

**MINUTES OF LLANDYFAELOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE HALL ON 2 JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM**

**1. Present:** Cllrs Rheinallt Jones (Chairman), Eifion Jones, Shan Rees, Elfyn Williams, Janet Knott, Philip Davies, Meinir James, Mair Stephens, Richard John and Arfon Davies (Clerk).

**Apologies:** Cllr Ronald Thomas.

**The Chairman noted the Council's condolences to Cllr and Mrs Philip Davies following the recent passing away of Mrs Davies' mother. The Chairman also expressed the Council's best wishes to Cllr Ronald Thomas as he recovered from a recent operation.**

**2. Declarations of interest**

No declarations.

**3. Minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 were confirmed and signed.**

**4. Matters Arising**

**1. Vacancy for member of Council –** The Clerk noted that no expressions of interest in being co-opted onto Council had been received. Members will therefore make enquiries in the Community to see if there were interested individuals with a decision to be made at the next Council meeting.

**2. Bolahaul Junction with the A484 in Cwmffrwd -** The Council awaited an update on the date of installation of the driver feedback sign. The Clerk to advise the County Council that the £500 contribution agreed by Council was expected to ensure prioritisation of the works and that it may not be available should installation not be completed in the 2019-20 financial year.

**3. Water Pollution – Pentrepoeth –** The Council received confirmation that following extensive investigation that no evidence of contamination in the watercourse or defective drainage systems had been identified. The investigation had therefore been closed. Noted.

**4. Pavement damage due to residential development – Rose and Crown, Llandyfaelog –** This matter continued to be monitored.

**5. Telephone Kiosk at Croesyceiliog –** The Council awaited an update on the matter. It was noted that a sign had been placed at the kiosk to make residents aware that the phone was receiving attention. Noted.

**6. Dog fouling signs for Idole and Llandyfaelog –** Further signs had been placed at Maesdolau. Noted.

**7. Concerns regarding road safety at the Llandyfaelog junction with the A484 –** Confirmation was received that the County Council Engineering Consultancy Team were very busy currently with an audit of the matter of road safety at this location awaiting programming. Noted.

**8. Footway lighting LED lamp upgrade project –** Council awaited confirmation of a commencement date for these upgrade works in the Community.

**9. Footway lighting repairs** – Repair of the column at the GD Harries junction in Idole had been completed. The issue of the solar panel light at Idole field continued to be considered.

**10. Replacement of Notice boards and planter** – The Clerk noted that a price of £300 each had been received from Mark's Gardening Services for replacement notice boards at:

- Llandyfaelog
- St Anne's, Cwmffrwd
- Maesdolau, Idole

A further quote from Llew Jones had been received of £100 to replace the inner area of the Cwmffrwd notice board. It was agreed to continue to seek prices for this work along with the new planter for Croesyceiliog.

**11. Highway Safety concerns on the B4309 at Bancycapel** – Confirmation had been received from the County Council that:

- the possibility of lowering the speed limit in the area would be raised at the next Speed Working Group;
- the possibility of providing additional signage in the area was being reviewed;
- that a request had been raised for the location to remain on the police speed watch monitoring arrangement.

The Community Council was again asked to consider making contact with landowners to improve visibility at the crossroads junction by cutting back hedge growth and to work with third party contractors to ensure this work was carried out safely.

The Community Council was again informed that implementing prohibition of overtaking would not be possible as the road did not meet the criteria for this intervention.

Council will await an update from the County Council on the actions being taken.

**12. Culvert at Cwmale, Pentrepoeth** – It was noted that the County Council had attended the area and cleared one of the culverts, it did not appear that the second area of concern some 150 yards further along Cwmale had been looked at and the Clerk will raise the matter again.

**13. Llandyfaelog Charity** – The Clerk noted that a cheque for the final balance of £37.31 had not been received as of yet. Noted.

**14. Donations to Llandyfaelog Community Hall Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council Chairman's Appeal, Carmarthenshire Toybox Appeal and Carmarthen Youth Opera** – Thank you letters were received in response to the Council's contributions. Noted.

## **5. Correspondence**

**1. Carmarthenshire County Council** – Information on the Community and Town Council County Liaison Forum meeting to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Cllr Meinir James will attend.

**2. Welsh Government** – Information on the Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Regulations 2015. Noted.

**3. Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner** – Consultation on the Police Precept 2020-21. Noted.

**4. One Voice Wales** – Request for nominations for the One Voice Wales Innovative Practice Awards 2020. Noted.

**5. Welsh Government** – Consultation on changes to planning and related application fees. Noted.

**6. Carmarthenshire County Council** – Confirmation of the date set for the planning appeal in relation to land at the Stables, Bolahaul Road, Cwmffrwd as the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Noted.

**7. Carmarthenshire County Council** – Confirmation of payment of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the 2019-20 precept being £7,100. Noted.

**8. Carmarthenshire County Council** – Confirmation of the temporary road closure of the U2218 between Blackbush Cottage and Constant Farm on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 for 1 day. Noted.

## **6. Idole Field and Council Amenities**

1. The Clerk circulated a draft tender document for the grass cutting contract at Idole Field and Glanmorlais for 2020. The tender included a new requirement of carrying out 2 spiking activities during the year at Idole field in order to aid drainage. Council approved the tender and will seek prices in readiness for the next meeting
2. The Clerk to seek prices for the annual play area inspections.
3. An email was received from Cwmffrwd WI confirming that they would be planting 5 silver birch trees at the field during March 2020, with a ceremony and photo to be taken once completed. A site visit will be arranged to discuss appropriate planting locations.

## **7. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War**

Council considered possible events to mark the anniversary. This will be considered further at the next meeting. The Clerk to seek confirmation of whether there were any WWII Veterans living in the Community.

## **8. Accessible Website**

The Clerk continued to seek additional prices for this work and will report to a future Council meeting.

## **9. Community Handyperson**

Members considered the Handyperson job description and work programme and the Clerk will advertise the role for the 2020-21 year.

## **10. 2019-20 Budget Report**

The Clerk presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter budget report for the 2019-20 Financial Year. Council carried out the quarterly budget monitoring and accepted the report.

The Chairman carried out an audit of the Council financial records for the year.

## 11. 2020-21 Precept, Priorities and Budget Report

The Clerk presented the report and advised Council of the likely financial position for the end of the 2019-20 Financial Year.

Council considered the report and agreed to request a precept of £23,000 for 2020-21 (£21,300 in 2019-20). This would lead to a Band D Council Tax of £36.02 (£34.44 in 2019-20). The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to complete and sign the necessary paperwork to be returned to Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Clerk confirmed that it was good practice for Council to hold between 3 months and one year's precept in general reserves and that any further funds held should be allocated in specific reserves.

Council further considered its priorities for Council reserves. Specific reserves were agreed to be allocated as follows:

<b>Public Lighting Improvements (including the annual £1,077.25 cost of the LED Lighting upgrade)</b>	<b>£4,000</b>
<b>Amenity Improvements</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Idole Play and Amenity Area</b>	<b>£7,000</b>
<b>Website Upgrade</b>	<b>£1,500</b>

## 12. 2020-21 Investment Strategy

The Clerk presented the draft Investment Strategy. The Strategy was approved as Council Policy for the 2020-21 Financial Year.

## 13. Planning

**1. W/39939** – A biomass system to heat farm house, office and small workshop, a separate biomass CHP system under the same roof to heat workshop, office and provide electricity, existing shed still operates as a farm workshop, Bryncoch Farm, Uplands, Carmarthen, SA32 8DX. Mr Henry Gibbon. No objections.

**2. W/39985** – Positioning of wernick portable building to rear of existing building for additional indoor play / activity space for pre school children (retrospective), Meithrinfa Little Bambinos Nursery, Cwmffrwd, SA31 2LP, Mrs Amy Kavanagh. No objections.

## 14. Accounts

a) The following payments were approved:

1.	Description	Salary	Expenses	Total Gross	Tax Deducted	NI Deducted	Net Pay
Arfon Davies	December salary and costs	£615.09 £18.00	£7.00 £23.85	£663.94	£124.40	£0.00	£539.54

**2. HM Revenue and Customs**

**£373.20**

**Income Tax Deductions  
October – December 2019**

### **15. Any other business**

1. It was noted that the lighting unit installed opposite the Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin turning may have been poorly installed as it was causing vehicle drivers to be startled. The Clerk to report the matter to the County Council.
2. The Clerk to report a malfunctioning street lamp at Cloigyn to the County Council.
3. The Clerk to request a litter bin for the Kidwelly direction bus shelter in Llandyfaelog.
4. The Clerk to request a moss spray and sweep of all footways in Llandyfaelog.
5. Thanks were expressed to the Chairman for arranging the annual Council Christmas Lunch.

**The next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**