



CYNGOR TREF LLANWRTYD WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Council Meeting on Wednesday 17th June at 7.00pm

Attending: Cllrs L Pace-Avery, M Pigott, S Jones, P James, J Davies, J Parkinson, T Van Rees, A Jones.
Sue Lilly (Interim Clerk)

1. Apologies: Amanda Edwards

2. Declarations of interest – There were none

3. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed, proposed by Cllr S Jones and seconded by Cllr A Jones. The Chairman signed the Minutes off.

4. Finance

The current state of the reserves was put onto the screen, with £5K needing to be allocated. It was unanimously agreed that £4500 would be earmarked for CCTV, the remaining £500 to go into the unearmarked section.

The Chairman showed everyone the Audit Return, followed by the wet-signing of the audit papers, which everyone saw. The Chairman also signed off the end of year accounts for 2019-20, and the last two months' accounts were also unanimously agreed and signed off. These were proposed by Cllr Van Rees and Cllr Parkinson.

5. Clerk/RFO

Barclays have not yet sent a card to Cllr James. The following discussion brought up being able to use a personal card to access online. It was agreed that it is prudent to have a separate card. Cllr James to investigate whether he can use his own card.

A bottle of wine has been delivered to the Internal Auditor as he did not want to put in an invoice. A garden voucher for £75 was sent to former Cllr Rowlands and a 'welcome to your new house card'. The question about acquiring a council Pro Zoom account was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Pigott and seconded by Cllrs Jones and unanimously agreed that this go ahead (cost £143.88 for a year). This can then be used by any councillor for all sorts of committee meetings

The Wildflower Garden invite from the Welsh Government first came to the council in February but got lost over the withdrawal of the March meeting due to Covid. It is quite a big package and probably only suitable for Dolwen. It is now being delivered next month

6. Anti-Social Behaviour

Visitors at Victoria wells have been reported to the police on several occasions. Police presence had been concentrated on the Elan Valley, but recently an increase in police presence along the Abergwesyn loop. Police HQ have confirmed police presence locally has been on an increase.

Cllr Van Rees reported that the pathway from the station to Abernant House is not a public right of way. Notices have been put up as gates have been left open causing flocks to get mixed.

Cllr Van Rees reported that letters have been written on behalf of Myrtle House, Tree-tops, the church and Victoria Hall in protest at the ongoing incursions into the property that was Elizabeth Anne's. The Executors and their legal representatives are working on this. Letters have also been

written about the blocking of the Right of Way to Victoria Hall demanding the removal of the fencing.

Cllr Pace-Avery has also been contacted about this as suggestion have been made that a wall is being put in instead of the fence. The estate agent for Elizabeth Anne's has confirmed that the property value is much reduced with legal matters outstanding.

Cllr James requested that pictures be taken as a record of events, this is being done.

A query was raised that the person got a grant from Powys, but Cllr Van Rees confirmed it had been a loan and has since been repaid.

The solicitor for the executors is the person that can act as the land in dispute was left for the benefit of the community.

Cllr A Jones also pointed out that the blocked access will stop others getting into their properties.

Cllr James said that linked to this, is a letter received from a new resident in Victoria Road. This resident has the option to buy a garage linked to their property that is also situated near the disputed area. The resident confirmed that a lot of unfounded claims had been made. Cllr Pace-Avery read out the letter. The ownership of the garage has been confirmed. Although this is not a council matter a reply will be made, requesting that the council be kept up to date. A copy of the original letter will be sent to the solicitor acting on behalf of the Executors as this affects the beneficiaries of Elizabeth Anne's Will.

Cllr Pace Avery reported about the ice cream van that had been visiting, with no social distancing or use of PPE and gloves. It comes from Carmarthen and the police have had a word. He will now comply with all.

7. Feedback from Councillors

Cllr A Jones reported that Bromsgrove school were coming in September and maybe a letter from the council to say sorry they will be unable to come.

Also maybe that on the railings in the Square a banner thanking the NHS and Keyworkers could be created. Banners not expensive £20-40. This was unanimously agreed. Cllr Pace Avery to facilitate the measuring of the space, though to be 1 x 8 metres.

Cllr Davies and Parkinson enquired about the appointment of a new clerk. The closing date for applications is the 30th June. One person from last year's pool says she will apply. A timeline of events from November to May has been kept.

Cllr S Jones queries about the Casual Vacancy left. Guidance at the moment is to delay any process to fill vacancies whilst lockdown is in operation.

Cllr James queried how people joined these virtual meetings. It was pointed out that the telephone link to each meeting is on the bottom of each Agenda, which at present is only on the website due to Covid restrictions. He also reported that the Spa Premier might not be open until the New Year. difficulties with getting builders. Cllrs James, Van Rees and Pace Avery to look into this.

The bench (Donald Hope) donated to cemetery at St Davids, need sprucing up, as does the one at the entrance (Vicar Watts). The Clerk to ask the caretaker to look into this.

Cllr Van Rees reported from County Hall about the library and to the monies raised last year. He has contact with military band that put a concert in Llandeilo last year under a grant from Welsh Government, so we might be able to entice them to support further concerts here.

Cllr Pigott gave an update of events, everything has been cancelled and the Real Ale might get cancelled in November.

Cllr Pace-Avery reported that PCSO Adam Chard will be leaving soon and will be replaced by Makita Matthews who is in training at the moment. Garden club is running 'Llanwrtyd in Bloom' as so many people have been gardening. Applications to Jen Walsby.

The school has continued its regular governors' meetings. It will open on the 29th June with 5 children per classroom; Children of keyworkers from the hwb. will go into the 'Duckings' area. They will need to bring their own lunches. Some children are not returning due to their parents shielding.

The new Head starting in September and most of the early work will be focused on the children's wellbeing.

8. Planning

The letter from Will Fulford about Ffos y Fign had been sent to all on Tuesday.

There was a lot of discussion. Everyone wants it to be lived in but clarity was needed. It was thought that it was last lived in about 30 years ago. Advice has been taken on the difference between restoration and rebuilding and it is certainly in that grey area. It became obvious that the scaffolding had been seen by some as a sign of building work. The footprint is the same. It was agreed that the council's approach may have been a bit heavy, but questions did need answering. The scaffolding is there for support.

It was unanimously agreed to withdraw the objection.

Cllr Van Rees agreed and would withdraw the 'calling in'.

Construction of a wraparound single storey extension incorporating a garage and adjustments to porch - Fronheulog Ffos Road Llanwrtyd Wells LD5 4RG

The council has no objection to this.

9 Twinning

Cllr Davies reported that information is required from the Council That Cllr Davies will deal with, but that most things are dormant.

10. Services

The Clerk reported that three offers were investigated to replace/ renew the provision of electricity for the toilets and pavilion. British Gas and Bulb were really high, so SSE (current provider) was contacted. The agreed to lower the cost of usage, but could not lower the standing charge. It was unanimously agreed to go with SSE for another year.

Cllr Davies reported that the toilets are locked but the lights are still coming. This will be sorted with the new caretaker Ken Price

The Insurance has been renewed with Zurich.

11. Correspondence

The Clerk to send around the latest letter from Llandrindod Council about Climate Emergency Declaration.

Cllr Davies confirmed that reading the NRW, for timber haulage, we would like more detail.

Agreed by Cllr Van Rees. We need to know the designated routes. The signage is only advisory for the timber lorries.

Cllr Pigott queries about footpaths, bridleways and Rights of Way. A notice should be erected giving warning of closure and when to be reinstated. This has not happened. Cllrs S Jones and Pigott to report the footpath numbers to Cllr Van Rees.

12. Where to next?

Grants are available, so is there something we wanted to do for the town? Most charities reported to having accessed grants already.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Next Meeting: 15th July at 7pm via 'Llanwrtydzoom'

Meeting closed at 2058