

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

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

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 25th March 2013, 7:00p.m. at
Mochdre Old School.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Russell Williams (Chairman)
Cllr. Robin Lewis (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Linda Davies
Cllr. David Forster
Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Douglas Wood

APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Philip Williams
County Cllr. Roche Davies

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

Presentation at 7:00pm, before the Meeting, about Community Council Websites

Roger Malvern of Upper Bridge Enterprises, a firm specialising in the provision of websites to local community and town councils, gave an interesting and informative presentation (of approx. 30 minutes duration) showing the Council the kind of website it can expect, and explained details of the costs and implementation. He will forward his proposal to the Council within 3 days of the meeting. The Chairman thanked him on behalf of the Council.

1. 0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

1.1. See above.

1.2. **Declarations of Members' Interests** – There was one Declaration of Member's Interest made:

Name of Councillor	Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Robin Lewis	17.3.	√	

2.0. Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting (previously circulated) and Interim Community Council Planning Meeting (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 4th February, 2013 and the Interim Planning Meeting held on Monday, 4th March, 2013 at Mochdre Old School were a true record of what there and then transpired and were signed by the Chairman.

3.0. Information from the Minutes.

3.1. With reference to Cllr. Jean Williams' query concerning the hedge pletching promised to Mrs Rogers last year which has not as yet taken place (see Minute 13.4, 4th February, 2013 meeting) the Clerk read out the response from Martin Watkins, College Farm to the Council's letter concerning this matter.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Martin Watkins requesting a copy of his diary for the next few weeks, so that a mutually convenient appointment can be made for a site meeting to try and resolve this matter.

4.0. Finance

4.1. **Update on Accounts:** Mochdre CC bank statement £1,713.54. Cash book stands at £1,713.54. There are no outstanding cheques.

To consider the payment of:

- 1) Charitable Donation to Urdd National Eisteddfod (see Minute 10.2, 4th February, 2013 meeting) = £35.00.
- 2) Charitable Donation to Montgomeryshire County Music Festival (see Minute 12.6, 4th February, 2013 meeting) = £35.00.
- 3) Clerk's quarterly salary = £549.90.
- 4) HMRC PAYE tax and NI payment = £146.36.

5) Payment to Cllr Russell Williams for Clerk's filing cabinet = £20.00 (see Minute 13.2, 4th February, 2013 meeting).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to pay the above amounts, **except** for item 5. Cllr Russell Williams waived reimbursal for the filing cabinet he had purchased for the Clerk's use.

4.2. Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £1,296.91. Cash book stands at £1,296.91. There are no outstanding cheques.

4.3. Request from Mochdre WI for a donation, similar to that awarded by Kerry CC to its WI (£100.00).

4.4. Update on possible funding for Young Farmers from P & L funds (see Minute 4.3, 4th February, 2013 meeting) - Cllr Russell Williams had approached them regarding possible funding and they stated that they would be very grateful for a donation.

The Council discussed items 4.3. and 4.4. at length and there was a majority vote in favour of the following resolution: That the P & L funds should be used as direct assistance in the community and, as there are no big events to be funded this year, divided up in the following manner (there is a £100.00 donation earmarked already for Penstrowed Church out of the Mochdre CC account):

Mochdre WI = £200.00; Mochdre YFC = £200.00; Mochdre Church = £200.00; Pentre Chapel = £200.00 and Stepside Chapel = £200.00.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk raises the cheques for these donations from the No2 account, for signature at the next meeting.

5.0. National Assembly

5.1. Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill, 2013 – Request from Kidney Wales Foundation to write to Mark Drakeford AM (Chair – Health and Social Care Committee, National Assembly for Wales) expressing support for the new Deemed Organ Donation Consent System for Wales (letter supplied). There was a majority vote in favour of this.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk completes and sends off the supplied letter.

5.2. Extension to Broadband Support Scheme - Letter from Edwina Hart to Russell George AM. This was duly noted.

6.0. Planning Matters

6.1. These were dealt with at the Interim Community Council Planning Meeting held on Monday, 4th March, 2013.

The meeting was necessary as the Planning Department required observations by deadlines which were some time in advance of the Community Council Meeting (the Clerk had contacted Arwel Evans, Planning Officer and been advised that an extension might be given for one application but not for all four that were "on the table"). This was duly noted.

6.2. Community Council Planning Committee – Pre-advice that election of Councillors for this will be included on the AGM agenda, in order to give Councillors a chance to think about whether they wish to be considered for election to it. The Committee is to be composed of a quorum of at least 4 Councillors (as per Standing Orders) who are prepared to meet at relatively short notice to discuss and respond to planning applications within the 21 days deadline, during periods when the Community Council has no meeting. This was duly noted.

7.0. One Voice Wales

7.1. The Big Lunch 2013 on Sunday, 2nd June, 2013 – A one day get-together for neighbours and communities, funded by the Big Lottery Fund and run by the Eden Project. For information, duly noted.

7.2. Letter to Christopher Salmon (Police Commissioner) with regard to insufficient timescale given to Community and Town Councils to respond to the "Budget and Police and Crime Plans Consultation". For information, duly noted.

7.3. Renewal of OVW Membership for 2013/2014 – Invitation to renew from April, 2013 at a cost of £57.00. There was a majority vote in favour of the membership renewal.

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

8.0. SLCC

8.1. Wales Training Seminar on Wednesday, 17th April, 2013 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea. This is a one day event to assist Community Councils to understand how they can improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of their communities by way of the new Power of Well-Being introduced under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. It is open to Clerks and Councillors, delegate fees are from £49.00 + VAT and there is a subsidised coach (£10.00 per delegate) collecting from various locations, including Newtown.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to find out the latest date for applying for this course and advise Councillors accordingly.

9.0. Community Council Website

9.1. The pre-meeting presentation was discussed. To cover possible monthly costs, Cllr Forster suggested that businesses could be approached to advertise on the website at a cost of £10.00 p.a. If 12 businesses were prepared to do this then that would cover this cost. It was also agreed that confidentiality on minuted sensitive issues would need to be maintained and that OVW should be approached for guidelines on this aspect of the website.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk should obtain a further 2 quotes from other Community Council website providers, to enable a decision to be made as to which one to choose, and also contact OVW about confidentiality issues in relation to websites.

10.0. Powys County Council

10.1. LED Streetlight Replacement Scheme – The response to the Council's e-mail, received from Leigh Williams (Street Lighting Operations Manager), was read out. Following discussion there was a majority vote in favour of carrying this over to the next meeting in order to get County Cllr Roche Davies's input.

11.0. Highway Matters

11.1. Andrew Jones's report on the tour of the Mochdre with Penstrowed Community area, on Wednesday, 20th February with Cllrs Jean Williams and Linda Davies, was read out. Following discussion it was decided that the Council did not agree with Andrew Jones's opinion concerning the condition of the road at Rhyd Y Cwrt – it was felt that the condition of the road had changed/deteriorated noticeably in the last 8 months or so.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Andrew Jones to appraise him of the Council's opinion.

12.0. Charities

12.1. Wales Air Ambulance – Winter Newsletter and request for donation received. This was duly noted.

12.2. Kidney Wales Foundation – Request for donation to the Walk for Life Appeal (Walk for Life takes place on 24th March, 2013). This was duly noted.

12.3. Dyslexia Wales – Request for donation. This was duly noted.

13.0. Zurich Insurance

13.1. Invitation to renew insurance cover due 1st June, 2013 received - £243.80 (Including Insurance Premium Tax). If the Libel and Slander limit is increased this policy would have to be cancelled and a bespoke policy begun. The premium would increase to £332.31 (inclusive of tax) for £250,000 Libel and Slander. Following discussion, it was decided that the Council needed to know if having a website required any further extra cover and, with this in mind, there was a majority vote in favour of the decision to renew being taken at the next meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Zurich to establish if any extra cover is required.

14.0. Rural Broadband

14.1. The Clerk has contacted eXwavia with regard to a presentation of their services at a public meeting (see Minute 11.1, 4th February, 2013 meeting). They suggested possibly either the 2nd or 3rd week in March, but had not come back with any firm commitment prior to the agenda being finalised. eXwavia had since contacted the Clerk, apologising for the delay, and asking if the public meeting could be held in April, preferably on a Monday evening. There was a majority vote of the Council in favour of suggesting Monday, 15th April for the meeting (subject to the availability of eXwavia, Russell George and the room).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts eXwavia, Russell George and Enid, in order to get the meeting organised.

15.0. BDO

15.1. Audit Briefing 2013 and Audit pack has been received. For information, duly noted.

16.0. Co-Option Candidature

16.1. This was discussed and the Chairman indicated that, having spoken to the one party involved, he would also speak to the other party involved.

17.0. Correspondence

17.1. **PAVO Community Engagement Meeting** – At Plas Dolerw on March 27th, 2013 (6:00 to 8:00pm). Duly noted and Cllr Linda Davies is to attend.

17.2. **National Grid Mid Wales Connection Project** – Latest edition of Project News received. This was duly noted.

17.3. **Planning Application P2013 0274** - Grid Ref: 307564.67/283791.32 for Installation of a single 50kW wind turbine (hub height 24.7 metres, blade tip 34.37 metres) control box and associated infrastructure including crane hardstanding and connection to electricity network at land at Bryn Cwmyrhiwdre (E:307565/N:283791),

Dolfor, Newtown, Powys. Observations are needed by Friday, 5th April at the latest in order to submit within the timescale given. Councillors are to consult the community about the proposed development and e-mail comments to the Clerk so that they can be collated ready for submission to the Planning Department before the specified deadline.

18.0. Chairman's Announcements

18.1. Congratulations were extended to Cllr David Forster on his extremely successful fund-raising "Mankini Run".

18.2. Cllr Russell Williams stated that he could be away working this summer, but he will be home for the Council meetings.

18.3. Cllrs Jean Williams and Linda Davies attended Llandinam School's open day today on a fact-finding mission at the Chairman's request. The open day had been arranged because the school is under threat of closure. Councillors found that the school is a lively, well-attended community school and felt it was a false economy to close it. There was a majority vote in favour of supporting the school's campaign to keep open.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to the Education Authority direct expressing the Council's support (copy to County Cllr Roche Davies). Cllr Russell Williams to ask Roche who is the best person to contact at the Education Authority

19.0. Date of next meeting

19.1. Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 14th May, 2013, followed by an ordinary meeting (the agenda had stated it would be on Monday, 13th May, but the Clerk is not now available for that date – Council meetings will then return to the usual Monday evening slot).

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.

K. Wigley
Clerk/y cleric
March, 2013
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