

24th February, 2021

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Llandybie Community Council held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 24th February, 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors	R. A. Davies	Mrs S.E. Thomas	P.H. Roberts
	W.D. Evans	I. Rh. Llewelyn	Mrs Ll. Hindley
	Mrs K.D. L. Davies	Mrs Ll. Latham	Mrs A. Evans
	Mrs C. Thomas	B. Rees	E.W. Nicholas
	C.J Harris	Mrs J.E Collins	A.W. Jones
	S.J. Roberts		

Apology

Councillor D. Nicholas

Also present as members of the public were County Councillors D Thomas and R. James.

843.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor P.H Roberts declared an interest in Minute 845(1) as he is the Chairman of Governors at Blaenau CP School.

Councillor A.W Jones declared an interest in Minute 845(1) as he is the Chairman of Governors at Llandybie CP School.

Councillors R. A Davies declared an interest in Minute 845(1) as the Vice Chairman of Governors at Llandybie CP School.

844.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the following meetings as circulated were considered:

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27th January, 2021

Minutes of the Planning Meeting of Council held on 27th January, 2021

Minutes of the Finance committee meeting held on the 3rd February, 2021

Minutes of the Policy committee meeting held on the 3rd February, 2021

The Chair asked the attendees if there were any issues and it was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of these meetings as a true record. It was further **resolved** to confirm the recommendations of the committees.

845.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minutes arising from the Ordinary meeting held on the 27th January 2021.

1) Minute 823 - Proposal to review primary school education at Llandybie and Blaenau primary schools

The consultation period had been extended to the 1st March, 2021.

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Councillor Mrs S.E Thomas spoke of her desire to have modern, fit for purpose schools for the children of the area similar to those which were available at Penygroes and Saron. She commented that both schools were unsafe for pupils and was angry at the labour party for trying to stop the process.

Councillor A.W Jones, Chairman of Governors at Llandybie, informed Members that Llandybie C P School was a safe environment for the children and that Councillor Thomas' statement was factually inaccurate. The governing body at Llandybie had been discussing options for a new school for many years and questioned why the governors at Blaenau had not been aware of the plans. He also wished it to be recorded that he had received a letter from a local resident objecting to the new proposals.

The Chairman stated that he hoped that the whole matter as far as the Community Council was concerned would not become political.

Councillor P. H Roberts reiterated his concerns that the consultation had by necessity been virtual and that ideally a delay would have been preferable so that the community could have met to discuss the options available. He informed Members that as soon as the governing body at Blaenau CP School had been made aware of the proposal, all parents had been informed.

2) Minute 824 (i) - Penygroes RFC fence

Councillor P. H. Roberts had met with the Chairman of Penygroes RFC to discuss a further hybrid option which could satisfy both parties. An agreement had been reached to restrict the height of the fence along the middle section of the boundary to 1.2M, but that the edges of the boundary would accommodate a 2M fence so that gates could be installed.

It was **resolved** that this option should be supported with a grant of £6434.14 with all other criteria of support having been satisfied by Penygroes RFC.

Concern was expressed at the condition of the floodlights at the park which are owned by the rugby club, and it was agreed that the Clerk would speak to the officials and report back at a future meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

846.

Police reports

Crime reports for the month of January 2021

Llandybie

Burglary – 1

Criminal Damage – 1

Criminal Damage to a vehicle – 1

Assault – 1

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Theft – 2
Drug related offences – 2
Dangerous dog – 1
Harassment – 2
Stalking – 1

Saron including Capel Hendre and Penybanc

Burglary – 2
Assault – 2
Theft – 1
Malicious communication - 1
Harassment – 5
Arson -1
Stalking – 1
Theft of a cycle – 1
Blackmail – 1

Penygroes

Assault – 1
Malicious communication – 4
Taking a vehicle without consent - 1
Stalking – 1
Arson - 1

847.

The following items of correspondence had been received and sent to Members prior to the meeting.

- a) Scrutiny Committees within Carmarthenshire County Council
- b) Litter and Fly Tipping Prevention Plan for Wales
- c) The Welsh Elections (Coronavirus) Bill 2021

It was **resolved** to note the correspondence.

848.

New 20mph speed limit at Blaenau

A public notice had been received from Carmarthenshire County Council giving their intention to amend the speed limit on the B4556 at Blaenau from a point 66 metres east of its junction with Pantyblodau Road for a distance of 155 metres in a westerly direction, and along the entire length of Pantyblodau Road, The notice had been sent to Members so that any objections could be submitted to CCC by the 17th February, 2021.

No objections had been received.

849.

Temporary road closures

There will be a temporary road closures at Blaenau Road, Llandybie on Monday 3rd May, 2021 and on the C2137 at Llandyfan on Wednesday 5th May, 2021 from 9.00am until midnight for BT Openreach to replace damaged equipment. Suitable diversions will be put in place for alternative routes.

850.

CLERK'S REPORT

a) Rights of Way

1) Footpath 51/86 at Derwydd

The Clerk had received some complaints from walkers that the gates to this short footpath were overgrown with brambles which made it inaccessible for use. He had informed The Rights of Way team at Carmarthenshire County Council who had acknowledged that the footpath still exists and that it will be addressed once resources allow.

b) Parks

1) New contracts to be awarded

Quotations had been obtained for the following contracts :-

a) Litter Collection / Grass cutting / Leaf clearance / Hedge maintenance / Football pitch maintenance / Herbicide application

There had been only two quotes submitted.

Carmarthenshire County Council had been the successful applicant both in terms of pricing and service quality at cost of £19064.50 for 2021/2022. The contract will be for a 12 month period with an option to extend for a further 12 months if both parties are in agreement.

Members **resolved** to approve the contract recommendation despite there being only two submissions. The Chair informed Members that there had been an excellent working relationship between both parties for the past 3 years and hoped that this would continue under the new contract.

b) Preparation and maintenance of Llandybie Bowling Green.

Due to the specialist nature of the work required, there had been only one quotation submitted from Carmarthenshire County Council at cost of £6860.50 for 2021/2022. The contract will be for a 24 month period with an option to extend for a further 12 months if both parties are in agreement.

Chair

Members **resolved** to approve the contract with Carmarthenshire County Council.

2) Smoke Free Public playgrounds

New legislation from the 1st March, 2021 require all public playgrounds to be smoke free at all times. As the Council has responsibility for the maintenance of eleven play areas it already has signage on each of the play areas where children's play equipment is based, with a no smoking graphic. This is acceptable as the play areas are within clearly defined boundaries.

The Multi Use Games Areas also have appropriate signage.

Penygroes and Capel Hendre park have play equipment outside the general children's play area and those items of equipment are classed as being in a 'public playground without a boundary'. The new law legislates that each item of equipment has a sign erected informing members of the public that 'It is against the law to smoke within 5 metres of this play equipment'

Penygroes – 4 items of equipment and a bike track
Capel Hendre – skate park

All main entrances to parks must also have appropriate signs and Penygroes, Gorsddu and Capel Hendre have two access gates which will need new signs.

Members **resolved** to progress with the ordering and erection of suitable signage to comply with the new legislation.

3) Councillor P.H Roberts reported that a concrete pillar close to the pavilion needed to be assessed for safety purposes. This would be reviewed as part of the routine park inspection.

c) Heol Cae Ysgubor

The new development of 28 residential dwellings adjacent to Ty Dyffryn, Saron will be named Cae Ysgubor, as the development land was originally known as this.

d) Cilyrychen clock service

The annual service of the clock had been undertaken on the 9th February, 2021 by Smith of Derby at a cost of £ 388.80 which included the supply and installation of a new battery.

Members **resolved** to pay the invoice.

e) Insurance renewal – due 1st April 2021

The Clerk had sought renewal quotes from three insurance companies. A breakdown from specialist brokers Came and Company had been received which provided 3 quotations from Pen Underwriting Limited via AXA, Hiscox and Ecclesiastical.

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Pen Underwriting Ltd via AXA – £2355.59

Hicox - £3024.44

Ecclesiastical – £3035.17

The premium for 2020/21 had been £2191.83

There is an administration fee of £50 to be added to all policies and the quotes are inclusive of Insurance Premium Tax.

It was **resolved** to renew the insurance with Pen Underwriting via AXA, on a three year binding agreement at a premium of £2355.59 plus administration fee of £50.

851.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) Payment of accounts

The following invoices had been received in February 2021 and been paid after discussion with the Chair.

5425	Welsh Water	Llandybie public conveniences 22/7/20 – 26/1/21	£124.68
5426	Llandybie Parish Church Hall	Rent of office and chamber 1/12/20 – 31/5/21	£650.00
5440	Welsh Water	Welsh Water – Llandybie pavilion 18/7/20 – 22/1/21	£197.71
5447	EDF	Penygroes park – Jan 2021	£11.10

The following invoiced had also been received :-

5427 to 5436 5438 5444	Grants awards	See Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of the 3 rd February 2021	
5439	Martin Davies	Translation of Minutes	£238.65
5441	S Griffith	Salary for February 2021 and use of home as office allowance	£2296.43
5442	R Thomas	Salary for February 2021 and use of home as office allowance	£661.06
5443	HMRC	February 2021	£944.06
5445	Morgan and Morgan	Printer ink for Admin Officer	£22.40
5446	Morgan and Morgan	Printer ink for Clerk	£68.76
5448	hsl Compliance Ltd	Water hygiene at pavilions and public conveniences – February 2021	£221.54
5449	Smith of <u>Derby</u>	Annual Cilyrychen clock service	£388.80

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5450	Morgan and Morgan	Workshop evaluation on printer	£24.00
5453	J T Services	Opening and closing of public conveniences	£784.00
5454	Morgan and Morgan	Annual domain hosting	£88.80
5455	Morgan and Morgan	Printer ink	£50.09

Members **resolved** to approve the payments and to retrospectively approve the payments agreed by the Chair.

(ii) Monthly monitoring of the budget - April 1/4/20 to 31/01/21

2020/21			
Estimate	Actual YTD		
£	£		
180,000	180,000	Precept	
150	54	Interest: Lloyds	
400	517	Interest: investment accounts	
3000	3,000	Rights of way	
	726	Maintenance Grant	
4700	0	Hire Agreements	
<u>188,250</u>	<u>184,297</u>		
45,889	41,129	Staffing	
17,650	10,148	Premises	
4,750	3,964	Office Services	
3,100	562	Member costs	
10,000	5,292	Services and Subscriptions	
}	18,000	5,920	Section 137
			Payments under other
		0	powers
		1,150	Public open spaces
		2,470	Village halls
}		2,900	Burial grounds
		4,645	Rights of way - maintenance
10,000	0	Rights of way - improvement	
28,000	1,425	Grass cutting/ litter/ facilities	
50,000	56,787	Park repairs and replacement	
}		0	Public lighting - energy
			Public lighting -
8,500	0	improvement	

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28,000	11,887	Community development
		Public
13,000	6,806	conveniences
<u>236,889</u>	<u>155,085</u>	
	29,212	Balance for the year
	337,001	(period)
		b/f
<u>0</u>	<u>366,213</u>	c/f

	Cash and
356,449	investments
9,764	Debtors
0	Creditors
<u>366,213</u>	

The current precept of £180,000 had remained unchanged for the past 4 years and the Band D council tax comparison table shows that Llandybie Community Council compares very favourably to other local councils.

Members **resolved** to approve the accounts as above.

The Chair thanked the Clerk for his report.

852.

Report on Section 106 funds

There were none.

853.

Request on Seminars / Joint meetings

The Clerk and Councillor I.Rh.Llewelyn had attended the virtual meeting of the One Voice Wales Carmarthenshire Area committee. The Local Government and Elections Wales Act had been discussed and its likely impact on the Council. It is likely that all councils will have to prepare an annual report and produce and monitor training plans for councillors. The General Power of Competence would also become an option for councils with budgets greater than £200k, a CILCA qualified Clerk and two years unqualified audit.

The Clerk had also attended the One Voice Wales Larger Councils meeting.

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Date of next meeting

Members **resolved** that the next Ordinary meeting of Council be held on the 31st March, 2021.

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As there was no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.