

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Llanedi Community Council held on
Wednesday 1st November 2017 at the Tycroes Community Hall**

Minute no. 1 – Members Present

Councillors:

A Blackley
A Evans
B Evans
B Thomas
G Thomas
B D Davies
L Griffiths
T Higgins
M Nicholas
I Davies
C Davies

Chairman Councillor M Nicholas presided over the meeting
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Minute no. 2 - Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors C Higgins, S Evans and S Lyle.

Minute no. 3 – Declarations of Interest

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

Minute no. 4 – Chairman’s Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Cllr I Davies back to the Council meeting after his recent illness.

Minute no. 5 – Interview of Candidates for Councillor Llanedi Ward

The Council received the 2 candidates who had expressed an interest in becoming councillors representing the Llanedi ward. Both persons provided an overview of their interest in the Council and the community of Llanedi. It was **resolved to** appoint Emyr Davies as the Councillor for Llanedi.

Minute no. 6 – Signing of the Minutes – October 4th, 2017 Meeting of the Council.

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. 7 – Opening Ceremony Hendy Park

It was noted that the opening ceremony for the play area had been cancelled as it was felt appropriate to include some children from the school as part of the ceremony and to provide additional notice to councillors and guests of the proposed date of the event. Resolved that the Hendy ward will re-arrange the date and inform councillors in due course.

Minute no. 7 – Casual Labour

It was noted that Hanna Cridland has been appointed as a casual labourer on behalf of the Council in order to complete basic maintenance works at the play areas. Members enquired as to how the appointment had been made and it was confirmed that there were 2 names offered by councillors of suitable candidates however only Hanna confirmed an interest to carry out this work. The Clerk also provided the Council with a list of works required to be completed at the various sites. **Resolved** to confirm this appointment.

The CDO confirmed that she will be working closely with Hanna to organise the works needed to the play areas.

Minute no. 8 – Christmas Lights switch on

It was **resolved that** the switching on of Christmas lights will take place on the Friday 1st December commencing at 6.00pm at Hendy, 6.15pm at Fforest, 6.30pm at Llanedi and 7.00pm at Tycroes.

It was requested that the Clerk inform Tafarn y Deri of the date and time. In order to provide additional Christmas activities in the community of Hendy as part of the switch-on, it was agreed that there is scope for Hendy Schoolchildren to use the Reading Room to make lanterns in readiness for the parade and for consideration to be given to the establishment of a children's grotto with mulled wine and mince pies at the Reading Room.

Minute no. 9 – Christmas Dinner

The Council Christmas dinner will be held on the 14th December at Tafarn y Deri, Llanedi.

Minute no. 10 – Community Development Officer's Report

The following is an extract of the CDO's report including activities completed in the previous month:

Hendy School

- A meeting has been held with the Head of the school, Mrs Rhian Kenny, and was invited to attend the students' award ceremony on the 6th of October. I was honoured to present the new Student Council with their official badges for this current school year. Out of this meeting, I learned

that the feeling is that the school needs many updates and they do not have adequate facilities for indoor sport and exercise for the children. I am in the process of compiling a community consultation in Hendy to evidence the desire and need for the new proposed Community Centre. This information is crucial for applying for grant funding.

- To consult with the young people in the school, I asked them to provide me with a short comment on what they would like to do or see in their community/Community Centre or a quality or talent they feel that they have. The students have written their thoughts on leaves for an “ideas tree” which is on the wall of the Reading Room in Hendy. A very large number of the children expressed the desire to have a Leisure Centre, after school activity clubs and indoor sports facilities. An invite was offered for councillors to come and have a look at the children’s idea tree and a photo will be published on social media.
- I was also invited to and attended the school’s annual Harvest Celebration at Capel Newydd and was very impressed with their singing and school spirit. I will be meeting with Mrs Kenny after the half term again to discuss other ideas and thoughts the school has and how we can work together.

Tycroes County Primary School

A meeting has been held with the school Head Mr Wood and again I attended a school assembly where I addressed the students and asked them for their thoughts and ideas. I was invited to sit in on a Student Council meeting on the 17th of October and was greatly impressed by these very articulate, forward thinking young people. The students had the following ideas/requests:

- They have secured funding for a school obstacle course but are looking to raise further funds for additional sports equipment. The students proposed a fancy-dress fun run to raise money and would like it if perhaps some local Cllrs might participate and marshal the run. I have asked the students to keep me updated.
- The children were concerned about dog fouling and litter on the football pitch. The students have offered to do an organised litter pick if it is needed.
- There was a strong opinion that the play equipment in the Tycroes play areas were only designed for very young children. Again, the students stated that they would get involved if plans ever went ahead for updated play equipment.
- The students stated they were concerned that no crossing guard had been found for their school.

- The students mentioned some of the projects they currently do and thought it would be worth a mention to the Community Council. Annually they have “Operation Christmas Child” when they fill boxes with gifts for less fortunate children. They also have an annual “Tygroes’ Got Talent” show and invited myself and local Cllrs to come and watch and perhaps even judge the competition.

Tygroes School has instigated an excellent programme called “Fast Fridays”. The school has worked closely with the “Sustrans” charity and are working towards the goals Sustrans has set. They have already achieved their bronze badge of achievement and are working towards their silver badge. The programme rewards children for coming to school on their bicycles, scooters or on foot. The idea is to promote good health, environmental friendliness and to curtail the congestion outside the school at pick up and drop off times. So far, Fast Fridays have been very successful with a large increase in the number of children coming to school car free (I have full statistics should anyone desire a copy). To encourage this project further the Headmaster and some teachers have said that the school needs secure, locking scooter racks and a waterproof shelter for bicycles to be locked. I have submitted an application for a Groundworks/Bags of Help grant for £4,000 for this purpose. Voting for this round of funding will begin in January 2018 and I will keep the Community Council updated on this grant bid application.

Llanedi School

I have emailed the school but have had no response to date.

Community Consultation in Hendy

To prepare for the application for the Big Lotteries People and Places grant for the proposed Community Centre, I have been consulting local community groups, the school, police and I have compiled an on-line survey. I received more than 100 responses to the survey and had many local people confirm their completion of the survey through Facebook directly to me. A detailed assessment of the findings were presented at the meeting.

There were many additional comments from residents about the community that are too numerous to list in this report but available if any Cllrs would like access to the on-line survey. This is not my sole consultation and it is still ongoing.

I have only touched base with the local PCSO's but I am looking forward to a meeting with local police soon. I have also made attempts to speak with elderly groups, but it appears there are no regular Age Concern groups left in the Hendy community. I have been informed by Cllr B Thomas that there is a group that meet at the local Home on Tuesday mornings and I will visit them next week.

I have invited the wider community to contact me through social media, email or by popping into the Reading Room.

Training and Meetings

The CDO reported on the following additional items:

- Working lunch organised with Community Development Officers for Cwmaman and Llannon Councils to discuss Wellbeing Act training and ways to work and support each other.
- Presentation by Rob Venus and Derith Powell at Cwmaman Community Centre to hear about their community consultation and projects that could provide useful ideas or models for Llanedi Community Council.
- Meeting with Carmarthenshire County Council regarding grant funding opportunities.
- Meeting with Architect and Quantity Surveyor for proposed Community Centre.
- Web development training. At this course I discussed with the training provider the possibility of moving the existing Llanedi Community Council website to a "Wordpress" controlled website. By doing this it would provide a more user-friendly way to keep the website updated and provide more control for me to maintain and add to the site. I would also intend to use it to create an electronic community newsletter available through the website and social media.

Resolved to approve the appointment of a consultant to assist in the development of a new website for the community which will incorporate the needs of the Community Council.

In the coming month I am scheduled to meet with the Tycroes Local Aid and I intend to try to make some connections in Llanedi as much of my time has so far been split between Hendy and Tycroes. The CDO confirmed that she has a meeting with the residents of Llanedi community on Monday 6th November 2017 at Tafarn y Deri.

Minute no. 11 – Llanedi Church

It was noted that there is a need to establish what the position is with Llanedi Church in relation to the Remembrance Service as it was reported that there has been some damage recently to the building. **Resolved that** Cllr Mike Nicholas will establish contact with the Church and inform the councillors of the current position. Councillor A Blackley reported that he is unavailable to attend the service as Deputy Mayor and it was therefore **resolved that** Councillor I Davies will take part in the ceremony in the absence of Cllr Blackley.

Minute no. 12 – Website

It was reported that the wellbeing and policy development training has been cancelled due to a lack of response from members. The CDO agreed to circulate members with proposed dates for the training in advance in order to try and maximise the attendance and benefits to the Council. The CDO was requested to stress to members that it is important for all councillors to strive to attend the event.

Minute no. 13 – Hendy Cricket Club

The Clerk and the CDO provided an overview on the progress being made with the planning application for the re-development of the cricket club.

The CDO also gave an outline of work she had done in consulting with the community prior to the grant application to the lottery.

In order to enable the further development of the working drawings for the project, it was noted that there is a need to appoint further consultants with regard to the development including ground investigation, and mechanical and electrical. **Resolved to** authorise the Clerk to obtain quotations and appoint the required consultants as required.

There was a detailed discussion regarding the opportunity for obtaining further grant aid for the project and it was noted that there is an urgency to re-establish a Cricket Club with a defined membership. It was agreed that council members will consult locally in partnership with the CDO to formally re-establish the club.

Minute no. 14 – Window Dressing Competition

It was **resolved to** appoint Cllr A Blackley to act as a judge for this Christmas competition.

Minute no. 15 – Review of Community and Town Council Sector

Members received correspondence regarding proposals for the review of the community council sector with an invitation for members to attend some consultation events to meet with a working group as established by Welsh Government. **Resolved to** note the communication. Cllr B Evans gave a report on the recent AGM of One Voice Wales which dealt with a number of issues

relating to the re-organisation of community councils with a report on the views as expressed by Mark Drayford.

Minute no. 16 – Payments to Members of Community and Town Councils

Members received correspondence from the Remuneration Panel for Wales in relation to the draft proposals for payments to members of community and Town Councils. It was **resolved** to note the document.

Minute no. 17 – Suspending Standing Orders

Resolved to suspend standing orders to continue the transaction of business beyond 9.00 pm.

Minute no. 18 – Grass Cutting

It was raised that there seems to be an inconsistency in the way that the Council allocates grass cutting contracts to 4 separate contractors for various works during the year. **Resolved to** continue with the current practice of the appointment of appropriate locally based contractors.

Minute no. 19 – 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 reports.

Minute no. 20 – Financial Assistance

The Council **resolved to** offer a donation to the following person in line with its new policy for donations and in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the LGA 1972, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

Carmarthenshire County Council Toy Box Appeal - £100.00

Councillors T Higgins and G Thomas declared an interest and took no part in the discussion of this item.

Menter Bro Dinefwr - £100.00.

Minute no. 21 – Land Use Planning – Town and Country Planning Act

(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/36259 Replacement lean-to rear conservatory and lower ground floor extension to rear of 21 Llanedi Road, Fforest, Swansea. Mr Don Davies.

(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. 22 – County Councillors’ Reports

Cllr G Thomas provided a report on the following matters:

- An application has been made for a Gypsy site at Gypsy Lane, Llangennech.
- Concerns have been expressed with regard to the fact that there is an ongoing problem with cable installation at Hendy.
- The trees at the green and Llwynbedw are in need of trimming and it is anticipated that this is being organised by the County Council.
- The parking problems at Heol Y Parc are ongoing and the County is looking at residents parking here. The potential of yellow lines at the entrance to the park is being investigated by the County.
- Cllr G Thomas has chased up John McEvoy with regard to issues linked up with the motorway junction at Hendy; in particular the increased problem if planning is granted for homes in Pontarddulais.

Minute no. 23 – Community Cafe

The Council received correspondence from Cllr A Evans regarding a proposal for a community café at the Reading Room. **Resolved to** agree to Ms Adele O’Neill having use of the hall with a rent-free period of 6 months subject to her obtaining all necessary planning and environmental health consents and required insurance.

Resolved to authorise the CDO to purchase a fridge/freezer for the Reading Room.

Minute no. 24 – Staff Review

The Clerk enquired as to arrangements for the staff review which had been postponed from July. It was agreed that the Chairman would try and organise this as soon as possible.

Minute no. 25 – Electronic Payments

There was a general discussion regarding the lack of availability for on-line banking for the community council. **Resolved to** request the Clerk to make further enquiries with the bank to establish electronic banking arrangements.

Minute no. 26 – Daffodils

The CDO reported that she is hoping to arrange a daffodil planting project in the community and requested that councillors provide a schedule of suitable locations where additional bulbs are required together with suggestions of any councillors or local people who are prepared to volunteer to assist with the project.

Minute no. 27 - General Correspondence

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

Writer	Subject
RT Electrics	Quotation of Christmas Lights
Wicksteed Leisure	Sales flyer
Lite	Festive Lighting brochure

Council Business terminated at 9.40pm

Signed Date
Chairman