

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

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

[www.mochdrepennstrowedcommunity.net](http://www.mochdrepennstrowedcommunity.net)

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 16th May 2022,  
7:25pm at Mochdre Old School.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. Phil Williams  
Cllr. Ian Williams  
Cllr. Russell Williams  
Cllr. Gordon Jones  
Cllr. Robin Lewis

**APOLOGIES:**

None

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Cllr Karl Lewis

The Chairman noted that this was the last meeting that the Clerk would be attending as she leaves the Council at the end of this month, thanked her for her ten years' service and indicated that this would be suitably recognised at a future date.

**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 28th March, 2022 (previously circulated).**

**2.1.** That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28th March, 2022 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.** Cllr Robin Lewis reported that he had not heard from Rev Alison Gwalchmai regarding memorial tree planting at Penstrowed Church (see Minute Ref 3.2. 7th February 2022 meeting) and he still has the tree.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to contact Rev Gwalchmai again with a view to getting this sorted out.

**3.2.** Timescale for erection of new notice board at Stepside on same site as old one. Noticeboard was delivered to, and is being stored by, Mrs Jean Williams (see Minute Ref 3.2. 28th March 2022 meeting).

**ACTION:** Councillors are to establish what needs to be done and progress things accordingly.

**3.3.** The Clerk reported that there had been no responses to the advertising of the job vacancy at SLCC branch level either. The Clerk/RFO is retiring at the end of May, following time to "tidy things" ready for the next Clerk e.g. VAT return is now due, Annual Return needs finalising, etc. Following discussion Councillors decided that one of the other local Community Council Clerks in the area might be interested in taking the Community Council on.

**ACTION:** Councillors are to make suitable enquiries.

**4.0. Finance**

**4.1. Update on Bank Balances:**

1) Mochdre CC bank statement £8,526.47 (includes bank charges taken direct from account). Cash book stands at £6,547.47. There are four outstanding cheques for £1,541.00, £155.00, £83.00 and £200.00.

2) Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £3,445.75 (includes bank charges taken direct from account). Cash book stands at £3,445.75. There are no outstanding cheques.

**4.2. To consider invoices for payment.**

1) Cllr Robin Lewis – £TBA (For purchase of memorial trees (x2) in memory of Prince Philip).

- 2) K. Wigley – £49.99 (Bitdefender renewal on Council laptop paid online on Clerk’s card)
- 3) K. Wigley - £652.60 (Clerk’s final salary payment for two months)
- 4) HMRC – £97.40 (PAYE tax on Clerk’s final salary)
- 5) Council Laptop insurance – currently paid by DD from the Clerk’s account and reimbursed via Clerk’s expenses. Councillors unanimously approved of Council laptop insurance being cancelled.
- 6) Zurich Municipal - £167.44 (Insurance Renewal – see discussion at 5.0. below)
- 7) K. Wigley - £40.00 (ICO Renewal fee – Clerk to renew online via Clerk’s credit card. See 15.1. below))
- 8) K. Wigley - £187.20 (New Minute Book – Clerk to purchase online via Clerk’s credit card. See 15.2. below)

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to pay the above amounts except for payment to Cllr. Lewis, who is still to advise the amount for payment, and which is to be carried over to the next meeting; that items 2, 3, 7 and 8 be put on one cheque to keep bank charges down to a minimum; that the Clerk cancels the laptop insurance forthwith.

- 5.0. To discuss and decide to pay Insurance Renewal (due 1st June, 2022)** – Zurich have quoted £167.44 again (no increase from last year’s renewal cost) with the same level of cover. Following discussion, the Council voted unanimously to remain with Zurich Municipal as its insurance provider for 2022/2023.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to raise the cheque for signature at this meeting (see 4.2.6) above) and forward to Zurich Municipal accordingly.

- 6.0. To Approve the Annual Return for year ending 31st March, 2022** - Following its return from the Internal Auditor there were no issues to report. The Council unanimously approved the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement and the Chairman signed the Annual Return accordingly.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Clerk was instructed to complete the audit and forward the Annual Return to Audit Wales (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. Planning Applications (for record purposes only)**

- 7.1. Application Ref: 22/0533/REM Grid Ref: **E:308575 N:290387** Section 73 Application to remove condition 6 of outline planning permission P/2016/0797 in relation to affordable housing at Land north of Llanidloes Road, Penstrowed. This application directly relates to the issue of affordable housing in application 21/2333/FUL, which the Council had discussed at 7th February meeting (see Minute Ref 9.1. 7th February 2022 meeting) and voted to object to. Comments on this application were due by 25th April 2022 so the information was e-mailed to Councillors on 10th April 2022 for comments. There was a unanimous vote in favour of objecting to this application also and the Clerk informed the Planning Officer accordingly within the deadline. For information only. Duly noted.
- 7.2. Application Ref: 22/0619/HH Grid Ref: **E:306911 N:290535** Erection of a balcony (part retrospective) at Broombush, Penstrowed, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4LB. Comments were required by 13th May so the information was e-mailed to Councillors on 25th April 2022 and Councillors were happy for it to proceed to determination without comment. For information only. Duly noted.

**8.0. Powys County Council**

- 8.1. Notification received of the result of the uncontested election, which includes a Notice of Co-Option for the remaining 3 vacant seats. Duly noted.

**9.0. One Voice Wales**

- 9.1. Training dates in May e-mailed to Councillors on 9th May 2022 (with a view to creation of training plans for Councillors as per new legislation).Duly noted.

**10.0. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee**

- 10.1.A meeting was held on 3rd May 2022 at the Old School to further discuss/plan Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The meeting had been opened out to members of the community and there was a good attendance (see Minute Ref 6.1. 28th March 2022 meeting). The meeting was very productive and “rough minutes” were e-mailed to Councillors on 9th May 2022 for information. Another meeting is planned for Tuesday 17th May, 7:00pm at the Old School. Duly noted. Councillors then discussed how much of the P & L funds could be allocated to defray the costs of particularly the proposed Funday, bearing in mind the limitations set by s137 purchases. It was agreed on a figure of £2,500. Cllr Russell

Williams is to check if there might be possible match-funding from a Lottery Grant, should it be required. It was suggested that the best place for the bonfire on the Thursday night might be at Cwmbyr, so that community residents can see it. Owners to be approached to see if they are happy for this to be the case.

#### **11.0. Reports of Committees, Meetings or Training Attended**

11.1. Montgomeryshire Area Committee Meeting held on 5th April via Starleaf – No report as there were no attendees.

#### **12.0. Annual Report**

12.1. This must be compiled as soon as possible after the Annual Meeting. Duly noted.

#### **13.0. Charities/Donations (if any)**

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

#### **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. Data Protection Fee – Reminder has been received (£40.00). The Council voted unanimously in favour of making a payment to the Clerk so that the Clerk can renew it online and that the cheque be raised at this meeting to enable her to do so (see 4.2.7) above).

15.2. New Minute Guard Book required - £156.00 + VAT of £31.20 = £187.20. The Council voted unanimously in favour of making a payment to the Clerk so that the Clerk can purchase it online and that the cheque be raised at this meeting to enable her to do so (see 4.2.8) above).

15.3. Welsh Borders Hill Rally – Notification that this is to take place on 27th to 29th May, 2022. Duly noted.

15.4. Letter from Mrs Enid Morgan informing the Council that, having completed the audit for the recently closed financial year, she is now stepping down from her role as Internal Auditor. Duly noted.

**ACTION:** The Clerk was instructed to write and thank Mrs Morgan for her years of service and commitment to the Council.

#### **16.0. To receive questions from Councillors**

16.1. Councillors discussed co-option for the three vacant seats following the election. The names of several possible candidates were raised and Councillors will approach to see if they are interested.

#### **17.0. Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman reported that he had no announcements to make.

#### **18.0. Date of next meeting**

18.1. Next meeting will be on Monday, 27th June, 2022.

Meeting closed at 8:35pm.