

LLANGYNWYD MIDDLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL LLANGYNWYD CANOLOG



Minutes of the Ordinary Full Council Meeting Llangynwyd Village Hall Monday December 14th 2015

Members Present

Cllr D Berry
Cllr E Guscott
Cllr P Sasiruban
Cllr C Griffiths
Cllr T Griffiths
Cllr D Morgan
Cllr L Morgan
Cllr I Williams
Cllr D Jones

Clerk: Mrs N Morgan

The Meeting commenced at 7pm and was chaired by Councillor Jones.

145.16 Apologies for Absence

Councillor M James sent his apologies along with Cllr M Griffith Jones and Councillor L Grantham Brooks.

146.16 Declarations of Interest (in accordance with S51 Local Government Act 2000)

Councillor E Guscott	Cwmfelin Primary School Llangynwyd Primary School
Councillor P Sasiruban	Village Hall
Councillor D Jones	Llangynwyd Rangers Cwmfelin Primary School
Councillor I Williams	Cwmfelin School Maesteg Comprehensive School Maesteg Town Council Maesteg Celtic RFC

147.16**Ratification of Minutes of November 2015 Meeting**

There was one amendment to be made regarding the attendance of Cllr D Morgan and the apologies given by Cllr D Jones. Thereafter the minutes were agreed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr L Morgan.

148.16**Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Cllr Morgan wished to address the point made at 137.16 regarding the war memorial. The Clerk read a statement provided by the chairman in his absence at the November meeting, however the chairman wished to clarify a few points on the issue prior to proceeding:

Cllr Jones addressed the council and made the point that in a number of previous meetings it had been agreed that all decisions made by any committee etc should be put before the full council for approval. This being the case, why were the Welsh translations for the memorial not given to the council before the stone mason engraved the same? Cllr Berry responded and advised he had received messages stating the stonemason needed the inscription urgently which is why he provided the same. Cllr Jones stated the way in which this was done was unacceptable and had the translation be brought back to the full council there would not have been any errors that needed rectifying.

Cllr Berry stated he asked the question a number of times if anyone wanted to take care of the translation but no one offered. Cllr Berry said he would have an acquaintance translate the passage however this wasn't done. Cllr Jones stated it was a matter of principle and this should not have been done in this way. Cllr C Griffiths disagreed with the way Cllr Berry was being reprimanded by Cllr Jones.

Cllr Berry stated the last thing the council was advised was that Cllr Jones was going to then arrange for the translation to be done by a contact in Aberystwyth, it was therefore Cllr Jones who should have followed this up and not left it to anyone else to pick up. Cllr Berry stated if Cllr Jones wanted to discuss principles why had he done nothing for months and left it up to everyone else to arrange?

Cllr Jones stated he did have a contact that was going to translate the passage however Cllr Berry had stated he had already given the same to his contact that was carrying out the translation.

This matter continued to go back and forth with Cllr Berry asking Cllr Jones why he, himself didn't translate the passage to begin with being a Welsh speaker. Cllr Jones stated Cllr Berry should not question his integrity and the reason he wanted someone else to translate the passage was because spoken Welsh and grammatically correct written Welsh are different things. Either way the passage should have been brought back to the council before being given to the stonemason.

Cllr Williams stepped in and stated the memorial seemed to have taken on a life of its own. No one was aware of what was going on, the village hall was taking too much initiative and the entire project should have been left until next year. Progress was being made, albeit slowly, then there seemed a mad rush to complete the memorial which is when everything has gone wrong.

Cllr Jones stated everyone needs to ensure they abide by the code of conduct and everything needs

to be checked by the full council.

Cllr C Griffiths stated that everything should go through the full council but it isn't Cllr Berry's fault that errors were made and he has put a lot of effort into getting the work done.

Cllr Jones agreed Cllr Berry has put in a lot of effort but it still didn't distract from the fact that correct procedures weren't followed.

Cllr Berry stated it was embarrassing to be sat in a council meeting having this discussion. Everyone on the council agreed to the wording on the memorial, Cllr Jones, could if he chose to, have translated the passage himself but didn't and no help was offered until the very end. Cllr Berry wished to add the location of the memorial, the eventual design of the same and the inscriptions were all provided by him and agreed by the full council. No one other than Cllr Berry came up with any ideas as to design or inscription and it therefore allowed Cllr Berry to take the lead so to speak.

Cllr C Griffiths added that the Welsh was correct when it was taken to the stonemason as he himself had seen it and assisted with the writing of the same. Cllr Jones stated if this is the case he didn't believe Cllr Griffiths would have made these basic errors and perhaps the errors lay with the stonemason.

Cllr Berry addressed the council and asked did anyone know when the base was laid? Did anyone even have knowledge that the memorial had been erected? The village hall had taken this project on their own back believing it to be theirs and the community council were left with the bill. Cllr Berry stated that after his time as chairman there was a sudden push to complete the memorial and he received a number of messages stating the inscription was needed.

It is recognised that errors have been made but at every turn except one the council were consulted. If single errors equate to lack of integrity, then there are many whose integrity can never be questioned, as their inaction excludes them from such an accusation.

Cllr Berry asked the chairman has he evidence he made contact with the stonemason to inform him of the change of inscription? If he did, or didn't, why wasn't the council informed of his action/inaction?

Cllr Berry stated he recognised his error yet the chairman's comments regarding lacking integrity were unfounded.

After a rather lengthy discussion the matter of the memorial was set aside so the council meeting could progress.

Cllr Jones stated the standing orders of the council needed reviewing and hereon in protocol needed to be followed. The community council is to consist of 12 councillors and not 12 individuals.

149.16 Police Matters

Cllr D Morgan advised he attended the recent pact meeting, and was the only person to do so! It was noted the pcso has a Thursday morning in the village hall whereby residents can address any concerns they have. It may however be worth seeing how the next pact meeting goes and perhaps delegate a councillor to attend the meeting. It was then decided to ask the police if they could send a

representative to attend the council meeting perhaps quarterly rather than host a pact meeting whereby no one turns up.

With regards the crime figures the difference between the figures provided and the pact figures are due to them being produced on different dates of the month.

150.16 Public Address

There were no members of the public present.

151.16 Correspondence

All matters of correspondence were duly noted.

The matter of the solar lights was discussed and there were further questions, such as how long do the batteries last etc. The Clerk to arrange two further quotations in this regard.

A letter had been received from Cwmfelin School re Cllr Guscott's term as governor. The council all agreed to appoint Cllr Guscott for a further term. The clerk to notify the school of this.

There is a carol service to be held at Maesteg Comprehensive on 15th December and Cllr Williams agreed to attend on behalf of the council as well as a governor.

152.16 Planning

The planning application that had been approved with regards the boar farm was discussed and a number of points were raised. The main one being there seems to be no agricultural tie linked in to the approval of the application. In other cases whereby property is built on farmland there is a stipulation that states the property can be built but the resident must derive the majority of their income from agriculture.

Cllr T Griffiths has unique understanding of such matters having built a property on farmland and has such a stipulation tied into the agreement, Why would it be necessary for the stipulation in one instance but not another? Clarification is needed as to whether there is an agricultural tie in place with regards this application.

The clerk to liaise with Cllr Griffiths in this matter.

153.16 Christmas Event

The event proved once again successful and there was a constant stream of visitors. The question posed however is do we carry on hosting a Christmas event. The reasons for this are the village hall hosts the same sort of event now, as do Maesteg Town Hall etc. We were limited this year in that the Saturday the event was held was the only Saturday the hall was free and the Christmas lights turn on in Maesteg were the same afternoon. It could be argued that how many "meet Santa" events does there need to be in the same locality, especially if they are going to clash it seems possibly to be a waste of resources when maybe a donation could be made to another organisation hosting the same

sort of event. This would free up time and money to be spent elsewhere and the community would not go without. Cllr T Griffiths suggested the village hall and community council cooperate to provide an event between the two parties which would prove mutually beneficial.

The events committee to meet and discuss this prior to the next meeting.

Cllr Sasiruban left the meeting.

154.16 War Memorial

The clerk to research into the conducting of a dedication service for the memorial. It may be worth contacting the council of churches for some direction in this regard.

With the errors on the inscription the clerk to speak to the stonemason in this regard.

155.16 Pavilion

It was noted that a meeting has been held with Maesteg Celtic and representatives of BCBC regarding possible asset transfers. The representatives were asked questions regarding the cost implications but they had no answers to provide. These figures should be readily available however the community council has been asking for the same for almost 3 years with no response.

Cllr C Griffiths stated that at a Town and Community Council Forum some months ago it was stated there would be one dedicated person to deal with all of this, yet there still seems to be nothing happening.

At present the community council has no stance with regards the pavilion as we are awaiting communication from BCBC in this respect. The clerk to convey this message to Maesteg Celtic.

156.16 Members Reports

Councillor Berry

Councillor Berry advised he had received a number of compliments regarding the memorial. He had also received requests on whether a light would be put on the bridge.

Councillor C Griffiths

Councillor Griffiths had received complaints about the parking facilities at the train station in Maesteg and the Asda car park. It would appear network rail have sold the car park to Asda and therefore removed the facility to park and ride. Maesteg Town Council is aware of this matter and the clerk to contact them to see if we can offer any support.

Councillor T Griffiths

Cllr T Griffiths advised he has received complaints of fly tipping. He added that he has been made aware of an instance whereby a resident had furniture to dispose of and booked the tip. The resident took the wardrobe and sofa to the tip but the foreman would not allow them to deposit black bag rubbish whilst there. They could however leave the site and then return to deposit the black bag rubbish! The clerk to write to the tip and BCBC in this matter.

Councillor Williams

Councillor Williams advised he has received a number of reports of cars speeding through Maiden Street. The issue is we had signs installed where resident's asked. The residents were opposed to traffic calming measures therefore there isn't much else that can be done.

Councillor Guscott

Councillor Guscott noted there are serious issues with cars parking outside Cwrmfelin School at drop off and pick up times. The Clerk to write to the school in this matter.

Councillor Jones

Councillor Jones reported a large pothole outside 26 Heol Y Bryn. It appears buses are hitting the chippings when passing causing damage to vehicles. The clerk to contact BCBC.

Councillor Jones also noted it appears a lot of people seem to be under the impression that the war memorial was funded by and belongs to the village hall. It may be worth putting a plaque on the monument stating otherwise. This could also be advertised in the gazette and online when we hold the dedication service.

Councillor D Morgan

Councillor Morgan advised he had checked the Christmas lights when they were erected and all bulbs were working.

157.16 Finance and Accounts

The clerk to provide Cllr Grantham Brooks with a description of the lawn mower required.

The clerk conveyed a message received from Nicola Hart with a concern that she had been approached by two separate people (one of which being an employee of BCBC) asking when she was going to start cutting the playing field as BCBC will only be cutting the same once a month. This was news to the entire council and the clerk advised she had informed the park keeper that the cutting of the playing field was not her responsibility.

The exact breakdown for the accounts was provided along with a list of recent transactions. The running totals alongside the original budget for the year were discussed and agreed.

The three versions of the forecasted budget for the next financial year was discussed and all were in agreement that version one should be the one used for the next financial year. The clerk to apply for the suggested precept of £37,000 and convey this information to Fran Mantle at BCBC.

The accounts were agreed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr D Morgan.

158.16 Items for the January 2016 Meeting

- War Memorial
- Llan post office
- Dog Fouling
- Pavilion
- Events
- Parc Tir Iarll - Dogs

159.16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held at 6:30pm on Monday January 11th 2016 at Llangynwyd Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Signature of Chairman _____

Name of Chairman in print _____ **Date** _____