

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Gorslas Community Council held at Ysgol Drefach C.P. School on Monday, 10th October, 2016, at 7.00.p.m.

85.0. Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- **Members Present:** Cllrs Wyn Edwards, Darren Price, Janice Price, Nia Lewis, Tina Jukes, Simon Martin, Brian Kirby, Aled Owen, Clive Green and Anthony Rees.
- **Others:** Rosie Carmichael and Amanda Evans (Carmarthenshire County Council), Llew Thomas Clerk to the Council, Mr Hefin Jones, Translator.
- Apologies for absence: Cllr Huw Davies, Ellis Davies, Terry Davies and Terry Jones.

85.1. Welcome

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mrs Rosie Carmichael and Amanda Evans from the County Council planning department.
- Congratulations and best wishes were also offered by the Chair on behalf of the Council, to Mr Hefin Jones on the occasion of his recent wedding.

86.0. Item 2 Declaration of Interest.

- No declarations of interest were recorded.

87.0. Item 3 Exclusion of Press and Public.

- There were no items which required the exclusion of the press and public.

88.0. Item 4 Planning Charges - Mynydd Mawr Marsh Fritillary Butterfly.

88.1 Background Mrs R Carmichael provided an outline for members in relation to the background to the charges the main points of which are summarised below: -

- (i) UK and European legislation required the protection of the species and its habitat.
- (ii) Legislation prevents a Local Authority from granting planning permission in respect of any development unless measures are taken by the developer to safeguard the protected species or to mitigate the depletion in habitat caused by the development
- (iii) A study had identified an area of land where the butterfly had been most commonly seen and also areas where the habitat was suitable. A map identifying the relevant areas was made available for members to view.
- (iv) The Authority was mindful that the much of the protected area fell where there was a need and a demand for commercial, public or residential development.
- (v) It was also recognised that it would be extremely difficult and costly for individual developers, householders and small organisations to take and fund the measures necessary to mitigate the effect of any development within the defined area.
- (vi) Those measures would include the requirement to purchase suitable land or negotiating and reaching putting in place a suitable land management arrangement with individual land owners which would mitigate the land lost to the development.

- (vii) It was the view of the County Council that such requirements would be so onerous as to stifle any relatively small to medium size development in the area.
- (viii) Accordingly, the County Council provided a scheme which would allow developers to make a fixed payment to a ring fenced fund specifically dedicated to meeting this requirement with the County Council taking on the responsibility, in perpetuity, for complying with the mitigation requirement including finding and purchasing suitable land and also negotiating a suitable land management arrangement with landowners.
- (ix) Such an arrangement would meet both the legal requirements whilst at the same time speeding up the planning process for applicants and reduce the cost of complying.
- (x) In summary if the County Council scheme did not exist developers would have to find suitable arrangements and fund them in perpetuity themselves otherwise planning permission could not be granted.

88.2 Operational.

- Amanda Evans provided expanded for members on how the mitigation scheme was operated and managed. The key points included: -
 - (i) The money received from developers funded the purchase of land, the costs of management agreements with landowners, fencing works, initial land remediation and staff management costs.
 - (ii) There were some 17 sites covering some 110 acres include within the mitigation scheme.
 - (iii) Payments to landowners for managing the land averaged £ 225 per hectare per year.
 - (iv) The land agreements included the grazing of the land by ponies or cattle and local contractors were used for the initial remedial work wherever possible.
 - (v) Sites in the area included Llyn Llech Owain and Bryn Melyn, Penygroes.

88.3 Discussion.

During the course of discussion, the following information was provided by Officers: -

- (i) The fee relating to the protection of the habitat for the butterfly only applied to developments within the specific area defined in the order. It did not apply to developments in other parts of Carmarthenshire which fall outside the designated area.
- (ii) Money raised from the charge was ring fenced and could only be used for the purposes of protecting the butterfly and its habitat. It could not be used for any other purpose.
- (iii) There was some £500,000 in the fund at present with outgoings of some £100,000 per annum to cover the item outlined previously. The obligation on the Council was to meet the cost of mitigation in perpetuity (ie a minimum of 25 years) and thus the fund would need additional income from future developments to meet its commitments.
- (iv) The issue of a developer being required to pay the charge in respect of housing developments in the area on an existing area of hardstanding i.e. no loss of habitat had been reviewed and resolved.
- (v) The mitigation fund had sought to derive income from the land in its ownership from European and Welsh Government schemes. In respect of EU funding the areas under the funds control were too small and would require a South Wales based approach. Glastir application had been made in respect of the Bryn Melyn site.
- (vi) It was the view of the Officers that the protected status of the butterfly would not change following the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union as the

requirement was embedded in UK law which is the usual pattern with EU legislation. To change the position, the government would have to repeal the legislation.

- (vii) Officers indicated that they had not personally seen the butterfly this year, it is normally active between the months of May and June however they had spotted a large number of butterfly eggs in September and the records indicate that, of the sites in South Wales, the population in this area was the most successful in terms of numbers.
 - (viii) The County Council were considering hosting an event within the designated area to demonstrate the type of work being undertaken. Once a date was set an invitation would be issued to the Community Council to attend should they so wish.
- There being no further questions the Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance and they left the meeting at this point.

89.0 Item 5. Consider the Minutes of Meetings held on the 12th and 28th September,2016.

- Under the direction of the Chair members proceeded to examine and consider each page of the minutes of both meetings for accuracy.
- Resolved:
 - (i) Proposed by Cllr S Martin and seconded by Cllr B Kirby and agreed by all present that the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th September,2016 were a true and accurate record of proceedings and decisions.
 - (ii) Proposed by Cllr D Price and seconded by Cllr B Kirby and agreed by all present that, subject to an amendment relating to the declaration of interest by Cllr N Lewis, the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th September,2016 were a true and accurate record of proceedings and decisions.

90.0. Item 6 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

90.1. Asset Marking

- The Clerk advised that the security labels had been received and would be fitted to the relevant items following the updating and verification of the register as correct.
- Cllr C Green enquired as to whether or not a response had been received from the County Council in relation to an enquiry several months ago as to the ownership of wayside seats at Bron Yr Ynn.
- The Clerk responded that regrettably a response had still not been received however in terms of the recording of assets on the Authority's asset register until the matter was resolved it was prudent to include the items as being in the ownership of the Community Council for insurance purposes.
- In terms of updating the asset register Cllr Green enquired as to whether or not the process of updating the register had been completed.
- The Clerk indicated that a lot of information had been received from members in relation to assets. Additionally, a cross check of items had been with the items listed in the park inspection reports. There remained a need to clarify the location and ownership of certain community based assets however the task had been overtaken by the pressing need to progress other matters such as the MUGA and the proposal relating to Gorslas Park as well as the tendering of Grass cutting services.

- **Resolved:** That a draft revised schedule of assets be circulated to members for consideration at the January meeting.

90.2 Model Financial Regulations

- The matter will be considered by the sub-committee in due course.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided

90.3 Dog Access Policy.

- The signage has been amended to conform with the legal requirements.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.4 Grounds Maintenance Tender and General Maintenance Tender

- It was reported that the contractor had confirmed acceptance of the contract including the reduction in the area to be cut should the proposal for Gorslas Park proceed.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.5 Community Council – 30th Anniversary Celebrations

- Members were reminded that at the July meeting it was agreed that suggestions on how to celebrate the occasion were to be presented at the October meeting.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.6 Section 106 Monies

- Gorslas Park – Shapewright Services Ltd have completed the drainage works at the park.
- Cefneithin Park – Planning application, W/34195, for the provision of a MUGA was approved on the 14th September,2016.
- Gorslas Park – Planning application W/ 34196, for the provision of a MUGA was approved on the 14TH September,2016, but will not be actioned in view of the proposal put forward by the County Council for the use of the land.
- MUGA Contracts: The tender for the provision of a MUGA at Cefneithin park has been awarded by the County Council to Sunshine Playgrounds who were the lowest tenderer.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

90.7 Section 106 – Update Cefneithin MUGA

- The contractors commenced work on site on Thursday 6th October with a provisional estimated completion date of 11th November,2016.
- A proposal to use any spoil on site in the woodland area has been referred to the County Council's planning department to ensure it does not breach any planning regulations.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

90.8 Parks – Matters arising out of Site Visit by Clerk and Parks Officer.

- Following the visit, a number of items across the three parks were identified as requiring attention with orders for the following items being placed with the County Council: -

(i) Cefneithin.

- a) Swings 1 Bay 2 Seat (Cradle) Wicksteed. - Replace bushes and shackles.
- b) Swings - 2 Bay 4 Seat (Flat) - Wicksteed - Replace all chains. (Think they were 2.3 in length)
- c) Swings - 1 Bay 2 Seat (Cradle)- Replace bushes shackles and chains.
- d) Swings - 2 Bay 4 Seat (Flat) Wicksteed. Swingchains, shackles and bushes replace and Seat.

(ii) Gorslas

- a) Swing Basket - Type 1 Proludic - Replace shackles and bushes.
- b) Swings - 1 Bay 2 Seat (Double Cradle) SMP Playgrounds. Replace chains, shackles and 2 seats. (Chains estimated to be 1.6m in length)
- c) Swings 2 Bay 4 Seat (Flat) Record RSS - Replace bushes, shackles and chains.
- d) Crow's Nest - some chain wear requiring replacement links/chain. Adjustment may be possible
- e) Rotor Play - Gyro Spiral - Replacement seat.
- f) Rotor Play - Rotating Chairs - replace shackle and bushes.

(iii) Drefach

- a) Swings - 1 Bay 2 Seat (Flat) Proludic - replace chains, bearings and shackles.
- b) Swings- Basket - Proludic. Replace bushes and shackles.
- c) Swing - Basket - Proludic. Metal clamp on the pod swing broken leaving sharp edges.

- Additional works had been identified as being necessary to the following items of equipment at Gorslas Park :-
 - (i) Titan Swing – Replacement of entire wood mulch safety surface- £ 6,021
 - (ii) Rotator Swing – Repair of worn area of safety surface - £848.00
- Following discussion with the Sub-Committee it was agreed that enquiries be made as to whether or not the expenditure could be funded from section 106 monies.
- **Resolved:** To receive and approve the actions taken.

90.9 Gorslas Park Securing Litter Bins.

- Due to other commitments no further progress has been made on this matter
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.10 Cefneithin Park – Overgrowth in Wooded Area

- A site visit was undertaken by the Clerk on the 4th October,2016, which indicated that the paths were useable and free from restriction arising from overgrowth. The position would continue to be monitored.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.11 Consultation – Carmarthenshire County Council Changes in Community Infrastructure Charges.

- As agreed at the last meeting the Sub Committee met and prepared a response on behalf of the Community Council to the proposals.
- The key element of the response was that the proposal to allocate 15% of any income raised to Community Councils was insufficient especially at a time when they were taking on responsibility for facilities and services previously provided by the County Council.
- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

90.12 Meeting with County Council regarding proposal for Gorslas Park

- A meeting with County Council Officers was held on the 28th September, 2016, with a copy of the minutes being enclosed with these papers.
- **Resolved:** To consider the matter under the relevant agenda item.

90.13 County Council Proposal for Gorslas Park.

- As part of progressing the proposal the County Council are arranging for a valuation of the land to take place.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

91.0 Item 7 New Matters Parks and General.

91.1 Parks General

- There were no specific new issues during the month relating to the three parks.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

91.2 Gorslas Park

(i) Teen Shelter

- Bolts securing the Perspex panels at the rear of the shelter. The necessary repairs have been completed by TBM.
- Teen Shelter – It has been reported that young children have once again climbed onto the roof of the structure. The Clerk has contacted the manufacturers, another local authority with the same item and Dyfed Powys Police to ascertain if they were aware of any preventative measures. None had previous experience of difficulties with this item but both the manufacturer and the Police suggested the use of anti-climb paint with appropriate signage and appropriate publicity prior to applying the coating.
- **Resolved:** That signage be provided to prohibit climbing of the item and the cost of providing anti climb paint be obtained.

(ii) Public Convenience – Gorslas Park.

- It was reported that both the gentlemen's and ladies' toilet facilities had been vandalised on Saturday 24th September with mud, grass and rubbish strewn around the units.

- Additionally, the toilet roll holder in the gentlemen's unit had been broken and removed. To avoid injury from the remaining metal fixings the unit was locked whilst a replacement holder was obtained and fitted.
- Both units are now back in service.
- **Resolved:** To note and approve the actions taken.

(iii) Aerial Runway.

- Additional measures have been taken to reduce the impact of any fall onto the metal fixing at the end of the runway. Further discussions with the inspectors will be necessary to identify any further works required.
- The issuing of an instruction to the contractor for the reposition the automatic stop control and re-tension the line so as to prevent any user falling from the equipment at the stop control from injuring themselves on the fixed equipment.
- Further work may be necessary in relation to softening the tarmac footpaths and kerbs which are within 6 ft of the runway – again to prevent injury.
- **Resolved:** To note and approve the actions taken.

91.3 Cefneithin Park

(i) Landing Platform Multi Age Play Item.

- Deterioration in the existing landing platform was detected and following consultation with the County Council Parks Department replaced with Buffalo Board item for improved grip.
- **Resolved:** To note and approve the actions taken.

91.4 Drefach Park

(i) Grass Cutting Complaint

- A complaint had been received by the Clerk that the contractor had commenced grass cutting work at 7.00 a.m. causing a disturbance to residents. The contractor has been notified of the complaint.
- Cllr A Rees enquired as to whether or not there were arrangements for the cutting of the hedgerows in the park. The requirement for one cut per year had been included in the new contract for implementation in the 2017 cutting programme.
- Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

(ii) Multi Play Equipment

- Enquiries had been received by members in relation to the repair of the multi play equipment item at the park which had been out of commission for several months.
- Additionally, it was also reported that the boards preventing access to the item had been removed by persons unknown and thus required replacing.
- The Clerk indicated that the work had originally been commissioned from a suitable contractor however unfortunately, due to an illness in the family, the Council was advised that he was unable to continue with the work.
- A suitable replacement provider had sourced however this had delayed matters. It was also necessary to incorporate certain modifications to the design in order to comply with

current legislation. The Council was currently awaiting draft drawings from the contractor which would be discussed with the Park Inspectors.

- The cost of purchasing a replacement item had been considered however the cost was significantly higher than that of constructing a replacement item.
- Members would be kept informed of progress and the maintenance contractor would check that the measures taken to prevent access to the item remains effective.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

91.5 Community Council – Website.

- It was noted by Cllr N Lewis that during an inspection of the Multi Play Equipment at Drefach Park earlier in the year the issue had been raised that the Council’s website had no Welsh Medium content and remained “under development” and no progress had been made since in rectifying the position.
- Accordingly, a brief discussion took place in relation to the arrangements which had been entered into when the website was originally commissioned.
- **Resolved:** To place the matter on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

92.0 Item 8 Urgent Local Issues.

(i) Overgrowth – Pavement Heol Blaenhirwaun

- That the County Council be advised of the urgent need for the cutting back of growth in the area of no’s 10 and 12 Heol Blaenhirwaun. The growth has extended to the pavement area and was causing difficulties for parents taking children on the pavement.
- **Resolved:** That the matter be brought to the urgent attention of the County Council.

(ii) Planning Applications Feedback.

- Cllr Green enquired as to whether or not a response had been received from the County Council in relation to the non provision on the outcome of planning applications.
- The Clerk advised that clarification on the matter had not been received and that he would contact the department direct to seek to progress matters.
- **Resolved:** To note the information provided and actions taken.

(iii) Pavements and Steps Heol Yr Ysgol.

- It was indicated that the issues relating to these issue were going to be addressed at the end of the summer however to date it does not seem any progress has been made. A reminder has been sent to the relevant County Council Officers.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

(iv) Bus Service 701 Aberystwyth to Cardiff.

- Cllr E Davies had relayed the concerns of a considerable number of residents over the sudden withdrawal of the service which they had been able to join at the Cross Hands.
- The Clerk had relayed the concerns on behalf of the Council to Welsh Government and Bus Users Cymru.
- A response from Welsh Government advised that that they were working closely with Ceredigion County Council to re-instate the service.

- **Resolved:** To note and receive the information provided.

(v) Street Lighting – Cefneithin.

- Cllr B Kirby advised members that the lights which had been reported by the Council as being defective had been repaired and were in working order. As a matter of information the County Council advised that street lights were inspected every three weeks.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

(vi) Footpaths

- As reported previously the Community Council does not have responsibility for the maintenance of footpaths in the area. In terms of reporting Cllr B Kirby enquired as to whether or not members should continue to report any items of non-maintenance to the Clerk for onward transmission to the County Council.
- **Resolved:** That members refer matters of non-maintenance of footpaths to the Clerk.

(vii) Gorslas Bus Shelter – Litter Bins.

- It had been reported to the Clerk that the litter bins in two bus shelters at Gorslas square were full and in need of emptying.
- Arrangements have been made for them to be emptied and included in the asset register and litter contract.
- **Resolved:** To note and approve the actions taken.

93.0. Item 9 Members Report.

(i) Torcoed Quarry

- Cllr A Rees indicated that he had attended the recent liaison meeting however difficulties in distribution meant that the invitation had not been received by all members.
- The group were advised that there had been some 35 objections from the Crwbin area to the planning application submitted by the quarry to undertake new workings. The manager highlighted the fact that the application applied to new workings but within the confines of the current quarries.
- Complaints had been received relating to the route used by lorries to access works at the school. Unfortunately, no alternative route was available for lorries.
- As the number of orders had reduced the level of working and the number of vehicle movements in and around the quarry had also reduced.
- In the course of discussion on the matter by the Community Council it was highlighted that it seemed that the practice of putting fleet numbers on vehicles had ceased. The numbers had proved useful to the public in the reporting of concerns. It was suggested that the matter be discussed with the manager at the next meeting.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the report and that the issues of re-introducing fleet numbers be raised at the next liaison meeting.

(ii) Public Services Board Meeting – Wellbeing

- Cllr A. Owen attended the event at the which had been hosted at the Botanic Garden.
- The event included discussion on the Carmarthenshire Local Plan for Wellbeing.

- It was noted that Llannon Community Council had recently commissioned a report identifying how wellbeing could be incorporated and embedded within the Council's forward planning process.
- **Resolved:** To accept an offer from Llannon Community Council to make a presentation to members on the processes which they had followed and the outcomes.

94.0 Item 10 PACT Report.

- An update had been provided by the Police in relation to the September meeting of PACT which indicated that crimes in the area were as follows: -
 - (i) Gorslas – 2. Cannabis possession and attempt theft of roof slates – burglar distracted – nothing taken
 - (ii) Cefneithin – 0
 - (iii) Drefach – 0.
- Cllr Green enquired as to whether or not members would prefer for future reports to be provided in the abbreviated format adopted by the Police or the usual format which provided a broader and more expansive record of events and activities in the area.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided by the Police and that future reports would revert to the usual format of recording the meeting.

95.0. Item 11 Correspondence.

95.1 Boundary Commission Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Proposals

- The Commissioner indicates that the proposals are available for viewing on the Commission's website: www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk.
- The closing date for the receipt of representations is the 5th December,2016.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.2 Barclays Bank

- Advise that the Financial Compensation Scheme has changed and now covers up to £75,000 of deposits only.
- Indicate that the interest rates on the Business Saver Account will fall from 0.05% to 0% as from the 5th December,2016.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.3 Carmarthenshire County Council – Planning Applications

- The County Council write to confirm that the planning applications submitted by the Community Council in respect of MUGA's at Cefneithin W/ 34195 and Gorslas W/34194 have been approved.
- It should be noted that due to subsequent developments relating to Gorslas Park the proposal to provide a MUGA will not now proceed.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.4 Carmarthenshire County Council – Dyfed Pension Annual Consultation Meeting

- An invitation is extended to the Council to attend the above meeting which will be held on Thursday 24th November at the Ffwrnnes Theatr Llanelli.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.5 Defibrillator – Wel Medical Ltd.

- The company have written offering a package of services for the provision of defibrillators having partnered with local ambulance services and being the leading British Heart Foundation nominated supplier.
- Discussion also took place in relation to previous discussions relating to the provision of defibrillators within its area and the consideration given to inviting members of the public to a demonstration by CARIAD who could also supply the equipment.
- Cllr A Owen also indicated that local businesses had indicated that they were prepared to provide partial funding towards the cost of providing the equipment at Llyn Llech Owain and asked that consideration be given to including the site in any future consideration of provision.
- **Resolved:** To invite CARIAD to give a presentation to members at the November meeting of the Council and to include the Llyn Llech Owain site in future discussions.

95.6 Carmarthenshire County Council- Minor Authority Representative.

- Notification has been received of a vacancy for a person to be nominated by the Community Council to serve as their representative on the Cross Hands Drefach Primary School Governing Body.
- **Resolved:** That Cllr Nia Lewis be appointed as the Community Council representative on the Governing Body and that the County Council be advised accordingly.

95.7 Cor Meibion Mynydd Mawr- 50th Anniversary Celebrations

- Notification has been received that the special guests at the 50th anniversary celebrations will be Arwyn Davies the son of the late Ryan Davies who will join Shan Cothi and Angharad Elise together with an anticipated 120 choristers on the stage at Pontyberem Memorial Hall on Saturday 15th October, 2016.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.9 Carmarthenshire County Council – Seasonal Decorations Licence

- A communication and application form has been received from the County Council in respect of the above.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.10 South Wales Electricity – Festive Lights – Unmetered supply.

- The company has written enquiring as to the services required in respect of the electricity supply for the Christmas Season.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.11 Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Celebratory Dinner Strade Parc Hotel 14th October,2016

- Members are invited to attend the above event which will commence at 7.00p.m and be in the company of Mererid Hopwood. Tickets cost £30 and are available from Mr Alan Lewis at the Mudiad.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.12 Update on Local Government Reform – Statement by Minister 4th October,2016

- The communication from the Minister indicated that he had visited all 22 Local Authorities in Wales and held discussions with trade unions and other stakeholders.
- The 22 current Authorities will remain with voluntary mergers supported.
- Mandatory systematic regional working along geographical lines and drawing from NHS experience would be introduced in time.
- For Town and Community Councils a root and branch review is planned to determine future with additional measures being put in place to assist them in their work.
- County and Community Councillors elected in 2017 will remain in office until 2022.
- A framework for regional working for County Councils will be provided by the turn of the year.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

95.13 Mc Millan Cancer Support

- A donation is sought to help provide financial assistance with travel, heating and lighting costs. Last year £472,000 was spent to provide help for 923 people across West Wales.
- **Resolved:** That the matter be considered as part of the Council's assistance to outside organisations programme.

95.14 Marie Curie Nursing Care

- The organisation provided 11,000 hours of care by nurses to 300 patients across Carmarthenshire last year and are seeking a donation to sustain the service..
- **Resolved:** That the matter be considered as part of the Council's assistance to outside organisations programme.

96.0 Item 12 One Voice Wales.

96.1 Annual General Meeting

(i) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

- Cllr Wyn Edwards indicated that this matter had been one of the issues for discussion at the Annual Meeting of One Voice Wales.
- The review Panel makes recommendations in relation to expenses payable to public bodies and has published its proposals for the 2017/18 year.
- The report covers travelling Rates, Civic and Responsibility allowances.
- Full details were available from the Clerk or online at <http://gov.wales/irpwsb/home/?lang=en>.

- Cllr Edwards indicated that it was the view of the Panel that Council's should formally consider the Panel's report and recommendations at its annual General Meeting and formally resolve whether to adopt or otherwise the recommendations.
- In relation to the current proposals One Voice Wales are preparing a co-ordinated response for Authorities and have asked for comments by the 21st November,2016.
- The Clerk indicated that there was a need to co-ordinate the adoption of any such proposal with the annual precept setting deadline which was in the January/ February in the year prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided and to consider the matter as part of the budgetary review process.

(ii) Local Government Reform.

- It was reported by Cllr Wyn Edwards that the minister, Mr Mark Drakeford, had attended and addressed members at the A.G.M. in relation to the matter.
- As indicated in the correspondence section the Minister had signalled a root and branch review of the arrangements for Town and Community Councils.
- Attendees had noted that the Minister had highlighted the success of a local arrangement in the Bala area where some five authorities were working together in a voluntary arrangement which retained their independence but promoted mutually interest and effectiveness of delivery. It was a model worth exploring.
- The Minister also reported that in terms of finance Authorities were some 50% of the way along the road of achieving the required reductions and thus it was envisaged that there would continue to be reductions in expenditure for the next four years.
- In his address the Minister also highlighted the fact that Town and Community Councils had an integral part to play in delivering Local Government in Wales.
- In the short term it is recognised that there eight key areas which Town and Community Councils are facing. In summary they were:
 - (i) Asset Transfer. Welsh Government will take the lead in preparing a toolkit for the transfer of assets.
 - (ii) Competency. It was envisaged that the proposals for Town and Community Councils to gain powers of competence would be implemented.
 - (iii) Measures to improve relationships between Principal Authorities and Community Councils with a conference being held post the May 2017 elections.
 - (iv) Clustering of Town and Community Council's with modest funding to support the initiative.
 - (v) Training will be a requirement for both Councillors and employees. The bill will include a requirement to review training.
 - (vi) Welsh Government will draw up guidelines for the Boundary Commission to review Town and Community Council boundaries.
 - (vii) Encourage more people to stand for Town and Community Councils and improve diversity.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

(iii) Annual Subscription Increase.

- The 3% increase in subscription fees for 2017/18 had been approved.

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

(iv) Proposed Change in Constitution.

- Cllr Edwards advised that the motion that the constitution of One Voice Wales be changed to that of a limited company had failed due to a failure to achieve the required number of attendees at the meeting by 8 attendees.
- The association is now taking legal advice to try and find a way around the problem.
- **Resolved:** That the information provided be received and noted.

96.2 Consultation on the Merger of Local Justice Areas Wales

The outcome of the consultation process was as follows: -

- The majority of respondents favoured Option 2 to merge Conwy and Denbighshire LJAs to form North Central Wales LJA;
- Newcastle & Ogmere and Cardiff & the Vale LJAs to form Cardiff LJA;
- Gwynedd and Ynys Mon LJAs to form North West Wales LJA; and
- Brecknock & Radnorshire and the Glamorgan Valleys LJAs to form Mid Wales LJA.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

96.3 Welsh Government – Community Asset Support Services Questionnaire

- The questionnaire seeks information from organisations who provide advice and guidance as well as support services to assist organisations entering into Community Asset Transfer arrangements.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

96.4 Public Appointments – Member Valuation Tribunal For Wales.

- A vacancy has arisen for an individual to serve the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales as a member of the Valuation Tribunal's Governing Council
- Further information is available on the website www.wales.gov.uk/publicappointments with a closing date for applications of 12th October, 2016.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

96.5 Welsh Government – Discussion Forum Land Transaction Tax and Anti-avoidance of Devolved Taxes(Wales) Bill

- Welsh Government advise that as part of the Finance Committee's Enquiry individuals may provide ideas for consideration as well as rating and commenting on proposals by others. The forum may be accessed via <https://senedd.dialogue-app.com/maer-dreth-stamp-yng-nghymru-ar-fin-newid-stamp-duty-in-wales-is-about-to-change>
- The Committee will be promoting the discussion on their twitter account [@SeneddFinance](https://twitter.com/SeneddFinance), through the Assembly's main twitter account [@AssemblyWales](https://twitter.com/AssemblyWales) and the Assembly's Outreach team account [@SeneddOutreach](https://twitter.com/SeneddOutreach).
- Discussion will also take place on Facebook page: The National Assembly for Wales.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

96.6 Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee- Consultation which areas should they concentrate on next.

- The Assembly Committee are inviting the public to comment, via the attached survey links, and have an input into which areas they should look into next.
- The relevant links are:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CWLCAskWales> - English
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CWLCHoliCymru> - Welsh

Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

96.7 Carmarthenshire County Council- Carmarthenshire Sporting Stars 2016

- Nominations are invited from Councils for teams, athletes, coaches or volunteers who should be recognised for their efforts.
- Closing date 25th November,2016.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

97.0 Item 13 Planning Applications

No /Ref	Description	Location	Applicant
W/34451	Full Planning. Demolition of substandard side extension. Construction of new proposed two storey rear extension and conversion of the existing outbuilding to habitable accommodation to form part of the existing dwelling	53 Heol Treventy, Cross Hands, SA14 6TE.	Mr and Mrs D Seaward
W/34463	Outline Planning. Renewal of Outline Planning approval for W/28885 for the siting of a dwelling and garage	Garden of 2 Llwynderw, Heol Y Foel, Foelgastell, SA14 7ER.	Mr Clive Jones
W/34435	Discharge of conditions 11 and 12 of W/33283 (Pollution prevention measure and surface water drainage).	Land off Heol Rhosybonwen, Cefneithin, SA146TF.	Applicant: Enzo Homes Ltd- Enzo Sauro, Glyn yr Eithin,Arrrgoed Road, Betws, Ammanford, SA18 2 PS. Agent: Sauro Architectural Design Ltd, Mr Peter Sauro, 9 Elliston Terrace, Carmarthen.

W/34498	Full Planning. Single Storey extension to House plus attached garage.	Y Garth, Capel Seion Road, Drefach, SA14 7BN	Andrew Mc Pherson.

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided in respect of each of the applications scheduled.

98.0 Item 14 Finance.

98.1 Payments Made to Creditors September

Paid To	Description	Amount £
Rodway	Public Convenience Service Contract –September	201.67
Clerk	Salary/ Fixed Expenses /Trav (£144.00) Qtr 2	2,727.77
Bus Shelter Cleaner	Wages 3 months	52.00
HMRC	Employer and Employee Payments for Qtr. 2.	1,141.36
Dyfed Pensions	Employer and Employee Contributions for Qtr. 2	1,413.27
Morgan and Morgan	Brother Toner x 2	82.14
Selectamark	Security labels	285.00
One Voice Wales	Training Charing Skills – Cllr B Kirby	35.00
TBM	Litter Contract (including Carnival)	585.00
Spencer Environmental	Annualised Grass Cutting Contract - September	662.90

- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

98.2 Income September,2016.

Received from	Description	Amount £
Nil	Nil	Nil

Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

99.0 Item 15 Arrangements for Christmas Celebration and Festive Lights.

- Discussion took place in relation to the arrangements in respect of the above following which it was decided as follows:
- **Resolved** that:
 - (i) The Community Council provide grants of up to £150 for each for the provision of Christmas trees within the communities.

- (ii) The purchase, erection, decoration and connection of the trees rest with the Welfare associations.
- (iii) The Clerk obtain a quotation for the provision of 2 x 15ft trees for the villages of Drefach and Cefneithin and one 30 to 35ft tree for Gorslas. The prices to include delivery. The quotations to be forwarded to the respective Community Councillors who serve on the Welfare Associations.
- (iv) The period when lighting was required had been determined as the last week in November to 6th January,2017.
- (v) Two additional lighting strings be purchased from the Festive Lighting Company as soon as possible.

100.0 Date Next Meeting/ Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf.

- 14th November,2016 at Cefneithin CP School