

**LLANSTEFFAN AND LLANYBRI COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN LLANYBRI COMMUNITY HALL**

**17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

**Chairman** Councillor G Howells

**Present** County Cllr DB Davies(Vice Chair) and Councillors Dr D Hunter, A Perrett,  
M James, A Cooper, C Jones and B Charles

**Apologies** Cllrs Ryder and El Davies

**Clerk** L Dutch

**1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

County Councillor Davies as Carmarthenshire County Council Vice Chairman and County Planning Committee Vice Chairman; Councillor Hunter as Llansteffan Memorial Hall Chairman; Councillor Howells as Church Warden, Member of the Parochial Church Council and Llansteffan School Governor Chairman and Council Rep; and Councillors DB Davies, Hunter and Jones in relation to Item 10 Section 137 Donations.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January were confirmed and signed as a true record.

Min  
No

**3. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION**

Bethel Row

Further to the delivery of a Council note to Bethel Row residents, a letter had been received from Mr Howells revealing that his endeavours had resulted in the County Council supplying written acknowledgement of its responsibility to maintain the Bethel Row lane.

1039

Wharley Point Footpath Application

It was noted that The Pheasantry owner had offered to enter into a Footpath Creation Agreement with the County Council, subject to the earth bank and gate remaining in situ and there being no promotion of the route as part of Wales Coast Path. The Council's Footpath Application remained within the determination process. Cllr Dr Hunter had taken measurements on site and was convinced that the majority of the bank and gate lay outside The Pheasantry's land ownership. A professional survey was required. To be itemised on the March agenda.

1040

Local Highways Matters

a. Llanybri to Pil Glâs school bus -

In response to the Council's suggestion to investigate the safer option for the school bus to travel along the main Llansteffan to Llanybri road, the County Council would consult with the Public Transport Unit to assess the feasibility of this suggestion and relay the feedback.

1041

b. Llanybri to Pil Glâs signage -

The Senior Technician in Traffic Management would carry out a signage audit of the route and provide a report on the assessment and any recommendations arising.

1042

c. Pil Glâs T-junction traffic speed and volume survey -

In response to the Council's request for the survey to be repeated around Easter time, the County Council had agreed and would advise when the re-count will be commissioned.

1043

d. High Street Llansteffan traffic speed and volume survey report 2013 -

The County Council had agreed to ask the contractor to amend the 'posted speed limit' on the 2013 report from 30 mph to 20 mph for purposes of accuracy and informed decision-making.

1044

e. High Street Llansteffan traffic speed and volume survey results 2013 -  
The results would be referred to the multi-agency speed management group for its recommendation on measures to address any incidences of excessive vehicular speeds. 1045

f. Llanybri 20 mph signage implementation -  
The County Council could not advise on timescales due to lack of knowledge of the rank position of the Llanybri 20mph speed limit request on the speed limit prioritisation schedule. The results of the review of the prioritisation exercise would be relayed in due course. 1046

#### **4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

The Chief Executive had recently stood down due to an independent investigation by Gloucestershire Constabulary into unlawful payments given in lieu of employer pension contributions as identified by Wales Audit Office. During recent storms the County Council had generally succeeded in keeping floods at bay and roads open. The County Budget 2014/15 has a planned increase in expenditure of 4.77%, compared with a 5% increase in Ceredigion. 1047

#### **5. HEALTH & SAFETY REPORTS**

##### **Children's Playground**

Periods of heavy rainfall had produced a wet and boggy ground surface. The Chairman announced the good news that the Council had been awarded a £9,250 Play Sufficiency Grant by the County Council to install a Kompan 'Supernova' roundabout and wet pour rubber safety surfacing and link paths to Disability Discrimination Act standards. Both the Chairman and Clerk were thanked for their endeavours. The works must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Parks and Play, in charge of the works, had requested the removal of the condemned roundabout. 1048

##### **Resolved**

- i) **That a public notice inviting quotations for the removal of the condemned roundabout from Glan y Môr Playground and two deteriorating public seats along the cliff path be displayed at the earliest convenience;** 1049
- ii) **That delegated authority be given to the Chairman and Clerk to take necessary decisions during the upgrading of Glan y Môr Playground to ensure that the 31<sup>st</sup> March grant deadline was met.** 1050

##### **Carrier's Lane**

Whilst the new culvert scheme had reduced the risk of flooding to Glan y Môr properties, potential public access to the water chamber, damaged flagstones and loose fencing posts remained of concern, having been brought to the attention of the Flood Defence Officer. 1051

##### **Croft**

The bench at the top of the path needed painting in the spring, but was sound; little litter, no dog faeces and the No Horses and Dogs on Leads signs remained broken. An email had been received from the County Countryside Access Team requesting a letter of support for a new Wales Coast Path information panel at the bottom of the Croft path. 1052

##### **Resolved**

**That a letter of support for a new Wales Coast Path information panel at the bottom of the Croft path be forwarded to the County Countryside Access Team, on the basis that this would replace the existing deteriorating wooden panel by the stone wall.** 1053

##### **Morfa**

Whilst the pumping off of excess surface water had significantly helped on the cricket pitch, the lack of drains on the football pitch had been evidenced by the waterlogged nature of certain sections. The Morfa Management Committee for Council and Sports Club representatives had met on 15 February, namely Cllr Howells Chair, Darren Sainty Chair and the Clerk (County Cllr Davies apologised for absence) and no issues were raised. The Sports Club intended to 1054

replace the old wooden shed with a new wooden shed on the same concrete slab subject to securing funding and would be tidying up around the cricket nets when weather permitted. A letter had been received from Mr Howells ex-Sports Club Chairman and Secretary which contained a helpful explanation of the history of the herringbone field drainage system for the Morfa fields and the sound belief that the football pitch scheme had not been undertaken. Cllr Cooper stated that many residents along The Green would like further information about the drainage works taking place. The Clerk advised that the current County scheme was to install (i) a continuous welded plastic pipe which would discharge directly into the river channel, and (ii) a shorter pipe which would discharge onto the beach when the tide had submerged the longer outfall pipe.

**Resolved**

- i) That the Morfa Management Committee meets again in May as per the Licence; 1057
- ii) That a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Howells for providing a useful history of the herringbone field drainage system for the Morfa fields which will be kept on file; 1058
- iii) That a copy of the letter received from Mr Howells be sent to the County Flood Defence Officer for information; 1059
- iv) That an explanatory letter be requested from the County Flood Defence Officer for delivery to residents along The Green. 1060

**Sticks/Headland Path to Scott's Bay**

The report noted no change: the missing and damaged mesh panels at First Steps had still not been replaced; the gutters at the shelter urgently needed to be cleaned out; extremely muddy sections of the cliff path had been caused by inclement weather; storm rubbish had been gathered but not collected from the litter collection point in Scott's Bay; the two old green public seats in The Sticks and nearer Scott's Bay needed removal; five of the plastic safety bollards near the bottom of the Coal Road needed replacement. Finally, the earth ridge across the footpath in between The Pheasantry and the first National Trust gate had been removed.

**Resolved**

- i) That the footpath maintenance issues be reported once again to the County Council; 1062
- ii) That the accumulating rubbish at the Scott's Bay litter collection point be reported to the County Cleansing Team; 1063
- iii) That a local volunteering day be organised in the Spring to encourage local care of the environment and ensure that important tasks are undertaken within health and safety guidelines. 1064

**Hen Gapel**

Sincere thanks were extended to Cllr El Davies for carrying out excellent repairs to the wall-tops inside the chapel confines. Photographs had been sent to Cadw. It was reported that the recent stormy weather had resulted in the loss of a slate from the western edge of the tower roof and the grounds needed attention to remove a discarded rubber mat and broken glass.

**Resolved**

- i) That Cllr Perrett be requested to contact a local builder regarding the need to replace missing slate/s from the chapel tower roof at Hen Gapel; 1066
- ii) That the Clerk be requested to contact the Hen Gapel grounds man regarding the need to remove rubbish and litter on an on-going basis as per the remit. 1067

**6. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**Resolved**

**That the following accounts be approved for payment:-**

SE Dutch	Clerk's salary/expenses	516.07	1068
N Davies	Morfa Playground Maintenance (Oct-Jan)	160.00	1069
EI Davies	Hen Gapel slate capping on wall-tops	89.00	1070

Carms County Council	Footway lighting 2013/14	2,254.75	1071
Pro Print	Copies	11.05	1072
Edward Harris Solicitor	Wharley Point Application – interim payment	5,000.00	1073

In terms of income, a charitable donation of £5,000 had been received towards the payment of the Wharley Point Application legal fees. 1074

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Resolved**

**That the following items of correspondence be noted:** 1075

Carms County Council	Carms Sporting Assets – information pack
One Voice Wales	“Y Llais” “The Voice” magazine
Kidney Wales Foundation	Walk for Life events – 27 April 2014

Carms County Council - Nomination of Minor Authority Rep – Llansteffan School

### **Resolved**

**That Cllr G Howells be nominated to serve as Minor Authority Representative on Llansteffan School Governing Body for a further term in accordance with the wishes of both Llansteffan and Llanybri Community Council and Llangynog Community Council.** 1076

Llansteffan Sports Club - Morfa playing fields maintenance grant application 2014

### **Resolved**

**That a Morfa maintenance grant of £750 for 2014-2015 be paid to Llansteffan Sports Club at the March Council meeting.** 1077

Requests for financial assistance

Llansteffan, Llanybri, Llangain & Llangynog Appeal Cttee – Eisteddfod Sir Gâr 2014 1078

## **8. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Resolved**

**i) To note that no objection was raised to the following planning application:** 1079

W/29512 Change of Use to provide 5 caravan / motorhome pitches and construction of shower / toilet block and entertainment area at Heol Down, Llanybri subject to the condition that County Highways gives detailed consideration to the safety of the proposed new vehicular access being located near to the bend in the main Llanybri to Llansteffan road. Scope existed within the site to relocate the new vehicular access on to a straighter section of the main road.

**ii) To note the following planning decision:** 1080

W/29352 GRANTED Extension to vestry for a disabled toilet at Capel Newydd, Llanybri

## **9. PROPOSALS TO REFORM THE PLANNING SYSTEM IN WALES**

### **Resolved**

**That a sub-group comprising of Cllr Howells (Chairman), Cllrs Hunter and Jones and the Clerk meets on 24<sup>th</sup> February to agree the Council’s response to the “Proposals to Reform the Planning System in Wales” consultation before the deadline of 26<sup>th</sup> February.** 1081

## **10. SECTION 137 DONATIONS**

County Cllr Davies and Cllrs Hunter and Jones left the room during the discussion and passing of resolutions having declared an interest due to links with applicant organisations. 1082

Members were supplied with a list of 2013/14 applications that included six from the local community, nine from Carmarthenshire and seven from outside the county. The clerk reminded members that Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972 permits the Council to spend on activities for which it has no other specific powers, if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to its area or any part of it or all of some of its 1083

inhabitants, providing the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. The Council agreed that local requests would be prioritised in view of the limited allocation of £1,000 having been approved in the 2013/14 budget.

**Resolved**

**That the following donations be made under Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972:-** 1084  
**£350 to Llanybri Community Hall, £350 to Llansteffan Memorial Hall, £250 to Cylch Meithrin Llansteffan towards an i-pod purchase, £25 to British Legion Poppy Appeal, £15 to Llansteffan, Llanybri, Llangain & Llangynog Appeal Cttee – Eisteddfod Sir Gâr 2014 and £10 to the WW1 Commemorative Service in Carmarthen on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.**

**11. CARRIER'S FIELD LLANSTEFFAN**

The Chairman reported that a site meeting had been arranged by the Housing Services Manager (Independent Living and Affordable Homes) for 12<sup>th</sup> March and that the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk would attend. 1085

**Resolved**

**That Carrier's Field be itemised on the March agenda and a report be given following the site meeting with Housing Services on 12<sup>th</sup> March.** 1086

**12. THE GREEN MEMORIAL SEATS**

**Resolved**

**That a sub-group comprising of Cllr Howells (Chairman), Cllrs Perrett and Charles and the Clerk meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the Written Agreement for Memorial Seats and produce recommendations for the March meeting.** 1087

**13. BROADBAND ISSUES**

Cllr Cooper reported that a poor standard of Broadband service had been suffered by parts of Llansteffan on a long-term basis, in particular Church Road and High Street, which caused issues for businesses as well as residents. Whilst it was acknowledged that BT Openreach was currently installing new underground lines and transformer boxes which should help to boost signals, it was agreed that further details were required on present and future improvements. 1088

**Resolved**

**That a letter be written to BT Openreach to request detailed information on planned improvements to enhance the Broadband service in Llansteffan and Llanybri.** 1089

**14. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- Two properties in Llangain had suffered domestic oil thefts. 1090
- Issue of unsupervised hound dogs at Pil Glâs – ewe attack and road death 1091
- Road sign by Waun y Groes had fallen, Maesolbri fence needed repairs 1092
- Lan Farm green lane – gates across the footpath issue 1093
- Ger y Marbell Llanybri – request for letter box by pensioners 1094
- Long-standing issues of potholes and verge erosion caused by heavy vehicles 1095
- Llanybri land to be dedicated for a children's playground by means of a Deed of Gift; planning permission for change of use and grant availability to be investigated. 1096

The meeting closed at 21.20

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall at 7 pm (SECOND Monday)**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall (AGM & Monthly)**

Signed..... Chairman/Vice Chairman Date .....



