Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 29th November 2017 at The Institute, Llanfair at 7 pm

Present: Cllrs G Jones (Chair), C Evans, V Evans, C Stephens, K Roberts, I Davies, H Davies, M Hughes, V Faulkner and Clerk.

Before business began Claire Powell of Community Connectors spoke to the members about their role in the community. Questions were taken and it was agreed by all that there could be real mutual benefit of working together. Claire and Clerk to liase regularly.

1.Apologies for absence: Cllrs U Griffiths, W Williams and G Peate.

2.Declarations of Interest.

Cllr V Evans declared in interest in planning application P/2017/1311

Cllr I Davies declared an interest in planning applications P/2017/1258 and 1260

3.Minutes of meeting held on 23rd October 2017.

Cllr K Roberts proposed these were signed as correct, Cllr C Evans seconded and all agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chair

4.Matters arising.

Cllr G Jones confirmed he is now the Town Council High School Governor. He also confirmed that War Memorial Grant is still available from PCC and the Town Council application would be submitted.

The trimming of the large trees in Erw Ddwr had not yet been done by G Jones and C Evans. They also confirmed that the leaf blower had been purchased and both school paths had been cleared.

The Chair and Clerk had still not been able to get quotes for the swings in Glan yr Afon due to a lack of response from contractors.

Clerk confirmed the bin in Glan yr Afon had been repaired.

Clerk confirmed she had left a message for the High School contact for the Welsh Bach and was awaiting a response. She also confirmed that the leak in the ladies toilets had been fixed. She was also waiting a new date for the Legionella Courses at Clira in Shrewsbury.

Cllr C Evans had not yet tightened the bolt on the flood light in the Church yard. He also reported that the large conifer that was due to be cut back was now cracking the Church Yard wall and needed to be felled. All agreed.

Cllr G Jones reported that he had heard no more on the Banwy Bridge CAT. It was agreed to wait to hear from PCC. Cllr H Davies reported that the bridge was very slippery due to fallen leaves.

It was agreed that Clerk should contact PCC to report this but the Town Council would not take an further action themselves. It was also reported that the main road end of the road bridge was very slippery in bad weather despite the grit bin.

It was confirmed that Cllrs G Jones, V Evans and K Roberts and Clerk had had a meeting with Chris Lloyd of PCC Highways. The results of which would be discussed at a future council meeting.

Cllr G Jones confirmed he had spoken to the owner of Mount Hall who had kindly agreed to have the trees covering the street lights trimmed back. He also confirmed that the PCC employee HR issue had been reported.

Clerk confirmed that the letter of thanks to HV Bowen had been sent.

Actions:

i.Cllrs C Evans and G Jones to trim trees in Erw Ddwr

ii.Clerk and Cllr C Stephens to continue to find contractors for swing quotes

iii.Clerk to follow up on Welsh Bach liason with High School

iv.Clerk to contact contractors to get new price for felling of conifer.

v.Cllr C Evans to tighten bolt on flood light.

vi.Clerk to get new dates for Legionella courses,

vii. Clerk to report slippery area on Banwy and road bridges to PCC…

5.Finance.

Community Balance - £59,537.58.

The following payments were agreed:

101285 – DM Johnson – Library cleaning for November - £45.00

101286 – DM Johnson – Toilet cleaning for November - £180.00

101287 – Clerk’s expenses for November - £90.03

101288 – Clerk’s back pay - £124.77

101289 – Water Plus for Toilets - £209.93

101290 – Steve Adams – cleaning supplies for toilets - £65.09

DD - Opus Energy – Chapel of Rest electric – £32.91

SO – Clerk’s Salary for November - £477.50

Receipts –

Burials - £750.00

Chapel of Rest - £120.00

Manafon CC payment for OVW training - £59.08

Cllrs G Jones, C Evans and Clerk reported on meeting with MWT. It was agreed that accounts should be opened with three local suppliers.

Clerk informed members of the new rules regarding expenses payable to community councillors for 2018 – 2019. All members were given a letter informing them of their entitlements.

Actions:

i.Clerk to put system in place for ordering items for Deri Woods HLF project. A limit placed on each order and an order number sequence to be used at all times. Chris Radford of MWT to use accounts as well as LTC. Clerk only to give authority for purchases via order number system

ii.Clerk to ensure all councillors return their expense letters so a figure can be included in the budget discussions and precept calculations.

6.Planning:

P/2017/1311 - 3 dwellings at Broncafnent – Supported as per previous application. Cllr V Evans left the room during discussions and vote.

TREE/2017/0049 - Removal of tree at Mount Einion – Unanimously supported due to safety reasons.

P/2017/1217 – Dwelling at Maes Hyfryd – Supported due to local need.

P/2017/1258 and 1260 – Supported due to need with proviso to keep original features of the building. Cllr I Davies left the room during discussion and vote.

P/2017/1140 and 1141 – Change of use of Mill at Melin y Ddol – Supported in order to restore and renovate local building of historical importance.

P/2017/0989 – Info only regarding notification of planning committee date. Nothing arising.

The meeting was then suspended to hear objections from local residents to planning application P/2017/1268 for a further 9 houses at Maes Gwyn. No one attended who wished to speak in favour of the development. Cllr G Jones thanked all for coming and the meeting was re opened for discussion and vote by members.

P/2017/1268 was unanimously NOT supported due to local opposition, concerns over insufficient sewage provision, dangers associated with extra traffic on an already congested residential area, low mains water pressure and the war bunker nearby. It was also felt that two 9 house applications instead of one 18 house application could be a cynical way to avoid making a beneficial financial contribution to the community.

Actions:

i.Clerk to inform PCC planning dept of all decisions.

The meeting was again suspended while County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander spoke on the recent proposal for change in Powys Schools. Gareth thanked her for her time and the meeting was re opened.

7.Premises:

Mountfield – Cllr K Roberts stated that she felt that the YFC should have the same storage available to them as the Carnival Committee. All agreed that the Town Council should buy and own the container and YFC could use their grant to the ground works etc.

St Mary’s Church Yard – Cllr V Evans reported on the poor state of the path from the Goat gate to the toilets.

Deri Woods – It was agreed that more than one quote should always be obtained for all work.

Public Toilets – Clerk confirmed that PCC had agreed to full rate relief on the toilets for 2018 – 2019.

Erw Ddwr – Nothing further to report.

Chapel of Rest – Clerk confirmed that R Isaac would be restaining cross on front door.

Banwy Bridge CAT – Nothing further to report.

Actions:

i.Clerk to inform Llanfair YFC of decision on container.

ii.Cllr C Evans to inspect path in Church Yard and Clerk to arrange for grass to be cut back to egde.

iii. Clllr C Evans and Clerk to liase with Chris Radford of MWT to obtain more than one quote for Deri Woods work.

8.Correspondence:

Clerk informed the members of the cost to be deducted from December precept by PCC for the uncontested election in May 2017. All agreed that the near doubling of this contribution was unacceptable.

Actions:

i.Clerk to write to Returning Officer of PCC to challenge the figure

9.PCC Matters – See attached.

10. Montgomeryshire Local Council Forum – Clerk would report at next meeting.

11.Road Safety – Nothing to report.

12 . Any other business.

Clerk reported on visit to the solicitor regarding registration of premises etc. All agreed that the estimate of up to £3,100 + VAT for the work was acceptable.

Cllr H Davies reported water on the Melin y Ddol road which would become an ice hazard.

Actions:

i.Clerk to sign forms to allow solicitor to start work

ii.Clerk to inform PCC of water on road at Melin y Ddol

13.Date of next meeting – Monday 18th December 2017 at 7pm