

**Cyngor Cymuned MOCHDRE gyda PHENSTRYWAID
MOCHDRE with PENSTROWED Community Council**

Ashford, The Bank, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2AB

www.mochdrepenstrowedcommunity.net

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday, 15th May
2017, 7:25pm at Mochdre Old School.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Robin Lewis
Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Russell Williams (Chairman)
Cllr. Philip Williams
Cllr Martin Turley

APOLOGIES:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Cllr. Karl Lewis

1. 0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

1.1. There were no apologies for absence.

1.2. **Declarations of Members' Interests**– There were no Declarations of Member's Interest made.

Name of Councillor	Item	Personal	Prejudicial

2.0. Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th March, 2017 (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 27th March, 2017 were a true record of what there and then transpired and were duly signed as such by the Chairman.

3.0. Information from the Minutes.

3.1 There was a short update from the Clerk (Minute Refs 10.1. and 16.1, 27th March, 2017 meeting) concerning the meeting that County Cllr Joy Jones had organised with Alun Griffiths' for residents affected by the Bypass. Her response to the Clerk's request for further information was that the meeting was NOT for Councillors (either Town or Community), it was purely for residents. Thus the short session with Aled Davies for the public prior to the Council's July or September meeting (once he has definitive dates for the work to commence) in order to inform the local community about what will be happening when the Mochdre Bridge infrastructure is put into place will still go ahead.

4.0. Finance

4.1. Update on Bank Balances:

- 1) Mochdre CC bank statement £7,722.40. Cash book stands at £7,722.40 (includes first Precept instalment of £2,150 and £4,875 in reserves). There are no outstanding cheques.
- 2) Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £362.39. Cash book stands at £362.39. There are no outstanding cheques.

4.2. To consider invoices for payment (if any).

1) Came and Company (Council Insurance) - £168.00 (see Minute Ref 5.0 below).
IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to pay the above amount.

5.0. **To discuss and decide to pay Insurance Renewal (due 1st June, 2017)** – Zurich have quoted £257.60 (increase from last year's renewal cost is because of the increase in Insurance Premium Tax from 10% to 12% from 1st June, 2017 but the level and basic cost of cover remains the same as last year); Came and Co. have quoted £168.00 (incl. Insurance Premium Tax) and Aon have quoted £373.06 (incl. Insurance Premium Tax). Following discussion the Council was unanimous in choosing Came and Company as its insurance provider for 2017 to 2018, as it is a "micro policy" specifically for small Councils which offers good relevant cover at a reasonable price.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to advise Came and Company accordingly.

- 6.0. To Approve the Annual Return for year ending 31st March, 2017** - Following its return from the Internal Auditor, the Council unanimously approved the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Return was then duly signed by the Chairman.
IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to forward the Annual Return to Grant Thornton (external auditor) within the required timescale.
- 6.1. Letter from Anthony Barrett, Assistant Auditor General, Wales Audit Office advising of the themes for future years. Duly noted.
- 7.0. National Assembly**
- 7.1. Planning Aid Wales "Place Plans – rolling out the concept" Event takes place on 24th May, at the Elephant and Castle, Newtown (11:45am to 4.00pm) at a cost of £17.50.
ACTION: The Clerk is to book on to the course and report back at the next meeting.
- 7.2. Good Councillor's Guide – Hard copy of latest edition received for library copy. PDF version e-mailed to Councillors on 05/05/17 and the Clerk handed out printed copies at this meeting. Cllr Turley received his New Councillor Information Pack (which includes a printed copy of the Good Councillor's Guide).
- 8.0. Planning Applications (if any)**
The Clerk reported that there were no items for discussion under this heading.
- 9.0. Powys County Council**
- 9.1. Notification received of the result of the uncontested election, which includes a Notice of Co-Option for the remaining 2 vacant seats. Duly noted. The Council was unanimous in its decision that the Notice of Co-Option for the 2 vacant seats be advertised with a deadline of the next Council meeting.
ACTION: The Clerk is to post the Notice of Co-Option on the noticeboards and also the website.
- 9.2. Notification of the change of primary admission age to Powys Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools (supplied posters have been posted on noticeboards by the Clerk). Duly noted.
- 10.0. One Voice Wales**
- 10.1. Proposal of Motions for 2017 Annual General Meeting. Duly noted.
- 10.2. New Councillor Induction Training at Machynlleth on Tuesday, 30th May (6:30pm to 9:00pm) – Cllr Martin Turley has been booked on to the course (costs £40.00 – bursary to be applied for) and also attended the Code of Conduct training run by OVW via Newtown Town Council last Thursday, 11th May (cost £35.00).
ACTION: The Clerk is to apply for a bursary for the training course in Machynlleth (the one held at Newtown Town Council Offices is not eligible for a bursary).
- 10.3. One Voice Wales/SLCC Annual Joint Wales Conference – 12th July, 2017 at the Village St Davids Hotel, Ewloe, Flintshire costs £69.00 + VAT (SLCC 50% bursary available). The Council voted unanimously that the Clerk should attend.
ACTION: The Clerk is to book on to the course and also apply for a Bursary.
- 10.4. Received via OVW from NALC, information about becoming a Local Council Tree Charter Branch. Duly noted.
- 11.0. Highway Matters**
- 11.1. Update from STWA regarding progress of new water pipe installation at Mochdre. Duly noted – the Council felt that the contractors doing this work have been very helpful and co-operative throughout.
- 11.2. Update from Chris Lloyd regarding additional dates for a temporary road closure along the Middle Dolfor Road, necessary to accommodate the ongoing bypass construction works. He has also sent information indicating a change of date for the closure of Mochdre Road (C2062) in order to put the bridge infrastructure into place - the beginning of October, 2017. Duly noted, but it has been brought to the Council's attention by residents close to the Mochdre Bypass Bridge area that, despite work having been agreed not to start before 8:00am and no weekend working, these conditions have not been met.
ACTION: The Clerk is to contact Aled Davies (Construction Manager) and appraise him of the situation.
- 12.0. SLCC**
- 12.1. New Data Protection General Regulation (GDPR) comes into force in May, 2018 – To explain the GDPR and help the Council prepare to meet its new duties, SLCC will be running a series of 90 minute webinars (on June 13th, 27th and July 5th, 2017). Cost of joining one of the webinars is £25.00 + VAT for SLCC members. The Council voted unanimously that the Clerk should attend one of the webinars.
ACTION: The Clerk is to book on to a suitably convenient webinar.

13.0. Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended

13.1. Montgomeryshire Area Committee Meeting held on 19th April at Machynlleth – there were no attendees.

13.2. Code of Conduct training - Cllr Martin Turley said that the training was an eye-opener and it had been useful to look at case studies. Overall it had been both useful and informative.

14.0. Charities/Donations (if any)

The Clerk reported that there were no items for discussion under this heading.

15.0. Community Council Grant Requests (if any)

The Clerk reported that there were no items for discussion under this heading.

16.0. Correspondence

16.1. Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community and Town Councils received from OVW. Duly noted.

ACTION: The Clerk is to review this to ascertain if the Council's Code of Conduct needs this to be added to it as an "add on" or if the protocol needs to be adopted as it stands.

16.2. Acknowledgement received from the Pensions Regulator that the Declaration of Compliance submitted by the Clerk has been completed in line with its requirements. Duly noted.

16.3. Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute on 11th November, 2018, which involves the lighting of a beacon or traditional bonfire beacon. Following discussion the Council was in agreement that it would be a good idea to participate in this event but, as suggested by Cllr Turley, that it be done via the YFC's "Bonfire Night" event.

ACTION: Cllr Turley is to establish if the YFC would be happy to do this.

16.4. Welsh Government Code of Practice on Workforce Matters – Annual Monitoring Exercise. Following discussion the Council voted unanimously that a nil return was required to complete this matter.

ACTION: The Clerk is to complete a nil return.

16.5. Marie Curie "Blooming Great Tea Party" event (between 23rd and 25th June) – request to promote it within the community. The Council voted unanimously in favour of this.

ACTION: The Clerk is to display the poster on some of the community noticeboards.

17.0. To receive questions from Councillors:

17.1. Stepside post box needs refurbishing and residents have asked if they can repaint it themselves.

ACTION: The Clerk is to contact Royal Mail to establish the correct procedure.

17.2. The Council's attention was drawn to the condition of the lane at the back of Stepside. Phil Evans, who lives at the end of the lane has complained that it is messy, has potholes, is dusty in summer, etc. Recently the residents of Lower Talwrn have resurfaced the majority of the length of the lane, stopping just short of Mr Evans' property, but have also filled in the potholes in the lane in front of his property. This was duly discussed - the lane in question is unadopted, i.e. private and outside the Council remit.

ACTION: The Clerk is to monitor the situation and write to Mr Evans accordingly.

17.3. The Council's attention was drawn to STWA's contractor's unauthorised use of the Old School field as a compound for its equipment during the water main installation work. This also involved a hole being cut in the fence to allow a large item of their equipment to get through and onto the field. Cllr Jones, who rents the field, has asked STWA for compensation for this (which will be given to the Community Council to spend on the refurbishment of the car park). He awaits a meeting with the Finance Director.

18.0. Chairman's Announcements

18.1. The Chairman has been advised by the Clerk (following receipt of an e-mail from him) that Neil Ainsworth, who lives at the Pentre, was unaware that the community had Defibrillators. The Clerk has posted new notices in the Pentre area advising where the nearest Defibrillator is positioned, and also added the information for both Defibrillators on to the website. Duly noted.

18.2. The Council discussed the possibility of having a Council credit, debit or charge card for emergency purchases up to £500 maximum.

ACTION: The Clerk is to investigate options and report back.

18.3. The Chairman offered the Council's congratulations to Cllr Jones on the birth of his daughter.

19.0. Date of next meeting

19.1. Next meeting will be on Monday, 26th June, 2017.

Meeting closed at 8:50pm.