

# **Llantrisant Fawr Community Council**

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

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Llangwm, on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr. David Williams (Chairman), Cllr. Glyn Williams, Cllr John Watkins, Cllr Steve Jolliffe, Cllr. James Hawkins, Cllr. Bob Trigg, Mrs. Jayne Stoodley (Clerk).

### **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr. Malcolm Hatfield, Cllr Gwynfor Gardiner (Vice Chairman), Cty Cllr Rachel Buckler, Cty Cllr Fay Bromfield

### **2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21 May 2024:**

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

### **3. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 2024:**

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

### **4. Matters Arising from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 2024:**

#### **Llangwm Parish Hall Funding Meeting**

A date was considered for a meeting to be held with the Village Hall Committee, to discuss possible funding to help with the running costs of the Hall. It was suggested the October meeting would be a good time as the following month Councillors would be considering the 2025 budget requirements.

Cllr Watkins would propose the date of the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to the Village Hall Committee when he attended the next meeting.

#### **Defibrillator updates**

The Gwernesney defibrillator continues to undergo checks by Zoll, the manufacturers in the United States. The clerk has chased the company for an update and Cllr Gardiner has investigated alternative storage options in which to house the defibrillator on its return.

Photographs of the new site and the replacement storage unit have been forwarded to the Insurers. The replacement Storage unit would however require fixing to the fencing alongside the Bus Shelter and Councillors raised concerns over the possibility of this becoming a problem in the future. It was agreed this could be discussed in more detail with Cllr Gardiner at the next meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **D Day 80 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Lighting of the Llansoy Beacon**

The lighting of the Beacon took place at Great House Farm, Llansoy on the 6<sup>th</sup> June to commemorate 80 years since the D Day landings. Sadly, attendance had been low despite notices placed on the Llangwm Facebook page and on local Community What's App groups.

A fee of £5pp had been charged for entry to the site and the Young Farmers had organised a BBQ, which was also available at a charge. The Community Council had agreed to donate funds towards the costs of the evening. As yet no invoice had been presented and it was agreed any claim would need to be discussed at that point.

### **Postbox Llansoy**

A replacement post box is awaiting installation and will go ahead once checks have been completed by the various utility companies who need to ensure the site alongside the Bus shelter is suitable.

A previous issue raised concerning a planter positioned on Highways land alongside the Old Post Office and which was said to be causing a blockage is now being dealt with by Monmouthshire C.C.

### **Community Ownership Fund**

The fund provided by the UK Government was brought to the attention of Councillors last month. Applications were invited from incorporated voluntary, Community Groups and Community Councils. The fund can be used to help communities with assets at risk or in need of renovation or repair, along with a wide range of other opportunities that might benefit local people. Councillors suggested the fund might be useful for the Village Hall and Cllr Watkins said he would make further investigations to establish how this might be used for the local community.

### **Voneus Broadband**

Cllr Trigg spoke about the issues he and other residents continued to experience with the Broadband provider - Voneus. He said despite being informed that full Fibre Broadband was also shortly to be installed in Llangwm, residents continued to suffer poor service and outages. Cllr Watkins said he appreciated there were difficulties experienced at times due to the rural location. But added his connection worked very well on the whole and he frequently used video calling for his work without any problems.

### **5.Highways issues:**

Update on Matters reported:

#### **Speed watch in Llangwm**

The Go Safe Police Speed Watch Van promised for Llangwm had still not visited the area, however signs had appeared in the Lay- by stating: 'No Parking apart from Police vehicles' but there was no further information on this addition and Councillors felt this could cause a problem for Farm Vehicles locally. Additionally, Traffic Road strips had been installed in the last week and these were assumed to be counting traffic flow in the area. No further updates have yet been received regarding the installation of the 30 mph Speed signs in Llangwm.

These issues would be raised with the County Councillors at the next meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Bus Services in Monmouthshire – Route 63 and 65**

Following the issues raised at last month's meeting concerning the changes to local bus routes following the re tendering of services by Monmouthshire C.C. Confirmation was received from Christian Schmidt, (Planning and Projects Manager) that he would be happy to attend the July Council meeting and discuss the problems that had arisen following these changes.

The clerk had already invited other local Community Councils in the area to join the meeting and Councillors suggested this could be extended to include local residents. The Clerk will prepare a notice for the local Facebook page and for circulation amongst the Community What's App groups.

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

Cllr Watkins raised concerns over poor visibility when driving from the A449 towards Usk. He explained that grass on the middle Island of the dual carriageway had been left extremely long. This presented a danger to drivers in low vehicles when turning right at the junction as they were unable to see the oncoming traffic clearly. The Clerk will report the issue to the Highways department.

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

None.

## **6. Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Police updates:**

Reports were received and forwarded to Councillors.

## **7. Monmouthshire County Council Report:**

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

## **8. Finance:**

- a) The Bank Statement: For the period 30th April 2024 – 29th May 2024 was received and signed by the Chairman.
- b) Financial Accounts: A Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period ending the 29th of May 2024 was received, AGREED and signed by the Chairman.
- c) The Bank Reconciliation: For the period 30th April 2024- 29th May 2024 was received and signed by the Chairman.
- d) Expenditure: The following expenses were APPROVED:

Clerks basic Salary for June 2024 (plus additional 14 hours worked in May)  
Total- £658

HMRC Employers Payslip Tax due June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Total £141.80

Clerks Expenses and Sundries from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 28th June 2024.  
Total - £50.80

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Beverley & Williams Accountants Ltd - Charge for Payroll April – June 2024  
Total - £36

Green Grafter Grounds Maintenance  
Total - £160

Usk Valley Promotions -Updates to website, training and travel  
Total - £100.00

Donation for Llantrisant Equestrian Team - Welsh Mounted Games  
Total - £500.00

The Parish Hall Hire- Llangwm - £45 plus 2 units of electricity @ 0.57p per unit = £1.14  
Total - £46.14

**Total £1,692.74**

- e) The Annual Audit return and Accounting Statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 were **Approved** by Council and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.
- f) The Internal Auditors Report 2023/24: was received:  
Members noted the Auditors' comments and the report was ADOPTED.

The clerk advised that she would now post the Notice of Audit on the LFCC Website and on the Community Noticeboard as required.

- g) **The dissolved Llangwm Community Council- Audits: 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.**  
The reported missing Audits have now been completed by Deryk Evans of Audit Wales. He said the Audits had been completed taking into account the lack of information available. The Audit fee would shortly be issued and as the residuary successor for Llangwm, the fee will be raised against Llantrisant Fawr Community Council.

The Audit reports were circulated to Councillors for their inspection and comment.

- h) **Supporting the Community - Donations and Grants**  
In view of the Councillors wishes to set up a future fund supporting local youth and Community projects, the clerk investigated the rules and regulations surrounding the provision of Donations and Grants. Handouts were distributed to Councillors providing an insight into the ways other Councils approached similar schemes. The clerk suggested a simple policy could be adopted outlining the rules and requirements for any prospective applicant applying for funding. Councillors agreed this was the best way forward and the clerk will prepare a suitable document for evaluation at a future meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Community Engagement Plan

Councillors reviewed the plan which had been put in place at the beginning of the year and agreed the Council was on track with its current strategy. Several Community engagement projects had been promoted so far and it was agreed the plan would be reviewed again in the New Year.

## 10. Correspondence

A list of Meeting notices were received from Monmouthshire C.C. throughout the month and advised to Councillors. NOTED

A Pre-Election Period Timetable of Actions was received from One Voice Wales and circulated to Councillors.

Correspondence was received from Isobel Brown of Usk Valley Promotions notifying the Council of her intention to retire at the end of October this year. She explained the Company she had worked with for the last 10 years "97 Host" would be taking over the day-to-day running of the Website. The company would be in contact nearer the time to advise of any new arrangements and to provide notification of their charges. All costs for hosting the LFCC Website have already been paid up until March 2025. Councillors will consider the options once further information has been provided by the company later in the year.

A request was received from Monmouthshire C.C. concerning existing footpath closures which were due to have extensions granted. Councillors were invited to share their views and comments online. NOTED

A request was received from Monmouthshire County Citizens Advice requesting their website link be displayed on the Council website to enable more people in the area to access their services and obtain the help they needed. Councillors agreed to this request and the clerk will add the link to the LFCC Website. [www.monca.org.uk](http://www.monca.org.uk)

## 11. Planning:

Application received: Number DM/2024/00674

Listed Building Consent Heritage – Open Plan kitchen/dining area. Extension to rear lean-to. Alterations to curtilage outbuilding. Pwll Farm, Llangwm to Nantygelli Llangwm NP15 1HB  
NOTED

Application received: Number DM/2024/00673

Alteration and Refurbishment to existing ancillary storage outbuilding. Extension to existing single storey rear lean to for creation of Boot room/utility room. Internal alterations to create a larger kitchen/dining area. Pwll Farm, Llangwm to Nantygelli Llangwm NP15 1HB  
NOTED

Application received: Number DM/2024/00696

Proposed Change of Use – from Steel Barn into Holiday Let Accommodation and the installation of a Package Treatment Plant with wildflower meadows and native tree planting. Steel framed Dutch Barn North of the Greyhound Inn Llantrisant.

Noted - Any issues concerning drainage are already covered by standard objections.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Updates and Enforcement Issues:

Coed Y Prior Farm:

The appearance of a Chalet along the edge of the woods at the site is being investigated.  
Updates are awaited.

Mill Meadow Cottage and Stables Llangwm:

Enforcement were to be advised of the original permissions granted in 2015 stating the holiday accommodation should only be used from March through to October, not as now quoted for 28 days in a calendar year.  
Updates are awaited.

Wern Panna Llangwm:

A Barrier has now replaced the Gates erected at the site.  
Updates are awaited.

Allt Y Bela Llangwm:

Concerns had been raised over an agricultural building at the site.  
Updates are awaited.

**12. Ward Reports:** None

**13. HMPS:** No further updates

**14. Any Other Business:** None

**15. Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

**Date of future Meetings for 2024:**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm to be held at The Greyhound Inn Llantrisant

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm to be held at Llangwm Parish Hall

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_