

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

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

www.mochdrepenstrowedcommunity.net

**Minutes of the online Council Meeting held on Monday, 7th  
September 2020, at 7:00pm**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Cllr. Lloyd Humphreys

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

1. 0. **Attendance and Apologies for Absence** – See above.
- 1.1. **Declarations of Members' Interests**– There were no Declarations of Member's Interest made.
- 2.0. **Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th July, 2020 (previously circulated).**
- 2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27th July, 2020 were a true record of what there and then transpired and will be duly signed as such by the Chairman (see 4.2. below).
- 3.0. **Information from the Minutes.**  
There was no information from the minutes.
- 4.0. **Finance**
- 4.1. **Update on Bank Balances:**
  - 1) Mochdre CC bank statement £7,401.44. Cash book stands at £7,401.44. There are no outstanding cheques.
  - 2) Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £4,261.21. Cash book stands at £4,261.21.

There are no outstanding cheques. (The Clerk reported that she had received the annual cheque from P & L today for £1,419.70 which, when banked, will bring the total in that account to £5,680.91).

#### **4.2. To consider invoices for payment.**

- 1) K. Wigley - £976.00 (Clerk's fee – Second Quarter).
- 2) HMRC - £149.00 (PAYE Income Tax on Clerk's fee).
- 3) K. Wigley - £40.00 (re-imbursal of Clerk for payment of ICO Annual Fee).
- 4) Mochdre and Penstrowed YFC - £100.00 (Annual grant £50.00x 2 as last year's cheque was mislaid by the YFC and never cashed).
- 5) Bowel Cancer UK - £100.00 (donation as agreed at 14.1. below).

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to pay the above amounts. It was agreed that three Councillors and the Clerk would attend at the Old School on Sunday morning (13th September), 10:00 am to sign off the cheques and update the signing of the Minute Book.

#### **5.0. HistoryPoints Project**

- 5.1.** The draft web page was e-mailed to Councillors on 18th August, 2020 for comments. The Clerk received four replies, one of which concerned two omissions from the list of the fallen of the Second World War and the Clerk found the remaining one. This information had been passed on to HistoryPoints and they had rectified this so that the latest edition was available and e-mailed to Councillors prior to this meeting, to enable them to comment. The Council unanimously agreed that the latest edition was "good to go".
- ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to inform HistoryPoints accordingly.

#### **6.0. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales**

- 6.1.** The Clerk e-mailed a letter template to the remaining five Councillors on 27th July, 2020 (as requested at the last meeting – Minute Ref 6.1., 27th July, 2020 meeting) for them to sign, date and return to the Clerk as soon as

possible to comply with the legislation in place. Two remain outstanding.

#### **7.0. Planning Applications (if any)**

The Clerk reported that there were no Planning Applications to be discussed.

#### **8.0. Highway Matters**

- 8.1.** Response received from Danny Jarman on 28th July confirming that the work in question had been done (see Minute Ref 8.1., 27th July, 2020 meeting). Duly noted.
- 8.2.** Further response received from Clun Town Council Clerk regarding how effective the CCTV had been in combating damage to the bridge at Clun – it had not stopped incidents of damage, just made it easier to identify the culprits involved when it did happen (not exactly satisfactory as the Council had hoped that CCTV would deter such incidents happening in the first place!). Following a lengthy discussion the Council voted unanimously that County Cllr Karl Lewis be contacted in relation to the proposed weight limit (see 8.4. below) to hopefully get things moving along – to get confirmation that any weight limit imposed, irrespective of the size, would still allow local businesses to use the bridge for access only. It was also stated that it would have been very helpful if County Cllr Karl Lewis had been present at Community Council meetings to discuss this long drawn-out issue direct – Councillors expressed concern that he had not attended any Community Council meetings (either face-to-face or virtual) since December, 2019 and wanted to know why this was the case.
- ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to contact County Cllr Karl Lewis with regard to the weight restriction and also ask in a direct manner why he had not attended Council meetings since last year.
- 8.3.** Response received from Tim Barnes (Welsh Government) further to the Council's request that a 50mph speed limit be put in place on the main road through Penstrowed, it having been forwarded on to him by Andrew Jones (Route Manager

N. Powys). (See Minute Ref 14.2., 27th July, 2020 meeting). This was duly noted and Cllr Russell Williams asked that the link in the letter, to Go Safe, the Road Safety Partnership, be e-mailed to both him and Cllr Humphreys so that they could contact them accordingly, as suggested in the letter.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to forward the link as requested.

- 8.4.** Rhyd-y-Cwrt Bridge - Response received from County Cllr Karl Lewis stating that no decision had as yet been made concerning the proposed weight limit. This was further to his receiving the requested comments from Community Councillors, which were e-mailed to him on 6th August, 2020. Duly noted – see 8.2. above.

**9.0. One Voice Wales**

- 9.1.** Training to recommence via StarLeaf video conferencing. Duly noted.

**10.0. Garn Fach Wind Farm**

- 10.1.** Representative required to serve as a member of the Garn Fach Wind Farm Community Liaison Group, whose inaugural meeting is on Wednesday, 16th September at 6:00pm at Llanbadarn Fynydd Village Hall. Cllr Robin Lewis volunteered to be the Council's representative and attend the inaugural meeting.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to forward Cllr Lewis's contact details on so that he could receive his information pack prior to the inaugural meeting.

**11.0. SLCC**

- 11.1.** Virtual National Conference 12th to 16th October 2020 – £25.00 + VAT. Clerk would like to attend. The Council voted unanimously in favour of the Clerk attending.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to book and pay and be reimbursed when possible.

## **12.0.Welsh Parliament**

**12.1.**Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill Consultation – Bill and Explanatory Memorandum e-mailed to Councillors on 17th July, 2020. Responses required by 13th September, 2020. The Council voted not to respond.

## **13.0.Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended**

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

## **14.0.Charities/Donations.**

**14.1.**Request for a donation from Bowel Cancer UK. The Council voted unanimously to donate £100.00 to this worthy cause and for the cheque to be raised at this meeting (see 4.2. above).

## **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.**One Voice Wales Guidance to Councils on Holding Meetings on a Physical Basis- Duly noted, it was felt that there was no rush to return to this mode of meeting and that, when the Council felt it was safe to do so, a comprehensive Risk Assessment would have to be done first.

## **17.0.To receive questions from Councillors**

**17.1.** Further reference made to the issue raised last December (see Minute Ref. 11.1. 9th December, 2019 meeting) concerning two oak trees situated between Llwyn Onn and Tan-Y-Grieg whose roots are making the road surface lift, which County Cllr Karl Lewis said he would investigate to see what could be done and report back at the next meeting. This has never happened because of the County Cllr's non-attendance at subsequent meetings, so the question needs to be asked again.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to contact County Cllr Karl Lewis accordingly.

**17.2.** Cllr Jean Williams drew the Council's attention to Mochdre Church's current financial challenges caused by the Covid 19 closure and asked for the Council to consider how it might help. Bills for insurance, heating, etc still have to be paid along with the Annual Share, despite a lack of incoming funds. In the resulting discussion it was stated by some of the Councillors that it would be preferable to pay towards those things which are costs specific to Mochdre Church itself rather than towards the Diocese Annual Share. To this end the Council voted to invite Mrs Enid Morgan (Church Treasurer) to attend the next meeting with the information regarding what costs have to be met (via Zoom at Cllr Jean William's house) and in the interim for the Clerk to establish if there are any restrictions on what P & L community benefits can pay for.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to contact Mrs Enid Morgan accordingly and check with Rob Pryce at Eurus Energy to see if there are any restrictions on what the community benefits funds can pay for.

### **18.0.Chairman's Announcements**

**18.1.**Hollybush has been sold again to someone from West Wales.

**18.2.**Overhanging tree near Caerhowell brought to the Clerk's attention on 12th August, 2020 – Cllr Russell Williams (Chairman) asked the Clerk to contact Danny Jarman to see if this tree could be cut back as it was creating an obstruction to local farmers transporting bales up that road. As a result Danny Jarman went and inspected the situation but reported back that although the trees are situated in the verge, in the front of the hedge line, most of the Land Registry cadastral parcels on the Land Registry cadastral map (a map that shows the boundaries and ownership of land parcels) show ownership belongs to the land owners to the road. Therefore as no Land Register is shown where the trees are situated at present on the Land Registry map he could only assume that the trees belong to Morgans of Caerhowell. Thus it was up to the landowner to cut back the trees.

**ACTION:** Cllr Philip Williams to approach Donny Morgan to see if he is happy to do something about the overhanging tree

himself or willing to give his permission for others to do so.

**19.0.Date of next meeting: Monday, 26th October 2020.**

The meeting closed at 8:10pm.