalf of Llantrisant Fawr Community Council. NOTED

Donation appeal received from Mind Monmouthshire -NOTED

Thank you letters received from:

Llangwm Baptist Chapel for Churchyard maintenance donation.

The Parish Hall Committee for the donation towards running costs of Broadband and the village defibrillator.

Llantrisant and Llanllowell Churches for Churchyard maintenance donations.

NOTED

10. Planning:

Application received: Number DM/2024/00478

Fast Track Householder – to replace dilapidated outbuilding with a new garage

The Oaklands, Cwrt Y Gollen Road, Gwernesney NP5 1EJ

NOTED

Application received: Number DM/2024/00534

Extension to Agricultural Building

Wern Panna House, Usk Road, Llangwm Usk NP151HA

NOTED – Comments and updates will be awaited from County Cllr Buckler

Signed _____

Date _____

Application received: Number DM/2024/00519

Extension of existing track to enable feeding of animals in Winter months and transport crops in summer months.

Coed Cwnwr Farm Alltybella Road Coed Cwmwr Llangeview NP15 1NE

Following observations received from Councillors, comments on the application have been sent to the Planning department.

Updates and Enforcement Issues:

Application Number: DM/2024/00160 St Llywels Church Usk Road Llanllowell NP15 1LJ.

Pending consideration

Application Number: DM/2023/01345 Plot of Land to North of Coed Y Prior Farm White Hall to The Cwm Llantrisant. Siting of 5 Yurts for self-catering accommodation.

Pending consideration

Coed Y Prior Farm

Correspondence received from County Cllr Bromfield requested clarification that the structure photographed by Guy Delamere of Monmouthshire CC had been the building referred to at a previous Council meeting. Cllr Hawkins confirmed that he had now been in touch with Guy Delamere to sort out the confusion and updates will follow.

Mill Meadow Cottage and Stables Llangwm -

County Cllr Buckler agreed she would again raise with Enforcement the original permissions granted in 2015 which stated the holiday accommodation could only be used from March through to October and not as now quoted 28 days in a calendar year.

Awaiting updates

Wern Panna Llangwm

Gates erected at the site were considered a breach of planning and have now been replaced by a Barrier. No advice has been received concerning this change and updates are awaited from County Cllr Buckler.

Allt Y Bela Llangwm

Concerns had been raised over an agricultural building at the site and updates are currently awaited.

11. Ward Reports: None

12. HMPS

Cllr Gardiner confirmed that no date had yet been received for a future meeting.

13. Any Other Business

Cllr Trigg advised he had been informed by Voneus the Broadband provider in the local area, they were now installing full Broadband into Llangwm and the surrounding areas. When he questioned whether this was full Broadband, the company confirmed this was the case. Cllr Trigg will keep members updated.

Signed _____

Date _____

14. Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 18th June at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall.

Cllr Hatfield gave apologies as he would not be able to attend.

Date of future Meetings for 2024:

Tuesday 16th July at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 17th September at 7.30pm to be held at The Greyhound Inn Llantrisant

Tuesday 15th October at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 19th November at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed _____

Date _____

Signed _____

Date _____