

MINUTES OF THE LLANDEGLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2024 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, LLANDEGLA AT 7.00 PM.

1: PRESENT:

Councillors Gwyneth Dillon (Chair), Steve Swygart, Gaynor Wonderley, Janet Strivens, Sandra Ellis Rogers, Neena Barlow, Denbighshire County Councillor Terry Mendies (via Zoom) together with the Clerk.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Councillor Elizabeth Parker-Clark.

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. PRESENTATION FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LLANDEGLA SCHOOL COUNCIL.

The Chair welcomed six pupils from Ysgol Dyffryn Ial School Council accompanied by the Head Teacher and Chair of the Governors to the meeting. The School Council members provided information on the work carried out by the School Council (see appendix 1 below) and made a verbal application for £1,000.00 grant aid from the Community Council - £700.00 towards the School Website Fees and £300.00 towards outside play equipment. Councillor Gwyneth Dillon provided the School Council members with a verbal report on the work provided by the Community Council. Members thanked the Ysgol Dyffryn Ial School council Members for attending the meeting and for the informative presentation provided.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION.

"THIS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT AND COMMENT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - TIME FOR THIS SESSION IS LIMITED TO 10 MINUTES."

None.

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

Members confirmed the 3rd October 2024 minutes as a true record and signed by the Chair.

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

On behalf of the Llandegla Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Committee, Mr Fraser Robertson thanked the Community Council for the grant aid of £1,200.00 for the projected capital works for the Memorial Hall together with the £50.00 towards the Annual Fete costs.

8. COUNCIL'S VACANT SEAT UPDATE.

The Clerk reported that there were no applicants to be considered for the Council's vacant seat notice which expired on 31st October 2024. The clerk has produced a new co-option notice which expires on 30th November 2024.

9. REPORT FROM DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR.

Councillor Terry Mendies provided the following report:-

REFUSE COLLECTIONS.

The new waste collection system is still having problems, but with Trade Waste and Green Waste collections. There are discussions at the moment to give Residents an “Extension Period” as way of compensation for mixed collections.

The Trolibocs collections have improved due to the recruitment of more staff and the purchase of more Vehicles.

Any missed collections should be reported to me and will be put on an internal dedicated system.

TY ISSO CLEARANCE.

The Contractor to clear the site intends to start work on the 18th November. The Contract is to clear 50 Vehicles including the Horse Boxes.

I am meeting with Planning on 20th November to discuss the further clearance and the pursuit of costs from the property Owner.

TELEPHONE BOX.

I spoke to Hannah and Chris Davies, They do have a damp problem with damp. This is historical and not being caused by the Box. The Box is preventing refollowing the following medial repairs. Hannah and Chris have deferred the rendering until next year.

If the CC wishes to relocate the Phone Box to a more prominent position in the Village, I am happy to assist with DCC planning.

ROAD REPAIRS AND POTHOLES “WISH LIST” FOR 2025.

As you are aware, each year I submit a list of road repairs that need to be rectified. That list is submitted in December to be included (hopefully) in the Budget starting April 2025. If you have any suggestions, please e-mail me with the details.

10. DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATED REPORT.

No updated report.

11. PICNIC AREA UPDATE INCLUDING THE POSITIONING OF THE TWO PUBLIC SEAT BENCHES HELD BY WHITE OAK PROPERTY SERVICES.

Members resolved to seek the views of Mr Fraser Robertson for opinion on the location of the seat benches within the picnic area.

12. “ASH DIE-BACK” TREE UPDATE.

Members resolved to ask White Oak Property Services for a list of contractors for the works required on the “Ash Die-Back” trees.

13. MEMBERS EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Work in progress.

14. FORMER BT KIOSK.

Following the report provided by Denbighshire County Councillor Terry Mendies, the members resolved for Councillors Gaynor Wonderley and Sandra Ellis Rogers to meet with the owners of the Old Post Office to discuss the way forward with the issues raised by the property owners.

15. COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARDS AND STREET BENCH SEATS.

Councillor Sandra Ellis Rogers reported:-

A: The notice board near the bus stop at top of village needs work and is slightly wobbly. It could blow over in a high wind.

B. The bench near the post box has a broken lat and needs repairing before it is too late to fix it. Presently one leg has broken and another is loose.

Members resolved to seek estimate for the necessary repairs from White Oak Property Services.

16. JOINT MEETING WITH THE LLANDEGLA RECTORY ASSOCIATION REPORT ON 10TH & 17TH OCTOBER 2024.

Members discussed the report provided by the Llandegla Rectory Association on the joint meeting with the Community Council. Members resolved for a site meeting to be held at Cae Mair (date and time to be agreed) to agree the potential future use of the field.

17. ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING COURSES.

The Clerk circulated Members with the list of the One Voice Wales training courses covering the quarter ended 31st December 2024.

18. DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING COURSES.

The Clerk circulated Members with the list of the Code of Conduct courses provided by Denbighshire County Council over the 2024/25 twelve month period.

19. LLANDEGLA REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNDAY SERVICE ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2024.

A: Councillor Gwyneth Dillon will lay the Poppy Wreath on behalf of the Community Council.

B. Members resolved for the donation of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion for the Poppy Wreath.

20. CCTV AND ANPR.

Councillor Sandra Ellis Rogers reported on the email received from former council Member, Mrs Hilary Berry, in regards to the provision of CCTV and ANPR for Llandegla. Members resolved to invite Mrs Berry to the next Council meeting to discuss the provision of the CCTV and ANPR.

21. RECENT MEETINGS OF THE CLWYDIAN RANGE AND DEE VALLEY NATIONAL LANDSCAPE (AONB).

Councillor Sandra Ellis Rogers recently attended the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Landscape meeting consultation on the proposed “Wales’s New National Park Consultation”. Which is still under public consideration until 13th December 2024.

22. WALES’S NEW NATIONAL PARK CONSULTATION.

Members are mindful of the local issues should the new National Park goes ahead, in particular parking issues that would be created.

23. CAE MAIR FOOTPATH AND GRASS CUTTING UPDATE.

A: White Oak Property Services quoted to cut, rake up and move grass from wild flower area would be £ 250.00. Members resolved to accept the quotation.

B. Councillor Steve Swygart provided the following report:-

The footpath extension to the new gate we installed in Cae Mair (plans previously mailed to you on 2nd October) went out to tender on the DCC system and only one quotation was received back. Fortunately, this aligned well with the 3 quotes that I got around 18 months ago. KM Construction (I didn't get a quote from them) have priced it as £6965 (my quotes ranged between £5k & £9k) and DCC will move the streetlight back to facilitate construction to the tune of £984.83. You will recall DCC budgeted around £15.5k total, and with their cut for "project management" etc, this will see us come in around the £11.5k-£12k mark, which is coming from the Commuted Sum. We have gone ahead with this and currently I am awaiting a start date from Philip Billington of DCC.

24. COUNCIL'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ISSUES.

Members resolved for the Council to purchase a Council "Laptop" in order for the public to join the meeting via Zoom (or equivalent) option to access remotely. The Clerk to action.

25. FINANCE.

A. The Clerk circulated members with the bank accounts transactions covering the period from 1st April to 31st October 2024.

B. Authorised Payments:-

1. Monthly HSBC Bank fee £5.00.
2. White Oak Property services for the monthly Community grass cutting £345.00.
3. Royal British legion for the "Poppy Wreath Appeal" £100.00.
4. Mr Hywel Evans for printing the Community Newsletter £60.00.
5. One Voice Wales Training Course £40.00.

C. Members discussed the verbal grant aid request for £1,000.00 from the Ysgol Dyffryn Ial School Council at the commencement of the meeting and resolved to ask for a written grant aid application for the Community Council to consider at the next Council meeting.

26. PLANNING APPLICATION.

Planning Application: 17/2024/1428/PF - Erection of portal steel framed machinery store and associated works on land at The Crown Hotel, Llandegla – Members resolved to object to the planning application on the following reasons:-

A: The design and appearance of the structure does not consider its location within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now known as National Landscapes) and proposed North East Wales National Park. In this instance, the Community Council consider this to be a significant issue owing to the application site functioning as a gateway to the AONB and proposed national park.

B. The size of the structure is disproportionate in terms of its proposed use for storing machinery required to manage an open space. The area of the open space that appears to be regularly managed is 0.11 hectares.

C. The application form states that it is "unknown" how any foul sewage will be disposed of from the structure. Consequently the Community Council consider there to be uncertainty issue in respect of whether foul sewage will be disposed from the application site. The Community Council understand that this could potentially have issues associated with phosphates.

D. The application form states that it is not to be used for commercial activities. If that is the case, why is the structure approximately the same footprint as a house. Its size suggests commercial use.

E. The application form states that no protected or priority species are on or near the proposed development site. However, no ecological surveys and assessments appear to have been undertaken to support this statement.

F. The Community Council understand that the Welsh Government have recently updated planning guidance in Wales (Planning Policy Wales Edition 12). Provisions of this updated guidance requiring planning authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity (see Section 6.4.5). The application as submitted has no biodiversity maintenance or enhancement proposals.

If Denbighshire County Council as the relevant local planning authority is minded to approve the application, which would be against our advice, we would welcome the consent being subject to the imposition of conditions concerning

- 1: The appearance and design of any subsequently approved structure appropriately considers statutory landscapes;
2. The application is subject to proposals that maintain /enhance biodiversity in accordance with Planning Policy Wales requirements; and
3. The application site is subject to a landscape environmental management plan.

27. CORRESPONDENCE NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE WITHIN THE AGENDA.

None received.

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

A: On the subject of byelaws, I haven't made any progress; seeing as I was away for all of October, this will be done some time this month, when I have more time sitting at home in the rain and dark!

B: With regards to ash die back by the Old Quarry, Hugo isn't licenced for ascending trees to the extent we will need; however, he can recommend someone. In the picnic area, I will discuss what is required with Hugo as the report we got didn't really cover this for the agreed cost (I sprung it on him on the day), but the guy gave us the advice needed when we went to view the area.

C: We have now managed to recover the hard drive of our crashed Mac, so again, the updated Risk Assessment for Council assets (incl Cae Mair) is a November task.

D: Garden waste dumping on Old Quarry land – maybe Terry can pick up with me and discuss further as I have photos of it on my phone. Denbighshire County Councillor Terry Mendies agreed to investigate.

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

Councillor Gwyneth Dillon reported that there are Monday afternoon games in the Llandegla Community Shop during the month of November 2024.

30. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING – THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2024 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, LLANDEGLA AT 7.00 P.M.