

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Llangunnor Community Council held at Babel
Zion Newydd at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday 15 February 2024**

PRESENT: Cllr J Slate, P Totterdale, M Williams, G Slate,

C. Cll Elwyn Williams, S Bowen joined remotely.

1. Apologies – Cllrs G Bevan, J Evans, L Whatley.

One elector joined virtually in addition Howard Davies Clerk

2. Declaration of Interest – To be recorded during agenda items.

3. Thursday 15th February 2024 – Chair’s Announcements

- i)** Reference was made to Carmarthen C C Primary Rising 4’s Policy 2025/26 consultation period, which is live until 1st March 2024, where it was proposed that infants would have to attain the age of 4 during the previous school term, before being admitted to school.
- ii)** Councillors were reminded that the annual litter pick in conjunction with Llangunnor School which normally takes place in early Spring is due, and will ask Cllr Bevan will liaise with the school to agree a convenient date.
- iii)** Councillors were also reminded that the consultation on “the cost-of-living crisis” was closing shortly, and to send their responses to the clerk who will collate them and respond.
- iv)** Due to work commitments, she had not been able to present our cheques to the two local food banks but would be doing so shortly.
- v)** Councillors were also reminded of the consultation regarding the Pylons proposed for the new power lines which would be a contentious issue for our community. Cllr Matthew Williams was asked to collate a response on behalf of the Council.
- vi)** Chair advised that Cllr G Slate had been added to our Facebook page as an additional administrator to be able to make posts following the resignations of Cllrs Evans and Wadeward.

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

No questions were asked.

5. Minutes of meetings – i) it was agreed and **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the monthly Council Meeting held on the 18th of January 2024 **(Minute 02/24 -5)**

6. To approve the schedule of Accounts for February 2024. **C. Cllr Elwyn Williams declared and interest and took no further part in discussions.** Resolved that the undermentioned accounts be paid as indicated below: **(Minute 02/24 – 6)**

Expenditure/Income February 2024

Payee	Description	Amount £
Emrys Williams	Park £97.	£97.00
Howard Davies	Clerical Duties –Gross new salary £995.77, 2 meeting £100. Backpay as calculated by Clay Shaw Butler £833.36 re increase by 2 spines. Total Gross £1929.13, Net Salary £1455.22 Allowances – Home Office £100, Internet allowance £40 total £140 Zoom Monthly Payment £15.59,	£1610.81
Carmarthen Town Council	Purchase of 3 Christmas Trees £720, delivery, and erection costs £750, labour £50 plus Vat- £304	£1824.00
Barclaycard via Direct Debit	Magnets for Notice Boards -packet 10 From Ryman	£4.49
Bowen & Weaving	Ring Binder plus Dividers	£4.80
St Cynnwr WI.	Donation agreed by Chair from our Community fund to assist with the cost of taking 28 members on a trip to St Fagans. Est total cost £217 where they will fund remainder.	£60.00
Babell Zion Newydd	Hire of Babell Chapel Nov 16 th , 22 nd , December 6 th , and 14 th . 4 Meetings at £30each - £120.00	£120.00

Extra Meetings

2 X £50 = £ this equates to £40.00 after tax.

(Extra meetings - @ £50 meeting – salary includes 11 meetings + AGM, all others treated as extra meetings over 4 hours will be paid at £100. **(Minute 0920 – F4)**)

Extra Meetings held.

Events 7 Feb

Parks 14 Feb

7. Steve Thomas from Dyfed Alarms gave a short informative presentation on the CCTV camera system that would be shortly installed at Llangunnor park to improve security and safety of park users. The presentation was well received and was followed by a Q&A session. The Chair thanked him for attending.

8. Council Committees:

i) Finance committee – Meeting took place on the 10th of January, where the minutes are being circulated. Next meeting 10th April.

ii) Park & Environment - Noted the minutes of the meeting which took place on the 7th of November have been circulated electronically and uploaded to our web page. Regrettably the meeting arranged for February 14th had to be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances and will now be rescheduled for next Wednesday 21st February virtually over Zoom.

iii) Web & Media – **Last meeting took place on the 7th of June.** No recent meetings. Meeting to be arranged March 2024.

iv) Events Committee- Noted the minutes of the meeting of which took place on the 7th of February have been circulated electronically and uploaded to our webpage. Next meeting 3rd April.

Two recommendations were received from the Events Committee and following discussion it was resolved to proceed as follows:

i) Due to the lights on the Christmas tree at Towy roundabout being out of action for the Christmas period and no guarantee that the electrical supply will work in future, it was resolved that we would not place a tree at Towy roundabout going forward and to retain the two Christmas trees at Llangunor Park and Nanytcaws which will save an estimated £500 per year.

(Minute 02/24 – 8i)

ii) Resolved to agree a working budget of £800 with a 10% contingency to support the initial set up costs for the second Community Fun Run which will take place on Sunday 19th May. **Chair will produce a spread sheet to monitor.**

Minute (02/24- 08ii)

9. Appointment of new Governor representative at Llangunor School. It was decided to move this point onto next month's agenda given that 3 Councillors were unable to attend this month's meeting and had tendered their apologies.

10. C. Cllr Elwyn Williams was unanimously elected to fill the current vacancy to represent the Council on Carmarthen Town Forum. (Minute 02/24 – 10)

11. To review Clerks Allowances, the clerk, and a member of the Public were asked to leave the room whilst the discussion took place.

Following a robust discussion the clerk was re admitted and advised that the Council were happy to retain the “working from home allowance” at £100.

and an “IT allowance” at £40 which was acceptable to the clerk. The Chair suggested that these terms be revisited at the time a new clerk was sought. The clerk did mention that he continues to work more than the paid hours and would be monitoring this position over the coming months. If this pattern of workload continues then he would be approaching the Council for an increase in his paid hours. **(Minute 11/24 – 11)**

The Member of the Public was re admitted.

12. To review an update Terms of Reference for the following committees as necessary:

- a) Park and Environment
- b) Finance
- c) Events
- d) Web

The existing terms of reference had been circulated to all Councillors electronically.

It was decided to move this point onto next months agenda given that 3 Councillors were unable to attend this month’s meeting and had tendered their apologies. In the interim the Chair asked all councillors to review the terms of reference ahead of next month’s meeting to enable a thorough review to be undertaken. **(Minute 02/24 – 12)**

13. C. Cllr Elwyn Williams advised much of his time of late had been taken up with discussing the County Council’s budget for the next financial year. Cuts to services would be inevitable, with some tough decisions having to made to protect front line services. They are striving to keep the increase to Council Tax increases to around 7%, but this was dependent of finding another 100k in savings. He will keep us advised of the position.

Several residents had approached him expressing their concern about

the proposals for the new overhead power lines for the Tywi-Teifi project and urged everyone to attend the webinar, and to read the documentation available.

Finally, he advised that the County Council had agreed to transfer 1M from reserves to repair “pot holes”

14. 19. Due to Cllr Whatley’s inability to attend it was decided to receive his report on the Work of The Task and Finnish Group at next month’s Council meeting. **(Minute 02/24 – 14)**

15 Members representing Council on other bodies.

One Voice Wales – No report

School Governor’s - No meetings had taken place.

Town Forum - C. Cllr Elwyn Williams was tonight elected to be our new representative.

16. Schedule of Correspondence Received for monthly meeting – February 2024

Nature of Correspondence	Agreed Action
Revised Carmarthen Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018-2033	Circulated
Newsletter from Kids Cancer Charity.	Circulated
Temp Road Closure Llangunnor C2070	Circulated
Polling Place and Policy District review -Draft Consultation.	Circulated
Consultation launch on new overhead power lines for Tywi-Teifi.	Circulated
Strategic Development Plans	Circulated
IVW Website and Social Media Training.	Circulated
Pared Gwyl Dewi 2.3.24	Circulated
Agreement to Co Option.	Circulated

IVW National Awards Conference 27.3.24	Circulated
Leaflet re Consultation Tywi-Teifi overhead power lines.	Circulated
Older Peoples experience of digital exclusion in Wales.	Circulated
Enforcement Appeal Consultation ENF/00996-AP-7259	Circulated
One Voice Wales National Awards Conference 27 March 24	Circulated
Joint Event to be held remotely- IVW and Planning Aid Wales – 7.3.24	Circulated
Green Gen Cymru Towy Teifi Webinar invite	Circulated
OPCC Communication	Circulated
Invoice Carmarthen T C re purchase and erection of Xmas Trees.	Circulated
Carmarthenshire Area Committee meeting IVW draft minutes.	Circulated
Planning Application PL/07203	Circulated
Draft response to residents re Oak Trees on boundary.	Circulated
Park Operational Reports for Dec – Jan 24	Circulated.
Rising 4's Consultation letter.	Circulated
Ways into work event	Circulated

17. Local issues brought up by Councillors.

Cllr G Slate advised that several residents had approached him to see if the current speed limit on the stretch of Babell Road, from the Haulfryn turning could be restored to 30mph and asked if we could appeal this.

Action point: Clerk to write to the appropriate department expressing our views.

Cllr G Slate wished to point out that pigeon droppings were again accumulating under Babell flyover and the spikes were not working.

Action point: Clerk to again report to SWTRA.

He further advised that after this week the park toilet will be open at weekends only in the run up to the Easter holidays.

Cllr Paul Totterdale wished to thank Cllr M Williams for his help during the recent icy conditions.

18. Date of next meeting: meeting -Thursday 21st March 2024 at Babel Zion Newydd Vestry.

Meeting closed at 8.05 p.m

Signed:

Date:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS CAN OBTAIN ANY DOCUMENTS REFERENCED ON THE AGENDA FROM THE CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING. HIS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 07399586478 OR E-MAIL clerk@llangunnor-cc.org.uk The Press and the Public can also attend the meeting either in person or on Zoom – access details for attending on Zoom can be obtained from the Clerk prior to the meeting.

DRAFT