

Ceiriog Uchaf Cyngor Cymuned Community Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 5th November 2019

Present – Cllrs J Greatorex (Chair), K.L.Benning, F.Evans -Swogger, ,R.W.Edwards, GM Jones, E Owens, JW Thomas, T.Bates (WCBC)

Apologies – none

Declaration of interest -

Minutes of last meeting held on 8thOctober found to be a correct record. Proposed by Cllr KL Benning & seconded by Cllr F. Evans-Swogger

Matters Arising -

Cllr F.Evans-Swogger has composed & circulated a letter to send to the Council regarding the recently repaired railings in the village. Proposed by Cllr Owens & seconded by Cllr Benning. The Chairman expressed thanks to Cllr Evans-Swogger.

212 Community Agent

Cllr Greatorex reported that Rob Lowden was no longer working at WCBC. He has been replaced by Annette Hewitson. The requirement will be for 16 hours per week (not 10 hours) @£144 per week. No National Insurance is due under £166/week. NO tax to deal with under £11,500 p.a. Report to HMRC; monthly cheque. There will be a surplus from the grant from the Welsh Government for other activities. The grant is for one year renewable. Cllrs Owens & Evans-Swogger were seconded to an interview panel led by the Chairman. Enquiries need to be made re.insurance.

213 Police Report –

- a) There has been an increase in off-roading activity at this time of year. Sunday 3rd November, 19 vehicles stopped – all compliant apart from two, who made off ! Sgt Luke Hughes also reported that they had stopped a couple of ‘organised’ rides & surprisingly, many of the bikes had illegal plates. He felt it disproportionate to prosecute the riders on loan bikes, as the real offender was the organiser. They will receive a follow visit & if found in contravention again, will be prosecuted. Cllr Edwards has heard reports that 10 quads have gone in the Llangollen area.
- b) Cllr Trevor Bates (WCBC) said that the proposed improvements to the Wayfarers failed to gain grants from the Welsh Office. Cllr Bates has accompanied Dave Pugh WCBC on a tour of some of the worst roads in the area. He felt some sympathy for the amount of work the department faced, with so little resources.

214 Finance/Bank -

Bank Account at 3 rd October	£2430
Outstanding In	none
Outstanding Out	<u>£ 250</u>
	<u>£2180</u>
Outstanding from last year	£ 500 (The West loos)
Outstanding from this year	£ 500 (The West loos)
	<u>£1180</u>
Remaining precept	<u>£ 667</u>
	<u>£1847</u>

215 Strategic Documents

The council reviewed & amended the following strategic documents -

- 1) Risk Assessment – Electronic records on the Clerk’s computer to be backed up regularly. Data Protection O.V.W. confirmed exempt. Travel allowance now 45p per mile. Best value where cost under £200 (no requirement for 3 quotes). Tregairiog playing field council lease has ended - proposed by Cllr F. Evans-Swogger, seconded by Cllr JW Thomas.
- 2) Risk Management – Proposed by Cllr GM Jones, seconded by Cllr E.Owens
- 3) Financial Regulation – Proposed by Cllr KL Benning, seconded by Cllr JW Thomas.

216 Mobile Library - Cllr F Evans –Swogger noted that the mobile library service have asked for submissions regarding ‘shaping the future of Wrexham Library Service’. They provide a personal service which is used by many in the community including children. Clerk & Freja to write.

217 Planning - None

218 Highways – Haffren Dyfrdwy put in place a 15mile diversion whilst undertaking work in Coed Y Glyn, when in fact the road wasn’t actually closed. There was a very strong feeling that WCBC are not aware of the problems caused at this end of the valley by road closures. Diversions are very long on very poor roads not suitable for larger vehicles. Cllr Bates (WCBC)has been very proactive in these matters & has got OpenReach to move their proposed road closure to night times. Cllr Greateorex to follow up with letters & proposed a meeting with Council leaders. Cllr Bates has further meetings scheduled with David Pugh (WCBC Highways) & Darren Williams (WCBC Head of Environment)

219 Report from Committee Reps. - - none

220 A.O.B. –

Churchyard - The hedge & grass has been cut as promised. There has been a complaint about the fir tree at the bottom side of the churchyard towards the vicarage, which overhanging neighbouring graves.

School taxi – Complaints have been received regarding the very poor service from the new taxi provider. Cllr Bates (WCBC) is currently dealing with this as it is a problem throughout the whole valley.

Bins - on-going problem with bins not being emptied but this may have been due to the road being 'closed' ?

Structure – Cllr Benning wished to propose a new structure for the Community Council. He feels that the tradition of appointing a new Chair each year alternatively from the two wards is outdated. He suggests that a Chair should be appointed for a period of 3 or 5 years and should be digitally literate. The Chair must work closely with the Clerk, as there are now so many regulations to be complied with, forms to be completed & emails to be considered and sorted. Cllr Benning is NOT putting himself forward; he would like to encourage some younger people to put themselves forward. Cllr Evans-Swogger would like to see more women on the council. Cllr Bates noted that WCBC is encouraging all Councillors to be digitally literate but feels this is wrong as it excludes valuable contributions from people who are not. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting & such changes should be considered in formulating standing orders.

Meeting closed 8.pm

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 10th December (CHANGED)