

LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Meeting held at Cleddau Reach School, Llangwm
14th November 2023 @ 7.00pm

1. PRESENT: Councillor M Evans (Chair) Councillor V Owens (Vice Chair)
 Councillor M John Councillor C Davies
 Councillor N Sandford Councillor N Lewis

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Debbie Hanney

REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE: – All members present signed.

APOLOGIES: Councillor E Rawlings, Councillor B Childs

DECLARATION OF ANY PERSONAL OR POTENTIALLY CONFLICTING ISSUES:

Cllr V Owens declared a conflicting interest in the agenda item regarding the Old School due to her involvement with the Friends of Llangwm School Group.

Clerk D Hanney declared a personal interest in the Old School.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: held on 10th October 2023 – minutes agreed.

MATTERS ARISING:

- Cllr John raised the letter received from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales regarding the review of community arrangements of Pembrokeshire. As part of the review the Commission will be in attendance at the Working Better Together meeting organised by Pembrokeshire County Council on 28th November 2023. This meeting is arranged to discuss the matter of voluntary mergers as per the Council Size Policy which forms part of the Terms of Reference for the Review. The Commission believes that it is important for community councils to consider the democratic health of their councils and whether the existing arrangements are sustainable over the next 10 years. Cllr John said that it was important to attend the meeting as it was a chance to express concerns and to inform the Commission on their views of councillor allocation. Informing the Commission will be the opportunity to ensure that the community is able to retain a sense of identity and sufficient representation. The clerk will circulate the email to all councillors.

- Banking – Cllr Evans stated that he had still not been able to make any progress with Barclays Bank regarding amending the correspondence

address even though Cllr Childs had updated the signatory form held by the bank. All councillors agreed that this was unacceptable, and that legal advice should be sought from One Voice Wales to determine how this could be resolved with Barclays.

- Christmas lights – Cllr Evans has arranged for the Christmas lights to be switched on, this will be on 27th or 28th November and he also confirmed that a customer from the Cottage Inn had offered to replace the reindeer and sleigh that were vandalised and destroyed last year. All Cllrs expressed their thanks for this kind donation.
- Old School Llangwm – Cllr V Owens asked the Cllrs if it would be beneficial for the Community Council to facilitate a public meeting regarding the future purchase and use of the old school. Following a lengthy discussion the Cllrs agreed that the way forward would be for any interested parties to bring forward a project, approach the public regarding future use of the building and seek any available funding opportunities. The Community Council would act in a supporting role with this. All Cllrs stated that they had not been approached by anyone in the community with a firm proposal and if this was to proceed it would need to be acted upon immediately as the property was now being sold on the open market.
- Update of Llangwm website – Cllrs agreed to add this to next months agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- Cllr Evans received correspondence from Sue Edwards to thank the Community Council on behalf of the Llangwm Community Café Volunteers for the £25 donation towards the refreshments at the village hall following the Remembrance Service. This was well attended and raised £36.40 which will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

PLANNING RECEIVED BY 11th November 2023:

www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/planning-applications

- 23/0676/PA
Proposal: Repositioning of previously approved dwelling (21/0719/PA and enlargement of red line boundary).
Site Address: Springfields, Deerland Road, Llangwm, SA62 4NG
Grid Reference: 198608.198-210107.336
Date Received: 26-Oct-2023 Last
Date for Determination: 20-Dec-2023

Cllrs confirmed that there was no objection to this proposal.

FINANCE:

- **Invoices received** by 11th November 2023 and cheque approval: -
Community Council Clerk salary costs (26 hrs @ £12.37 per hour, £20 expenses per month)
John Colnet - cut down and removal of the Fig Tree at Pills Park £200
M Evans – cleaning of Black Tar Toilets. 31wks @ £20pw £620
Audit – Sue Watkins 10hrs @ £12.37ph £123.70
Cut by Dock – grass cutting at Pills Park and Black Tar. 20 cuts Pills Park @ £45 per cut and Black Tar @ £35 per cut. £1600
Cheques approved by all Councillors.
- **Audit update** – Sue Watkins has completed the internal audit and the findings were circulated to all Cllrs. The clerk will produce an action plan to address the findings before the next meeting.
- **Payments** – no payments have been made.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

- **Traffic issues** – none reported.
- **Pills Parks** – no issues reported.
- **Common Land** – no issues reported.
- **Dog fouling** – no issues reported.
- **Defibrillator Checks** – will be carried out by Cllr M Evans for December.
- **Data Protection** – Cllrs V Owens and C Davies have requested a share drive for dissemination of information and documents, clerk will carry out a risk assessment to prevent DP breaches.

All Cllrs agreed to undertake an inspection of land and facilities that were the responsibility of the Community Council to check for maintenance and upkeep issues and report back at the next meeting so that any identified could be addressed. The clerk will produce a risk register and plan.

CLERKS INFORMATION:

- The clerk is continuing to review Community Council governance to ensure that Policies and Procedures, current Risk Assessments and other required documentation is up to date.

TRAINING:

- The clerk has produced a Training Plan and Cllrs have agreed to decide which training courses they need to attend.

GREEN ISSUES:

- None.

AOB:

- Cllr N Sandford asked if the memorial plaque at the village hall was the responsibility of the Community Council as it was in a state of disrepair. Cllrs agreed that the CC should maintain the plaque and they discussed whether it should be moved to the village green with the other war memorial or be repaired in its current location. The clerk will explore funding options, seek advice and report back to the Cllrs.
- Cllr M John advised that Pembrokeshire County Council were currently reviewing budgets and were looking to make up to £30m in savings to reduce the current deficit. This will mean cuts to services and increases in Council Tax. Second home and empty home taxes are expected to also increase.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Community Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th December 2023 in Cleddau Reach School.