

**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, 28th October 2019,
7:00pm at Mochdre Old School.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Robin Lewis
Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Lloyd Humphreys
Cllr. Philip Williams
Cllr. Russell Williams

APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Ian Williams
Cllr. Martin Turley

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Councillor Karl Lewis

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 9th September, 2019 (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th September, 2019 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. Reference Welsh Government's "Sustainable Farming and our land" Consultation – response received from Russell George, following Clerk's letter regarding same (as per Minute 16.4.). Duly noted.

ACTION: Clerk was instructed to forward Russell George's e-mail containing his full reply to Councillors for information.

4.0. Finance

4.1. Update on Bank Balances:

- 1) Mochdre CC bank statement £8,205.32. Cash book stands at £8,023.32. There are two outstanding cheques, for £132.00 and £50.00. Duly noted.
- 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. Duly noted.

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

- 1) Mochdre Old School - £250.00 (Annual upkeep grant).
- 2) Mochdre Church - £150.00 (Annual Grant).
- 3) Penstrowed Parish Church - £150.00 (Annual grant).
- 4) Pentre Chapel - £150.00 (Annual grant).

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

5.0. Draft Annual Budget Discussions

5.1. The draft Annual Budget for 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021 was presented for discussion. Councillors were provided with a copy of the draft budget for 2020 - 2021, and budget figures for the two preceding years as a comparison.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Council voted unanimously in favour of approving the draft Annual Budget and in favour of a request for a Precept of £7,500.00 being made at the appropriate time.

6.0. Response to Council's Letter of Engagement for Internal Auditor

- 6.1. Mrs Enid Morgan's positive response to continue as Internal Auditor until the next review in 3 years was read out and duly noted by the Council.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to acknowledge her response with thanks.

7.0. Powys County Council

- 7.1. Ladywell Green Infants School and Hafren Junior School – Consultation on proposal to amalgamate the two schools in order to establish a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 in Newtown. Consultation ends 7th November, 2019. (E-mailed to Councillors on 17th October). Discussion followed during which County Cllr Karl Lewis gave an informative overview of the current position of schools in the area. The Council expressed the view that this proposed amalgamation would be a very disruptive short-term solution (2 headmasters and 2 governing bodies replaced by one) and could mean staffing cuts.

ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to forward on the Council's comments within the required deadline.

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

8.0. Planning Applications

- 8.1. BOC/19/0324 – Ref Kincoed, Mochdre. Council's concerns are being investigated (see Minute Ref. 17.1, 9th September, 2019 meeting). Duly noted.
ACTION: Clerk was instructed to request an update on the investigation to date.
- 8.2. For information - Application 19/1420/HH – Demolition of two existing single storey flat roof porches and erection of two single storey extensions at Meadow View Bungalow, Mochdre Lane, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4JN. This application came up for consideration shortly after the last meeting, thus no extension to time could be obtained. Councillors were e-mailed the information to enable them to make comments via the Clerk and the majority were in favour of the application proceeding to determination, without comment. The Clerk informed the Planning Department accordingly, within the required deadline. Duly noted.

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

9.0. Welsh Assembly Government

- 9.1. National Development Framework 2020 – 2040 Draft Consultation (runs from 7th August to 1st November 2019) – Further information received from CPRW Montgomeryshire to aid the Council's response to the consultation.
ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to forward on the Council's response to this consultation, incorporating the comments from the CPRW, within the required deadline.
- 9.2. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual report – February 2020. Representations to be received by no later than 10th December, 2019. As there had been no major changes to the report since last year, the Council unanimously voted not to make a representation this year.
- 9.3. Three Planning Consultations – Revisions to Housing Section of Planning Policy Wales and associated advice and guidance (consultation closes 20th November, 2019); Revisions to Planning Policy Wales regarding the use of compulsory purchase powers and updated guidance on the compulsory purchase procedure in Wales (consultation closes 17th January, 2020); Revised planning guidance in relation to flooding and coastal erosion (consultation closes 17th January, 2020) – for discussion. E-mailed to Councillors on 17th October. Duly noted – Councillors to read and digest and bring any comments to the next meeting.
- 9.4. Invitation to attend Diversity in Democracy workshops – 21st November, 2019 in Mid-Wales (venue to be confirmed, but likely to be at Llandrindod Wells).
ACTION: Clerk was instructed to inform Councillors once the venue has been decided.

10.0. One Voice Wales

- 10.1. VE Day 75 Celebrations on weekend of 8th – 10th May, 2020. Following discussion, Councillors wanted to have more time to think about this so it was agreed to have it as an agenda item for the next meeting.

11.0. Highway Matters

- 11.1. Update from County Cllr Karl Lewis reference the recent repair to Rhydycwrt bridge (as per Minute Ref 9.1, 24th June, 2019 meeting). PCC is now happy with the way in which the repair has been done (as it has proved to be very satisfactory), and regards this matter as now closed.

12.0.Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended

- 12.1.OVW Montgomeryshire Area Committee meeting on 24th September at Newtown Town Council Offices – Report from the Clerk, who attended. A presentation was given by Guy Jones of the Community Lottery Fund about grants for community groups, with a particular emphasis on funding for village/community halls, which could be very useful for future reference.
- 12.2.National Development Framework 2020 – 2040 Draft Consultation drop-in session at Newtown Library on 17th September. There were no attendees from the Council.

13.0.Charities/Donations

- 13.1.A request from the Citizens Advice Bureau for a contribution towards the cost of providing its services was discussed. The Council voted unanimously to contribute £100.00.
ACTION: The Clerk was instructed to raise a cheque for this amount for signature at the next meeting.

14.0.Community Council Grant Requests (if any)

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

15.0.Correspondence

- 15.1.Thank you card received from Mochdre Creative Play for its grant from the Council. Duly noted.
- 15.2.Welsh Government Guidance re duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – some pointers. Awaiting required guidance from the WAG. Duly noted.

16.0.To receive questions from Councillors

- 16.1.Points raised: There have been blocked road gulleys for three years in a row, County Cllr Karl Lewis to investigate; with regard to the road brushing at Pen Y Bryn and the repair at Tyn-Y-Bar (which was done without having to close the road) he will pass on congratulations from the Council for jobs well done.

17.0.Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that he had no announcements.

- 18.0.**Date of next meeting:** Monday, 9th December, 2019.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm.