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**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of February 10th 7pm– Llanelly Community Council**

Present: Cllr R Dixon (Chair), Cllr G Nelmes, Cllr H Stockham, Cllr J Pratt, Cllr J Peacock, Cllr N Curtis, Cllr L Dainton, Cllr D Williams, Cllr P Bell

Chairman welcomed everyone

Attendance:

Temp Admin Support

13 residents

1. **Apologies:**

Cllr H Jarvis, Cllr A Thomas, Cllr K Rose

1. **Declaration of Interest:**

Declaration of interest signed by:

* Cllr R Dixon (Scouts Hut Lease)
* Cllr R Dixon (Planning Item 20/18209)
* Cllr J Peacock (Gilwern Roots)
* Cllr H Stockham (Planning item 20/18197)
* Cllr G Nelmes (Item U3A Correspondence)

1. **15 minutes set aside for Community interaction and members of the community to ask the Chairman or Council questions of local interest. Any questions should be submitted to the clerk 3 working days before the meeting.**

A resident spoke regarding his support for the Scouts Extension of Demise request.

Another resident requested to speak but had not given to allotted notice of 3 days.

Cllr Dixon addressed the residents and acknowledged the interest in the proposed extension of demise and stated that dog walkers are currently allowed to walk anywhere in the playing fields. Cllr J Pratt spoke regarding the strong views that are held by Welsh Government regarding dog walking and children’s park areas; that the playing field should be as accessible to as many residents as possible.

Residents were keen to express that access to the ground was not just by dog walkers

Cllr Nelmes suggested that if residents felt strongly they could speak in the 15 minute slot that would be available at the next meeting if the item is deferred. Cllr Dixon acknowledged the number of residents and suggested that considering the number of speakers it might be wise to elect a Chairperson to speak on the group’s behalf as the allotted time for speaking is 3 minutes.

Cllr J Peacock requested that if anyone would like to respond then to please use the Council’s email address.

Cllr Nelmes confirmed that there is no official planning application, that the matter at hand is a renegotiation of the existing lease to the Scouts hut and a request for an extension of demise by the Scouts. He acknowledged that the poster might have made it look like a more “official” application.

Cllr Dixon understood that people felt the need to talk, but requested it this could be done outside of this meeting, that anyone with questions to speak contact himself and visit in the week. He felt there would be a way of working together and would welcome all ideas.

1. **To confirm the minutes from the Ordinary meeting of the 13th Jan as an accurate record. And to confirm that the minutes from the personnel meeting of the 21st Jan were accurate.**

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and seconded by Cllr J Pratt that the Ordinary Meeting of the 13th Jan minutes were a true and accurate record with changes to the attendees.*

***Resolution: Minutes were accepted as true and accurate (13th Jan Ordinary)***

*Proposed by Cllr H Stockham and seconded by Cllr N Curtis that the Personnel meeting minutes were true and accurate.*

***Resolved: Minutes were accepted as true and accurate (21st Jan Personnel)***

1. **Matters Arising from 13th Jan meeting**
2. Legacy: Cllr Nelmes reported that Arcadis have taken away the projects from the Community Council to score against their remit. The next scheduled meeting is the 19th at February 10am.
3. Website: Temp Admin confirmed that we are still awaiting the new web address to be registered.
4. Tree Survey: The contracted tree surgeon is still undertaking the survey. Cllr Dixon stated that further tree works are needed in Clydach. *Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and seconded by Cllr H Stockham to undertake the emergency tree survey – there were also Ash noted in the Clydach field that would need to be inspected for Ash die back.*
5. Legionnaires: This was progressing.
6. Licence: Progressing slowly
7. Outside lights: These were all LED and on sensors expect for the pole light which is on a timer.
8. CLP: The meeting on the 22nd did not go ahead due to Cllr attendance, new date is required. *Councillors were supplied with dates listed by the Parks for an alternative and 26th Feb between 6-7pm was chosen.*
9. Canal Towpath: Cllr N Curtis is still awaiting a date to be fixed for a meeting. Cllr Nelmes confirmed that the
10. Gate opener/closer: there is now a new sub-contracted person in this role, it has been combined with the toilets opening and closing.
11. Appointment of a new Clerk: The advert has now been sent to the Abergavenny Chronicle.
12. VE Day: Cllr Nelmes confirmed that this has not progressed; he had spoken informally with the U3A who did not necessarily want to be involved. He informed the Council of ideas that Abergavenny groups had come up with, there were no proposals from the Council.
13. **Scouts Hut Lease extension and extension of demise:**

Cllr R Dixon stated that the proposal concerning the extension of demise was still out for public consultation.

A resident requested to speak, stating that her request had been within the 3 days notice. The Chair accepted the request. The resident spoke about how she spends a lot of time in the park, and felt that the proposal with too large. Children played often in that part of the woods including games such as role playing and hiding, it encourages independence for those children. There was also little understanding about how the proposed plans would be executed (for example fence size).

Cllr Dixon stated that he would assume that any new fencing would be enhanced with a hedgerow and the type of fencing currently in situ would not be the preferred option. The resident stated that the fencing currently used around the Scouts hit is an eyesore.

Further discussion included a request from the resident regarding the number of Scouts that are from Gilwern ward and ideas that might be acceptable to all parties.

The Chair stated that as the consultation date is not yet reached that this item be deferred.

*Proposed by Cllr L Dainton and seconded by Cllr D Williams to defer this item until the next meeting.*

***Resolved: item deferred to allow for further discussion***

1. **Planning:**

* **20/18197/FUL** Demolition and rebuild of conservatory, 9 Bank Crescent, Gilwern, NP7 0DL  ***No comment***
* **20/18209/FUL** Erection of timber framed Home Office/Studio with washroom facilities, Bailey Crescent ***No Comment***
* **20/18294/FUL** Proposed single storey extension, Hillcrest Hiley Avenue, Gilwern, NP7 0DW ***No Comment***
* **20/18303/CON** *Modification of Section 106 associated with affordable housing contribution,* Darenfelin School, Darenfelin, Llanelly Hill, Abergavenny, NP7 0NR ***request for more information regarding the original plans***

1. **Finance:**

* Cllr Nelmes confirmed that Monmouthshire had received the Council’s precept request and agreed so that the precept for next year will be £101,000.
* The attached Financial Statement is to the end of Jan 2020.
* Cllr Dixon stated that a new quotation for the back rooms, office and the stock room in the library have been given by the painter currently undertaking work in the hall. As this is a continuation of contract this work will be undertaken by him
* Cllr J Pratt wished to once again thank Cllr Nelmes for his hard work

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and seconded by Cllr L Dainton to accept the statement and the list of payments for invoices.*

***Resolved: Financial statement and invoices for payment accepted***

* Cllr Nelmes confirmed that the VAT forms will be sent within the next two weeks, he expects it to be accepted at a maximum for £7-8k although the total bill is £11k.
* Cllr Nelmes suggested that the Council acquire a new accounting package for the new financial year. Cllr Dixon also confirmed that the computer will need replacing.

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and Seconded by Cllr T Corfield that both the system and the PC be updated in the new financial year*

***Resolved: To source and quote for a new accounting system and PC***

* The Chair informed the Council that there needs to be a further discussion regarding online banking. Cllr Nelmes explained that it would be advantageous for certain items to be paid by electronic transfer such as salaries.

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and seconded by Cllr L Dainton to start the process for setting up online banking for the Council*

***Resolved: For the Council to progress listed items to Direct Debit and electronic payments utilising online banking***

* Cllr Nelmes informed the Council that there was a need for the former Clerk to be removed from the Natwest bank account, but a resolution was required for Natwest’s paperwork.

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and seconded by Cllr H Stockham to make a resolution to remove the former Clerk’s name from the mandate.*

**Resolved: for the above paperwork to be gathered arrangement for the signatory to be removed.**

1. **Grant applications**

* Gilfest 2020 – request for use of the field on the 29th August

*Proposed by Cllr Dainton and seconded by Cllr Curtis that Gilwern Roots be allowed to run Gilfest in the playing field on the 29th August 2020*

***Resolved: Council agreed to this request***

* Gilwern Roots – grant request for £1,931.50 for Gilfest 2020

Cllr Nelmes read out from the supplied budget what the group wanted the grant for. Councillors discussed if this could be concluded by using the Wellbeing heading. Cllr Nelmes stated that the payment would need to come in the new financial year if agreed due to a grant already being given in the 2019-2020 financial year. Cllrs Curtis and Williams suggested that this be gifted under Wellbeing.

*Proposed by Cllr L Dainton and seconded by Cllr J Pratt to pay the requested amount from wellbeing in the new financial year.*

***Resolved: Council agreed to pay the requested amount via the wellbeing budget in the year 2020-2021***

* Everyday Play – request via Gilwern Roots. Ms H Pickering confirmed that the request is for a day’s use of the wooded area at the back of the Playing Field to allow Everyday Play to engage in forest play with local children. The Council was in agreement pending tree health and safety inspections.
* Summer Play Scheme. Cllr Nelmes informed the Council of the scheme by which local children in the Abergavenny area attended summer play scheme are paid for mainly by Welsh Government grant. There was a deficit in the scheme and MCC had asked Town and Community Councils to make up this deficit at the last NMLC meeting. After discussion Councillors asked Cllr Nelmes as Vice Chair of Governors of Gilwern Primary School to find out if they were running a Play scheme over the Summer of 2020. Cllr J Peacock asked about free bus access to the scheme, MCC had offered this in exceptional circumstances but it had not been taken up.
* Abergavenny Eisteddfod. After discussion it wasn’t sure how many from the school were involved and so it was decided not to give a contribution this year.

1. **Green Ribbon Dog Walkers Scheme (Cllr J Peacock)**

Cllr Peacock explained to the Councillors what the scheme was and the idea of supplying green ribbons to dog walkers who wanted to be part of it. After discussion it was agreed to purchase the ribbon and there was further discussion of the arrangements for a pledge and this needed to be in line with GDPR requirements if it was to go ahead.

*Proposed by Cllr D Williams and Seconded by Cllr L Dainton to proceed with the scheme and for Cllr Peacock to administer and promote.*

***Resolved: for the scheme to go head***

1. **Reports from members on outside bodies:**

* Cllr Nelmes reported of MCC Strategic Transport meeting. There was progress on the new Abergavenny bus stop in that permission had been granted by highways but the funding was still unsure. Abergavenny Railway station had priority for disability access and Network Rail was undertaking a works study to move the signal in the Spring but it is still unsure when the new disability bridge will be in place, possibly 2023.
* Active Travel bids were being prepared. Cllr Nelmes had hoped that the Towpath would be able to be funded through a bid, but this was not possible as the Council’s 3 bids were Caldicot, Usk and Monmouth and core funding of just over £235k was committed elsewhere but if schemes did not go ahead there would be a possibility of finding some money.
* Access to Neville Hall Hospital. Informal discussion with MCC transport policy officer showed that there was merit in Cllr Nelmes scheme to open up a new access at the front end of the hospital.
* Cllr P Bell reported on the training she has received from Planning Aid Wales on Community Energy Schemes. She commented on how these can be linked in to Place Plans. Cllr Stockham suggested looking at the fesability of hydro-electric scheme on the river Clydach and Cllr Nelmes passed over an advert from the Focus relating to electric charge points which would should investigate for the Council’s sites.

1. **Reports from members of the County Council:**

* Cllr J Pratt reported on the budget discussion and that there was now an increase of 4.9%, they had hoped that it could have been bought down by receiving an extra grant from Welsh Government to 3.9%.
* Regional Transport – the Welsh Government was not less committed to the national 20mph scheme. The Chair was reminded of the need to repair or replace the Llanelly Hill speed awareness sign.
* A white paper had been produced by Cardiff City Council regarding a congestion charge scheme in to Cardiff

1. **Correspondence received. Correspondence list be presented at the meeting.**

* Park Watch Scheme – email from PCSO Yung outlining the scheme for the playing fields.
* U3A – letter from the Chair thanking the Council for its efforts in redeveloping the centre and requesting if they could pay for install a new scheme in the Hall.

*Proposed by L Dainton and seconded by Cllr H Stockham to accept the proposal from the U3A.* ***Resolved: for Cllr Nelmes to report back to the U3A***

* Boundary Commission – One Voice Wales email. That the Boundary Commission recommended that they take no action to MCCs perceived mistakes in the review and that they await the next review in 8 years time. This did not really affect Llanelly Community Council as there was only one house change.
* Mrs H Watkins has thanked the Council for her gift on retirement as gate keeper, and the Council thanked her again for her service to MCC and Llanelly Community Council over the last 40 years.

1. **EXTRA AGENDA ITEM CALLED BY THE CHAIR**

**Proposed that this item was held without the public present due to its confidential nature.**

*Proposed by Cllr N Curtis and Seconded by Cllr H Stockham that the item be held without the public present.*

***Resolved: Council voted unanimously to hold the item without the public present***

Members of the public left the meeting

**REDACTED**

* Cllr Dixon informed the Council that a complaint made to the ICO by the previous Clerk had been upheld as the Council had not responded within the time scale. This was due to the FOI being handed to a Cllr and then to the Council. Cllr Dixon stated that it is necessary for Cllrs to undertake both Code of Conduct and Data Protection training. He also explained that there needed to be a data officer contract, which would normally be the RFO/Clerk and in the absence on one he is happy to take this role.

1. **Agenda items from members for inclusion on the next agenda as Standing Orders 9 (b)**