

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

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

www.mochdrepennstrowedcommunity.net

**Minutes of the online Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday, 11th
May 2020, 7:15pm.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

None.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

1. 0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

1.2. Declarations of Members' Interests – See below.

Name of Councillor	Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Cllr Martin Turley	9.1.	✓	✓

2.0. Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd March, 2020 (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 23rd March, 2020 were a true record of what there and then transpired and that they will be duly signed as such by the Chairman when circumstances allow.

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 (up to 5th April 2020) £6,960.62. Cash book stands at £6,383.57. There are five outstanding cheques for £50.00, £132.00, £242.75, £52.30 and £100.00. The first precept instalment of £2,500 is due in on 30th April. 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.

- 1) K. Wigley - £168.88 (To re-imburse Clerk for paying BitDefender Antivirus annual renewal fee for Council Laptop [£25.00] + Zoom Annual Fee [£143.88])
 - 2) Came & Company - £218.00 (Council Insurance Renewal) (Subject to 5.0. below)
- IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to arrange for the cheques for the above amounts to be signed and distributed accordingly.

5.0. To discuss and decide to pay Insurance Renewal (due 1st June, 2020) – Via Came & Co. Pen (Axa) have quoted £168.00 including Insurance Premium Tax for similar bespoke comprehensive cover as last year (+ Came and Co's £50.00 Administration Fee) = Total of £218.00. Following discussion the Council voted unanimously to accept the Came & Co Pen (Axa) quote. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to arrange for the cheque to be signed (see 4.2.above) and forwarded to Came and Company accordingly.

6.0. To Approve the Annual Return for year ending 31st March, 2020 - Following its return from the Internal Auditor the only potential issue to report was the non-cashing of the cheque for £50,00 for the YFC dated 9th September, 2019, which could potentially still be cashed if banked swiftly. Cllr Humphreys is to investigate this further. The Council unanimously approved the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement and the Clerk is to arrange for the Annual Return to be signed by the Chairman.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk was instructed to complete the audit and forward the Annual Return to Grant Thornton (external auditor) within the required timescale and display the "Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights" at the required time.

7.0. Council E-Mail

7.1. The Clerk has effectively been "locked out" of the Council's gmail account and it has been problematical to use. Following discussion the Council was happy for this to be changed possibly to a Hotmail account.

ACTION: The Clerk is to investigate and report back at the next meeting.

8.0. Welsh Assembly Government

8.1. Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 – Make temporary provision in relation to local authority meetings and for public and press access to these meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic (allow for meetings to be held remotely by electronic means). The Explanatory Memorandum e-mailed to Councillors on 3rd May, 2020 for information has been duly noted.

9.0. Planning Applications

9.1. For Information: Application Ref: **20/0546/FUL** Grid Ref: **E:306783 N:288115** for Construction of a tree house holiday accommodation unit, timber boardwalk access, formation of vehicular access road, installation of septic tank and all associated works at land at Trawscoed Farm, Mochdre, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4JU. Cllr Martin Turley formally declared an interest in this application, so did not comment upon it. As this fell between meetings and because of the current Coronavirus restrictions, this was e-mailed to the other Councillors on 15th April, 2020 for comments. The result was that the Council was happy for this to proceed to determination and the Clerk contacted the Planning Officer accordingly.

9.2. For Information: Application Ref: **20/0570/HH** Grid Ref: **E:307285 N:288636** for Extension to bungalow at Cwm Dail, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4JS. As this fell between meetings and because of the current Coronavirus restrictions, this was e-mailed to Councillors on 15th April, 2020 for comments. The result was that the Council was happy for this to proceed to determination and the Clerk contacted the Planning Officer accordingly.

9.3. Application Ref: **20/0655/LBC** Grid Ref: **E:307298 N:287774** for Conversion of barn into residential extension at The Rock, Mochdre, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4JW. The information was e-mailed to Councillors on 2nd May, 2020 prior to this meeting. Following discussion the Council was happy for this to proceed to determination.

ACTION: The Clerk is to inform the Planning Officer accordingly within the required deadline.

10.0. One Voice Wales

10.1. COVID-19 Outbreak: Remote attendance at meetings - Guide for Councillors and Clerks e-mailed to Councillors on 3rd May, 2020 for information. Duly noted,

11.0. Highway Matters

11.1. Update reference the recent extensive damage to Rhydydwrt bridge was given. During a comprehensive discussion several suggestions were made to act as a deterrent to such damage occurring in the future. Further to this discussion Councillors voted to incorporate a visit to the site as a part of each individual's daily exercise in order to assess the damage and take photographs.

ACTION: Councillors will report back at the next meeting.

12.0. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

12.1. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report - February 2020. This had been added to the agenda to update the Councillors who were absent at the last meeting as to what the quorum had decided at that meeting – that they wished to forgo all of their entitlement to payments (both statutory and optional). This had been given in writing to the Clerk. The remaining Councillors will be required to do so also as soon as is convenient.

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 (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.E-mail from CPRW in respect of Planning Application 20/0141/FUL (Cwmrhiewdre). Duly noted.

16.2.E-mail from Welsh Assembly Government reference change of name to Welsh Parliament as from 6th May, 2020. Duly noted.

17.0. To receive questions from Councillors

17.1.Councillors raised a variety of highway matters:

- 1) Footbridge over the brook on the Gelli Lane: The wire mesh covering the bridge has worn away at both ends making it a trip/slip hazard.
- 2) Fire hydrant at the Vaughnlands and Trawscoed junction (directly behind the telegraph pole): Has been buried underneath a big pile of shale!
- 3) Signs are missing at the top of the Pentre road - the one for the Wind Farm and the one for Pentre itself have disappeared!
- 4) On the side of the road by Bronllan is a concrete patch, which is now crumbling and falling away creating a hazard.
- 5) On the track over to Pentre (which is part of the Mochdre Trail) there is a gate post which has rotted off and resulted in the gate not fastening.
- 6) A Highway issue first mentioned in August 2019 has still not been remedied and the hole in question has now increased in depth to about 18 inches making it a real hazard to traffic.

18.0. Chairman's Announcements

18.1.The Chairman was sad to announce the recent death of a well known figure in the community and gave details of the funeral time, for those who might wish to line the route to show their respects as the hearse passes by.

19.0. Date of next meeting: Monday, 22nd June, 2020.

The meeting closed at 8:00pm.