

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 16th November 2020 at 7:30pm. In accordance with The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held remotely via video conferencing.

Present: Cllr Caroline Fairclough (Chair)
Cllr Jeff Greenidge
Cllr David Sharman
Cllr Phill Bowker
Cllr Dean Christy
Cllr Colin Alford
Cllr John Morris

In attendance: Maria James (Clerk)

- 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Keith Powell. **Absent:** Cllr Elaine Lusted
- 2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Morris declared a personal interest in Item 3.1 (iii) (applicant is a neighbour); Cllr Sharman declared a personal interest in Item 3.1 (ii) (applicant is a neighbour)

3. **Planning:**

3.1 **Applications:**

- (i) **20/19117/FUL** demolition and replacement of an existing conservatory as well as minor works to the exterior of the property. **Moor Park, Llanbedr NP8 1SS**

RESOLVED: to submit response of no objection.

- (ii) **20/19157/TPO** remove lower branches of oak trees overhanging the minor road from Glangrwyney to Llangenny at the postcode address. **Mill Brook, Llangenny NP8 1EY**

RESOLVED: to submit response of no objection.

- (iii) **20/19053/FUL** general purpose agricultural building. **Sunnybank, Llanbedr NP8 1SY**

RESOLVED: to submit response of no objection.

3.2 **Decisions/Other:** the following application was reported to have been permitted:

- (i) **Application 20/18655/CON:** Variation of Condition 2 of permission 19/17426/FUL etc. Perth-y-Pia, Llanbedr NP8 1SY

- 4. **County Council Report:** None received - County Cllr Morris was not in attendance.
- 5. **Minutes:** Pages 1332 -1333 were agreed to be a true record of the annual meeting held on Monday, 19th October 2020. (Proposed Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Christy). Pages 1334 -1337 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting held on Monday, 19th

Signed:.....
Chairman

October 2020. (Proposed Cllr Christy; Seconded Cllr Sharman).

- 6. **Clerk’s Report - information from the minutes:** In accordance with legalisation the Chair of the council Cllr Fairclough has signed her declaration of acceptance of office. There were no further matters to report which are not already on the agenda.
- 7. **Climate Emergency:** Members noted correspondence from Llandrindod Wells Town Council regarding Powys County Council’s Declaration of a Climate Emergency and its commitment to forming a stakeholder group. It was agreed to return the questionnaire and inform the town council the Vale of Grwyney CC wishes to be directly involved. Cllr Greenidge volunteered to represent the council.

RESOLVED: to appoint Cllr Greenidge as the Vale of Grwyney CC representative.

- 8. **Retrospective Planning - to form a working group:** It was suggested a working group comprising Cllr Christy and Cllr Sharman meet remotely with representatives from Cwmdru Community Council and the clerk to discuss the issue of retrospective planning.

RESOLVED: to hold a meeting of the working group via Zoom.

- 9. **Council Emails - to consider making use of dedicated council emails mandatory:** Following debate it was agreed that whilst advisable for members to use dedicated council emails for council business it is not possible to enforce their use. It was suggested anyone experiencing technological difficulties should be provided with assistance and guidance. It was agreed to draft an email protocol to help in this regard.

RESOLVED: to draft an email protocol.

- 10. **Llangenny Water Fountain:** Due to a backlog created by the cyber incident BBNPA has requested an extension in which to determine the planning application. The application should be decided by 2nd December 2020.

It was suggested the council apply for funding under the BBNPA recently opened Heritage in Places scheme. Registration of the land is ongoing.

RESOLVED: to investigate grant funding as outlined.

- 11. **Llanbedr Nature Garden - maintenance up-date.** Cllr Alford was thanked for cutting the grass which was reported to be looking much better. Cllr Alford found a significant amount of dog muck in the nature garden. It was suggested this is monitored and additional signage erected if it continues to present a problem.

The trees on the land to the rear of the garden were reported to need trimming. Cllr Christy (landowner) will investigate.

The Allotment Society has been informed that if they wish the council to arrange for the hedge to be cut they must provide written assurance the contractor will not be held responsible for any damage done to the greenhouses which are located close to the hedge.

Signed:.....
Chairman

It was reported complaints have been received about the condition of the allotments. The clerk will speak to the society.

12. Information from Members to be included in the next Agenda

- LDP Response
- Donations

13. Finance:

- (i) The following items were approved for payment (Proposed; Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Greenidge)

Staff (Salary £266:67/Expenses £25/Zoom £14:39)	- £ 305.86
HMRC	- £ 25.40
The Royal British Legion (Wreath)	- £ 34.00

- (ii) The finance report was received and noted.
- (iii) The clerk reported the annual return should have been returned from the external auditor in time for this meeting however had not been received.

14. Highways: the following items were reported as needing attention:

Llanbedr: overgrown hedge and blocked drain by Green Cottage, Grwyne Fechan
Llangenny: trees in river by Millbrook
Grit boxes need filling throughout the vale.
Llanbedr also needs a grit pile – location to be confirmed.
Enquiries have been made with Llanelly CC concerning the closed road between Glangrwyney to Gilwern. They are unsure when the two county councils will resolve the matter although understand Monmouthshire County Council is leading on this. It was reported some Glangrwyney residents intend petitioning to permanently restrict use of this road to cyclists/pedestrians.

Discussion ensued as to most effective ways of resolving highway issues. Repairs are currently reported direct to the highways department in Powys County Council. It was suggested the council ask our county councillor to assist in getting repairs actioned.

A stile on the public footpath passing Tyn yn y Cae in Glangrwyney has been replaced with one which is difficult to climb and is on longer dog friendly. It was reported the owner intends inserting an additional step to make it easier to use however has not confirmed whether it will be made dog friendly. It was suggested the council write to the BBNPA to determine responsibility for this stile and enquire whether it will be dog friendly.

RESOLVED: to write to BBNPA as outlined.

15. Reports on Meetings Attended: Cllr Fairclough laid the wreath at a small socially distanced Remembrance Service in Crickhowell. Cllr Sharman laid the wreath at a similar

Signed:.....
Chairman

short socially distanced service in Llangenny.

- 16. **Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix A was received and noted.
- 17. **Miscellaneous/Late Items of Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix B was received and noted.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9:24pm

Signed:.....
Chairman