Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 25th March 2019 at The Public Institute, Llanfair at 7.00pm

Present – Cllrs C Evans, I Davies, K Roberts (Chair), H Davies, R Astley, G Jones, G Peate, A Dunsford and Clerk

Cllr K Roberts welcomed all including newly co-opted Cllr Andy Dunsford.

Before business began Mike Wynstanley of Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust updated the members on the progress of the HLF grant funded project in Deri Woods. Mike confirmed that work was in progress to continue grant funding after the HLF project came to an end in August.

Phil Jones, Head of Llanfair High School, updated the members on the Community Partnership which had its next meeting on 2nd April. He also requested a contribution to the cost of making a promotional video for the High School from the Town Council.

Both Mr Jones and Mr Wynstanley then left the meeting before business began.

1.Apologies – Cllrs W Williams, V Evans, C Stephens and U Griffith

2.Declaration of Interest - None

3.Minutes of meeting held on 25th February 2019

The minutes were read and agreed by all and signed as correct by The Chair. It was also agreed that two copies of the minutes were signed. One for the records and one to be sent to HSBC for online business banking application.

4.Matters arising.

War memorial – Clerk confirmed she had heard no more from Elliott Ryder regarding a starting date in spring / summer 2019.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with Elliott Ryder (Conservator) regarding dates for work to commence.

A458 interactive speed signs– Clerk confirmed she had heard no more on the speed signs.

**Action:** Clerk to monitor situation.

No dogs sign for Church Yard – Cllr G Jones confirmed that these would be put up the following day.

**Action.** Cllr G Jones to action this.

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Deri Woods – Cllr K Roberts reported that a confirmed date of 29th April for the work to start on the Pump House had been received from the contractor.

**Actions:** Cllr K Roberts to monitor situation and liaise with contractor.

Mountfield - Clerk confirmed that user agreements had still not been returned by LUFC and Carnival committee.

**Actions**: Clerk to follow up return of user agreements from LUFC and the Carnival committee.

Glanyrafon play area – Cllr Rob Astley confirmed that the swing repairs were now complete.

Risk Assessments – Clerk and Chair reported on their meeting with PCC on 14th March 2019. Both had found the morning session with David Hurst extremely useful. They were reassured that the Town Council was taking all necessary steps regards to risk assessment and health and safety but now needed to record it correctly.

**Action**: Clerk to await written report from PCC and links to necessary forms.

Meeting with MWT on Deri Woods – Clerk confirmed that the second payment of the HLF grant had been received.

Planning permission- It was confirmed that the guide to household planning was now on social media.

Re seeding of Gorsedd Stones area – Cllrs K Roberts and C Evans confirmed that the area was to be re seeded in April

**Action:** Cllr C Evans to obtain price for seed.

Mounfield containers- Cllr R Astley had obtained a price for the paint for the containers - £64.00 + VAT. It was agreed that 3 tins would be needed. Cllr K Roberts confirmed she obtained prices for some more suitable bins.

**Actions**: Cllr R Astley to buy paint.

Bin in Erw Ddwr – Clerk confirmed G Lloyd would empty the bin in the cemetery but would have to wait for the ground to dry out.

**Action**: Clerk to monitor the situation.

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Chapel of Rest registration- Clerk had confirmed with solicitor that this should go ahead and had received letter of engagement.

**Action**: Clerk to liaise with solicitor

Morgan’s Yard – Clerk confirmed she had received no reply from either the agent or owner to her letter of enquiry.

World Book Day – Clerk, Chair and Cllr H Davies reported on the success of this event in the Library. The High School had attended and many pupils had dressed up as literary characters. It was agreed that a closer relationship with the High School and Primary School should be maintained to boost membership and use of Library.

Footbridge over the Banwy. Cllr G Jones had contacted PCC regarding the dangerous condition of the bridge and asked for it to be closed. Cllr C Evans also reported a complaint he had received from a resident regarding the state of disrepair. Cllr G Jones to ask PCC if LTC could carry out repairs and for PCC to pay. Clerk to enquire as to which department was responsible for the bridge mantainance.

**Actions:**

i.Clerk to contact Phil Sherrard of PCC to confirm responsibility for the bridge and report back to Cllr G Jones

ii. G Jones to contact PCC to arrange repair

iii. Cllr G Jones and A Dunsford to meet to ascertain what repairs need to be done.

WLLR – Clerk confirmed Cllr V Evans had attended the launch of the electric car charging points and that she (Clerk) had emailed Charles Spencer of WLLR to arrange a meeting to discuss working with the Town Council for the benefit of both.

5.Finance.

Community Balance - £51,640.13

Money Manager - £40,048.32

The following payments were agreed:

101424 – HMRC quarterly tax and NI payment for Clerk

101425 – S D Johnson – Library cleaning - £36.00

101426 – S D Johnson – Toilet cleaning and consumables - £152.50

101427 – Gloversure – 2 year domain name - £24.00

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101428 – Gloversure – Hosting for 1 year - £102.00

101429 – Clerk’s salary - £762.22

101430 – Chapel of Rest – Rates - £762.70

101431 – Steve Adams – toilet cleaning consumables - £96.53

101432 – G H Harding – repairs in gent’s toilets - £56.05

101433 – J G Lloyd – grass cutting contract - £1,879.20

101434 – Roberts Jones – doors for white containers - £747.60

101435 – Clerk’s expenses March - £126.64

 DD – New lock for Deri Woods gates – Charlies Sores - £34.99

 DD – Opus Energy – Electric for Chapel of Rest and Toilets - £67.03

Receipts:

HLF Grant for Deri Woods - £24,480.00

VAT refund - £413.50

VAT refund - £514.60

Chapel of Rest – £180.00

Burials - £2,250.00

Audit: Clerk requested that Morgan’s Accountancy be formally asked to carry out the internal audit for the financial year 2018 – 2019. All agreed.

**Action**: Clerk to write to Morgan’s with formal request.

Clerk confirmed that the new containers had now been insured

6.Planning. Clerk informed the members there were applications to consider this month. She informed the members of the following decisions:

19/0039/HH – Bryn Mair extension – Approved 15.03.19

P/2018/0185 – Discharge of conditions 13 and 14 at Pentre Penarth – Approved 21.02.19

7.Premises.

Deri Woods and Goatfield – Clerk read letter from one of the volunteers, Nick Burton, who had questions about and suggestions for the Pump House. All agreed that he made valid and useful points which would be considered in regards to the building work.

**Action**: Clerk to reply to Mr Burton.

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Cllr C Evans informed the members that the mobile saw mill was too large to fit into Deri Woods. It would therefore be necessary to source another contractor.

**Action:** Cllr R Astley to make enquiries and report back at next meeting.

It was agreed that the new gates at the main entrance should be hung asap and that oak from the Deri Woods should be used.

Clerk reported that the HLF had agreed that any money left over from tree felling could be used for tree planting. Cllr H Davies suggested that some trees should be planted in memory of local residents.

**Action**: LTC to liaise with Dewi of MWT as to which tree species would be most suitable to purchase.

Clerk reported that unfortunately HRH Prince Charles would not be visiting Deri Woods this summer as requested

St Mary’s Church Yard. Clerk confirmed that the yew trees had now been shaped and the tree work was now complete.

Public toilets. Clerk informed the members that following the recent vandalism in the toilets CCTV had been re installed and relevant signs put up to this effect. She confirmed the incidents had been reported to the Police and the details posted on social media. The High School Head, Mr Jones, was also aware of the incidents and was making all pupils aware of the Police involvement.

**Action:** All to be vigilant regarding ASB in and around the toilets

Mountfield. All other matters would be discussed in a separate Trustees meeting.

Erw Ddwr – Clerk informed the members that a new memorial bench had been placed by the Garden of Remembrance. All agreed that an excellent job had been done of its siting.

Action: Clerk to write to family and thank them for time and effort in ensuring the bench was purchased and positioned as requested by LTC.

Cllr K Roberts had identified with photos the trip hazards and deteriorating surfaces on the paths. She also raised the issue of tarmac being too slippery a surface as suggested during the risk assessment visit.

**Actions:**

i.Cllr R Astley to visit Erw Ddwr and identify any issues with possible new surface.

ii.Cllr G Jones to pursue quote from PCC for tarmac.

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Library. Clerk reported that the Librarian, Meg required a new A frame sign to advertise events. It was agreed that she could purchase the sign for £25.00 as requested.

**Action:** Clerk to inform Meg that she may order the sign.

Clerk read out a letter from the portfolio holder, Rachel Powell, confirming the Library was safe for this coming financial year.

**Action**: It was agreed that all attempts should continue to find funding to keep the Library open in the long term.

Chapel of Rest. Cllr R Astley reported that side fence was rotten and required replacing. It was agreed that quotes should be sought for this work.

**Action**: Clerk to email contact details of two contractors to Cllr Astley.

Clerk had been asked to by the solicitor to provide an estimation of the value of the Chapel of Rest for HMLR. A value of £79,000 was agreed. The Clerk also explained that two councillors would need to provide ID to Harrisons as clients. Cllrs K Roberts and A Dunsford agreed.

**Actions:**

i.Clerk to inform solicitor of valuation.

ii. Cllrs K Roberts and A Dunsford to take ID into Harrisons asap and inform Clerk when they had done so.

Glan yr Afon play area – Clerk informed the members that she had asked R Isaac to clear the path of fallen and slippery leaves and this had been done.

Land at Banwy Industrial Estate – Nothing to report

Pool Road river access – Nothing further to report.

8. Correspondence.

Letter from LUFC – Clerk read a letter from the Football Club thanking LCTC for the use of a new container in which to store the tractor.

A458 - Letter from Ken Skate regarding funding. Clerk updated the members on the contents of this recent letter which stated no grants were available for the school crossing patrol. However, all members felt that a crossing on a trunk road was a matter of concern and should be paid for by PCC or WAG. Clerk also informed members that no school patrol staff member had been recruited as yet.

**Action**: Clerk to ask PCC for the written confirmation as to how they deemed the road ‘safe’ without a manned crossing. And to ask the same of the NMWTRA.

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Letter from Russell George. Clerk read letter regarding meeting for electric car charging points on 13th May in Newtown.

Keep Britain Tidy. Clerk informed members of the Great British Spring Clean.

9.PCC Matters.

Cllr G Jones informed the members of the following:

The Council tax rise for 2019 – 2020 had been agreed at 9.5%

Cllr Jones informed the members that the Boundary Commission had put Llanfair and Llanerfyl together as a new single ward for the next County Council elections. Cllr Jones felt that the area was now too big to be a single ward. It was agreed that the Clerk would make representations to the Boundary Commission to this effect.

**Action**: Clerk and Chair to liaise and make representations against this proposed merger.

Cllr Jones updated the members on matters pertaining to Fair Funding in Primary Schools and proposed changes to local primary education provision.

He also confirmed that the site for the new medical centre was progressing and pot holes repairs were ongoing.

10.Montgomeryshire Local Council Forum.

Cllr W Williams was not in attendance but the Clerk confirmed the next meeting was on the 16th April.

11.Road Safety.

Unlit and dangerous path – Nothing further to report.

No other matters were reported.

12.Any other business.

Meeting dates – Due to the next meeting falling on Easter Monday it was agreed that Tuesday 23rd April would be a more suitable date. The AGM was also agreed for Monday 13th May.

Code of Conduct - Clerk explained that Cllr A Dunsford had been sent the Code of Conduct. Cllr Dunsford confirmed he had read, understood and fully accepted his Code of Conduct obligations.

Tickets for Community Partnership meeting on April 2nd - Clerk confirmed she had order 4 tickets for members to attend but could order more if needed.

Ideas for Town events – Cllr A Dunsford suggested a few ideas for events in the Town. These included a flea market or car boot sale in conjunction with the High School and WLLR.

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**Action**: Cllr A Dunsford to approach interested parties.

Cllr A Dunsford also informed the members of a new photographic exhibition in Bank Antique of local artist Paul Walker. All councillors were invited to a reception on the 14th April.

Hafan Deg – Cllr H Davies reported low and potentially dangerous cables at Hafan Deg.

**Action**: County Councillor G Jones to report this.

Drainage issues – Cllr C Evans reported that the drains on Mount Road still appeared to be blocked. Other drains were reported blocked on Watergate St (outside Erw Ddwr) and at Bryn Glas Woods (near Bryn Penarth).

**Action**: Clerk and County Councillor G Jones would report these issues to PCC separately.

13.Date of next meeting: Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Meeting finished at 9.25 pm.

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