

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LLANARTHNE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
13th SEPTEMBER 2016 AT THE OLD SCHOOL, CAPEL DEWI.**

Present: Councillor P. Bowen
Councillor H. Bryer
Councillor P. Edwards
Councillor D. E. Jenkins (*Chair*)
Councillor Mrs D. M. Jones (*Vice Chair*)
Councillor D. D. Morgan
Councillor Mrs I. M. Tobias Quick
Councillor Mrs J. Roberts
Councillor K. Thomas

In attendance: County Councillor W. J.W Evans
Mr Gethin James (Clerk to the Community Council)
Mr Simon Charles, Carmarthenshire County Council (*19.35 – 20.04*)

The meeting commenced at 19.00

The Chairman welcomed members back following the August recess, and hoped that everyone had managed to enjoy some relaxing time away from their busy work schedule.

LCC 16/55

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

a. Apologies

Councillor H. B. Jones

b. Co-option of Community Councillor following council meeting held on 12th July 2016 – [Min No 48].

Chair welcomed Mr Peter Bowen to his first council meeting, and thanked him for accepting his nomination to become a community council member.

Councillor P. Bowen read out, and signed the “Declaration of Acceptance” in the presence of the clerk, in compliance with Section 83, Local Government Act 1972.

Clerk confirmed that Llanarthne Community Council has now a full cohort of Councillors (10 No Community Councillors). And that the Electoral Officer will be notified accordingly.

c. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 12th July 2016 (Min. No’s 39 – 54).

The Minutes **were approved** as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs J. Robert and seconded by Councillor Mrs D. M. Jones.

d. Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 22nd August 2016 (Min. No's 1 – 3).

The Minutes **were approved** as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor K. Thomas and seconded by Councillor Mrs D. M. Jones.

Matters arising from the above mentioned Minutes

[Min No 40 (vi)] Mr Huw Francis the new Director of the NBGW has agreed to meet with the community council to re-establish the liaison group.

e. Declarations of Personal Interest

There were no formal declarations of interest recorded.

LCC 16/56

AREA MATTERS

- i.** Inspection cover outside No 5 Tir Llan needs investigating, some pot-holes also evident on the road carriageway at this location.
- ii.** Councillor Mrs J. Roberts was granted permission to purchase and carry out additional planting in the community.
- iii.** The road surface at both roundabouts near the NBGW require attention, including making good surface holes on the roundabouts.
- iv.** The seat located opposite Llwyn in Capel Dewi is in need of new timber slats.
- v.** Despite receiving planning approval for an information board at Paxton's Tower. This board has not been installed; also no progress is evident in cutting back overgrown trees to make the Tower more visible.
- vi.** Overhanging tree branches causing problems for high vehicles on the B4300 from Ynyslas to Gelli Aur.

LCC 16/57

MEMBERS REPORTS

Chair was formally invited, and opened the Strawberry Tea event at Llanarthne Hall on Saturday 16th July 2016. The event was well attended, and all the proceeds will go towards the Parish Church Restoration Fund.

There were no other reports from members who had attended meetings as representatives of the council.

LCC 16/58

CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to note the following general correspondence onto the minutes:-

Writer	Subject
One Voice Wales	Council Members Training Schedule – Mid Wales, September to December 2016 received.
Flood & Coastal Erosion Committee	Request views on key aspects to ensure that it can deliver on its aim of providing sound, accurate and representative advice to Welsh Ministers on all aspects of flood and coastal risk management. The link below for more information: http://gov.wales/consultations/environmentandcountryside/establishment-of-a-flood-and-coastal-erosion-committee/

Hywel Dda University Health Board	Wellbeing Survey, The Board is interested to find out what makes us feel good about living in our county. Having enough money, reasonable health, connections with people we know and enjoyable pastimes etc. The survey can be completed online at: http://bit.ly/29fZ3RZ
Boundary Commission for Wales	Commission advises that it has published its initial Proposals for changes to Parliamentary constituencies in Wales. The Report was published on 13.09.2016 and is available on the Commissions' website: www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk or at 54 public locations across Wales. Representations about the Initial Proposals should be made within 12 weeks of publication.
Nantgaredig Primary School	Thanks our community council for the recent financial support towards their travelling costs to the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

LCC 16/59

PLANNING MATTERS

- a. There were no objections to the following Listed Building planning application:-

Planning Application Number W/34184 Removal of existing external render and repairs to the walls; walls are to be rendered with lime mortar/render with a lime wash finish (Complete description on Application Form). Elim Park Chapel, Capel Dewi, Carmarthen, SA32 8AH

Applicant: James Tucker.

- b. There were no objections to the following full planning application:-

Planning Application Number W/34325 Retention of Replacement Building and Extension to Curtilage (Retrospective) Panteg, Capel Dewi, Carmarthen, SA32 8AE

Applicant: Mrs D Hopkins.

- c. Full Planning Permission has been granted by the County Council for:-

Planning Application Number W/34134 Replacement Dwelling with consent for the temporary siting of a caravan and a storage container during construction, Gerycastell, Llanarthne, Carmarthen, SA32 8JQ

Applicant: Miss Shoshana Waller.

LCC 16/60

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

- i. Capel Dewi Community Association – Hire of the Old School on 14.06.2016, 12.07.2016 and 13.09.2016 = £75.00

£75.00

Cheque No. 102365

- ii. Gethin L. James, reimbursement of 2No Gift Vouchers (Min No 47) at £50.00 each = £100.00
£100.00 **Cheque No. 102366**
- iii. Mr. G. Griffiths. Cleaning bus shelter for 3 months to 30.09.2016
£97.50 gross, less PAYE -£19.60 = £77.90 net
£77.90 **Cheque No. 102367**
- iv. Mr T. R. Carruthers. Cleaning Capel Dewi bus shelter for 3 months to 30.09.2016. £97.50 and Penyffyn £22.50 = £120.00 gross.
£120.00 **Cheque No. 102368**
- v. Gethin L James - Clerk's salary for 3 months to 30.09.2016. £1,200.90 gross (SCP 27 @ 7.5 hrs). Less -£66.05 Superannuation, less - £227.00 PAYE, less -£63.47 Employee NIC = £844.38 net
£844.38 **Cheque No. 102369**
- vi. Carmarthenshire County Council. Superannuation, Clerk's Contribution £66.05, Employers Contribution £188.63, and Past Service Deficit £25.00
Totals: £279.68
£279.68 **Cheque No. 102370**
- vii. Inland Revenue PAYE
Mr G. Griffiths £19.60 and Mr G. L. James £227.00, Employee & Employer NIC £135.91 = Totals: £382.51
£382.51 **Cheque No. 102371**
- viii. Mr T. R. Carruthers, cleaning tools/equipment from Simple DIY (Special Industrial Long Handled Lobby Dustpan and Stiff Yellow Brush), £14.79 + 2.96 VAT = £17.75
£17.75 **Cheque No. 102372**

LCC 16/61

CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2015/16

Grant Thornton (External Auditors) in their letter dated 28th July 2016 (received 7th September 2016) confirms that the Auditor General for Wales issued Llanarthne Community Council a qualified audit report. Details of the matters which have led to the Qualification are:

Budget Setting

Section 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to calculate its budget requirements in accordance with the requirements of the Act. The audit identified that the Council did not have a formal budget in place at the start of the year and therefore did not calculate its budget requirement and therefore its precept in accordance with statutory requirements.

Additionally, during the review they identified some other matters that they wish to draw to the Council's attention which do not affect the audit opinion but should be addressed by the Council.

Internal Auditor Engagement Letter

The Council should ensure that it obtains a letter of engagement from the Internal Auditor. This letter should state their independence and outline the tasks they will undertake. The Internal Auditor should not be requested to undertake tasks that may compromise their independence.

Box 6 – Total other payments incorrectly include staff cost. Box 6 is overstated by £3,421 and should be stated at £18,498. The balance carried forward is not affected.

The clerk presented the Annual Return for 2015/16 at the council meeting confirming that the Auditor General for Wales has issued Llanarthne Community Council a qualified audit report. Following the recommend revision to Box 6 in the Annual Return 2015/16. Councillor D. M. Jones proposed, seconded by Councillor K. Thomas seconded and all agreed that:

Resolved that the annual return be approved and certified by the Clerk/RFO and the Chairman.

The Notice of Conclusion of the audit will now be displayed in the village notice board.

LCC 16/62

TOWY VALLEY CYCLEWAY SCHEME

Chair welcomed Mr Simon Charles, Carmarthenshire County Council to the Meeting.

The first set of plans has been lodged for the Towy Valley cycleway scheme, which will link Carmarthen and Llandeilo. The project which will cost in the region of £5 million to £7 million is predicted to generate between £860,000 and £2 million in the local economy every year. It is also expected to create and support between 17 and 41 full-time jobs a year.

The route will follow the old railway line which closed between Carmarthen and Ffairfach in 1963 where possible and will link in with major tourist attractions in the Towy Valley. These include the National Botanic Garden of Wales, Gelli Aur and Aberglasney Gardens.

Plans highlight linking with an existing cycle path between Abergwili and Whitemill before connecting with Nantgaredig as part of the first phase. Ultimately, it will connect with Ffairfach. The scheme will use parts of the former railway line and agricultural land.

Carmarthenshire Council received a Local Transport Fund grant of £581,600 from Welsh Government towards walking and cycling links in Carmarthenshire which included the Towy Valley Cycleway project. The grant will go towards the early design stages of the scheme.

It is hoped it will help make Carmarthenshire the cycling capital of Wales. Carmarthen Town Council has given its support to the project together with Llanegwad Community Council.

Chair thanked Mr Simon Charles for an informative update on the project, and confirmed that Llanarthne Community Council will also give full support to the project.

LCC 16/63

LLANARTHNE SCHOOL ROAD

Following a site meeting on 22.09.2016 with local residents and Mr Andrew Morgan, Traffic Engineer, CCC. It was agreed that the clerk invites residents living along the Llanarthne school road to attend the next meeting of the community council. This will enable council members to agree an action plan with a view to resolve inconsiderate parking leading to obstructions outside properties on the school road. Mrs Meryl Edwards, Glantywi will also be asked to attend.

The agreed action can then be conveyed back to Mr Andrew Morgan – Traffic Engineer for his attention.

LCC 16/64

ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS

It was agreed by members to dismiss the free membership to the Association of Local Council Clerks. The community council is currently a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks, and the clerk sees no real advantage in joining this Association at this current time.

LCC 16/65

COUNCILS FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The clerk has updated the council's financial risk register for 2016/17. The risk register was circulated at the meeting.

A potential high risk element identified last year was the storage and possible loss of electronic data of council documents by the clerk. The clerk confirmed that all council documents are backed-up on Google Drive – Cloud Storage and File Backup. The council financial risk assessment register to be reviewed by members and addressed at the next meeting of the council.

LCC 16/66

CAPEL DEWI TENNIS COURT

Mr Tony Emmerson has advised the clerk in his email dated 11th July 2016 that white line painting at the tennis court at Capel Dewi Old School has been undertaken by the Authority at a cost of £130.00 + VAT, the anticipated cost of a new tennis net is £138.00 including VAT.

Members felt that the current tennis play area surface needs attention to rectify water ponding on the court surface.

The clerk will formally write to the Capel Dewi Community Association to seek their views on re-surfacing the tennis court.

LCC 16/67

ONE VOICE WALES CONFERENCE & AGM 2016

The Chairman and Clerk usually attend as representatives of the council the One Voice Wales Conference and Annual General Meeting. Councillor Mrs D. M. Jones proposed, Councillor K. Thomas seconded, and all agreed that the Chairman and Clerk attend as representatives of the council in 2016.

£160.00

Cheque No. 102374

LCC 16/68

SPEEDING ISSUES LLANARTHNE VILLAGE

Clerk is still awaiting from the Authority the recent counter survey undertaken in Llanarthne village. It was noted that a recent counter survey has also been undertaken in Capel Dewi. The clerk will contact the Authority and formally request a copy of the above results, and ascertain what action will now be taken to resolve speeding issues.

LCC 16/69

Date and time of next meeting

11th October 2016 at 19.00 at Llanarthne Village Hall

The business of the meeting terminated at 20.45

Councillor D. E. Jenkins
Chairperson
(Min No's 55 - 69)

Gethin James
Clerk to the Council