

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Llangunnor Community Council held Remotely at
7.00pm on Thursday 18th November 2021**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Elwyn Williams (Chair), G Bevan, P Totterdale, S Thomas, Charlie Evans, Heather Lewis,

1.APOLOGIES – J Slate. No apology received from Steven Richards.

Three electors present, in addition Howard Davies Clerk

2. Declaration of Interest – None

3. Chair’s Announcements.

The Chair had no announcements to make.

4. Members of the Public Present – 12 minutes for questions –

R G asked three questions and advised the Chair that he did not require a response.

1.He asked for the Council to expedite the distribution of the outstanding Community Awards which had been delayed due to the ongoing Pandemic.

2.With Climate change very much on everyone’s agenda these days, he respectfully asked the Council to continue to champion the requirement for a “flood plan” to alleviate the extensive flooding seen within the Pensarn area of the ward over recent years. He further emphasised to everyone that this area is a major employer, where local businesses had suffered significant losses and inconvenience and need to be better protected from rising river levels.

3.He wished to highlight the poor representation from Council members at several local events held over past few weeks, notably the Remembrance Day Service, and this reflected badly on the Council and its Officials.

L W asked three questions:

1.He questioned why the “Matters to be discussed in closed session” last month had not been minuted, and therefore did not accurately record the “output” of the meeting?

Clerk responded that they were of a confidential nature and as such were not minuted.

2. He asked why the Clerk had not got back to him on two points raised by him during last months public questions. Clerk advised that they had been covered off within the minutes, which were available for him to read online.

3. He questioned what the Council’s policy was on deciding what mail went first class, and what was sent second class?

Clerk responded that this was left to his judgement, which he exercised based on the urgency of the communication.

4. He asked if we were purchasing the same quality hand sanitizer for use in the park dispensers, as he had noticed from payment schedules that the price varied?

Clerk responded that the same sanitizer was being used and was regularly purchased from Castell Howell locally. Obviously, the price paid varies due to promotions and quantities purchased.

At this point the Chair warned L W about his conduct, and the clerk also questioned the relevance of recent questions which he had asked, given the length of time he had served on the Council prior to resigning earlier this year, and was well acquainted with its policies and procedures.

5. Minutes of meetings – i) it was unanimously agreed and RESOLVED to approve as a correct record the minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on the 21st of October 2021 (Minute 1121 – 5)

6. Committees:

Finance committee – Meeting to be arranged shortly

Park & Environment – Noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of October had been circulated. Next meeting being arranged.

Web & Media – Meeting to be arranged for early December

Christmas – Noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th Of October had been circulated and uploaded to our web page. Review meeting to be arranged for early January 2022 to reflect on Christmas 2021 arrangements.

7. The siting of a seat on Heol Pen Y Morfa, was again discussed following the rejection of our earlier application to Carmarthen C.C, to site at the junction with Pen Y Morfa Lane, as it was felt that its location would compromise the visibility, splay at the junction. Given that there were no suggestions put forward for this meeting, Councillors felt that more time was required to locate an alternative site, due to the perceived shortage of acceptable alternative sites. It was resolved that the item be placed back on the Agenda for our January meeting, to allow time for the Councillors to come up with alternative suggestions.

8. The Clerk advised that he and Cllr Charlie Evans propose to meet up over the coming weeks to discuss the Briefing note from One Voice Wales re Multi Location meetings. They will investigate the availability, suitability, and cost implications of moving our meetings to, a new venue to facilitate, if the Aelwyd is unable to provide IT equipment/facilities that will be required.

9. Following Cllr Bevan's decision to step down as Governor Representative for Llangunnor School for personal reasons, Cllr Sandra Thomas agreed to take on the role, which was unanimously endorsed by her fellow Councillors. (Minute 1121 – 9)

Action point: Clerk to advise School and Governor Department at Carmarthen C C of this change.

10. It was agreed to move the two funding requests received from Carmarthen Federation of YFC'S, and Carmarthen Youth Opera onto the Agenda, for December, when they can be considered along with other requests, as normally such requests are dealt with twice yearly in April and December. Councillors were reminded that there is funding available to support such requests, and were asked to promote its availability, and to seek for applications to be submitted prior to our December meeting from any interested parties wishing to be considered.

11. County Councillor Report – Cllr Williams had nothing to impart, stating that matters had been generally quiet over the previous month at County Hall.

12. Members representing Council on other bodies:

Cllr Evans reported that he attended his first One Voice Wales Area Meeting and advised that there were funds available from the National Lottery Community Fund for local projects. It was suggested that Cllr Evans make a short presentation at the next Park & Environment Committee meeting, to see if funding could be attracted for further improvements being considered for the park.

No reports received from other bodies, due to no meetings having taken place.

13. To approve the schedule of accounts November 2021: – unanimously approved. (Minute 1121 – 13)

Expenditure/income November 2021

Payee	Description	Amount £
Emrys Williams	Works at Park – £97	£97.00
One Voice Wales	Course Fee Cllr Jenny Slate- Chairing Skills Module 10- 15.9.21	£30.00
Howard Davies	Clerical Duties - £656.71 as per new contract at 55hrs pm wef 1.9.21 Allowances - £140 Zoom Monthly Payment £14.39 Postage £4.53 Castell Howell Hand Sanitiser £25.20	£840.83

J R B Enterprise Ltd	Purchase of Dog Gloves for Park	£40.20
I G Construction	Inspect and report on sloping Christmas Tree Sleeve at Nantycaws	£82.00
Vision ICT	Website hosting Dec 21 to Nov 22. October Invoice was for £195.60 but £195.00 paid in error. £0.60p adj required to correct.	£0.60
Income		0.00

14. Schedule of Correspondence Received for Monthly meeting – 18.11.21

No	Nature of Correspondence	Agreed Action
1.	Training Courses 1VW – November/December	Circulated.
2.	Remuneration Of Councillors survey	Circulated.
3.	Home Energy checks	Circulated.
4.	Covid Pass Fraud	Circulated
5.	Discretionary Assistance Fund for Wales	Circulated
6.	Active Travel Plans Wales	Circulated
7.	PCC Letter re Public Consultation	Circulated
8.	Carmarthen CC Christmas Toy Appeal	Circulated
9.	Update from Rachael Carter Local Places for Nature 1VW	Circulated
10.	Guide to taking part in the Queen's Jubilee Beacons 2.6.2022	Circulated
11.	Thank you email from Carmarthen Symphonic Wind Band acknowledging our recent donation.	Circulated
12.	Consultation on Extending of the Carmarthen County Council Dog Control Public Protection Order 2016	Circulated
13.	Licensing Application for Morrisons Pensarn	Circulated

14.	Email from Graham Thorpe re antisocial behaviour again been seen in the Pensarn area.	Circulated
15.	Welsh Government Defibrillator fund	Circulated
16.	Boundary Commission Wales Public Hearings	Circulated
17.	Training Courses 1 VW November-December	Circulated
18.	Park Inspection Report May 2021	Circulated
19.	Older People's Commissioner's Newsletter	Circulated
20.	Security Concerns	Circulated

15. Local issues brought up by Councillors:

i) Cllr Evans advised he was now looking to add more content of local interest to the Councils Facebook page, and if anyone had anything they were looking to publicise then to get in touch with him.

ii) Cllr Totterdale wished to thank the clerk, for his perseverance, and diligence in getting Carmarthen C C to finally agree traffic calming and park user safety measures to be installed shortly at the entrance to Llangunor park.

iii) Cllr Lewis advised that it had been brought to her attention that a gate on the public footpath near to Bank Farm Trailer's yard on Login Road had been locked by the farmer, during the Pandemic.

Chair advised that he was aware of the situation, in that the farmer had been allowed by Carms CC to close off the access onto his land via the footpath, as part of "Pandemic safety concerns" but thought that this access had now been reopened. Cllr Lewis agreed to walk the path and report back with her findings.

iv) Cllr Bevan wished to encourage any member of the public that had any issues, to contact the clerk in the first instance, and not to wait for the next monthly meeting, as LW had done last month with reporting the slippery surface on Roman Road. The clerk can then immediately deal with them especially where there is a perceived danger to the public.

16. The Clerk provided a quick update on the following matters:

i) Park entrance – Wicks teed had now confirmed that the new safety gate was fully operational, the scuff marks had been repainted, and the remaining old fencing on the side of the bungalow removed. A revised invoice incorporating the agreed £800 reduction would now be sent for payment.

A further quote had now been received from I G construction amounting to £460 with no VAT for the laying of the new concrete pad beneath the safety gate. The other two quotes received being £645 plus VAT From Alan Jones, Star Forge, and £997 plus VAT From Wickstead.

The Councillors unanimously agreed to accept the quote from I G Construction with the clerk asked to expedite given the deterioration being seen to the present surface due to the recent heavy rainfall. **(Minute 11/21 – 16(i))**

ii) The clerk was pleased to advise that Carmarthen C C have finally agreed to provide traffic calming and addition safety measures, at the entrance to the park, where it is expected that works will be completed over the next two months.

iii) The sleeve at the site of the Nanycaws Christmas Tree had been inspected by a local builder, and has been found to be safe, with the sleeve embedded in sufficient concrete. Last year's issue where the tree itself appeared to be on a slant was probably caused by a movement of the blocks securing the base of the tree within the sleeve itself, and this information has been conveyed to Carmarthen Town Council ahead of erecting this year's tree.

iv) The clerk advised that he had been dealing with a complaint received from Graham Thorpe a resident of Penymorfa Lane, in respect of the ongoing and antisocial driving practices that are being allowed in our Llangunnor. His concerns relate to modified cars being allowed to gather outside Matalan and Dunelm Superstores, which then drive continuously up and down Llangunnor bypass destroying his right to a peaceful and safe environment to live in.

The clerk immediately escalated matters to our PCSO Nicola, who has regularly kept Mr Thorpe updated of her actions, and furthermore gained a commitment from the Road Policing Unit (RPU) to carry out an operation shortly focusing on the issues being seen on Llangunnor Bypass.

He was happy with the way that the Council had dealt with his complaint and will keep us informed of developments.

v) The Clerk wished to update the Council, that he had recently met with representatives from Dyfed Alarms and Action Surveillance Systems, with a view to quoting for the installation of CCTV cameras at the park, to improve security, and to discourage anti-social behaviour which whilst caused by a small minority, is now sadly becoming a regular occurrence. He added that he had contacted the Police Commissioners Office, regarding possible funding assistance towards this project, but regrettably there is no funding available.

21. Next monthly meeting to be held (remotely) on Thursday 9th December 2021, at 6.30pm.

Meeting closed 8.05 pm.

Signed:

Date: