

LLANGYNWYD MIDDLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL LLANGYNWYD CANOLOG



Minutes of the Ordinary Full Council Meeting Llangynwyd Village Hall Monday July 11th 2016

Members Present

Cllr P Sasiruban
Cllr C Griffiths (Chairman 2016/2017)
Cllr T Griffiths
Cllr D Morgan
Cllr L Morgan
Cllr M James
Cllr I Williams
Cllr D Jones
Cllr L Grantham Brooks (Vice Chair 2016/2017)

Clerk: Mrs N Morgan

The Meeting commenced at 6:30pm and was chaired by Councillor Griffiths.

56.17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Griffith Jones, Cllr Guscott and Cllr Berry.

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

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Councillor P Sasiruban | Village Hall Llangynwyd Post Office |
| Councillor M James | Bridgend CBC Planning Matters Ysgol Gyfun Llangynwyd |
| Councillor I Williams | Maesteg Comprehensive School Maesteg Town Council Maesteg Celtic RFC |
| Councillor D Jones | Llangynwyd Rangers Cwmfelin Primary School |

It should be noted, all Councillors in attendance were provided with individual folders in which they are required to record all interests and to bring the same to each meeting to ensure all details are up to date.

58.17 Standing Orders Suspended

Standing orders were suspended at 6:37pm due to the attendance of members of the public; namely Mr and Mrs Thomas. Mr and Mrs Thomas attended the council meeting to express their confusion and query the erection of a fence that was preventing access to the river steps adjacent to the Tylas. Cllr James advised that BCBC were aware of this matter and indeed enforcement officers have already attended the site and it appears the steps are included in the title deeds of the property in question and the other ongoing works being carried out by the property owner is the erection of a boundary wall and the removal of trees. Residents are concerned about this as the works being carried out look out of character however the planning department and enforcement officers are happy for the work to be continued.

Cllr D Morgan added that some time ago daffodil beds were planted around the area and the new wall has been erected some 2 foot further and enquired whether this was actually the correct boundary.

Cllr Grantham Brooks explained she believed the work was being carried out along the boundary lines of the land. Cllr James will request enforcement officers attend the site once more and the residents wish to be present at this time.

Cllr T Griffiths queried whether the community council could make enquiries of the property owner on a friendly basis as involving BCBC may increase agitation of the situation. Cllr James and Cllr Grantham Brooks advised they have tried to liaise with the property owner to no avail.

59.17 Ratification of Minutes of June 2016 Meeting

The minutes were approved by Cllr D Morgan and seconded by Cllr I Williams barring the change to the time of the meeting commencement and the inclusion of Cllr T Griffiths in those in attendance.

60.17 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were a number of matters raised. The sending of minutes was noted and it was debated whether to receive the minutes after the meeting or prior to the next meeting and it was agreed the minutes would be sent the first Tuesday of each month – the week prior to the meeting and correspondence would be received at the meeting as is currently the case.

The issue of the speed signs was raised and the clerk to liaise with John Lewis over the lamp post numbers and Cllr James has already provided him with the same.

61.17 Police Matters

Crime figures were received for the past two months – please see attachment.

62.17 Correspondence

All matters of correspondence were duly noted.

With regards the Christmas Parade at Maesteg Town Council, no official request or correspondence has been received regarding the same.

Cllr James reported that the open spaces at Parc Tyn y Waun have been cut along with the grass outside the village hall.

Cllr Williams noted in relation to discussions of adopting lanes, no lane has been adopted in Llangynwyd or Cwmfelin since the creation of Bridgend County Borough Council.

With regards Japanese Knotweed, this matter will be looked at in September as per the treatment regulations.

The clerk advised the council she has received a request from BCBC enquiring when the Christmas lights are to be turned on and the clerk to contact the same and advise 1st December. The possibility of leaving the Christmas lights all year round was discussed (as is done in Coytrahen) however this idea was dismissed.

It was confirmed that Cllr L Grantham Brooks would represent the community council and the Town and Community Council Forum and the Clerk to relay the correspondence details to BCBC.

At the point Cllr Sasiruben left the meeting temporarily to allow the issue of the post office to be discussed:

There were a number of points raised regarding the fairness of the matter in relation to the current post office owner; however it was noted that the current owner's contract has been terminated, it is near enough a done deal due to cost effectiveness and should there be objections to having the post office services relocated into the mini market then Llangynwyd will be left without a post office of any description.

It was agreed that although there are concerns and reservations, it would be beneficial for the village to retain postal services than have nothing at all.

Cllr Sasiruben returned to the meeting.

63.17 Planning

There were no objections to the planning applications.

64.17 Summer Event

The council was updated with the plans for the summer event. The obtaining of a generator was discussed and the clerk advised the costs were far above those agreed and it was therefore left.

65.17 War Memorial

Cllr James and Cllr Williams advised they had spoken to Mr Roy Meredith and a copy of a published book had been left in the village hall with images of the War Memorial. The clerk advised she had spoken with the author some months ago and requested images of the same not be used until the alterations had been made. It does appear, however, that the village hall has photographs of the memorial on their Facebook page!

It seems as though the village hall is taking over in respect of the war memorial and no dedication service can be carried out until the amendments have been made. Cllr Jones advised he was well aware of the number of attempts the clerk had made to contact the stonemason and Cllr James advise he would seek to speak with the same. It was agreed Cllr James would make attempts to contact the stonemason and advise a letter is to be sent should the alterations not be made with a 28-day deadline prior to legal action being sought. Cllr James to contact the clerk prior to the letter being sent to advise of any outcome, only then should the letter be sent.

The clerk to obtain prices for other contractors to rectify the work.

66.17 Website

The website has been re-created and is up to date.

67.17 Church Yard

Cllr James advised the church yard has made front page of the gazette. The probation service has previously cut the grass however it is a lot of work to be kept on top of. At the next precept meeting in November it could be discussed to set aside funds to allocate to the same.

Cllr T Griffiths noted the article quoted £1400 each time the grass needing cutting, how could it be so costly? Surely the Church in Wales have these funds?

Cllr James to invite the vicar to the next meeting to discuss issues and Cllr Grantham Brooks to look into possible grants etc.

Cllr T Griffiths noted some education providers offer courses in grounds maintenance, maybe this could be used as a practical element? The clerk to make enquiries.

68.17 AOB

Cllr Grantham Brooks wished to nominate Mr and Mrs Jenkins of 40 Bridgend Road, Llangynwyd to receive one of the shields to thank them for their service to the community along with Roy Meredith. The clerk to contact the residents and invite them to attend the next meeting. The clerk to arrange to take photographs at the meeting.

69.17 Members Reports

Councillor T Griffiths

Councillor Griffiths notified the council that he had been approached by resident regarding Japanese Knotweed at Gelli Siriol. This is BCBC land and the clerk to contact the same regarding this matter. Cllr Williams advised in a recent Maesteg Town Council meeting that councillors were requested to maintain lists of knotweed “hotspots” and relay them to BCBC.

It was discussed that perhaps the controlling of Japanese Knotweed should be placed on the agenda for a precept meeting. Cllr Grantham Brooks advised she contacted BCBC some 5 years ago regarding an issue with knotweed and is still waiting an outcome!

Cllr Jones advised although we can report the issue to BCBC as its private land it should ultimately be down to the land owner.

It was requested that councillors raise all knotweed areas of concern at the September meeting.

Councillor D Morgan

Councillor Morgan advised Gareth White has cut back footpath 24 and is able to cut the new footpath around the lamp post as previously discussed and would liaise with Cllr James in this regard.

Councillor Sasiruben

Cllr Sasiruben advised there are further issues regarding parking outside the shop and Chinese take away. The owner of the Chinese is parking erratically horizontally outside the shops taking up a number of spaces and requesting customers of the mini market move their cars. The issue is the layby is council owned and anyone can park there and there are no designated lines detailing the spaces. The clerk to contact BCBC with this matter and request parking spaces are drawn at the layby.

Councillor Williams

Councillor Williams advised he had dropped in the quote for the solar lights to Maesteg Town Council for their consideration.

Cllr Williams advised there had been a meeting at Maesteg school re the transport situation. The designated “safe route to school” is along a busy main road. The changes to the school transport policy are only affecting new starters and not those already using school transport. Concerns have been raised regarding children not attending the school due to the transportation costs. Cllr Jones added that the transport available costs approximately £10 per week to utilise. It should be noted however that these changes were made by the Welsh Assembly and not the local government. Cllr Sasiruben advised he would be happy to place a petition to be signed in his shop.

Cllr Grantham Brooks to contact Huw Irranca Davies to discuss petitions in this matter.

Councillor Grantham Brooks

Councillor Grantham Brooks queried the location of the old chain of office to which the response was it may be located in the church and Cllr James to query this with the vicar. The clerk advised the new pin depicting Cllr C Griffiths' chairperson status has been ordered.

Councillor L Morgan

Councillor Morgan advised the seat located on Bridgend Road has grass surrounding it too high for it to be usable. The clerk to contact BCBC re this matter.

70.16 Finance and Accounts

The exact breakdown for the accounts was provided along with a list of recent transactions.

All accounts were agreed.

71.16 Items for the September 2016 Meeting

- War Memorial
- Church Yard
- Summer Event
- Knotweed
- Lock Up - Shelving
- School Transport
- Grass Cutting
- Shields

72.16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held at 6:30pm on Monday September 12th 2016 at Llangynwyd Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signature of Chairman _____

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