

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7:50pm. This meeting was held remotely via video conferencing.

**Present:** Cllr Caroline Fairclough  
Cllr Jeff Greenidge  
Cllr Elaine Lusted  
Cllr David Sharman  
Cllr Phill Bowker  
Cllr Dean Christy  
Cllr Colin Alford  
Cllr John Morris  
Cllr Paul Morris

**In attendance:** Cty Cllr John Morris and Maria James (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Not applicable.

**2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Lusted and Christy declared a personal interest in Item 7 (Governors, Llanbedr School).

**3. Planning:**

**3.1 Applications:** to resolve responses to consultations received from BBNPA including those received after the publication of the agenda.

- (i) **21/19893/CON:** Variation/Renewal of Condition 2 - Client looking to reduce the scale of the proposed link building. Building to be built in accordance with the revised drawings in relation to 19/17793/LBC. **Tycanol Farm , Llangenny NP8 1HF**
- (ii) **21/19891/CON:** Application Reference Number 19/17792/FUL. Date of Decision 23/12/2019. Condition 2 Removal - Client looking to reduce the scale of the proposed link building. Building to be built in accordance with the revised drawings. **Tycanol Farm, Llangenny NP8 1HF**

It was recalled the council objected to the original applications citing overdevelopment. Following discussion it was agreed to request an extension to allow opportunity to consider the applications fully.

**3.2 Decisions/Other Planning:** No decisions received.

**4. County Council Report:** Cty Cllr Morris reported:

- Powys County Council has downgraded the business critical work it was doing due to Covid and is trying to get back to more normal ways of working including face to face meetings.
- Glangrwyney (Halfpenny) Bridge – repair works to the bridge (which belongs to Powys) has had to go back out to tender. This should be awarded in June with work starting early August/September. The bridge will be closed for 4/6 weeks. It is understood Monmouthshire CC will repair the road before the bridge is re-opened.

*Cty Cllr Morris left the meeting 20:14.*

*Signed:..... Chairman*

**5. Minutes: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Pages 1361-1364 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting subject to a minor spelling correction. (Proposed Cllr Fairclough; Seconded Cllr Bowker).

**6. Clerk's Report: information from the minutes**

- Information Board Tin Town: The Clerk is waiting to hear from NRW whether they are interested in working with the council in providing an information board. Cllr John Morris reported speaking to Michael Young (NRW) who said NRW is supportive of the project. The Clerk will arrange a meeting.
- Llangenny Water Fountain: the Clerk is chasing contractors for quotes. Cllr Bowker suggested contacting BBNPA to ask if they know of any specialists who can be approached. Cllrs Alford and Sharman stated they may know contractors interested in quoting. The Clerk will email the conditions so they can ask for written quotations.
- Five Councils Meeting: Llangynidr CC confirmed it is interested in attending a meeting. The other councils have not confirmed to date. It was suggested a meeting is called.

**7. Llanbedr School: to discuss/formulate response to PCC's consultation on closing the school**

Cllr Lusted reported Powys has opened its consultation on closing the school. As the initial consultation documents contained several errors, particularly regarding capacity, the deadline in which to respond has been extended to the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. Members were encouraged to respond individually to the consultation.

Following discussion it was agreed the council's response must emphasis the impact the closure will have on the community. The school actively drives events such as the fireworks display, summer fete, Christmas concert, etc in the village and is actively involved with community activities. Powys has admitted the school has excellent education standards, excellent leadership and excellent after school activities. The main reason for closure is the size of the school. Llangattock, the nearest Church in Wales School does not has capacity for the children and if Llanbedr School closes children and staff will be sent wherever they can be fitted in.

It was agreed to form a working group to prepare the council's response and make representations to the new AM and MP.

**RESOLVED to: form a working group (Cllrs Lusted, Fairclough, P Morris and J Morris) to formulate a response.**

**8. Nature Garden Maintenance Requirements:** The nature garden was reported to be in need of some strimming ie, around the path, bug hotel and bench. Cllrs Sharman, J Morris and Fairclough will meet on site to determine what is required.

**RESOLVED to: arrange a site meeting.**

**9. Retrospective Planning: to discuss way forward**

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority declined the request to meet with the working party to discuss retrospective planning.

It was agreed to call a meeting of the working group, with representatives from Cwmdu Community Council and the Brecon Beacons Park Society to establish a different strategy.

**RESOLVED to: arrange a meeting via Zoom as outlined.**

**10. Standing Orders & Financial Regulations: to review:**

In accordance with good governance the council reviewed both its standing orders and financial regulations. No changes were considered necessary to the standing orders.

It was agreed to increase the amount by which contracts are subject to three quotations to £500 in the financial regulations (P16 - 11.1g) (Proposed Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Lusted).

**RESOLVED to: amend the financial regulations as detailed.**

**11. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW): to consider adopting determinations/ discuss payment of mandated allowances.**

The IRPW's 2021/22 report and findings were noted. Following consideration it was agreed to adopt Determination 45 (travel costs).

Determination 41 (reimbursement of costs for the care of dependent children/adults) and Determination 42 (payment to members of £150) are mandatory. Councillors were advised if they wish to decline to receive part or all of the payment this must be put this in writing to the Clerk.

**RESOLVED to: adopt Determination 45 of the IRPW's Annual Report.**

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

- Llanbedr School
- Nature Garden
- Retrospective planning.

**13. Finance:**

13.1 The following items were approved for payment (Proposed; Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Fairclough) and duly agreed.

Staff (Salary £268:07/Exp £25/Travel £6.30)	- £299.37
HMRC	- £ 23.60
Zurich Insurance	- £257.85
SLCC subscription	- £ 95.00
G M James – reimbursement – Zoom	- £ 14.39

13.2 The Finance Report was noted.

*Signed:..... Chairman*

13.3 The Asset Register was noted.

13.4 Following consideration of the internal auditor’s report Members were asked to approve the annual return prior to submission to the external auditor. Cllr Sharman proposed it be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Greenidge and duly agreed.

**RESOLVED to: approve the annual return.**

**14 Highways:** it was reported:

- The hedge at Green Cottage hasn’t been cut (regulations restrict the date when hedges/trees can be cut).
- The patching machine has been operating in Grwyne Fawr. Operative is due to return for another day’s work.
- There are cracks in the road between The Bont and Sunnybank, Llanbedr

**15 Reports on Meetings Attended:**

Cllrs Fairclough and Christy attended the PAROW meeting to speak against the applications to convert the conservative club, which were subsequently passed. Opposition remains with a number of options currently being pursued, one of which may involve a judicial review.

Cllr J Morris attended the BBNPA’s Zoom meeting on the National Management Plan.

Cllr Lusted reported building is understood to be starting in Cwrt Y Gollen this autumn.

**16. Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix A was received and discussed as appropriate.

**17. Miscellaneous/Late Items of Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix B was received and discussed as appropriate

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.30pm

*Signed:..... Chairman*