

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2023.

1. Present: Cllrs T. Griffiths (Chair), H. Williams, J. Jones, C. Atkins.

2. Apologies: Cllrs A. Evans, R. Jeremy, D. Roberts, County Cllr C. Jones.

3. Minutes of AGM and last meeting.

AGM: Proposed correct by Cllr C. Atkins and seconded by Cllr J. Jones.

Monthly meeting: Proposed correct by Cllr H. Williams and seconded by Cllr C. Atkins.

At this point the Chair suspended the meeting in order to hear representations from 4 residents living in the cul de sac which leads to the entrance to the new development south of Dol-y-Dderwen. Concern was raised about a recent notice on a lamp-post in that location. It appears to state that the street is to be renamed as Parc Penycoed. The difficulty is that it doesn't refer specifically to the adjoining new development and has caused a great deal of concern for those residents.

The Clerk had, earlier that same day, received an email from County Councillor Carys Jones who had also been contacted regarding this matter. The Clerk was able to report that County Councillor Jones had been assured that the new name only applies to the proposed new development and no existing properties would be affected.

Formal record of this will be recorded later in the meeting as part of the County Councillors report.

The meeting was then reconvened.

4. Matters Arising

2838 – Noticeboards – Cllr Williams reported that he now has the vector file to enable the order to go ahead. The supplier had asked for payment in advance but Cllr Williams had negotiated a 50% deposit followed by the remainder on delivery. It is still hoped that these will be in place by the autumn.

2844 - Red kiosk at Smyrna crossroads – Cllr Williams reported that he is still awaiting confirmation of a start date for the work and has not been able to speak to the proposed painter yet. He will continue to pursue this.

2859 – Headed council stationery – Printing can now go ahead using the recently supplied vector file.

2863 – Cllr Roberts has only recently had time to look at the issue of the qualification comment from Audit Wales on the 2021/22 accounts. He is working with the Clerk to find the relevant legislation and will pursue the matter as appropriate.

2864 – White village gateways – were discussed again with particular support from Cllr Jones. It was agreed that a decision be deferred until after the new 20mph speed limit changes in September. The Clerk will check with County Cllr Jones if she has had any luck with speaking to the police regarding possible funding and if she has been able to find out how they are viewed by County Council.

2866 – Commemorative gifts for Ysgol Llangain for the Coronation of King Charles III – these will now be presented in the autumn term.

2867 – Council Insignia – Cllr Williams will now order the repair work with Fattorini in Birmingham.

5. Correspondence

- Society of Local Council Clerks – The Clerk Magazine
- Clerks & Councils Direct magazine
- Email from Marian Davies, secretary of the local Royal British Legion explaining that the cost of the remembrance wreath has risen from £25 to £27.50. It was agreed that, in response to the letter received from the Royal British Legion, the Council would increase its annual donation for a wreath from £25 to £30.
- Audit notice from Audit Wales
- Other items of correspondence sent to Councillors since the last meeting, for information.
- Letter of resignation from Cllr A. Evans

2871 – Cllr A. Evans' resignation was met with sadness from all present. The Clerk will compose a letter of thanks on behalf of the Chair.

6. Planning Applications

2872 – Application numbers PL/06179, PL/06181 and PL/01180 referring to discharge of conditions 5, 7 and 8 in respect of the development of 36 houses south of Dol-y-Dderwen. Details had been distributed to Councillors via email with no comments received.

7. Finance/Approval of Payments

2873 – The following payments were approved:-

Susan Holmes	£ 796.86	Salary & expenses, May/June 2023
AW Matthews Ltd	£ 33.90	Chairman name bar on Insignia collar
LHP Accountants	£ 180.00	Internal Audit 2022/23
Jamie King	£ 100.00	Website hosting and maintenance
Jamie King	£ 150.00	Vector file design
Cllr T J Jones	£ 150.00	Councillors allowance
Noticeboard Co. Cumbria	£1920.00	Deposit for noticeboards
Noticeboard Co. Cumbria	£1920.00	Balance for noticeboards

2874 – The Audit Notice from Audit Wales has now been received, although not in time for us to meet the deadline for submission. The Clerk explained that it was therefore necessary to publish an explanation for the lateness which should prevent the Council receiving a qualification comment on the final accounts. The Clerk reported that all necessary procedures and arrangements had been complied with in accordance with the Audit Notice.

The Clerk presented the 2022/23 Annual Accounts and Governance statements which have been audited the LHP, the Council's auditors, with no comment or corrections.

Approval of the annual accounts and compliance process was proposed by Cllr C. Atkins, seconded by Cllr H. Williams and agreed by Full Council.

2875 – Councillor's Allowances for the financial year 2023/24 – Cllr Jones wished to claim his allowance in order to make a donation to Cancer Research. All other sitting Councillors have declined their allowance and have signed the appropriate letters, as set out in IRPW guidance.

8. County Councillor's Report

County Cllr Jones was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments but she sent the following information in an email to the Clerk in response to concerns raised by local residents.

- A question has arisen regarding the naming of the new housing development to the south of Dôl y Dderwen. A Consultation Notice has been posted in Dôl y Dderwen inviting comments on the proposed name of the new development – Parc Penycoed. I believe it reads as though some of the existing properties in Dôl y Dderwen are to have their address changed, but this is not the case. The new name Parc Penycoed is for the new housing development only. I have had confirmation from the Street Naming department that this is the case.

Councillors asked the Clerk to check with County Cllr Jones on progress raising money for the swimming lessons and any request she may wish to make regarding pupils at Ysgol Llangain.

9. Any Other Business

2869 – The Clerk reported that the May meeting of the Sports & Recreation committee (Llangain Park committee) had taken place and new officers have now been appointed.

2870 – Cllr Jones thanked the County Council for the trashing work at both Smyrna crossroads and Church Road junction but commented that the hedges on the first part of Church Road up to Neuadd Cain and down to Yr Hen Eglwys were seriously overgrown and causing danger to walkers and cyclists. Clerk to contact Carmarthenshire County Council.

2878 – Cllr Williams reported that there is to be a retirement gift presentation, at 1.30pm on Thursday 20th July, to Mrs Trefina Jones in recognition of her dedication as head teacher of the Ffederasiwn Ysgolion Bancyfelin, Llangain a Llansteffan.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20th September 2023.