

# Cyngor Cymuned Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council

Minutes of the monthly meeting held  
on Monday 24 April 2023 in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

## Present:

Ellen ap Gwynn (Chairman), Nest Jenkins, Mererid Watson, Nia Richards, Bleddyn Huws, Siôn Pennant, Eryl Bray, Enoc Jenkins, Elgan Evans

## 1. Chair's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. Apologies:

Catrin Davies (County Councillor), Rhian Evans (Vice-chairman – would be arriving late)

## 3. Declaration of Interest

No personal interest was declared

## 4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 March 2023

The minutes were confirmed as a true record, with the following correction: *5a)iv) ... but the County Council would be prepared to pay for the electricity rather than ... do the maintenance work.*

Proposed: Mererid Watson; Seconded: Eryl Bray

## 5. Matters arising:

### a) Issues reported via Clic to the County Council

Catrin Davies had inquired about a price for a new light to be installed between the Black Lion and Brynhyfryd.

### b) Website: the old website had been removed, but there were still problems accessing the new website.

### c) Notice boards: these had been delivered and were being stored in the Hall. John Dewi had said that he no longer wished to commit to doing work for the Council.

As there are banners with the Council's name on top of the new notice boards, the Chairman suggested that a similar banner could be placed on top of the notice board at the Memorial Hall.

**Action** – the clerk to ask Terry Williams and John Henry Jones for a quote to install the notice boards

### d) Pharmacy Sign – the light now appeared to be switched off when the Pharmacy was closed.

### e) Lights near Tanffordd – work had started but had come to a halt. It was safe for single walkers, but not for people with children/buggies or in a wheelchair. It was reported that the work would continue until at least the end of June.

### f) Work in the cemetery – the Cemetery Committee had met Terry Williams in the cemetery on 13 April to explain what work needed to be done, and, after taking various measurements, he agreed to provide quotations for the following:

- Install a rail from top to bottom along the edge on the village side, together with a similar rail down the central path to the path across. He suggested providing metal rails, but was asked for a quote for metal and wooden rails for comparison.

- Levelling the ground on either side of the path behind the new part of the cemetery, ready to install the bench, together with a price for installing the bench.

- Renew the broken/loose posts along the edge of the area where the sheep graze at the

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bottom of the cemetery.

The quotation had not yet been received.

**Action** – the clerk to ask John Henry Jones for a quote too

Nia Richards had been informed of a microfiche belonging to the National Library which contains a long list of individuals who were buried in the Pauper's Graves – no specific details as to the names or exact location of the graves. She would ask for a copy. A meeting of the Cemetery Committee would need to be convened.

Rhian Evans arrived at 8pm.

- g) No members of the Flood Group had been available to attend the current meeting. Eryl Bray to ask whether someone would be available for the June meeting.

### 6. New matters

Section Report 6 – Biodiversity

Nia Richards had sent the report to One Voice Wales and was awaiting a response. The Clerk had not had the opportunity to contact Mair Nutting regarding the *Best Garden for Wildlife* competition; she would do so as soon as possible.

### 7. Correspondence

The Clerk had forwarded all relevant electronic correspondence to the Councillors during the month.

#### One Voice Wales:

- Recommendations of the Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework and Code of Conduct for Local Authorities (Richard Penn report)
- Written Statement from The Welsh Government – Electoral Reform White Paper
- April and May training dates
- Information on New Grants for Small Woodlands – this may be of interest
- Agenda for the meeting of the Ceredigion Area Committee in New Quay on 18 April
- Training questionnaire – Eryl Bray, Nia Richards and Mererid Watson had already agreed to go on a training course with Ysgubor y Coed and Llangynfelyn councils (no date yet)
- Information about Model Standing Orders – it was noted that the Councillors should read this
- A message introducing the new Communications Officer

#### Other correspondence

- Hywel Dda – changes to Board membership
- Hywel Dda – additional dates for the consultations
- Dyfed Powys Police – invitation to 'Here for You' meeting on 26 April in Lampeter
- Audit Wales – request for additional information for the 2021-22 audit
- Zurich – renewal of insurance – discussed under 'Financial Matters' below
- Mary Williams – a resource to locate local dentists
- The Forestry Commission – consultation regarding NRW management of forests
- Audit Wales – annual returns 2022-23
- Ceredigion Council – information regarding a consultation on Day and Respite Services in Ceredigion
- National Grid – requesting information on the Christmas lights 2022. The Chairman had responded to this
- Wales boundary commission – invitation to a briefing session on the Community Survey for Ceredigion. This related to proposed boundary changes to the 52 Community Councils in

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the county as a result of the decrease in population. The Chairman would try to attend.

### 8. Planning

- i. Application number A230247: Cwmere, Tal-y-bont.

A retrospective application relating to a storage cabin already erected on private land in ancient woodland (the owner had not realized that prior planning permission was required). NRW had carried out a bat survey and noted that there were none present. There would be no services to the cabin, i.e. no electricity, water, etc. Nest Jenkins noted that it looked like a holiday cabin with its large windows and covered seating area to the front. Nia Richards noted that the County Council should be asked to ensure that it would only be used for storage and not as a holiday cabin, and that no more would be erected. She said that the County Council should also be asked to ensure that it would not grant permission for a change of use in the future to allow people to stay there. Enoc Jenkins noted that many tracks had already appeared through the forest, and that people were living in caravans there.

**Action** – the Clerk to respond to the request in accordance with the above

- ii. Application number A230302: Y Felin, Bont-goch.

Application to change an old empty building into a dwelling, with a view to letting it as a holiday home in the future. It was suggested that it would be more valuable if it were made into an affordable home and eventually offered for sale or rent.

**Action** – the Clerk to respond to the request in accordance with the above

### 9. Financial matters:

- i) The Council's financial position
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|---------------------|-----------|
| Current account:    | £5,570.70 |
| Deposit account:    | £4,783.60 |
| Tabernacle account: | £4,420.30 |
- ii) Updating the main bank contact – the Chairman had obtained two signatures and would take the relevant paperwork to the bank as soon as possible.
- iii) VAT returns: £1,351.13 to be claimed for the year
- iv) Remuneration: The Chairman noted how helpful Denfer Morgan had been during October and November in helping to take minutes, working on the training policy, and giving advice on a number of issues during the period when there was no Clerk in post. Although he had not asked for a fee, the Chairman was keen to give a worthy remuneration to reflect all the work he had done, and suggested a sum of £600 – which would correspond to a Clerk's salary for the same period. It was unanimously agreed that the above payment should be made.
- v) Income: £170 via James Memorials for an inscription on the gravestone of Rev. William Raymond Jones
- vi) Invoices to be paid
- |                                                                |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Zurich: insurance –                                            | £1,212.01 |
| KBS Depot Ltd: notice boards –                                 | £1,106.40 |
| Ellen ap Gwynn: coffee morning costs –                         | £7.84     |
| Memorial Hall: room hire for Cwtsh Cynnes, December-March –    | £187.50   |
| Memorial Hall: room hire for Council meetings, January-March – | £62.50    |
| Memorial Hall: Broadband, February-March –                     | £75.92    |
- It was unanimously agreed that the above costs should be paid.

### 10. Cae Bach and Bont-goch Play Park

- i) Monthly reports

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Cae Bach – Nia Richards had sent a link to Zurich's Crimson report on the condition of the playing fields to the Councillors in advance. The reports drew attention to work that needed to be done to the equipment. It was noted that the stepping stones on the climbing wall in Cae Bach were loose, and that the board was in a bad condition. Enoc Jenkins agreed to remove the whole board from the frame and ensure the metal edge was safe. Apart from the above, there was nothing new to report.

Enoc Jenkins noted that there was no drain in Cae Bach to allow the water to flow away, and queried whether it would be possible to ask the County Council about diverting the water that goes into the park so that it flows into the grating by to the recycling bins. As the water flows into the park from the road, he assumed that this would be the County Council's responsibility.

Bont-goch – the gate still didn't close properly every time.

ii) May rota – Bleddyn Huws and Siôn Pennant

### 11. AoB

- i) Nest Jenkins noted that there were many large potholes in the road from Braichgarw to Penffordd-las, and in the road to the village, and that the postman had threatened not to drive along the road.

**Action** – the Clerk to ask Catrin Davies to report this on Clic

- ii) Eryl Bray asked how much of the £500 Cwtsh Cynnes grant was left as those who attended each week were very keen for the sessions to continue. The Chairman would look into this.
- iii) Nia Richards asked if the Council would be happy for her to write an article for *Papur Pawb* to mark the 50th anniversary of Cae Bach. She would ask for memories and photos from local residents. She noted that it was the Maes-y-Deri mothers who had the initial idea to open a playground, and that they had worked very hard to raise all the money at a time when there was no lottery money or grants available. She noted that the group Ar Log had played one of its first gigs in Tal-y-bont to raise money for Cae Bach. The Chairman suggested looking at *Our Century* to search for relevant information.

### 12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Public Meeting, which will be held at 7 o'clock on 22 May 2023.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m