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**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held remotely via Zoom on March 8th 2021 at 7pm– Llanelly Community Council**

Present: Cllr R Dixon (Chair), Cllr J Pratt, Cllr G Nelmes, Cllr N Curtis, Cllr P Bell, Cllr F Morgan, Cllr K Rose – for part of the meeting,

Attendance:

Clerk – N James,

The Chairman formally welcomed Cllr Morgan to his first Council meeting.

1. **Apologies:**

Cllr L Dainton, Cllr H Stockham, Cllr D Williams, Cllr A Thomas, Cllr H Jarvis, Cllr T Corfield..

1. **Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **Open Session**

There were no members of the public logged on nor had any items been forwarded to the Clerk for discussion.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting of the 8th February were approved.

**5. Matters Arising from 23rd November meeting**

* 1. Para 3 – a meeting had been arranged on site on 15th March with the Woodland Trust to discuss the planting of new, replacement trees in the woods around the playing fields/Community Centre.
	2. Para 5b –the quotes for supplying electricity to the carparks at Main Road and the Community Centre were £8000 and £3000 ex VAT respectively. Further costs would be incurred for the installation of the connection units which would be in the region of £7-10000 for a two-car connector at each location. See para 10d below.
	3. Para 5d –the Clerk was still awaiting quotes for the skate park boards and had chased again for these. In addition, a quote had been requested from the original supplier. It was recognised that there were concerns from local residents regarding the current state of the one main piece of equipment and it was hoped that a quotation would be forthcoming very shortly. **Action: NJ.**
	4. Para 5e –In his absence Cllr Dainton had advised that he was still awaiting a decision from the family regarding the details for the bench. He would hope to be able to confirm these at the next meeting. **Action: LD**.
	5. Para 7a – the Clerk had forwarded the response from BDO which advised that many audits had been delayed by the pandemic
	6. Para 8 – no application had been received for the Clydach Ward cooption vacancy; the vacancy would remain open.
	7. Paras 10/11 – Cllr Bell had asked to defer these agenda items until the next meeting.
	8. Para 13 – the Chair advised that there was still no decision as to whether the School would need to make use of the Centre for the summer term.
		+ 1. **Planning**
	9. 20/18916/FUL – proposed extension to existing dwelling at 2 Cae Aberduar, Clydach – application withdrawn.
	10. 20/19356/FUL – construction of two storey extension at 13 Elm Grove, Gilwern – permission granted.
	11. 20/19131/FUL – rear two storey extension at 41 Brynglas, Gilwern – permission granted.
	12. 21/19607/FUL – proposed front extension to existing porch at 35 Malford Grove, Gilwern – comments awaited.
	13. 21/19583/FUL – proposed single storey porch at 15 Fairholme, Gilwern – comments awaited.
	14. 21/19598/FUL – proposed extension to create office and larger lounge at Garden House, Saleyard, Maesygwartha – comments awaited.
	15. 21/19620/FUL – proposed replacement stable block at Whitewall, Clydach – comments awaited.
	16. 21/19642/FUL – to install canopy over shopfront at 18-20 Main Road, Gilwern – comments awaited.
		+ 1. **Finance**

a. Cheques –the following cheques had been signed by Cllrs, Dixon, Pratt or Nelmes on behalf of the Council from 8th February: **3067 –** Thomas Waste – 48.40; **3068 –** Cancelled; **3069 –** Viking Stationery 37.30; **3070** – BBNPA -planning application -60.00; **3071** –Merlin Waste – 585.00; **3072** - Buy a plan – maps for planning application – 26.38; **3073** - BBNPA further planning cost – 170.00; **3074** – HMRC forFeb – 199.80; **3075** -Thomas Waste – 23.50; **DD –** Swalec Gas - 426.75; **SO** – CountryBookkeeping – 5.00; **SO –** Salary – 799.25.The following invoices were submitted for Council’s approval, and subsequently approved:

**3076 –** Betterclean - 79.73

**3077 –** EON – 20.21

**3078 –** Hilary’s Flowers – 31.00

**3079 –** Viking – screen for the Main Hall – 182.35 (will be paid for by U3A)

* + 1. **-** E Keen security – 164.13
		2. -Vision ICT Annual payment – 345.60
		3. -Robert Price door strip – 7.58
		4. - Stanley Security – 60.00.

1. **Litter picking Station in the Community**

In Cllr Dainton’s unavoidable, last-minute absence this item was deferred until the April meeting. However, the Council had been asked for financial support from Llangattock Litterpickers. The Council noted though that Gilwern Roots were organising litter picking for the area at the end of March. In the past the Council had supported them with equipment and not financially. After some discussion it was agreed that no financial support would be forwarded to Ll;angattock Litterpickers on the basis of the existing, unspecified, request but if there was a valid reason for LCC to contribute the Council would reconsider. **Action: NJ.**

1. **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

There were no reports from outside bodies.

1. **Reports from County Councillor**

Cllr Pratt reported on the following issues:

* 1. The new large, green waste bins had been successfully rolled out with a large take-up from Monmouthshire residents.
	2. Cllr Pratt was championing a discussion at MCC on drainage, looking to maintain and improve drainage infrastructure within the county. She was seeking more equipment and manpower for this issue with the aim to ensure that drains and gullies were cleared out on a more regular basis to ease flooding possibilities; this would be discussed shortly at Cabinet level.
	3. She met last week with the WG Minister for Transport and sought his views on how the WG aimed to meet its very ambitious target of one bus to every village in Wales every hour as stated in its recent Transport Report. The Minister had advised though that its particular target was an ambition for 20 years time.
	4. MCC had recently published its plans for 20mph zones in the county. Unfortunately, Gilwern would not be looked at until 22/23. In the meantime she was seeking approval to increase car parking in Gilwern, in particular in the main car park off Main Road. In addition she was looking to include an EV charging point as well as additional bays. In discussion it was agreed that she would also mention to MCC the small car parking area at the top of Main Road as a possible location for another EV charging point. Given this discussion at MCC level it was agreed that LCC would defer any further thinking on the installation of an EV charging point for the time being.
	5. MCC budget – MCC would be discussing in the coming week the council tax increase for Monmouthshire although they were still hoping that the WG might release further funds that had been recently received from the UK government to county councils to help their budgets in the coming year.
	6. Cllr Pratt raised the issue of dog waste collection in the county. All councils used the same contractor for these collections and MCC and local community councils needed to be aware of the growing burden this was becoming.
	7. Recently pictures had been placed on social media of barbed wire which had been wound around a new style along the footpath from the woods in Gilwern along to Ty Mawr Lane. The wire had been placed there because many dogs had been let off the lead and caused difficulties for livestock in the field through which the footpath led. MCC had immediately ensured that the wire had been taken down and would be putting up signs regarding usage of the footpath as well as fencing- in the path.
	8. MCC had plans to improve the play facilities at Llanelly Hill to which LCC had agreed a contribution towards landscaping. Included in this work would be additional trees planted there and Cllr Bell was asked to liaise with Cllr Pratt over suitable locations for new trees there. **Action: PB/JP.**
1. **Correspondence received**
	1. Weekly updates on vaccinations from Aneurin Bevan Health Board.
	2. Consultation document on the BB National Park Management Plan review.
	3. Details from MCC of funding available for those affected by flooding in Sep 20.
	4. Elections Newsletter.
	5. Request from MCC regarding publication of the forthcoming census.
	6. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report and notification of a review into the remuneration framework for local councils during 2021.
	7. Notices of temporary road closures in Glangwryney Road, Gilwern, Station Road, Gilwern and Upper Cwm Nant Gam, Llanelly Hill.
	8. MCC notification of future action on 20mph proposals in the county.
	9. Consultation document from WG on their Litter and flytipping prevention plan for Wales.
	10. BB National Park LDP consultation paper.
	11. Briefing paper from WG on the Future of Primary Healthcare in Wales.
2. **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the Council would hold monthly meetings remotely for the foreseeable future; the next meeting would be via Zoom at 7pm on **Monday 12th April**.

**R DIXON N JAMES**

**Chair Clerk**