# LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDEILIO BERTHOLAU

#### Council website address-www.llantiliopertholeycc.org.uk

Chairman/Cadeiriad Councillor G.G.Cowan 119 Croesonen Parc Mardy

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# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY COMMUNITY HALL ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

Those present: Councillors GG Cowan (Chair), Miss N Watkins (Vice-Chair), M Skinner, Rev M Lane, Rev J Gray, B Martinetz, Mrs S Gillie, C Harry and K Eldridge

# 1 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were given by Councillor Ewers and by Councillor R Harris. The meeting noted with regret the resignation of Councillor M Hughes.

#### 2 Declaration of interests.

It was agreed that these should be given as and when they arose

# 3 Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Officers for the year 2021/22

Councillor GG Cowan was proposed as Chairman by Councillor Martinetz, seconded by Councillor Rev M Lane, and duly elected.

Councillor Ms N Watkins was proposed as Vice-Chair by Councillor Martinetz and seconded by Councillor Mrs S Gillie, and duly elected.

It was agreed that the present arrangement, under which all Councillors are members of all committees, should remain in force.

# 4 Discussion on policing issues with Gwent Police personnel

There was no attendance by a member of the Gwent Police personnel, but the Clerk distributed the Police Report for April 2021. It appeared that they were concentrating on Drugs and Anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Harry said he had been responsible for reporting the incident in Penry Close.

In relation to the damage to the fence around the football ground, for which children had been responsible, both Councillor Harry and Councillor Skinner reported that this had been repaired. Councillor Cowan said that CCTV from the Community Hall was on offer if the club wanted to see it in the event of further incidents of the same kind.

Councillor Mrs S Gillie said that she was concerned that there now appeared to be no police station in Abergavenny at all, although Councillor Ms N Watkins said that the town had been promised a new station.

The Clerk said he had been promised that a Police representative would attend the next meeting.

#### 5 To receive the Monthly update reports from County Councillors

County Councillor Rev M Lane said that the County Council had its AGM the following day. There was little to report save that he had been assured by Mark Hand, Head of Highways, that Hereford Road was on the programme for resurfacing during the financial year 2021/22, and would be batched with the 20 mph pilot for Abergavenny Town. There would be a 40 mph speed limit from Triley Bridge, coming down to 20 mph where the current 30 mph limit began. Regrettably, he did not have any reassurances regarding a weight restriction. County Councillor Rev M Lane said that he himself had spoken to the management at Pontrilas, and the number of heavy lorries had initially decreased slightly, but had returned to the same level more recently. Councillor Harry asked about the black box which had appeared on a lamp-post opposite Willow Court. He presumed that it was to monitor speed on the Hereford Road, but it was not clear from which direction.

# 6 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st April 2021

The Minutes were approved

# 7 To consider Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st April 2021

Page 2 – The Clerk read out the response he had received from Mark Hand regarding the issue of parking on pavements. Essentially, this remained a matter for the police unless the vehicle was parked over double yellow lines. Mr Hand had asked to be notified about specific streets where this was a frequent issue, and he would ask civil enforcement officers to patrol those hotspots. It appears that the Welsh Government is considering making pavement parking illegal by default.

Page 3 – (b) – The Clerk said there had been no satisfactory response to the advertisement for a Caretaker and Cleaner in the *Abergavenny Chronicle*. Councillor Ms N Watkins said she would be putting something onto the mass media, in hope of a more vigorous response. It was agreed that that was the medium of choice for many people, and might be more likely to produce a result. Councillor Harry said he would put it on the Willow Court neighbourhood site. It was agreed that the Council should at least consider the possibility of having two people rather than one. Councillor Ms N Watkins said that people she had spoken to had shied away once they realised the extent of the cleaning that was required. Councillor Cowan said that, whoever took either job, it was best dealt with by persons living locally.

Page 3 - (e) – The Clerk reported that it had been agreed with Jane Lee, Clerk of Abergavenny Town, that they would make a joint approach to Monmouthshire County Council and then to Welsh Government regarding the issue of travel to and from Cardiff.

Page 4 (f) – The Clerk reported that the issue of markings on the Car Park had been referred to Nigel Leaworthy, who said he had referred this to Highways. So far, there had been no response, and he had e-mailed Nigel to ask him to jog somebody's elbow, and would continue to monitor the situation.

Page 5-9 – The Clerk said that his understanding from the previous year was clearly incorrect, and the Council was not entitled to exemption from Council Tax for 2020/1.

Page 6-15(a) – The Clerk said he had investigated the cost of a new printer. The one recommended by Vision was more expensive than others, at £232.50 + VAT, but they said that the ink supply built into the machine would last for up to three years. Since ink cartridges were currently costing anything up to £30 per month, arguably this printer would effectively start paying for itself in eight or nine months. The Council agreed that the Clerk should purchase this printer.

# 8 To consider correspondence received.

- (a) The Clerk reported on an e-mail from Monmouthshire County Council regarding the proposed removal of public payphones. The Council had made representations about this in the past in relation to areas where people did not tend to have mobile phones or the signal was weak for example, Bryn-y-Gwenin. Councillor Rev J Gray said that the boxes themselves were often left *in situ* to act as libraries or to house defibrillators.
- (b) A letter from a Mr R Smith was read out, being a complaint concerning the conduct of one of the Councillors. It was agreed that the letter should be disclosed to the Councillor concerned to give him an opportunity to consider his response.

# 9 To consider planning matters.

(a) DM/2021/00316 - 3 Gwent Road – Applicants unknown – single storey extension. The Council agreed that more information should be sought before that application was considered.

#### 10 To consider the payment of Accounts

The following payments were agreed:

Clerk's salary £1215.28

HMRC £243.05
Gas £106.77
Admin £ 58.39
Merlin £580.00

Wixi £151.20 (Web-site)

Monmouthshire CC Council Tax 2020/1 £1,578.25

#### 11 To consider the Financial Statement

The Clerk distributed the Statement for the end of April 2021.

The statement for the end of March 2021, which was effectively the profit and Loss Account of the Council, had already been distributed and considered by the Finance Committee. The Council gave formal authorisation for this to go to internal auditor

#### 12 To consider any matters regarding the Playing Fields Committee

Councillor Cowan expressed his concern at the condition of the flooring of the children's playground. The Clerk confirmed this issue was in hand.

# 13 To consider matters relating to the Community Hall

Councillor Ms N Watkins said she had received enquiries for bookings. Without a Manager/Caretaker, they would be difficult to manage anyway, but at the moment it was impossible to predict when restrictions would be relaxed sufficiently, and the Council would very likely have to maintain rigorous cleaning and sanitisation for some time to come.

Councillor Cowan said he had heard of a machine being used in Ebbw Vale which cost £280 or so plus chemicals, and which would sanitise the hall in 45 minutes to an hour.

#### 14 To receive information from One Voice Wales

No information was available

#### 15 To receive any reports on activities of outside bodies

No reports had been received

#### 16 To consider any matters that the Chair considers urgent

- (a) Councillor Mrs S Gillie reported that the new web-site was now live. She asked for any photographs to be sent to her. Councillor Lane reported photographs of the Church Hall and the church.
- (b) Councillor Rev M Lane said that he was trying to encourage the continuation of the footpath on the western side of the Hereford Road up to the Willow Court estate.
- 17 Date of the next meeting of the Council the next meeting was fixed for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021at 7pm.