

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

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

www.mochdrepennstrowedcommunity.net

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 18th December, 2017,
7:00pm at Mochdre Old School.**

(Re-scheduled from 11th December, due to adverse weather conditions)

PRESENT:

Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Robin Lewis
Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Philip Williams
Cllr. Ian Williams
Cllr. Martin Turlev

APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Russell Williams (Chairman)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Cllr. Karl Lewis

Mr S. Jones (Applicant - P/2017/1360)

1.0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

- 1.1. See above. The meeting was chaired by Cllr Robin Lewis (Vice Chairman) in the Chairman's absence.
- 1.2. **Declarations of Members' Interests** - There were no Declarations of Member's Interest made.

2.0. Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30th October, 2017 (previously circulated).

- 2.1. That the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 30th October, 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. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual report. Section 13 Community and Town Councils – The revised proposals were duly discussed at the last meeting (Minute Ref 6.2. 30th October 2017 meeting) and, amongst other things, Councillors unanimously voted then to forgo entitlement to any mandatory payments should they be adopted. However, the Clerk has subsequently learnt that, even if this should be the case, it is mandatory for the £150 per Councillor to be budgeted for (despite the fact that it won't be used by the current Councillors). To ensure that this can be budgeted for without increasing the Precept by £1,200 (8 x £150) the Clerk has viresed monies across from current reserves to create a separate reserve for this (which is perfectly acceptable). If the report's findings are not adopted, the monies can be viresed back again.

4.0. Finance

4.1. Update on Bank Balances:

- 1) Mochdre CC bank statement £5,896.77. Cash book stands at £5,896.77. There are no outstanding cheques. Duly noted.
- 2) Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £1,669.04. Cash book stands at £1,669.04. There are no outstanding cheques. Duly noted.

4.2. To consider invoices for payment.

- 1) Clerk's quarterly salary - £872.00
- 2) HMRC (PAYE Tax) - £128.00
- 3) Powys Citizens Advice Bureau - £50.00 (Donation as agreed at last meeting – see Minute Ref 11.1. 30th October, 2017 meeting).

Note: Invoice for Election costs received for £337.31 - Payment will be deducted from the Precept payment by Powys County Council (and taken out of MwPCC Election Cost Reserve monies to make the Precept payment back up to its full amount) as usual. Duly noted.

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

5.0. Website

- 5.1. Group photo for website (see Minute Ref 15.1, 30th October, 2017 meeting).

ACTION: To be held over to the next meeting as not a full complement of Councillors was present.

6.0. Powys County Council

- 6.1. Draft Well-being Plan for Powys Consultation - E-mailed to Councillors on 24th November. Consultation period ends 11th February 2018.

ACTION: To be held over to the next meeting for discussion.

- 6.2. Plans for Powys Schools Consultation - E-mailed to Councillors on 24th November and duly discussed.

ACTION: Clerk to forward Council's response on before the required deadline.

7.0. National Assembly

- 7.1. Review of the Community and Town Council Sector - E-mailed to Councillors on 4th October. (See also 10.2. and 14.7. below). There was a unanimous vote to await the OVW response due to be available end of January 2018, in time to assist in the formulation of a suitable response at the next meeting.

- 7.2. Consultation – Town and Village Greens. E-mailed to Councillors on 24th November. Consultation period ends 2nd February 2018. Duly noted, but not applicable to the Community Council area so declined to comment.

- 7.3. Notification of Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2018-2019 received. It will be £7.86 per elector. Duly noted.

- 7.4. Planning Law in Wales: Consultation Paper. E-mailed to Councillors on 4th December for discussion at the next meeting on 5th February, 2018. Consultation ends 1st March, 2018. Duly noted.

AT THIS POINT County Cllr Karl Lewis vacated the meeting whilst the following Planning Applications were being discussed (due to his position of Vice Chair of the Planning, Taxi Licensing & Rights of Way Committee).

8.0. Planning Applications.

- 8.1. Application Ref: **P/2017/1306** Grid Ref: 306680.71/286554.6 for Householder: Demolition of the existing outbuilding & attached store, erection of a two storey extension and internal & external alterations at Wergliodd-Gam, Mochdre, Newtown, Powys. Extension to time for observations granted to 12th Nov. After discussion, the Council fully supported the application.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to forward on the Council's response to the Planning Officer before the deadline.

- 8.2. Application Ref: **P/2017/1360** Grid Ref: 307633.41/288796.25 for Full: Change of use of land for the siting of 2 no. holiday chalets and 3 no. holiday camping pods, upgrade of access, formation of site roads and installation of package treatment plant at Rhydycwrt Newtown Powys. During discussion there was some invited input from Mr Jones, who described the lay of the land with reference to its suitability for his intended purpose, which was found to be satisfactory to the Council. There was a unanimous vote in favour of supporting this application.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to forward on the Council's response to the Planning Officer before the deadline.

AT THIS POINT County Cllr Karl Lewis re-entered the meeting.

9.0. Highway Matters

- 9.1. Update received from Danny Jarman on matters raised at last meeting (see Minute Ref 14.1 to 14.5 inclusive, 30th October, 2017 meeting):

Minute Ref 14.1. – Request has been forwarded on to Chris Lloyd, Traffic Engineer.

Minute Ref 14.2. – Danny has inspected the hedge line and found it to be encroaching on to the carriageway. He knocked on the doors of Blaen Cwm Mawr and Blinkin Mawr, but there was no answer. He will endeavour to gain contact with the owners to get the matter resolved.

Minute Ref 14.3. – Request has been forwarded on to Chris Lloyd, Traffic Engineer.

Minute Ref 14.4. – Reference the collapsing culvert at Tynybar, Danny has inspected it and found that the culvert itself is in good working order, however there are signs of verge erosion in the vicinity. He will monitor this situation on his routine inspections and action any work when necessary.

Minute Ref 14.5. – The rock in question is obviously visible and positioned tight into the bank, therefore helping to retain the bank and stop it from falling on to the carriageway. Its removal would cause stability issues with the bank, so he feels it is best to leave everything in situ at present. All the above was duly noted.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to ask Chris Lloyd for an update on items 14.1. and 14.3.

9.2. Hedge is still impinging on the Mochdre Lane carriageway, despite requests to the resident to get it cut back.

ACTION: County Cllr Karl Lewis is to contact the resident and see if he can get the problem resolved.

10.0. Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended

10.1. Planning Aid Wales – Free Planning Training session held on Tuesday, 21st November. Attendees Cllrs Ian Williams and Martin Turley felt that 5:00pm was a rather inconvenient start time for those who work; that the presentation did not work either electrically or otherwise, and that the presenter was not up to the job!

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to inform Planning Aid Wales accordingly.

10.2. Review of the Community and Town Council Sector Consultation event held on 29th November at Chirk Town Council Offices – Attendees Cllr Jean Williams and the Clerk felt that the discussions were useful. Overall other Council representatives present were of a similar mind – amongst other things that there was a lack of money to do big projects satisfactorily (e.g. asset transfers) and that all Councils should be operating transparently and democratically. Duly noted.

10.3. Follow Up Public Meeting with Alun Griffiths Ltd with regard to Mochdre Bridge Installation, held on 14th November – Attendees felt this was a far more positive meeting all round with a good, fully explanatory presentation by Nick Cleary and his team, which answered all queries previously raised and advised of the timetable of any closures in 2018 (the Clerk's report of the meeting has been put on the website). Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd have asked if there is anything the community needs for the Old School and the Clerk has supplied a list of various things which need doing. Councillors also asked that re-surfacing the car park be added to this list and also a letter of thanks sent to Nick Cleary for him and his team's proficiency in causing the least disruption possible during the recent bridge installation procedure.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to write to Nick Cleary accordingly.

11.0. Dyfed Powys Police

11.1. 2018/2019 Police Precept Consultation – This was duly discussed by Councillors.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to forward on the Council's response.

11.2. Community Resilience Guidance for Practitioners – The Local Resilience Forum is keen to develop this concept with communities. Duly noted.

12.0. Charities/Donations (if any)

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

13.0. Community Council Grant Requests (if any)

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

14.0. Correspondence

14.1. Thank you letter for Council's donation received from Penstrowed Parish Church. Duly noted.

14.2. Precept 2018/2019 Application Form received – Unanimous re-confirmation was given that request is to be for £6,700 (as per Minute Ref. 5.1. 11th September meeting).

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to apply for the Precept of £6,700.00 within the required time schedule.

14.3. Welsh Ambulance Service Branch of the Ambulance Services Union – Request for donation to support ambulance staff. The Council voted not to donate at this time.

14.4. Tesco "Bags of Help" funding scheme. For information. Duly noted.

14.5. Future Hospital Configuration and Consultation – Information from Cllr Andrew Eade (Borough of Telford and Wrekin Council). E-mailed to Councillors on 12th December, 2017. For information – duly noted.

14.6. Urdd National Eisteddfod 2018 – Request for financial contribution. The Council voted not to donate at this time.

14.7. OVW Community and Town Council Consultation Events – Next Steps. See 7.1. above.

14.8. Latest update from E. Hikins (received 15/12/17). (Scanned in and e-mailed to Councillors 18th December, 2017). Duly noted.

14.9. Upper Bridge – Information received about a recent problem experienced with the server platform, but which has subsequently been rectified. Duly noted.

14.10. British Ironwork Centre – Wishes to increase its involvement with Parish and Community Councils. Following discussion, the Council was interested in hearing more details about what the Centre is envisaging at a later date, possibly via a visit to the Centre?

15.0.To receive questions from Councillors

15.1.During the recent bad weather there was a lack of salting in the community area, both salt bins and salt piles were low; after the Hendre there was no gritting done, leaving the roads in a lethal condition. The Council would like to see the salting situation rectified ASAP and the gritting route extended within the community area.

15.2.The green bin at Hyde Park Pitch is once again in a state of disrepair – the plywood lid has disintegrated, leaving the bin open. It is being used as a dumping ground for inappropriate rubbish by persons unknown, which the Council won't take away, hence causing a problem for the residents who wish to use it for the purpose for which it is intended, i.e. their domestic refuse.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to contact Powys County Council with these queries for suitable action.

16.0.Chairman's Announcements

16.1.Cllr Gordon Jones has now agreed compensation with STWA for damage done to the fence and field that he rents by the Old School during the mains replacement work, in the sum of £1,300, which he wishes to donate to the Community Council for the Community's benefit, once he is in receipt of it.

17.0.Date of next meeting

17.1.Next meeting will be on Monday, 5th February, 2018.