

**Minutes of “remote” Christmas Lights Committee held on Tuesday 10th
February 2022 at 8.00p.m.**

**PRESENT: Cllrs G. Bevan (Chair), E. Williams, S. Thomas, J Slate, P
Totterdale**

1, Apologies – None

One elector present in addition to Howard Davies Clerk.

2. Declaration of interest – None

**3. The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2021 were unanimously approved
(Minute 0122 – CT3).**

4. Review of Christmas arrangements 2021:

- a) The Chair informed the members that in his opinion, bearing in mind the restrictions this year that he thought all had gone well, especially given the challenges of the Pandemic, the members agreed.

Matters for consideration for Christmas 2022

- a) Clerk to contact Charles Sams to ascertain cost of upgrading timer unit at Tywi Bridge roundabout (to replicate the unit at Nantycaws for familiarity and ease of programming) and to obtain a costing from Western Power for an alternate power supply, to allow the tree and lights to be illuminated on an independent basis and not be part of the streetlamp lighting cycle.
- b) Adding to lamp post illuminations, from Tywi Roundabout towards Pensarn Road.
Clerk to ascertain from Carms CC Lighting to see if decorations can be placed on the 7 wooden poles supporting the existing streetlights as Councillors felt that this had been asked in the past but declined. If a favourable response was received from Carms CC, then local businesses along the road could be approached to ask how best to illuminate the area for Christmas, and to see if they would be willing to consider contributing towards the cost of new lights etc.
- c) Consideration also to be given to placing a larger tree at Tywi Bridge Roundabout, as it was felt that the historic provision of a smaller tree was being dwarfed, by the larger evergreen trees in the background.
- d) Clerk to ask Carmarthen Town Council to carry out an early inspection of the Christmas Lights to ensure that they are fully operational, and thereby identify anything that needs replacing at an early stage.
- e) There had been postings on social media suggesting that the Council should think about placing a tree at the park. Councillors agreed that it merited further consideration but would be dependent on securing a power supply to the park, where discussions with Western Power are ongoing. It was agreed to defer this decision until the summer, when hopefully the outcome of discussions with Western Power will be known.

5. Clerk advised that whilst he had held discussions with Garry Griffiths the local electrician who had done work for the Council in the past, he advised that regrettably he did not have the necessary “ticket” to allow him to work on the supply pillars and as such suggested we approach Charles Sams who carries out extensive electrical works for Carmarthen C C and has the necessary qualifications.

Charles Sams was approached and agreed to carry out the works required at Tywi Bridge and Nantycaws pillars. This years “switch on” had been challenging with problems experienced with both the timer unit, which now requires replacement, and the electrical connection to the Tywi Bridge pillar itself. Charles Sams provided excellent support, and quick call out responses, which enabled the issues to be resolved, in a timely manner and “switch on” being achieved albeit a day or so later than planned due to problems experienced which fell outside of our control.

Regrettably due to electrical problems the “official” switch on had to be cancelled, which was disappointing. However, with Covid restrictions now beginning to ease, it will hopefully enable us to return to a degree of normality for this years “switch on” ceremony.

It was unanimously agreed to reappoint Charles Sams as “Resident Electrician” and to ratify the clerk’s actions in engaging him to carry out the essential repairs that were required to get the lights working for Christmas 2021. (**Minute 0122 – CT5**)

6. There was no other business to transact.

7. Next meeting – to be convened by Chair / Clerk

Meeting closed 8.55 p.m.

Signed as true record:

Date: