

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

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

www.mochdrepentrowedcommunity.net

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 1st August 2016, at
7:00pm at Mochdre Old School.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Paul Sawtell
Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Linda Davies
Cllr. Douglas Wood
Cllr. Robin Lewis (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Philip Williams
Cllr. Russell Williams (Chairman)

APOLOGIES:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Cllr. Roche Davies

1.0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

1.1. See above. There were no apologies.

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 Meeting held on 27th June, 2016 (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 27th June, 2016 were a true record of what there and then transpired and were signed by the Chairman.

3.0. Information from the Minutes.

- 3.1. Gary Mitchell (NADAC) attended to discuss/address Councillors' concerns raised at the last meeting concerning car rallies held in this area (Minute Ref 9.1. 27th June, 2016 meeting). He said he had received 2 complaints from Mochdre residents about the Rally (from 2 people who are almost neighbours), but otherwise was not aware of any problems. NADAC does try to work with the community where local events occurring at the same time as the rally are concerned (e.g. wedding parties, etc) but needs to be advised of these things (the route this year had been changed 2 weeks prior to the start of the rally, away from the bottom of Moat Lane, to accommodate caravan owners in that area). He said that the rally has a set date - the first weekend of June every year. He noted the Council's concern about lack of notification and will give a reminder about 2 months before (Clerk to post notices/add to website). Overall he noted the Council's concerns and will take them back to NADAC.
- 3.2. Stepside War Memorial – Cllr Jean Williams has been unable to ascertain its whereabouts as yet.
ACTION: Cllr Williams will continue to make enquiries.
- 3.3. Thank you received from PCC regarding Council's thanks for its swift response in attending to the potholes in Gelli Lane (Minute Ref 9.1. 27th June, 2016 meeting) was duly noted..
- 3.4. Response from PCC reference grass verge cutting issues (Minute Ref 16.1. 27th June, 2016 meeting). Duly noted, awaiting a full reply in due course.

4.0. Finance

4.1. Update on Bank Balances:

- 1) Mochdre CC bank statement £6,181.00. Cash book stands at £6,092.60. There is one outstanding cheque for £88.40. The VAT repayment paid into someone else's account is still being chased!
- 2) Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £595.53. Cash book stands at £595.53. There are no outstanding cheques.

4.2. To consider invoices for payment:

- 1) Reimbursement to Clerk for the payment (paid with her credit card) that she made to NWN Media Ltd. for the Public Notice in the County Times reference the Council's approval and adoption of the New Code of Conduct (as per procedure and directed by the Chairman) - £172.80.
- 2) Clerk's expenses (May, 2016 to July, 2016) - £69.65.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to pay the above amounts.

4.3. To discuss possible increase in Clerk's salary following her success in achieving her CiLCA (Wales) qualification:

Following discussion there was unanimous agreement that the Clerk should have an increase in salary of £275.00 per quarter, beginning 1st January, 2017. This would be inclusive of an increase for the extra work involved in training for, and maintenance of, the new website (training due to commence in October, 2016).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to implement the salary increase from 1st January, 2017.

4.4. To discuss the possible purchase of a Council laptop C/W Windows 10 – This would be the property of the Council for the use of the present Clerk, (and subsequent ones). This is up for consideration because, although Windows XP (the Clerk's current operating system, and one which she is eminently happy with and reluctant to change until she has to) is sufficient for use on her home computer for everything else, HMRC has stated that it will no longer support Windows XP after the end of this financial year. This will mean that PAYE cannot be operated. A stand-alone system for the Council's work would be good from a security point of view and also make the handover to a subsequent Clerk much easier. During discussion Cllr Sawtell mentioned Acronis software, details of which he will forward to the Clerk for her information.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to get 3 quotes for a suitable laptop and look into available funding streams for same.

5.0. Update to Financial Regulations and Standing Orders

5.1. As per LTN 87 and Legal Briefing LO5-15 of January, 2016 (revised information relating specifically to Wales now received from OVW). The revisions were unanimously adopted by the Council.

5.2. Revision to Standing Orders as per Legal Topic Note LTN 87 of January, 2016. The revision was unanimously adopted by the Council.

ACTION: The Clerk is to record on the newly updated Financial Regulations and Standing Orders that the amendments were adopted by Council at this meeting.

6.0. National Assembly

6.1. Draft Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24. Comments on the draft TAN 24 are to be submitted by 3rd October 2016. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to hold this over to the next meeting.

6.2. Stamp Duty Land Tax is being devolved and will be replaced in Wales by Land Transaction Tax in 2018. Survey closes on 31st August, 2016, and was duly discussed.

ACTION: The Clerk is to complete the survey with the Council's comments and submit before the required deadline.

7.0. Planning Applications (if any)

7.1. Application Ref: P/2016/0796 Grid Ref: 308602.37/290319.98 for Outline application for erection of up to 60 dwellings and construction of vehicular access at Land to the south of A489, west of Mochdre Brook, Newtown, Powys. Following discussion the Council was unanimous in its decision to reject this application, as it feels it does not conform to Policy HP5 - Residential Developments and that it requires a review of both the Affordable Housing and Flood Risk elements within it.

ACTION: The Clerk is to forward the Council's response to the Planning Office by the required deadline.

7.2. Application Ref: P/2016/0797 Grid Ref: 308602.37/290383.72 for Outline application for erection of up to 30 dwellings and construction of vehicular access at Land to the north of A489, west of Mochdre Brook, Newtown, Powys. Following discussion the Council was unanimous in its decision to reject this application, as it feels it does not conform to Policy HP5 - Residential Developments and that it requires a review of both the Affordable Housing and Flood Risk elements within it.

ACTION: The Clerk is to forward the Council's response to the Planning Office by the required deadline.

8.0. One Voice Wales

- 8.1. Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth – 13th March 2017. Duly noted.
- 8.2. OVW AGM 2016 motion – Notification received that unfortunately the Council's proposed motion has not been recommended by the Motions Committee to go forward. Duly noted.
- 8.3. OVW Conference, Saturday 1st October, 2016 at the Royal Welsh Showground. Duly noted, but no Councillors wished to attend.

9.0. Proposed STWA Water Mains Work in Mochdre

- 9.1. The Clerk has been advised that works to renew the water mains through Mochdre have been temporarily postponed until further notice "due to engineering difficulties Amey has experienced with the planning of this major project". Duly noted.

10.0. SLCC

- 10.1. Regional Conference 14th September, 2016 at St George's Hotel, Llandudno - £69 + VAT for members if booked before 17th August (should be eligible for a 50% bursary). Clerk would like to attend as she feels there are agenda items which will be of interest to the Council. The Council was unanimous that the Clerk should attend.
ACTION: The Clerk is to book a place before 17th August, to get the reduced members' rate, and also apply for the bursary.
- 10.2. National Conference 13th to 15th October, 2016 at Hinckley Island Hotel - £445 + VAT for the full conference (if booked before 9th September, should also be eligible for a £50.00 discount as a first-time attendee). The Council felt that the money for the Clerk to attend this would be better put towards a new laptop, so was not in agreement that it should pay the Clerk's attendance fee.

11.0. Public Services Ombudsman for Wales

- 11.1. Confirmation received from the Ombudsman that his records have been updated accordingly following his receipt of confirmation that the Council has adopted a new Code of Conduct incorporating the recent changes. Duly noted.

12.0. Law Commission.

- 12.1. Planning Law in Wales – Scoping Paper Consultation closes on 30th September, 2016. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to hold this over to the next meeting.

13.0. Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended

- 13.1. Drop in Session - Proposed Severn Trent Water Works in Mochdre. Several Councillors attended the session and felt that their queries received sufficiently detailed answers at that time.

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. Response from Cllr. John Powell re. removal of garden waste collection points read out. Duly noted.

17.0. To receive questions from Councillors:

- 17.1. Overgrown hedges on Mochdre Lane belonging to properties on Woodside Road – High sided vehicles are having to compromise safety in order to avoid them.

ACTION: The Clerk is to correspond with relevant homeowners to ask if they will trim their Mochdre Lane hedges back.

18.0. Chairman's Announcements

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

19.0. Date of next meeting

- 19.1. Next meeting will be on Monday, 5th September, 2016.

Meeting closed at 9:20pm.