

**MINUTES OF LLANDYFAELOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

1. Present: Cllrs Meinir James (Chairman), Janet Knott, Elfyn Williams, Richard John, Viv Davies, Philip Davies and Arfon Davies (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Mair Stephens, Shan Rees, Rheinalt Jones, Eifion Jones and Hugh Anderson

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations.

3. Minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 7th January 2021 were confirmed and signed.

4. Matters Arising

1. Highway Safety concerns on the B4309 at Bancycapel – Council noted that a serious accident had occurred that day in Bancycapel leading to a vehicle colliding with a property in the village. The Clerk noted that the suggested works in the area had not yet been carried out but were due in March or April. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the County Council in relation to the accident and ask for more extended works to be carried out to aid road safety in the area.

2. Concerns regarding road safety at the Llandyfaelog junction with the A484 – Council awaited consultation on the proposed junction improvement works. It was noted that the County Council were arranging a topographical survey of the junction area and still hoped to complete works during the current financial year. Noted.

3. Footway lighting LED lamp upgrade project – Council received confirmation that contractors had now completed the works. Noted.

4. Footway lighting repairs – Completion of the repairs to the solar panel light in Idole continued to be awaited. A date was also awaited for works at Ysgol Bro Myrddin. Noted.

5. Footpath 29/3 – Between Croesyceiliog and Pentrepoeth – The County Council noted that an application to divert the path had not been received and that this proposal had therefore been closed. The current path crossed a pond at one property however this was not felt to be an issue as walkers could walk around this. The need to provide a renewed walking man sign was confirmed by the County Council with this being placed on the schedule of works to be carried out. Noted.

6. COVID-19 – Members discussed the on-going COVID-19 outbreak and the impact upon the Community.

7. Planning Application W/40717, Maesglasnant, Cwmffrwd – The Clerk confirmed that the application continued to be reviewed by the County Council.

8. Footpath 29/1/1 Cwmffrwd towards Cincoed – The County Council had been unable to progress the matter as of yet. Noted.

9. Cwmale Speed Limit – Council awaited a meeting of the Speed Limit Working Group for the matter of the extension of the 30mph area to be considered.

10. Proposal to relocate lighting column at housing development site in Croesyceiliog – Further developments with the proposal were awaited.

11. Cats Eyes – A484 Llandyfaelog to Carmarthen – Further information on the matter was awaited.

12. Flytipping on private land at Llandyfaelog – An update was received from the Carmarthenshire County Council Enforcement Team that they felt the only action they could take was under S215 of the Town and Country Planning Act in respect of untidy land / property affecting the amenity of the area. However this would mean serving a notice on the land owner, which was not felt to be appropriate due to the circumstances. This was noted and it was hoped that the matter could be resolved soon.

13. Planning Application PL/00750 - Nantygoetre Isaf, Llandyfaelog - The Clerk confirmed that the matter continued to be considered by the County Council.

14. Planning Application PL/00881 - Land adjacent to Cywion Bach, Idole, Carmarthen, SA32 8DG – The Clerk confirmed that the application had been approved by the County Council with Planning Conditions in place in relation to entrance and visibility splay requirements. Noted.

15. Donations / grants made in December meeting – A thank you letter was received from Tenovus. Noted.

16. NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day – 5th July 2021 – The matter will be considered further at the next meeting.

17. Gutter / drain at top of Llandyfaelog Hill – The County Council had visited the area and would carry out re-instatement works in the area to improve the drainage at this location. This would be carried out as soon as possible. Noted.

18. Water pooling along Heol y Lan - The County Council had visited the area and would carry out the clearing of roadside ditches to improve the drainage at this location. This would be carried out as soon as possible. Noted.

19. Erosion of Cwmale Lane - The County Council had visited the area and would carry out re-instatement works in the area as soon as possible. Noted.

20. Planning Enforcement in property in woodland area – Idole to Pentrepoeth – The County Council Enforcement Team confirmed that the matter was an open case with the caravan and shed requested to be removed. This had not been progressed into formal enforcement as of yet due to COVID restrictions. Noted.

5. Correspondence

1. Carmarthenshire County Council – Notification of road closure in Cwmale between the 5th and 7th April in order to carry out works to lay new ducting across the road. Noted.

2. Carmarthenshire County Council – Information on the Community and Town Council Liaison Forum held on the 26th January. Cllr Elfyn Williams apologised that due to IT problems, he had been unable to attend the session. Noted.

3. One Voice Wales – HM Land Registry Survey of Community and Town Councils in Wales. The Clerk confirmed that he had completed the survey.

4. Hywel Dda Community Health Council – Request for information on Council meeting dates. The Clerk confirmed that he had provided this detail. Noted.

5. Welsh Government – Digital Media Communications Guide. Noted.

6. Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine – Noted.

7. Carmarthenshire County Council – Information on Well-being week, a series of on-line activities being held week commencing 1st February. Noted.

8. Barclays Bank – Statements. Noted.

9. Brenig Davies – Letter providing details of a possible Heritage Trail Walking Tour in relation to Peter Williams. The letter asked for information in relation to

the matter and possible facilities where those taking part could park etc. The Clerk will contact Mr Davies to discuss the proposal.

6. Idole Field and Council Amenities

1. The Clerk reported provision of 3 quotations for the annual play area inspection as follows:
 - The Play Inspection Company £69.50
 - Carmarthenshire County Council £80.00
 - Rospa £68.50

It was agreed to retain the services of the Play Inspection Company due to the comprehensive nature of the reports received.

2. The Clerk reported provision of 4 quotations for the 2021 grass cutting contract as follows:
 - Carmarthenshire County Council £1,940.00
 - Wrenvale Nurseries £2,220.00
 - A and Garden Services £2,080.00
 - Mark's Gardening Services £2,000.00

It was agreed to retain the services of Mark's Gardening Services on the condition of provision of the Waste Transfer License documentation. If not received by the 1st March, the contract to be awarded to Carmarthenshire County Council.

3. The Clerk confirmed that installation of the new central gate post and replacement wooden fence posts was due to be carried out from Monday 8th February 2021. Noted
4. The Clerk confirmed that the Council Insurance company solicitors were taking forward the claim for repayment of the damage cost on the outer fence including the Council's excess of £250.00. The Clerk was authorised to complete any necessary paperwork.
5. The Clerk noted that a total smoking ban was being implemented at all play areas from the 1st March. Signage was required to be displayed. The Clerk will place a laminated sign and provide a quotation for a more permanent sign to the March Council meeting.
6. Further damage was noted on the Bancycafel bus shelter drain pipe. The Council Handyperson was looking into the matter with the intention of changing the location of the downpipe due to the consistent need for repair of this item.
7. The Clerk confirmed that the Council Handyperson had undertaken the digging up of the heather beds at the 3 amenity areas and was now awaiting the re-opening of garden centres to purchase new plants.

7. Handyperson Agreement

Cllr Meinir James declared her interest in this matter and left the meeting for the item. Cllr Elfyn Williams took the Chair for consideration of the matter.

1. The Clerk confirmed 21 hours worked in December and 28 hours for January with a total payment of £735.00 approved.
2. Council considered the Handyperson agreement for 2021-22 and agreed to extend the contract for Michael Leefe for a further year.

8. 2020-21 Budget Report

The Clerk presented the 3rd quarter budget report for the 2020-21 Financial Year updated to the end of January. Council carried out the quarterly budget monitoring and accepted the report.

9. 2021-22 Precept, Priorities and Budget Report

The Clerk noted that following receipt of information from Carmarthenshire County Council on the likely 2020-21 and 2021-22 footway lighting costs, these were likely to lead to a decrease in costs for the 2 financial years of around £1,071 and £978 respectively. The Clerk confirmed that this would mean that the likely reserves at the end of the 2020-21 Financial Year were likely to be closer to £23,000 than £22,000.

Council considered the report and agreed to request a precept of £23,500 for 2021-22 (£23,000 in 2020-21). The sum would lead to a Band D Council Tax of £36.73 (£36.02 in 2020-21). The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to complete and sign the necessary paperwork to be returned to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Specific reserves were confirmed to remain as agreed in the January meeting.

10. 2021 Garden Competition

Council discussed whether there was a possibility of arranging a Garden Competition for 2021. The Clerk confirmed the current position in relation to COVID restrictions and how they would impact upon any possible event if not lessened very shortly.

Following discussion it was agreed that it would not be possible to undertake a competition again in 2021 and the event will be looked at for arrangements to be put in place for 2022.

11. Welsh Language Scheme Report

The Clerk presented the draft annual report to the Welsh Language Commissioner on the Council compliance with its Welsh Language Scheme. The report was approved and signed by the Chairman for return.

12. Planning

- 1. PL/01095** - Garage extension - 22 St Anne's Avenue, Cwmffrwd, Carmarthen, SA31 2NA. No objections.
- 2. PL/01174** - Detached dwelling - re submission of refusal PL/00066 - Plot 10, Croesyceiliog, Carmarthen, SA32 8DS. No objections.

13. Accounts

The following payments were approved.

- 1. Michael Leefe** **£735.00** December - January Payment (see item 7)

2.	Description	Salary	Expenses	Total Gross	Tax Deducted	NI Deducted	Net Pay
Arfon Davies	January Salary and costs	£631.80 £18.00	£10.80 £23.76 £47.50 £7.00	£738.86	£137.20	£0.00	£601.66

14. Any other business – exchange of information only

1. The Clerk will raise the continuing issue of dog thefts with the Police and request an update.
2. The Clerk will request an update from the County Council on actions in relation to the road safety concerns at the Bolahaul Road junction of the A484 in Cwmffrwd.

The next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 4th March 2021.