

Trefeglwys Community Council
Minutes of Meeting
7:30pm, Thursday 28th March 2019
at Trefeglwys Village Hall Meeting Room

Present:	Councillors:	Cllr Beryl Crone (Chair) Cllr Derrick Pugh Cllr David Jerman Cllr Morris Smith Cllr Jane Anwyl Cllr Aled Rees Cllr Paul Tranter
In Attendance:		Sophie Palmer (Clerk) County Cllr Phyl Davies
Members of the Community:		None
Not Present:		Cllr Myra Jones (Vice Chair)
Apologies:		Cllr Endaf Meddins Cllr Nicholas Bennett

1. **Apologies:** As above
2. **Declarations of Interest.** *Declarations of interest whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion.*
No declarations of interest were made.
3. Minutes from previous Community Council Meeting of 28th February 2019 were approved and proposed as an accurate record by Cllr M Smith and seconded by Cllr D Jerman.
4. **Highway Matters:**
 - a. **Waen:** passing places: Clerk is yet to receive any information back from PCC as to who is responsible for passing places. Clerk to chase up.
 - b. **C2178:** Road sweeper: Clerk confirmed receipt of an email from PCC confirming that the road was swept yesterday.

County Cllr P Davies arrived at the meeting.

- c. **Staylitttle: Potholes & drain with cover missing:** The pothole has been repaired but the drain cover was still missing. Cllr P Davies sent an email direct and copied the Clerk in to have the matter dealt with straight away.
 - d. **Staylitttle Finger Post:** Resident from Trefeglwys contacted PCC regarding HGV's travelling on the narrow roads between Trefeglwys and Staylitttle, through Llawryglyn unnecessarily as they are too large for the narrow roads. PCC responded to the resident and copied the Clerk suggesting removal of the Staylitttle finger post at Trefeglwys directing traffic to Staylitttle as this is not necessarily the best route especially for large vehicles. TCC were asked for their approval to remove the sign which was given prior to the meeting as this was agreed in 2018.
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - a. **Old School: Japanese Knotweed:** Clerk confirmed correspondence from Cllr P Davies stating that the relevant people at PCC are aware of this. Cllr P Davies confirmed that not much can be done other than informing the land owner unless the plant spreads off private land.
 - b. **Defibrillators & CPR Training:** Defibrillator has been installed at the Red Lion pub in Trefeglwys. Chair and Clerk have printed signs with the location of the defib to put up around the village. Training for using the defibrillator can now be organised. Clerk to find out when the village hall would be available on a Saturday for a training session and email Cllrs the dates.
 - c. **Standing Orders:** Clerk sent out the Councils Standing Orders prior to the meeting. Cllrs present agreed to adopt these Standing Orders on the understanding that some points may be amended or updated later on.
6. **Correspondence** *(All correspondence received has previously been forwarded to Cllrs. Cllrs to comment on correspondence relevant to Trefeglwys Community Council):*
 - a. **PC-Q:** Quotations for annual support, security and antivirus. Cllrs discussed the details and agreed to the suggested package. Clerk to action.
 - b. **Jill Evans MEP:** Request to refuse voluntary dumping of nuclear waste within community. Cllrs discussed the request and made the decision to take no action.
 - c. **Keep Britain Tidy:** Litter pick. Information noted, no action.
 - d. **Web enquiry:** Someone from abroad looking for information of relatives. Clerk has responded and suggested that they contact Powys Archives who might be able to help. This person is also looking for someone to drive them around the various areas that they have been researching. Chair Cllr B Crone will mention it to residents who might be willing to help.

- e. Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales:** Review of Electoral arrangements, final report received. This final report recommends that Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair be joined together for the purposes of County Councillor elections. Cllrs were unanimously in agreement that they were wholly opposed to this recommendation. Following discussion the Clerk agreed the main points with TCC and constructed a letter with the assistance of Cllr D Pugh and Chair Cllr B Crone which was then forwarded to all Cllrs for agreement and sent to the Boundary Commission and copied in to County Cllr Phyl Davies, PCC Elections Dept, all regional AM's and Glyn Davies MP.
See body of the letter sent below:

Following receipt of the Final Recommendations Report for the Electoral arrangements of the County of Powys, Trefeglwys Community Council has discussed the final proposal and confirms that it strongly opposes the recommendation to join Trefeglwys with Llanbrynmair for the purposes of County Council electoral boundaries. Community residents are also appalled that Trefeglwys could lose its identity and have recommended that we must air these concerns very strongly and request that you reconsider your proposal.

There are a number of points on which Trefeglwys Community Council have based this decision.

- 1. The final proposal is not an option which was offered for consultation, therefore the commission has not given either Llanbrynmair or Trefeglwys Community Council the opportunity to comment on this suggested boundary change prior to passing it to the Welsh Government.*
- 2. At the last consultation in May 2018, a proposal was made to join Llanbrynmair with Carno. The objections raised by both Llanbrynmair and Carno cover the same reasons for not joining Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair together. These points are further detailed below.*
- 3. Trefeglwys Community Council, like Carno, is part of a different river valley to Llanbrynmair. Trefeglwys and its residents have more interaction and commonality with the Severn Valley area whereas Llanbrynmair are more influenced by the Dyfi Valley to the North. Trefeglwys community uses the facilities and shops in Llanidloes, Caersws and Newtown which are local to us. Llanbrynmair is on the other side of the Trannon Moor and their nearest/local town is Machynlleth.*
- 4. Trefeglwys CC conducts all of its meetings in English as this is the most commonly spoken language within the area, however, Llanbrynmair CC conducts its meetings in Welsh.*
- 5. The physical distance between Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair is 20km via the main A470 route which travels through Carno, the area deemed inappropriate for linking with Llanbrynmair. Further to this, the other option to travel between these areas is an even longer 25km on a narrow mountain road with few passing places.*
- 6. Geographically speaking there is a physical divide of the Trannon Moor between the two communities of Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair which adds to the feeling of these being very different areas with each feeling more affiliated with their own 'side' of the Trannon Moor.*
- 7. During the winter months the mountain road between Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair is often impassable, again adding to the divide between the two areas.*
- 8. The proposal is to call the new electoral area Llanbrynmair which further adds to the feeling that Trefeglwys would lose its own strong identity which the community would find intolerable.*
- 9. Trefeglwys Community Council's Clerk has been in contact with Llanbrynmair Community Council which is expected to object equally strongly to this proposal.*

A further issue, which has already been raised by the Clerk, is that Trefeglwys Community Council has been misrepresented within the responses section of the report as the response listed by Llangurig Community Council has been repeated under Trefeglwys Community Council. It has been requested that this be corrected at the very least on the website.

We understand that the concerns and views of Carno Community Council were accepted in May 2018 by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales. However, as indicated, Trefeglwys is even further detached from the community of Llanbrynmair. Therefore Trefeglwys Community Councillors and its residents request that the commission look much closer at the geography and culture of the communities which it is looking to alter as the feeling is that not only will these effect the electoral boundaries but could also hugely impact our smaller Community and Town Council areas if further changes and alterations were to be considered in the future. Therefore, we as a Council trust that you will also respect our views as you have done with Carno, which is situated between Trefeglwys and Llanbrynmair.

We as a Council strive to support the communities we serve and have won prestigious awards for the work we do; One Voice Wales Commendation Award in 2018 and we have again won the award for 2019. Trefeglwys has a strong identity and community spirit which we feel is being overlooked and would be shadowed by this proposal.

The community has Planning Permission for a number of new homes and others which are currently being built hence there will be an increase to the population figures detailed in the report.

Trefeglwys Community Council would propose to keep the current boundaries as they are and look to increase the number of electorates each County Councillor presides over. This would result in the current communities staying as they are and not being either split up or joined ineffectively with others.

Due to the strong feeling of our community to this proposal we have no alternative other than to copy this correspondence to our Regional AMs and our local MP, Glyn Davies.

- f. **One Voice Wales:** Innovative Practice Awards Nomination for TCC. Cllr D Pugh attended the One Voice Wales Innovative Practice National Awards today and was presented with an award commending TCC in the category of Local Council Service of the Year. It was also noted that Trefeglwys was the only council within Montgomeryshire to receive an award.

7. **Reports:** see above, agenda item 6f.

8. **Finances/Accounts:**

a. **Account balances**

Current account = £7,045.64
Wind Farm account = £5,999.19

- b. **Internal Auditor for 2018/19:** Cllrs agreed that they were happy for Mr A Richards to carry out the internal audit again for the 2018/19 financial year.

- c. **Accounts and Budget for Review:** Postponed until April meeting following year end.

- d. **Bank Transfer letter:** Clerk confirmed that a transfer of £457.00 was required in order to correct the spending and receipts between the current and Wind Farm Accounts.

e. **Payments and Receipts:**

<u>Monies Out</u>	Clerks Wages (Sophie Palmer)	= £171.98 (19.5hrs)
	Clerks Expenses (Sophie Palmer)	= £28.99
	HMRC PAYE tax	= £41.60
	Roger Malvern (Website Maint' 2018)	= £40.00
	<i>(cheque was drawn last month for Upper Bridge Enterprises in error, not banked)</i>	
	Powys CC (Playground inspection fee)	= £72.00
	Trefeglwys Memorial Hall (Meeting room hire 2018)	= £240.00
	Cllr D Pugh (Mileage for One Voice Wales Awards)	= £28.80
	Welsh Hearts (Defib for Llawryglyn)	= £995.00
	<u>Monies In</u>	Powys CC (recycling)
	HSBC (Interest)	= £2.76

Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed by Cllr M Smith and seconded by Cllr D Jerman.

9. **Requests for Financial Assistance:**

- a. **Chair of Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People and a Trustee with Disability Wales:** Cllrs unanimously agreed not to offer a donation.

10. **Chairman / Councillors Comments**

Cllr D Pugh: Put link to the film about the bypass on TCC website and Facebook as many local residents supported Russell George for the bypass

Cllr M Smith: There will be traffic restrictions alongside the Red Lion pub in Trefeglwys due to works being carried out at the pub.

Chair Cllr B Crone: Green waste recycling at kerbside is coming into force from April to November. Cllr D Jerman reported that a few people locally have been positive about the new scheme.

Cllr P Davies was asked whether the £630,000 made by PCC through selling property was taken into account with the council tax rise; Cllr P Davies confirmed that yes it was.

Chair Cllr B Crone: Some roads are going to be re-graded following the construction of the bypass.

Cllr P Tranter: In regards to the Council Tax rise; month after month there is overspend by PCC and the tax payer is paying for it by having Council tax and other rates rise but fewer or cut services.

11. **Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th April 2019 at 7.30pm at Trefeglwys memorial Hall meeting room.

Chair Cllr B Crone thanked everyone for attending and closed the open meeting at 9pm and opened the closed meeting.

Council went into closed session for discussion of confidential matters. The Council has deemed that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

Signed:



Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)