

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Llanedi Community Council held on
Wednesday 7th December 2016 at Tycroes Hall**

Minute no. 1 – Members Present

Councillors:

A J Blackley
W A Evans
B Evans
T Higgins
B Thomas
G Thomas
B D Davies
B Roberts
J L Griffiths
C Higgins
M Nicholas
M Davies
S Evans

Chairman Councillor G Thomas presided over the meeting
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Minute no. 2 - Apologies for Absence

Apologies for their absence from the meeting were received from Councillor Ian Davies.

Minute no. 3 – Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received for matters on the agenda.

Minute no. 4 – Chairman’s Announcements

There were no Chairman’s announcements.

Minute no. 5 – Address by Neil Pigdon

The Council received Mr Neil Pigdon, a representative of Kompan/Sunshine Playgrounds who addressed the Council with regard to the proposed amended plans for Hendy Park. The following points were noted:

- Much of the existing equipment is rotten and therefore was not worth maintaining.
- The existing safety surfacing bases will be retained and reused subject to an overlay where required.
- The scheme has removed the gym elements and incorporated a skatepark instead.
- There would be scope for an installation by Easter with a 4- 5 week build.

- Agreed that 6 benches can be included in the budget at no extra cost with an equivalent cost of £1200.

Resolved to agree to proceed with the design as outlined subject to the Clerk and Chairman having plenary powers to agree the fine detail of the proposed design and contract.

Minute no. 6 – Signing of the Minutes Council Meeting November 2nd 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting, having been previously circulated, be accepted as read, confirmed and signed as a true and legal record of the matters transacted, subject to the removal of one item on page 3 of the minutes and a minor amendment.

Reason – to adhere to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para 41 (1) and (4) and section 99.

Minute no. 7 – Signing of the Minutes Hendy Ward Meeting November 10th 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting, having been previously circulated, be accepted as read, confirmed and signed as a true and legal record of the matters transacted.

Reason – to adhere to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para 41 (1) and (4) and section 99.

Minute no. 8 – Signing of the Minutes Policy Committee Meeting November 10th 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the above meeting, having been previously circulated, be accepted as read, confirmed and signed as a true and legal record of the matters transacted.

Reason – to adhere to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para 41 (1) and (4) and section 99.

Minute no. 9 – Reading Room

Councillor A Evans reported that the proposal for a café at the building on two afternoons per week will not involve any cooking being completed at the property. Members expressed concern as there is a need to ensure that any activity carried out at the building complies fully with the Food Hygiene Regulations. **Resolved that** the Chairman and Councillor A Evans be given authority to confirm the suitability of the premises for this activity.

Minute no. 10 – Remembrance Service

The Chairman thanked Councillor B Thomas for her assistance in organising the event. **Resolved to** request the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the 3 primary schools which took part in the service for their contribution. Further **resolved to** provide a contribution of £150 towards the cost of the refreshments at the reception after the service.

Minute no. 11 – Hendy Play Area - Funding

It was noted that the Hendy Ward meeting had recommended that the development of the park is completed in one phase, with the Council arranging to finance the project until the remaining section 106 payments are received.

Resolved to investigate the opportunity for borrowing the money and look at options for:

1. Total funding of development from a loan.
2. Borrowing 50% of the required money and investing the remainder from Council reserves.
3. Internal funding using the Council's designated reserve and general reserve.

The Clerk was requested to prepare a report on the feasibility of the Council entering either of the above options by the January meeting.

Minute no. 12 – Land Use Planning – Town and Country Planning Act

Application S/34755

Resolved that the council objects to the above application on the following grounds;

- The development has been completed prior to making an application for planning consent.
- The location of the proposal is outside of the village development limits.
- The proposal will result in an adverse impact on the rural environment.
- Access to site is inappropriate.
- The road which accesses the site is very narrow, and does not contain any street lights.

Persimmon Homes– Clos Benallt Fawr, Fforest

The Council received notification of a proposed development at the above site as required under Articles 2C and 2D of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012. It was **resolved** to offer the following observations to the developer:

- The consultation was not carried out within the community of Hendy but in an adjacent County Council thus not meeting the spirit of the legislation with regard to the need to consult with the local community, especially for members of the public with mobility problems.
- There is inadequate time for the public consultation due to the consultation period including the Christmas period.
- Members are concerned regarding the increased density proposed for the scheme as compared to the recommended density in the Local Development Plan.
- The design of the housing not in keeping with other houses in the community.
- There is a dangerous access to the site.
- Site will have an adverse visual impact on the local area especially as it can be viewed from the other side of the valley.
- The scale of development will have an impact on the Welsh language of the community.
- The site is considered to have a valuable environmental value to the local community.
- The development of the site will have an adverse impact upon the highway infrastructure in the community as it will intensify a current unsatisfactory highway system serving Hendy. It has been noted that the main highway serving Hendy is the second busiest road in the County.

(a) Proposed Development

Resolved that the following applications be noted onto the minutes.

Reason: Members did not request that observations/objections be conveyed to the County Planning Authority in respect of the proposed developments.

- S/34664 Proposed rear lower ground floor pool enclosure extension at 4 Coed y Bronallt, Swansea, SA4 02W. Samuel Croxall.
- S/34627 Retention of rear patio canopy at 91 heol y Parc, Pontarddulais, SA4 0XX. Ms T Davies.
- S/34461 Demolish shed, rebuild garage and toilet, new rear boundary wall and car port at 16 Derlyn Park, Ammanford. Mr Havard Price.
- S/34710 Proposed new maintenance building at First Cymru Bus Group, Pontarddulais Road, Tycroes. First Cymru.
- S/34711 Proposed first floor extension to side of dwelling at 12 Squirrel Walk, Hendy, Swansea. Mr Gareth Keatley.

(b) Decision Notices Granted

Resolved that the following applications be noted onto the minutes.

None received.

(c) Decision Notices Refused

None received.

(d) Decision Notices Appealed

None received.

Minute no. 13 – Finance Reports

The Council received a Finance Report consisting of the following elements:

- Bank Reconciliation
- Report on Income Received
- Report on proposed Expenditure
- Report on receipts and payments by budget heading

It was **resolved** to note the report.

Minute no. 14 – Asset Transfer

The Clerk requested guidance on the Council's view with regard to the organisation of activities after the transfer of the parks including:

- Grass cutting
- Litter picking/leaf removal
- Regular safety inspections

Resolved to request the clerk to invite tenders for grass cutting and litter picking. **Resolved to** either instruct the County Council to carry out the safety inspections or where appropriate link up with adjacent community councils to organise the inspections.

Minute no. 15 – Assistant Clerk

The Clerk was requested to present a job description for this post including the tasks as agreed at the previous meeting for consideration in January 2017. The report is to include copies of the job description of the Clerk and Surveyor.

Minute no. 16 – Tycroes Play Area

It was noted that there is a problem with the condition of the surface of the MUGA at Tycroes Play Area with a number of potholes which are causing a trip hazard. As the play area remains in the control of the County Council, the County Councillors were requested to follow up on this matter as a matter of urgency. It was agreed that there would be a benefit in the provision of an artificial grass surface to cover this area when the asset transfer has been completed. **Resolved** to request the Clerk to get quotations for this proposed improvement. Further **resolved** that the Council will organise ward meetings to inspect the play areas in the respective wards.

Minute no. 17 – Wellbeing Act

Members received comments from the Clerk and Councillors in relation to the recent training session as organised to brief councillors on their responsibilities under the act. **Resolved to** defer detailed consideration of the matter until the appointment of an Assistant Clerk/Community Development Officer and to convene a special meeting to consider this matter.

Minute no. 18 – Architect appointment Hendy Cricket Club

Resolved to approve the format of the proposed appointment letter with the selected architect A W Rowlands.

Minute no. 19 – Proposed Solar Park Development Tycroes

A query was raised by Cllr M Nicholas with regard to a planning application for a new solar park in Tycroes. It was noted that the Council had not received a response from the developer regarding a community benefit contribution.

Minute no. 20 – Clock

Cllr M Nicholas reported that he had made enquiries with regard to the availability of clocks to replace the broken clock as located at Tycroes Square. It was **resolved** to authorise Cllr M Nicholas to choose a suitable replacement clock for the Council to acquire as a replacement.

Minute no. 21 – Bus Shelter Tycroes Square

It was reported that the bus shelter at Tycroes is in need of a thorough clean including some repair work to troughing. The Surveyor was requested to organise this maintenance work including pressure washing the bus shelter and replace troughing.

Minute no. 22 –Churches and Chapels

Resolved to write a letter to all chapels and churches asking for a copy of their accounts in anticipation of making a decision on the Council's policy on grant aid to churches and chapels. **Resolved to** convene a meeting of the Finance Committee in January to consider the Council's policy on grant funding.

Minute no. 23 - Suspending Standing Orders

Resolved to suspend standing orders in order to continue with the transaction of business at the meeting beyond 9pm.

Minute no. 24 –Hendy Cricket Club

The Surveyor provided a report on research he had conducted to identify potential grant aid for the redevelopment of the Hendy Cricket Club including meetings with the European Office. **Resolved to** instruct the Surveyor to prepare a bid for funding under the Rural Community Development Fund which is co-ordinated by the Welsh Government.

Minute no. 25 – Closure of BT Payphones

The Council received correspondence from Jonathan Edwards MP with regard to the proposed closure of a number of telephone kiosks in the community. The Clerk was requested to inform Mr Edwards of the Council's response to the County Council on the matter.

Minute no. 26 – Appointment of Surveyor

The Council received advice from the Internal Auditor with regard to the appointment of the Surveyor to complete additional work on behalf of the Council, in particular the submission of bids on behalf of the Council on a no win no fee basis. It was noted that the Council's Financial Regulations allowed the Council to make a direct appointment of specialist services including solicitors, accountants, surveyors and planning consultants. It was **resolved** that the Council consider the formulation of a service level agreement to control any on-going arrangement and the matter was referred to the forthcoming Finance Committee for further consideration.

Minute no. 27 –Hendy & Communities Park Committee

The Council received correspondence from the Hendy and Communities Park Committee in relation to a successful bid for the provision of defibrillators in the community. It was noted that the committee had secured funding for a defibrillator at Forest Post Office which is a location the Council was intending to fund and AED at the last meeting. **Resolved to** defer spending the £1500 at this location as there is now funding in place to provide a similar resource.

Minute no. 28 –Heol Brown Park Tycroes

The Council received correspondence from a Mr Clive Hanham regarding the history of the park and the potential future benefit this area can provide to the community as the village is likely to see continuing growth in housing provision.

Resolved to note the letter and to send a copy of the letter to all the Tycroes councillors for their reference.

Minute no. 29 –Insurance Policy

The Clerk provided a report on quotations as received for the renewal of the Council's insurance policy. It was resolved to accept a quotation as received from Zurich Insurance in the sum of £1126.89 per year for a 3 year contract. It was noted that the policy includes cover in the sum of £30,000 for the carpet located on the MUGA.

Minute no. 30 –Proposed Visit to Swansea Bay Sustainable Classroom

The Council received correspondence from Adrian Rowlands the architect as appointed for the scheme at Hendy Cricket Club. As agreed previously, it was confirmed that the university is able to accommodate a site visit on either 12th or 19th January 2017. Resolved to defer consideration of the matter until the next meeting.

Minute no. 31 –Bronallt Play Area

The Clerk reported that the Council is in receipt of a lease for the transfer of the above play area and 2 further leases anticipated in the near future. It was resolved to authorise the Chairman and the Clerk to sign and return the leases to the County Council.

Minute no. 32 –Resignation of Councillors

The Council received a letter of resignation as a councillor from Cllr Tregellis Jones and Cllr Helen Funnell. It was agreed to note the resignations.

Minute no. 33 –Facebook report on Council Business

Resolved to place this as an agenda item for the January meeting.

Minute no. 34 –MUGA – lettings

Cllr A Blackley reported that there is a need for the Council to review its policy with regard to the need for DBS checks on persons hiring the muga on behalf of vulnerable persons. **Resolved to** change the agreement to let the MUGA to clarify that any organisation hiring the muga is responsible for ensuring that all necessary DBS checks and the appointment of safeguarding officers have been completed prior to letting of the muga to any vulnerable groups.

Minute no. 35 –Christmas Dinner

It was noted that 14 persons had expressed an interest in attending the Council dinner on Thursday 16th December.

Minute no. 36 - General Correspondence

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

Writer	Subject
Carmarthenshire County Council	Notification of Traffic Calming Measures.
Blas ar Fyw	Thank you letter for financial assistance.
Carmarthenshire County Council	Result – refusal of Safe routes to school bid.
Carmarthenshire County Council	Notice of Community Council Liaison Forum.
Southern Electric	Confirmation of new electricity supply contract for the Reading Room.
Carmarthenshire County Council	Heol y Parc Hendy – traffic calming measures.

Council Business terminated at 9.35 pm.

Signed **Date**
Chairman