

Trefeglwys Community Council
Minutes of Meeting
7:30pm, Wednesday 24th October 2019
at Trefeglwys Village Hall Meeting Room

Present: Councillors: Cllr Morris Smith (Chair)
Cllr Jane Anwyl (Vice Chair)
Cllr Derrick Pugh
Cllr Endaf Meddins
Cllr Paul Tranter
Cllr David Jerman
Cllr Aled Rees
Cllr Nicholas Bennett
Cllr Beryl Crone

In Attendance: Sophie Palmer (Clerk)

Members of the Community: None

Apologies: None received

Not present: Cllr Myra Jones

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.*

3. Minutes from previous Community Council Meeting of 26th September 2019 were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr J Anwyl and seconded by Cllr D Pugh.

4. Highway Matters:

a. Street light in Lwynyogog: This item was left on the agenda in error as this was resolved at the previous meeting.

Since the last meeting Cllr J Anwyl reported to the Clerk that there are blocked culverts between Jacymawn and Staylittle shop. This has been reported to PCC, no response received as yet.

5. Matters Arising:

a. Clinical Waste issue: Clerk confirmed that following sending another response to the Health Board, no further response has been received although Llangurig and Caersws Community Councils have confirmed their support for TCC with this issue.

b. Bus shelter in Trefeglwys: PCC no longer have a budget for bus shelters. Clerk has made some requests for details on possible funding and will report back once details have been received. Clerk to also find out from PCC whether permission will be granted and all the costs involved.

c. Shooting ground closure: Clerk has drafted a letter to be sent to PCC regarding the closure of the shooting ground. This was discussed, amendments and adjustments were made and agreed by all Cllrs present. Clerk to forward to PCC.

d. National Development Framework Response: Clerk has drafted a response regarding the Draft NDF which was read out and discussed by Cllrs. Clerk to finalise draft and forward before the deadline.

e. Clerks laptop: The Clerks laptop battery has stopped holding charge. PC-Q have looked at it and given two prices for batteries, one HP battery and one compatible battery. Cllrs discussed the options and confirmed for the Clerk to purchase a compatible battery. Clerk to action.

6. Correspondence (*All correspondence received has previously been forwarded to Cllrs. Cllrs to comment on correspondence relevant to Trefeglwys Community Council*):

a. SSAFA, The Armed Forces Charity: VE Day 75 Celebrations. Clerk to ask the School and Village Hall Committee whether they are looking to mark the event.

b. Carnegie Trust: Understanding Welsh Places Website. Details noted, no action

c. One Voice Wales: Details of planning related consultations

d. Independent Remuneration Panel: Draft Annual Report. Details noted, no action.

e. Welsh Government: Local Government Democracy Workshop Invite. Details noted, no action.

f. Cllr P Davies: Cllrs discussed an email from Cllr P Davies following TCC's response to the PCC Budget response. Cllrs detailed a letter in response for Clerk to send.

7. Reports:

a. Cllr B Crone:

Llanidloes War Memorial Hospital:

Several meetings have been held with PTHB and Local Organisations concerning the situation at Llanidloes Hospital. Cllr B Crone was able to confirm that "meaningful" talks are in progress and hopefully some of the issues will be satisfactorily resolved.

One Voice Wales Area Meeting:

Cllrs B Crone and D Pugh attend the Montgomeryshire Area meeting of One Voice Wales at Newtown Council Chamber on Tuesday 24th September 2019.

The speaker Mr Guy Jones from the Community Lottery Fund spoke about the various grants available to community groups. Cllrs were made aware of the implications of Welsh Government's proposed National Development Framework as it relates to Powys. If implemented it could result in a serious invasion of our countryside by Solar and Wind Farm developments. All councils were encouraged to respond by 1st November 2019. An update was given regarding the Independent Review Panels proposed changes to how Town and Community Councils conduct their business, the areas which will be going out for consultation later this year are:

- a) Mandatory Annual report
- b) Powers of Competence
- c) Mandatory Training for all councillors in 3 specific areas.

It was evident from the questions asked that much more information is required about how to implement and fund these ideas.

Regarding Councillors allowances, HMRC still insist that these are taxable, OVW still in discussion with HMRC. Some council's have appealed directly to HMRC and have been given dispensation. The address is "pt operations HMRC BX9 1BX."

Next meeting is Weds 15th January 2020 at Castle Caereinion, 7pm.

8. Requests for Financial Assistance:

- a. **Powys Citizens Advice:** Cllrs decided not to give any funding at this time.
- b. **Bobath Childrens Therapy Centre Wales:** Cllrs decided not to give any funding at this time.
- c. **Mes Bach Preschool at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon:** Cllrs discussed the information provided and agreed to pledge £2,000 towards the project.

9. Planning:

- a. **Application Reference: 19/1403/HH** Grid Reference: E:296137 N: 290914 Proposal: Erection of an extension and all associated works Site Address: Pen Y Graig, Trefeglwys, Caersws, Powys SY17 5RG
Cllrs discussed the above planning application and agreed unanimously that they are in support of it. Clerk to send comments to PCC.

10. Finances/Accounts:

a. Account Balances:

Current Account = £7,153.68

Wind Farm Community Fund = £6,298.16

A query was raised as to what monies have been received from the wind farm so far this year.

Clerk confirmed that nothing has been received since December 2018. Clerk to contact Carno Wind Farm to ask about whether the community fund is still available.

- b. **Accounts and Budget review:** The up to date accounts information was sent out to Cllrs prior to the meeting and was also looked at during the meeting and discussed. Cllrs had no concerns over the current state of the accounts and budget and will discuss the precept for 2020/21 at the next meeting.

c. Payments and Receipts:

Monies Out

Clerks Wages (Sophie Palmer) = £244.30

Clerks Expenses (Sophie Palmer) = £28.90

HMRC PAYE tax = £7.60

Llawryglyn Village Association (last cheque returned) = £500.00

Business Services at CAS Ltd (Council insurance) = £138.86

Cllr B Crone (Mileage) = £9.90

Cllr D Pugh (Mileage) = £31.50

The Bills to be paid were agreed and proposed for payment by Cllr E Meddins and seconded by Cllr D Jerman.

Monies In

HSBC Interest = £2.97

PCC (Precept payment) = £2,167.00

11. Chairman / Councillors Comments:

Clerk: The Clerk informed Cllrs of the offer of a further appointment for part time work. Cllrs were in support of this and wished her well. Clerk confirmed that it would affect only her ability to respond to queries during mornings.

Cllr D Pugh: The County Times reported recently that PCC would save £71,000 by cutting back on gritting and putting out salt. This is of great concern in our rural community bearing in mind the elderly and infirm who require carers several times a day, vulnerable people, emergency services, local businesses such as the poultry units which require heavy vehicles to access steep and narrow lanes, people taking children to school and people getting to work. There are concerns over the safety of those within and travelling through our community and it is felt that this could put our residents at risk.

Cllr N Bennett: has been asked whether he will be elected as representative of TCC on the school governors. Cllrs unanimously agreed for Cllr N Bennett to continue as such.

12. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 28th November 2019 at 7.30pm at Trefeglwys Memorial Hall meeting room.

Signed:  Sophie Palmer (Clerk & RFO)