

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

17th MARCH 2014

Chairman Councillor G Howells

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

Apologies Cllrs Perrett, Jones 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.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17th FEBRUARY 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th February were confirmed and signed as a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

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 had reported that there were four pupils on the existing route, a smaller vehicle was not available and the operator had not identified any problems. County Cllr Davies would advocate the Council's preferred route at a forthcoming public transport seminar.

Min
No

1097

b. Llanybri to Pil Glâs and B4312 signage -

No County Council signage audit report received to-date in relation to the Llanybri to Pil Glâs highway. The 'Araf / Slow' road signage had still not been reinstated on the B4312 on the Carmarthen approach to the sharp bend before Pil Glâs.

1098

c. High Street Llansteffan traffic speed and volume survey results 2013 -

No County Council recommendations received to-date on measures to address any incidences of excessive vehicular speeds.

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d. Llanybri 20 mph signage implementation -

The County Council had still not advised on timescales due to lack of knowledge of the rank position of the Llanybri 20mph speed limit request on the speed limit prioritisation schedule.

1100

e. Church Road double yellow lines –

No County Council report received to-date on the timescale for double yellow line removal.

1101

Llansteffan Sports Club

The Club had expressed its gratitude for receipt of the Council's Morfa maintenance grant.

1102

Council date change

The Council monthly meeting and AGM will take place on Monday 12th May.

1103

Playground Inspection training day

Cllr Charles and the Clerk would attend the free training event on 2 April 2014.

1104

4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Cllr Davies remarked that the Council Tax increase agreed at 4.77% had been reduced to 4.25% due to adjustments resulting from Dyfed-Powys Police and Town and Community Council budgetary requirements. The County Council had accepted its Audit Report. 1105

5. HEALTH & SAFETY REPORTS

Children's Playground

Two quotations had been received for the removal and disposal of the old roundabout and two deteriorating public seats along the cliff path. Acting on delegated authority agreed at the February meeting, the Chairman and Clerk accepted the more cost-effective quotation submitted by Mr T Bowen. The works had been undertaken within the week. A full inspection of the playground had not been undertaken on the basis that it had been securely closed by Parks and Play, the company installing the new wet pour safety surfaces, tarmac link paths and Kompan Supernova roundabout, all financed by Play Sufficiency Grant funding. 1106

Carrier's Lane

It was reported that the damaged flagstones and loose fencing posts remained of concern, having been brought to the attention of the Flood Defence Officer. In addition the voluntary collection of litter, discarded dog bags and dog faeces remained an on-going issue. 1107

Resolved

That a request be placed in Carmarthen Journal Community News for dog owners to be more responsible in the collection and safe disposal of dog waste, with the warning that dog wardens would be increasing their patrols. 1108

Croft

The bench at the top of the path needed painting in the spring, but was sound, some litter, no dog faeces. It was noted that the old shelter in the beach car park in between the chip van and ice cream van remained flooded and sprayed with graffiti. 1109

Morfa

The report noted that with the better weather the playing fields had begun to dry out, patches of long grass needed cutting back and a general clear-up would be beneficial. 1110

Sticks/Headland Path to Scott's Bay

The two old green seats in The Sticks and towards Scott's Bay had been removed by Mr T Bowen and the rubbish had been collected from the Scott's Bay collection point. On a negative note, the missing and damaged mesh panels at First Steps had still not been replaced by the County Council; the gutters at the shelter needed to be fully cleaned out and a small overhanging branch cut back; and the warning sign at Second Steps stood at an angle and needed cleaning to be fully legible. 1111

Resolved

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. 1112

Beach Safety Hazards

The winter storms had resulted in significant shifting of sand and exposure of mud flats along the local beaches. Dangerous waste metals and building materials - originally used as sea defence in shoring up the seaward boundary of the front football pitch – had become exposed and constituted public safety hazards. Finally, the Nant Jack safety sign and supporting posts had been totally dislodged and needed to be re-installed as soon as possible. The Chairman reminded members that Cooke and Arkwright could be a source of potential funding for 1113

environmental improvement projects.

Resolved

- i) That County Cllr Davies be authorised to approach the County Council contractor working on the surface water outfall scheme to see if the Nant Jack sign could be reinstated whilst the necessary equipment and manpower were on site; 1114
- ii) That the Chairman be authorised to write to Cooke and Arkwright to enquire about potential funding for a beach environmental project to remove waste material hazards and improve flood defence below the front football pitch; 1115
- iii) That County Cllr Davies, Chairman, Cllr Ryder and Clerk carry out a site visit to examine the beach hazards and discuss a feasible way forward. 1116

Hen Gapel

The Clerk had contacted the Hen Gapel grounds man regarding the need to remove rubbish and litter on an on-going basis as per the agreed remit. In Cllr Perrett's absence, no further report was given. 1117

6. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved

That the following accounts be approved for payment:-

SE Dutch	Clerk's salary/expenses	512.87	1118
Swalec	Castle lights – Nov 2013 to Feb 2014	71.49	1119
One Voice Wales	Annual membership fee	149.00	1120
Llansteffan Sports Club	Morfa maintenance grant	750.00	1121
Tony Bowen	Roundabout and seats - removal & disposal	200.00	1122
Jamie King Media	Council website creation – interim payment	400.00	1123
Jamie King Media	Council website creation – final payment	100.00	1124
B Charles	Travel expenses to Llanelli Playground Seminar	24.00	1125
Swalec	Llanybri Christmas lights 2013/14	7.93	1126

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved

That the following items of correspondence be noted: 1127

Commission on Public Service	
Delivery & Governance	Final Report can be accessed http://wales.gov.uk/topics/
Welsh Government	Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 consultation
A Burns AM	Hywel Dda Health Board changes
Tower Mint	World War 1 Remembrance Medal
Carms County Council	Climate Change and Community Resilience seminar

Welsh Government - Tidy Towns funding

An e-mail had been received inviting bids from community groups in Wales seeking funding to support projects that would deliver local environmental quality improvements in 2014-15. Partnerships with local groups and schools preferred. Deadline 1st May. 1128

Welsh Government - Disposal of Local Authority Playing Fields consultation

A letter was received and noted in terms of the potential relevance to the Morfa in the future. 1129

Llansteffan & District Tourist Association – Beach car park honesty box

An e-mail was received advocating that a secure honesty box should be installed in the beach car park to raise funds to enhance the environment. Whilst the suggestion was appreciated in principle, the Council decided that it could not be supportive. 1130

Resolved

That the Council could not support the suggestion of installing an honesty box in the 1131

beach car park for two reasons:- (i) The County Council owned the land and permission would have to be sought for the installation. On the basis that the Council spent 12-18 months fighting the introduction of a Pay and Display facility due to the likely negative impact on The Green, local residents and village roads, any approach to the County Council might result in the Pay and Display facility being put on the agenda once again as an income generation facility benefiting the County and not the community; and (ii) The security of an honesty box would be questionable, unless a permanent structure was built which would require planning permission in the Conservation Area. With the current spate of oil thefts within what was once regarded a safe community, even a permanent structure might become a target.

Miss E Rees – ‘First World War – Then and Now’ Project

Resolved

That a letter of strong support be written to Llansteffan History Society in relation to its forthcoming application for funding for a fascinating ‘First World War – Then and Now’ Project in commemoration of the centenary of the start of World War One. 1132

Redkite Law – Draft Morfa Lease

An e-mail had been received by the Chairman from the solicitor acting on behalf of the Council. In response, the Chairman had advised that the County Council was in the process of producing detailed drawings of a swale scheme to replace the existing pond and therefore no further progress could be made as yet with the draft lease. 1133

Requests for financial assistance

Prism Mid & West Wales Alcohol & Drug Advisory Service
Dyfed Powys Victim Support
NSPCC Wales
Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution Carmarthenshire 1134

8. PLANNING MATTERS

Resolved

i) To note that no objection was raised to the following planning applications: 1135

W/29695 Demolition of small existing greenhouse and construction of garden room for use as a studio at Hill House, Llansteffan

W/29712 Construction of a garage at Plot 2, Parc Clomendi, Llansteffan

ii) To note the following planning decision: 1136

W/29266 REFUSED Removal of Condition 4 on Planning Application W/25914 at Castle Hill Farm, Llansteffan

9. CARRIER’S FIELD LLANSTEFFAN

A site meeting had taken place on 12th March between the Housing Services Manager (Independent Living and Affordable Homes) and County Cllr Davies, Chairman and Clerk. Copies of Housing Layout Scheme B were provided for comment. The need for as many affordable homes and additional car parking spaces as possible had been emphasised. 1137

Scheme B was examined in detail by Council. The priority for additional affordable homes and car parking was fully endorsed, together with the need for sensitive landscaping, the mature trees to be pollarded and a fence to be erected along Carrier’s Lane for privacy and screening. 1138

Resolved

That written confirmation be sent to the Housing Services Manager of the importance of (i) converting units 4, 5 and 6 in Scheme B into semi-detached affordable homes and (ii) providing more on-site car parking than the six extra spaces identified by the architect. 1139

10. LLANYBRI PLAYGROUND

Cllr Charles explained that the plot of land in question, measuring 38 metres by 32 metres and located adjacent to Parc y Delyn, was in the process of being gifted to the Council for use as a playground. The community, local planning authority and playground companies would be consulted in due course. 1140

Resolved

That an annotated location plan showing the potential site for a children's playground adjacent to Parc y Delyn be submitted to the local planning authority for pre-planning consultation advice. 1141

11. MEMORIAL SEAT WRITTEN AGREEMENT

The original written agreement had been amended for use in relation to the four agreed memorial seats along The Green, in accordance with recommendations made by the group which had met on 3rd March. It was advised that this package of works be put out to tender and once completed, The Green sea wall would be at full capacity and further requests would be placed on a waiting list. In the interests of sound risk management and equitable charging, the group had recommended that (i) All works must be undertaken by a Council-approved contractor to County Council specifications under Council control; and (ii) The applicant paid two-thirds and the Council paid one-third of the new plinth creation costs. 1142

It was important to note that the Council, local community and holiday makers would benefit from four new seats along The Green to the value of £3,400, plus four existing seats being relocated to sites with a long-standing need such as the beach playground and a new Llanybri playground. The Council would also have total control resulting in low public safety risks. The Council's Budget 2014/15 had allocated £2,000 under the heading 'Parking/Public Facilities' hence the Council's contribution of around £150 x 4 seats was covered in the budget. In consequence, the Council would be able to demonstrate locally that the electorate was benefiting in practical terms from the 2014/15 Precept rise to £20,000. 1143

Resolved

i) That the amended written agreement for use in relation to the four agreed memorial seats along The Green be approved, on the basis that (i) All works must be undertaken by a Council-approved contractor to County Council specifications under Council control; and (ii) The applicant paid two-thirds of the new plinth creation costs (on the basis that the applicant has been allocated a 'used' plinth on the sea wall), and the Council paid one-third of these costs to enable the existing seat to be relocated; 1144

ii) That two existing seats be relocated to the beach playground and two existing seats be relocated to the new Llanybri playground; 1145

iii) That the tender notice inviting quotations by 31st March for the re-siting of existing seats, creation of new plinths and installation of new seats be displayed a.s.a.p. 1146

12. WHARLEY POINT FOOTPATH APPLICATION

Cllr Dr Hunter provided a progress up-date and concluded that the sensible option was to proceed with the Footpath Application to register the entire Wharley Point path on the Definitive Map, including the missing link in front of The Pheasantry. Land ownership was irrelevant. The Council was entitled to seek to register the path and would not be perceived as entering into a neighbourly dispute. Once the path was registered the Council could apply to the County Council for the obstructions to be removed. A further donation to cover legal fees would be forthcoming. 1147

Resolved

That the Council continued to support the Wharley Point Footpath Application. 1148

13. COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Clerk had been working with Jamie King Media to devise a website layout that would hopefully meet the needs of both Council and communities in Llansteffan and Llanybri. The aim 1149

was to be user-friendly, inclusive, attractive, informative and interesting. The County Council deadline of 31st March 2014 should be met – however - the content of each web page would take longer to gather. Members commented on the proposed web pages.

Resolved

That the Llansteffan and Llanybri Council and Community website should include the following web pages:- Home, What's On, Your Council, Village Halls, Community Information, Young People, Trades Directory, Maps & Walks, News, Contact Us and Useful Links. 1150

14. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- Weekend 5-6 July, 150 children in Beaver's will camp on the Morfa, Llansteffan. 1151
- County Cllr Davies to investigate which county officer dealt with Broadband contracts. 1152
- A thank you letter would be sent to retiring Mr and Mrs Bob Aitken of The Castle Inn. 1153
- The County note about the beach drainage scheme would be delivered to The Stores. 1154
- County Cllr Davies had applied for a grant to re-render Llanybri Hall. 1155
- Complaints had been received about the unreliable Morris public bus service. 1156
- A complaint had been received about broken glass at the top end of Maesolbri, Llanybri. 1157
- Natural Resources Wales had been notified about a slurry pipe draining into watercourses at the bottom of Heol Faen, Llanybri. 1158
- Long grass at the kissing gate at the bottom of Heol Faen needed to be trashed. 1159

The meeting closed at 21.33

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 12th May 2014 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall at 7 pm (AGM & Monthly)

Monday 16th June 2014 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall at 7 pm

Signed..... Chairman/Vice Chairman Date

