

MINUTES OF THE LLANDEGLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, LLANDEGLA AT 7.00 PM.

1: PRESENT:

Councillors Gwyneth Dillon (Chair), Gaynor Wonderley, Sandra Rogers, Nenna Barlow, Elizabeth Parker-Clark, Janet Strivens, Denbighshire County Councillor Terry Mendies together with the Clerk.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Councillor Steve Swygart.

3. 'MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DECLARE PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. IT IS A REQUIREMENT THAT DECLARATIONS FROM A MEMBER INCLUDE THE NATURE OF THE INTEREST AND WHETHER IT IS PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL'. (STANDING ORDERS NO 57).

None received.

4. TO RECEIVE THE RESIGNATION OF HILARY BERRY AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Council received the written resignation of Hilary Berry as a member of the Council.

5. CLERK'S REPORT ON THE PROCEDURE TO FILL THE VACANT SEAT ON THE COUNCIL.

The Clerk will now publish the official notice regarding the vacant seat that exists on the Council which will be administrated by Denbighshire County Council in the first instance.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION.

Mr Mike Byrne attended the Council meeting and discussed the following issues:-

A: Confirmed that the Community Council has maintained and looked after the Picnic Area in Llandegla village since the early 1980's.

B. Consider the provision of electric recharging points within the Llandegla village car park.

C. Current ownership of the village clock.

D. Cae Mair works update.

7. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING.

Members confirmed the 2nd May 2024 minutes as a true record and signed by the Chair.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA.

Email received from the Officers of Capel Tegla in Llandegla regarding the proposed Chapel Car Park opposite the Chapel seeking grant funding advice for the project costs.

Members resolved to support the project and for funding from the Llandegla Commuted Fund held by Denbighshire County Council provided that the car park would be a public car park and consideration for the "Commuted Fund should be used for the Cae Mair project first which is under the ownership of the Community Council.

9. REPORT FROM DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR TERRY MENDIES.

A: Still awaiting on the new bus timetable for Llandegla village.

B. Ty Isoe legal situation update.

C. Teething Problems with the new trolibocs waste collection.

10. DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATED REPORT.

No additional training dates has been confirmed since the previous Council meeting.

11. PICNIC AREA ENTRANCE/COMMON LAND.

Mrs Mavis Holder, Mr Fraser Robertson and Mr Mike Byrne have all confirmed the Llandegla "Picnic Area and Common Land" has been maintained by the Community Council since the early 1980's.

12. UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S FORMER BT KIOSK.

A: Members resolved for Mr Andrew Fite to supply and fit shelving for the Kiosk.
B. Councillor Gwyneth Dillon agreed to make the relevant enquiries to confirm that the Kiosk is a listed building.

13. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S POLICIES.

Members approved the following Council Policies provided by Councillor Elizabeth Parker-Clark:-

- A. Financial Regulations.
- B. Standing Orders.

14. CCTV & ANPR.

No updated report provided.

15. MEMBERS EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Members resolved for a separate Council email address for Council Members, which will be username@llandeglacc.co.uk, and will be set up by the Council's Webmaster.

16. ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING COURSES.

The Clerk circulated Members with the list of the One Voice Wales training courses covering the month of June 2024.

17. FINANCE.

A: Bank balances £25,365.29.

B. Authorised bill payments:-

1. Monthly HSBC bank fee £5.00.
2. White Oak Property Services for grass cutting £215.00.
3. AVOW for PAYE fee for the quarter ended 30th June 2024 £12.50.
4. One Voice Wales training course fee for Councillor Gaynor Wonderley £40.00.
5. One Voice Wales training course fee for Councillor Sandra Rogers £40.00.

18. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

Pre planning application to develop land at Oneplanet Adventure, Llandegla Forest, Ruthin Road, Llandegla for up to 14 number holiday lodges with ancillary access, car parking and landscaping. Members resolved to defer decision to the next Council meeting.

19. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS COMMITTEE.

Councillor Steve Swygart provided Members with the following written report:-

Additional Entrance to Cae Mair. As stated last time, we have now re-started the process of getting DCC to do the work to extend the footpath along Allt yr Efail into Cae Mair, where we have already installed a gate. Philip Billington of their Works Unit will revisit the previous quotation and give us an estimate based on current prices. The original quote apparently did include moving the streetlight that is on that section of the path, and he has just said that the electrical equipment (owned by SP Energy) on the adjacent pole is probably not an issue. I have asked for an update and if he can send us a schematic of what he has come up with. I have also informed him that we will be using the Commuted Sum and our Clerk has now set that process in motion with the relevant people at DCC. We have subsequently received back a confusing response from Kate Thew at Community Development to the effect that the funds have been ringfenced (presumably our sum from the Bloor Homes development for Llandegla generally) but I can say that we have not registered our project with them. In any case, the funds would be paid through an internal transfer on completion and submission of the relevant claim form. The Clerk and I will continue to chase this up with Kate to lodge our paperwork to get this in motion, as the actual process is not clear to us.

It should be noted and **I would like to propose** that any other claim on the Commuted Sum (see other business today) should only be considered after the one for Cae Mair has been successfully lodged and acknowledged by Community Development at DCC. We have been trying to find alternative funding for a year for this project without success (and without recourse to using the Commuted Sum) and it would be a travesty if another claim on it was successfully made before this one, which is longstanding.

I recently spoke to a resident of who seemed to express an interest in what was happening with Cae Mair, and who didn't seem to want a discussion about it at that moment in time; he just wanted to know when the next Council meeting was. This information might usefully be relayed to him in my absence from the June meeting if he turns up for the public participation session. And of course, there is a question on this topic in the current survey that is being conducted, which he should be encouraged to complete and return to us.

Dog fouling in Cae Mair. I have recently noted that someone has allowed their dog to foul just inside the vehicle access gate. Speaking to some of the dog owners who use the area, they have their suspicions which we will have to follow up on. Although there is a £1000 fine sign directly outside the entrance on the streetlight, it may be beneficial to get one put on the pedestrian access gate, for the avoidance of doubt. I think we need to involve someone dog-related from DCC to assist us with the problems mentioned above. Perhaps we can get our Clerk or County Councillor to put the relevant person in touch with me to sort out a strategy to stop this from occurring?

I recently heard someone using a **motorised vehicle in Cae Mair**. I went to investigate as the grass had only just been cut a few days prior and the ground was quite wet at that particular time. It turned out to be a local resident allowing children to use a very small quad bike. I expressed my potential concern about the ground conditions and the field getting cut up, and it had actually hardened up appreciably (due to the wind) since the cut. The resident understood my point of view and also that his use might encourage others, which we both agreed was probably not a good idea. I can also report seeing people with children on ponies in there a couple of years ago.

A big implication and take-away for us as a Council is that if someone had an accident whilst undertaking such an activity as these, we would possibly end up being liable if we didn't try to control what was going on our own property.

The episode set me thinking that we had talked previously about making some byelaws for our areas, so a current project of mine is to do just that. I have downloaded and am using the Pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces model template from the following locations and will have them for review at next Council, based on the three areas that we are responsible for (Cae Mair, Picnic Area and the Old Quarry) –

[statutory-guidance-byelaws.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Byelaws: guidance on pleasure grounds, public grounds and open spaces | GOV.WALES](#)

I was recently walking near the **Old Quarry** and spoke to the gentleman who owns the house adjacent who had asked about the tree with ash die-back that was growing over his property. I asked if the Council had communicated with him about our decision to engage a tree surgeon. He replied that no-one had gotten back to him on it, so I reported that we had engaged a tree-specialist who will come in July when the tree is fully in leaf, as that is when it is possible to diagnose it. He was also complaining about some “poison ivy” that was encroaching from the quarry into his hedge. He had cut some back, but this was problematic. As far as I am aware, we don't have “poisonous ivy” in the UK as a native species, but we do have species that can cause skin irritation to people that might be susceptible. If we engage a contractor to remove the tree, we might as well rid the location of this ivy at the same time.

Grass cutting in Cae Mair. We had asked Hugo to cut this in time to support the Car Boot Sale on Bank Holiday Monday, which had to be cancelled. Given that we are only allowing for one cut per month, it was rather too long by the time he came to cut it and so soggy clumps of long grass were left over the entire area. It should be noted that May and June are the peak growing months as far as grass is concerned and that if we would like to make Cae Mair look attractive and more manageable, **I would like to propose** that we cut it twice in those months to keep it under control and in good order. We do have a wildflower meadow there to offset against “No-Mow May”.

The meadow is actually starting to look a little better in terms of flowers, and this will improve year on year. I often hear this as a criticism from a few people. The yellow rattle that we seeded last autumn when doing the scything is taking off and one can note clover, cowslips, heath speedwell and other flowers developing. To be clear to all, we were guided by the AONB when seeding this meadow both in terms of plant content that would be present locally in the surrounding countryside, and more importantly, it was a condition of funding through the Landscape Enhancement Initiative that this was the case.

AONB

There has recently been a change of name for the AONB, which will now be known as “The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape”. Amongst the reasons given for this is that the term AONB is mispronounced and misunderstood, and indeed their parent association has also changed its name to become The National Landscape Association. There is also a new logo to go with this, an example of which has been placed out on the open hillside above Clicain in the form of a large purple sign, which is not at all intrusive with the surrounding landscape. Well, I suppose when the heather is out in August, it will be slightly less so!

Members resolved to accept the detailed report and for the following confirmation to the report:-

- A: Confirmation that the Cae Mair project should draw from the Commuted Funds first.
- B. Councillor Elizabeth Parker-Clark will communicate with the County Dog warden.
- C. “Poison Ivy” does not exist in the UK.
- D. Confirm the increased grass cutting in Cae Mair by White Oak Property Services.

20. URGENT BUSINESS UNDER SECTION 100B(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.

A: Members resolved to discuss the Council's projects for the remainder of the current 2024/25 financial year together with the 2025/26 financial year in order to budget for the projects.

B. Members resolved to discuss the Cae Mair risk assessment at the next Council meeting.

C. Members resolved to discuss the village public car park at the next Council meeting.

D. Members resolved to discuss the letter received from Ken Skates MS, Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport, regarding the 20mph issues in Wales.

E. Members resolved to discuss the Community Survey produced by the Llandegla Rectory Association at the next Council meeting.

F. Councillor Gaynor Wonderley reported on the recent Llandegla School PTA meeting she attended.

21. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING – THURSDAY 4TH JULY 2024 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, LLANDEGLA AT 7.00 P.M.