

CYNGOR CYMUNED CILYCWMM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Capel y Groes Vestry, on Tuesday, 4th February 2020.

Present: Councillors Hywel Jones(Chairman), Aled Edwards, Arwel Davies and Moira Davies.

Apologies: Councillor Eirwyn Lewis, Jamie Pickup, Matthew Paul, and Walter Jones.

Declarations of Interest: Councillors Aled Edwards (Chair of Mynydd Mallaen Graziers), Hywel Jones (A friend of Arwel Evans who has a Private Right of Way along the track) and Moira Davies (A neighbour/friend of Melanie and Arwel Evans who has a Private Right of Way along the track). Also the Clerk, Maria Bennett (Private Right of Way along the track).

Changes to 8/21 Penstacan BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic)

Jason Lawday, Countryside Access Officer from Carmarthen County Council, came to talk to the Community Council on the 20th January 2020 regarding the proposed changes to the Penstacan BOAT.

The Community Council understands the following from Jason Lawday:

In 2017 the previous owners of Penstacan applied to have the route diverted away from their yard and onto the hard core track, including the lower section which would link it to the main highway. Following this application the County Council proposed and consulted on a DIVERSION order which would allow 8/21 to be re-routed. However this was not taken forward as the Community Council were concerned about the use of the track, in particular the use of 4x4 vehicles, and asked the County Council instead to look into the possibility of re-classifying and downgrading the route which is currently classed as a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT).

The County Council has done this by way of a MODIFICATION order which will downgrade the existing route to a footpath. If this is approved it is then suggested that the current owners of Penstacan will sign a CREATION order which will upgrade the route to a Bridleway and extend it to join the main highway. However they wish to re-route a section through a different field and wish to dedicate a separate strip of land alongside the lower section of the track for the Bridleway, rather than have the Bridleway on the track. They also wish to see improvements in other bridleways in the area.

The purpose of tonight's special meeting was for Councillors to consider the proposals put forward by Jason Lawday. Maps of the route were provided and following a detailed discussion the following motion was proposed by Councillor Moira Davies and seconded by Councillor Aled Edwards:

1) The Council will support the existing MODIFICATION order to downgrade the route to a footpath on the condition that suitable arrangements for a bridleway (such as those provided by the CREATION order) are secured first.

2) The Council will support the subsequent CREATION order to upgrade the route to a bridleway and extend it to join the main highway. It is understood that a separate strip of land will be dedicated to the bridleway along the lower section of the track and that a more direct route will be taken through a different field. The Council's support is however subject to the following conditions:

- The bridleway is clearly signposted;
- A narrow gate suitable for bridleway users only is installed on Mynydd Mallaen Common, where route 8/21 meets 8/25 and 8/21A. A separate vehicle access gate may be installed but this should be kept locked. This is for safety reasons since this section of the route is very narrow and is not suitable for vehicles.