Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 25th February 2020 at The Public Institute, Llanfair at 7.00pm

Present – Cllrs K Roberts, R Astley, I Davies, U Griffiths, A Dunsford, H Davies, C Evans, G Jones and Clerk.

Visitor: Mr Stephen Purser.

Before business began: The Chair welcomed all and invited Mr Phil Jones, Head Teacher of the High School to give an update. Firstly Mr Jones introduced the two unelected Youth Representatives to sit on the Town Council as previously agreed. James Griffith and Sarah Astley are in the lower sixth and would be gathering ideas from the school to feed into the Town Council meetings with the aim of forging a close link between the two. In September an election would take place in school to find elected members who could then work in partnership against drugs for example. Both James and Sarah spoke about their reasons for wanting to represent the school and work with the Town Council. The possibility of a Youth Club being formed and run by the sixth form was discussed. Cllr G Jones thanked them for their input and all agreed this should be put on the agenda for next meeting on 23rd March. The Youth Room would be booked at 5.30pm to allow for discussion prior to the Town Council meeting at 7pm at which the Youth Reps would feed back their ideas.

Business began at 7.15pm

1.Apologies – Cllr G Peate, V Evans, W Williams and C Stephens

2.Declarations of Interest - None

3.Minutes of meeting 27th Jan 2020

The minutes had been read and agreed by all. The Chair signed the minutes as correct. The Chair also signed the corrected the minutes from January 2020.

4.Matters arising.

Gorsedd Stones – Once again Cllr R Astley had been unable to carry out the work due to the recent wet weather.

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| **Action**s:  1.**Cllr R Astley** to drain area by use of a chain harrow when ground becomes drier.  **2. Clerk** to put this item on jobs list for next meeting |

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BT Phone box by the Goat. Cllr A Dunsford reported that Cadw had still not responded to his email regarding the maintenance of the phone box near the Goat.

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| **Actions**:  **1.Cllr A Dunsford** to follow up with Cadw for a response and report back at next meeting.  **2.Clerk** to put this item on jobs list for next meeting. |

War Memorial – Clerk informed the members that the likely completion date for the final two mouldings would now be mid-March at the earliest due to the poor weather delaying the contractor

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| **Action**: **Clerk** to insure this final job is carried out. |

Remembrance Day Wreaths– Cllr H Davies confirmed that she regularly checked the wreaths and all were currently in good condition.

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| **Action**: **Cllr H Davies** to report back at next meeting |

Youth Reps on Town Council – This was now in place and would be put on the agenda for each meeting

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| **Action**: **Clerk** to continue to liaise with the High School and place this item on the agenda for March and beyond. |

Internal Auditor – Clerk had not yet been in contact with potential new auditor.

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| **Action**: **Clerk** to contact new auditor. |

RoSPA report for Glan yr Afon play area – Cllr R Astley confirmed that although he had emailed the details of his repair to RoSPA they had not yet responded.

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| **Action**: **Cllr R Astley** to monitor situation and await response. |

Erw Ddwr –Clerk confirmed the legs on the sign had been repaired and the sign was back in situ.

Painter – Cllrs C Stephens and I Davies confirmed that there had been no response to the advert.

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| **Action** –**Cllrs C Stephens, I Davies and Clerk** to monitor responses, if any. |

HLF Grant for Deri Woods – Clerk confirmed that she had confirmation in writing from MWT and HLF that the rest of the HLF spend could go ahead.

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| **Action – Clerk** to liaise with MWT to ensure the spend is complete before March 31st |

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Dog fouling at Hafan Deg – Clerk read response from PCC to her report of dog fouling and request for bins and bag dispensers. PCC no longer provided dog bag dispensers. It was agreed that it was a disappointing response. All present were urged to report dog fouling.

To consider how grants are applied for – Clerk confirmed she had received some details of possible joint application grants,

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| **Action – Clerk** would continue to scrutinise any grants that she became aware of. |

St Mary’s Church Yard – Cllr A Dunsford confirmed he had located a sundial face and Cllr R Astley was awaiting return of lych gate cross from galvaniser. Cllr Rob Astley confirmed he had put a new LED bulb in the church porch and had fixed the sensor. Cllr C Evans updated all on the quotes for the new floodlights.

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| **Actions:**  **1.Cllr A Dunsford** to fix sundial face and **Cllr R Astley** to replace lych gate cross when returned.  **2. Clerk** to put both items on jobs list  **3.Cllr C Evans** to report back at next meetings regarding further quote for lights. |

Public Toilets - Cllr I Davies updated the members on the new CCTV system. It was scheduled to be installed by the end of February. It was also agreed that wifi should be connected to allow for the use of the app. BT to be approached. Cllr G Jones has asked PCC for permission to use the Library’s but needed confirmation. Clerk confirmed she has sent a job spec for the proposed cleaner and handy person. It was also agreed that the Clerk could approach a member of the community who may be interested in the job.

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| Actions:  1.**Cllr I Davies** to liaise with contractor on CCTV  2.**Cllr C Evans** et al to make enquiries of BT regarding available wifi line.  3.**Cllr G Jones** to confirm with PCC regarding use of PCC wifi  4.**Clerk** to approach suggested individual regarding the job. |

Library – Clerk confirmed that the meeting booked for Thursday 27th February at 6pm was unlikely to go ahead. Unless there was written confirmation from PCC that the IT and book service were guaranteed for a minimum of five years, no further progress could be made. Kay Thomas of PCC was meeting Cllr Rachel Powell on Wednesday 26th Feb but could not guarantee the outcome LTC required.

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| **Action: Clerk** to update all those on Library committee as soon as she had further information. |

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Banwy Industrial Estate CAT – Clerk updated all on the meeting held on site on February 4th. She showed all present the update from the solicitor.

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| **Action: Clerk** to continue to liaise with solicitor and update the council accordingly. |

Stop sign light at Maes Gwyn – It was confirmed that this has been replaced and is working.

Well-being report – Clerk confirmed it had been sent to all.

VE Day – Clerk confirmed she had contacted PCC immediately after the previous to confirm agreement to close High St on VE Day. She had also contacted Sam Webster to confirm the Town Council’s willingness to work with her on the project.

St John letter – Clerk confirmed this had been sent to Cllr I Davies for inclusion on social media.

Christmas Lights – Clerk had received a catalogue from a supplier for pre-leased items that may be of interest. All agreed this should be discussed further in a sub committee.

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| **Action –** Sub-committee to be formed to choose new lights. |

Asset Register – Clerk confirmed that she could amend the Asset Register but it was agreed that this should not happen until the meeting with Emma Wilde clarified the situation regarding Deri Woods and Mountfield.

5.Finance.

Current account balance: £56,889.94

Money Manager Account: £40,109.80

Chair signed the balance sheet for both bank accounts.

The following payments were agreed:

101492 – Mrs V Griffith -Clerk’s expenses February

101493 – Mrs V Griffith – Clerk’s salary February - £809.64

101494 – PCC – Playground inspection 2020 - £72.00

101495 – Rob Astley Trailers – Repayment for railway sleepers for bays on Mountfield - £523.30

DD- Opus Energy – Electric for Chapel of Rest and Toilets (January) - £117.45

DD – Charlies Stores – New padlock new small gate for Deri Woods (HLF) – £248.78

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DD – Charlies Stores – Hexagonal wire for footbridges in Deri Woods - £49.99

Bank Transfer – FFF – Membership for Deri Woods volunteers - £150..

Bank transfer – OVW – Membership - £262.00

Bank Transfer – Wales Audit Office – audit fee 2018 /2019 -£376.75

Bank Transfer – Rob Isaac – Fix sign at Erw Ddwr and Chapel of Rest gardening - £42.00

Bank Transfer – Rob Isaac – Deri Woods leaf blowing - £77.00

Receipts: None

Letter from HSBC – Clerk had received a letter from HSBC requiring the Town Council to verify information held by the bank.

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| **Action – Clerk** to contact HSBC to make an appointment in the first instance. |

6.Planning.

Planning application 20/0183/ELE – Additional electricity pole at Maes y Nant, Melin y Ddol

This application was discussed and supported by all members before the meeting in order to make the consultation deadline. Clerk had informed PCC of this decision.

7.Premises.

Deri Woods and Goatfield – A large tree had been brought down in the recent high winds. Paths and steps had also sustained damage. Cllrs C Evans and A Dunsford to visit in the morning and cordon off area with tape. Paths, fences and steps to be inspected for Health and Safety reasons. It was agreed that they should report back asap and the work could be authorised immediately to ensure safety.

It was agreed that when the tools are delivered for the Pump House key holders should be restricted to LTC (held by Clerk), MWT and a spare which would be stored in a key safe.

Clerk had a request for first aid training for the volunteers via FFF. It was agreed that 3 could go at £10 a head and that travel expenses would be paid if all travelled together.

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| **Actions:**  **1.Cllrs** C Evans and A Dunsford to visit woods, report back and take actions as required.  **2.Clerk** to confirm first aid training and deal with invoice. |

Mountfield – Nothing further to report.

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St Mary’s Church Yard – Following a recent inspection of the boundary wall between the Church Yard and Institute garden and a meeting of the Institute committee it had been agreed, in theory to split the cost of repair 50 / 50 between LTC and Institute. It was agreed that LTC would obtain three quotes for the work and report back to the Institute on receipt.

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| **Action: Clerk** to phone three contractors and ask them to contact Cllr G Jones in order to meet with him and quote for the work. |

Mountfield - Nothing to report.

Glan yr Afon – Nothing further to report.

Chapel of Rest – Cllr H Davies reported that the new fence required painting. It was agreed this would be checked on the Town Walk.

Erw Ddwr –Clerk confirmed that the legs had been repaired on the Erw Ddwr Garden of Remembrance sign. Cllr H Davies reported that the wall near the same requires attention.

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| **Action – Cllrs H Davies and K Roberts** to meet when weather improves and inspect wall. |

Library – Clerk confirmed that World Book Day would be going ahead in the Library on March 5th. As last year LTC had been asked to provide prizes for those taking part and it was agree that two £10 book tokens would be donated.

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| **Action** – **Clerk** to purchase book tokens and liaise with Library and High School regarding the event. |

Public toilets – Clerk confirmed that she had asked Cllr C Evans to ask the electrician to review the toilets with a view to reducing electricity consumption.

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| **Action: Cllr C Evans** to ask electrician to suggest ways of reducing electric bill. |

War Memorial – Nothing further to report.

The list of jobs from the Town Walk was updated.

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| **Action**: **Clerk** to keep this updated and re circulate before each meeting to ensure the list is completed. |

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8.Correspondence

Letter from site visitor. Clerk read a letter from a site visitor requiring information about Llanfair.

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| **Action – Clerk** to contact **Cllr H Davies** after the meeting as she had the information required. Clerk would then pass this on to the site visitor. |

Invitation to Garden Experience – Clerk read a letter from WLLR inviting the Chair plus one to an event at Plas Cyfronydd in July.

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| **Action – Clerk** to accept invite but explain that the name of the Chair in July is not yet known. |

Spring Clean Cymru – Clerk informed the members about a country-wide litter pick. It was agreed that an event should be organised for May 2nd from 9am to 12.30pm. It would involve the whole community.

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| **Action –** This would be discussed in more detail at next meeting. |

Letter from Adrian Osborne – Clerk read a letter regarding Podiatry in Powys.

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| **Action – Clerk** to forward this to I Davies for inclusion on social media. |

Air Ambulance – Clerk had received a request for a donation. It was agreed this would not be possible but it should go on social media. Clerk gave details to Cllr I Davies.

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| **Action – Cllr I Davies** to put this on social media |

Keep Wales Tidy – Clerk had received details of a package that could be applied for to promote various types of garden. It was agreed that she should apply for a wildlife garden.

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| **Action – Clerk** to apply for wildlife package asap. |

Letter from resident regarding Watergate St – Clerk informed the members of the details of the letter. All issues were already in hand with Cllr G Jones and PCC

Letter from resident – Clerk read a letter from a resident regarding the junction at the top of the Bitfel. Clerk had passed this to Cllr G Jones who was already aware of the points raised and was referring it to PCC.

Policing in rural areas – Clerk had received an invitation to a conference from the Police and Crime Commissioner taking place on 6th March.

Town Crier – Clerk read a letter from Mr David Salter updating the members on his activities as Town Crier.

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Montgomery Local Councils Forum – Clerk informed the members of the proposed date for the next meeting. This was the end of March but no firm date had been agreed.

Letter from Graig Williams MP – Clerk read letter from Mr Williams offering to attend a Town Council meeting and inviting all Town Councillors to the House of Commons if in London.

9.PCC Matters

Cllr G Jones informed the members that there was likely to be a 5% rise in council tax for 2020 /2021

Cllr Jones had had a meeting with Cllr Heulwen Hulme and David Gardner of PCC where he had shown them first-hand the highway issues in and around Llanfair in February.

Cllr G Jones informed all of the latest wall and loft insulation scheme known as Eco 3.

10.Montgomeryshire Local Council Forum.

Cllr W Williams was not in attendance

11.Road Safety.

A review of the parking arrangements and yellow lines in the Town were discussed and commented on.

(Mr Stephen Purser left at 9pm during this discussion.)

12.AOB.

Cllr U Griffiths asked the members for help with establishing the ownership of some land. She agreed to declare an interest in the matter when she had more details to present to the council.

13.Date of next meeting – Monday 23rd March 2020 at 7pm

Meeting finished at 9.25pm.

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