

CYNGOR CYMUNED CILYCWYM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at Cilycwm School on Tuesday 1 November 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Present : Councillors Tomos Theophilus (Chair), Moira Davies, Aled Edwards, Eurwyn Lewis, Arwel Davies .

Also present : Mrs Ann Jones (Clerk)

Apologies for absence : Councillor Leslie Holdaway Evans, Councillor Ifor Williams
The Chairman conveyed good wishes on behalf of members to Councillor Walter Jones who was in hospital following an accident .

Declarations of Interest : None

Presentations : None

Minutes of the Meeting of 6th September 2011 had been circulated to the Councillors. These were proposed, seconded and approved as a correct record.

Matters arising from the Minutes :

Pantycelyn School : Ongoing Concerns with regard to the proposed closure of Pantycelyn School . Decisions on Planning issues and concerns in the community re the position of local County Councillors in the discussion were raised. Councillor Theophilus clarified the position of County Councillors re the Code of conduct.

WPD : No progress report from WDP at this stage re replacement of electric poles – works now likely to start in March 2012

Correspondence :

1. Highway Issues : Response received from Carmarthenshire County Council re Damage to Pont Newydd (referred to Mr Peter Morgan) – structure inspected and damage noted . Work order issued to carry out remedial work. Councillors were concerned re stability of the coping stones.
Penybanc Hill and Esgairefail : Some repair works to the road at Penybanc hill had been carried out by Carmarthenshire County Council . No specific problems were identified at Esgairefail. Councillors continue to express concerns re both of these routes – further inspections and monitoring required - Clerk to write further to the Highways Dept on this matter .
2. Hedge cutting issues – Councillor Theophilus had raised this matter with the County Council.
3. One Voice Wales :
Training : Training champions initiative - details received and discussed
Training Programmes and modules received . (Clerk to consider attending if possible)
Meetings: One Voice Wales Conference – received and noted
Newsletter – received and made available to Councillors
Village SOS – Lottery funding – Details received and discussed .
Communities Fund – details received re Community safety initiative - Noted
4. Rural Housing - Rural Housing Enabler update received from Ms Lynne Beer. The need for ‘Affordable housing’ identified as a vital long term benefit for local community , ensuring a new generation to keep schools , businesses and communities

alive . Discussion followed re a range of issues including accessing deposits for first time buyers and improved mortgage deals. General discussion on possible sites followed.

5. Seasonal Decorations : Details of ‘consents’ required together with an Application form – received and noted
6. Queen’s Diamond Jubilee : The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Beacons - 4th June 2011 Details received and noted .
7. Sports Personality Awards: Details received and discussed . Mr Matthew Lamont Page suggested as a candidate for nomination. Clerk to approach to discuss with candidate.
8. Environment Agency : Details of New regulations affecting ‘Septic Tank’ owners received . More information on Environment Agency Wales website.
9. Joint Working : Letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council re contingency measures in preparation for the coming winter . Enquiry re potential local labour resources (available free of charge) to deal with severe weather conditions . Discussed and noted.
10. Efail Fach (*Plaque*) More quotes for plaque to be considered .
11. SLCC : Membership details and Newsletter received and discussed.

Financial matters

- *Request for financial support :* *Urdd Gobaith Cymru. (Eisteddfod Eryri 2012)*
Other requests received appealing for financial support were considered .

It was resolved that the Council (in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the L.G.A. 1972) , should incur the following expenditure which in the opinion of the Cilycwm Community Council , is in the interest of the area and its inhabitants , and would be beneficial in a manner commensurate with the expenditure :

*CFFI / YFC Sir Gar £50 ; Llandovery & District Blind Society £25 ;
Marie Curie Cancer Care £25*

- *Confirmation of Payments:*
Resq IT & Telecoms £7500
PL Long £50 (Computer check)
Clerk’s Salary and Paye :
Clerk’s net salary £270 (1/7/11 to 30/9/11)
HMRC (Paye) £180 (1/4/11 to 30/9/11)
- *Bills to pay :*
Antivirus Protection (Card payment by Clerk) £32.40 (Payment authorised)
- *Receipts :*
Carms CC - Grant £6250(Broadband)
VAT Re payment £1250
- *Paye - Clerk confirmed details of payments to date (as shown above)*

Audit matters: Letter received from BDO re Audit for the year ended 31 March 2011 reporting that there are no issues arising prior to the Council’s approval and certification of the Annual Return . Amendment to Box 12 (re depreciating fixed assets) corrected and initialled as directed. Clerk / RFO certified Section 3 of the Annual Return - (Signed and dated) The Annual Return was then presented to the Council. The Annual Return was approved; certified by the Chair (Signed and dated - Minute ref: 194) Completed Annual Return to be sent to BDO for certification of Section 3 and the issue of the Final audit certificate and opinion (by 8 November 2011).

Broadband Project: The Clerk gave an update of the project: Final stage of project completed and - 4th and Final Invoice for 'Commissioning and installation of the Backhaul' received.

The Clerk confirmed that :

The Grant funding had been released by Carmarthenshire County Council (4th and Final instalment for £6250)

Final Payment to Resq IT and Telecoms - £7500 (inc.VAT)
£1250 Vat has been reclaimed.

The Clerk and Mr Dafydd Tomos had attended meetings of CCBP who continue to monitor the project .Work to connect subscribers is proceeding with the majority already connected under Phase1. Resq IT and Telecoms are addressing any connection problems as required.

Planning Matters :

The following Planning applications were received from Carmarthenshire County Council

- Tree Preservation Order at The Vicarage , Cilycwm (Notice of Confirmation)
- E/25235 Plas yr Ardd (Granted)

Other matters :

More Highway issues : More problems reported on the Rhos , Siloh and Cwmsarnddu . Attention to gutters , laybys, salt supplies etc were highlighted . Councillors offering a meeting with Highways staff to identify particular difficulties. The Clerk was asked to write to The Highways Dept of Carmarthenshire County Council emphasising the need to address these problems as a matter of urgency.

Policing issues: The Council received a report identifying an incident in the Porthyrhyd area . Police were called by a farmer following a visit to his farm by traders using threatening and intimidating behaviour .The farmer reported the incident to Dyfed Powys Police, but had to wait several hours before they arrived to investigate the incident.The Council were very concerned about this incident and the need to provide adequate resources for policing rural areas . The Clerk agreed to write to Dyfed Powys Police on these matters .