

## **PEN-Y-CAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the of the Pen-y-Cae Community Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### **PRESENT**

**Chair – Cllr. P. Davies**

Cllr. Mrs C. Davies  
Cllr. Mrs. S. Jones  
Cllr. Mr J.C. Phillips  
Cllr. Ms. A. Phillips.

Cllr. K. Gilpin  
Cllr. Mrs. P. Matthews  
Cllr. Mrs. J. Lowe  
Cllr. Dr S.E. Evans

PCSO Neil Green for item number 4 on the agenda, *Police Matters*

The Chair wished members a Happy New Year.

### **(20)01 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr. Mrs J. Jones  
Cllr. N. Claffey  
Cllr. Mr. G. Edwards

### **(20)02 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr. J. Phillips wished to declare interest in item number 7 on the agenda – *Planning Applications*.

It was agreed to suspend standing orders for item number 4 on the agenda – *Police Matters*

### **(20)01 POLICE MATTERS**

#### **Reported Crimes**

26/11/2019 – 05/01/2020

**HATE RELATED - 1** (Homophobic comments made)

**ARSON – 1** (Burnt out car located)

**CRIMINAL DAMAGE - 3** (1 x TV broken within school, 1 x window cracked, unsure how it occurred and 1x car wing mirror broken)

**THEFT- 2** (1 property taken from car port outside house. 1 was a family dispute over money of a deceased relative.)

**BURGLARY – 4** ( 3 X residential burglary, entry gained by smashing windows or through insecure door. 1 business broken into and tools taken from within.)

**UTMV – 1** (Amazon van stolen and contents taken from within. Vehicle located short time later with goods taken)

**ASB – 6 ASB INCIDENTS – 5** neighbourhood disputes and 1 nuisance.

### **Matters Raised by Members**

Cllr. J. Phillips advised that he had been contacted regarding an incident that occurred and was unable to contact any of the PCSOs on the telephone numbers that had been provided. PCSO Green advised that all officers were working difficult shifts and calls would not have been answered if the PCSO was unavailable. Cllr. Phillips asked if an updated contact list could be sent to the Clerk for sharing with members.

Cllr. J. Phillips advised that the activity from motorbikes and quads had increased during weekends on the Railway Line once again and asked if this could be monitored.

Cllr. J. Lowe advised that owing to the works being done on Plas Bennion, the diverted traffic towards Ruabon had resulted in a noticeable increase of motorists and speeding.

Cllr. Lowe asked if officers could monitor this area as it was used as a route to school for children walking from Pen-y-Cae to Ruabon.

Cllr. Dr Evans asked for an update on an incident that she had reported to the Police over the Christmas period. PCSO Green advised that he would look into it.

Cllr. C. Davies gave details of how Police had dealt with incident that had occurred recently in an unsatisfactory way. PCSO Neil Green advised that she should encourage the person involved to make a complaint.

Cllr. J. Phillips asked regarding the recent speed op that had taken place, PCSO Green advised that he did not have any information on this as he was not on shift but would ask PCSOs Alison Heron and Lauren Mather. Cllr. J. Phillips asked if any results could be passed to the Clerk. PCSO Green advised that he was looking into setting up an initiative with the schools involving the pupils in speeding operations and was exploring funding options for purchasing hi-vis vests for the children.

Cllr. C. Davies asked PCSO Green why the waiting time was so long for callers trying to report non urgent incidents on 101. PCSO Green advised that this was out of his jurisdiction and dealt with by a central control room. The waiting times would depend on staffing and other outside factors on a particular day.

The Chair thanked PCSO Green for his attendance; following this he left the meeting.

Resolved:               noted.

### **(20)03 MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 copies having previously been circulated, were approved and adopted subject to the following corrections

(19)161 5. *Play list*

### **(20)04 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes**

#### **1. Working in partnership with HMP Berwyn – letter to Ian Bancroft**

No further correspondence had been received from Ian Bancroft following the holding letter confirming receipt of the letter from the Clerk. It was agreed to wait until the following meeting in January and see if a letter would be sent.

Resolved:               to await a response from Ian Bancroft.

#### **2. Disabled Access on the Pant**

The Clerk had received an email from Aled Pugh Jones of WCBC advising that the works order had been raised and contractors were likely to start works early January. Cllr. J. Phillips proposed that following the installation of the radar locked gate that

council should purchase 12 radar keys to keep as stock in case any member of the community who was in need could be given one without the need to purchase them. Members were all in agreement.

Resolved: That the Clerk would purchase a stock of 12 radar keys.

### 3. **Waste Bins**

No further progress had been made with the installation of the new bins at Trem-y-Garden and Coed-y-Graig. The Clerk would chase this up with Streetscene.

Resolved: to await the installation of the bins.

### 4. **Music Event**

There had been no further meetings of the working party over the Christmas period but one was scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> January. Cllrs. J. Phillips and K. Gilpin asked members if they were happy for the Community Council's allocation of tickets to be sold by them directly. All members were in favour of this.

Resolved: to await further information.

### 5. **Christmas Market**

The Chair had brought the monies raised at the Christmas Market to the meeting; they had not been banked over the Christmas period due to illness. The full amount had not been counted as yet but it a clear profit had been made with £165.00 being counted for the tombola and raffle alone. The Clerk would count the full amounts and prepare a detailed spreadsheet in time for the next meeting.

Resolved: to await the amount raised at the Christmas Market

### 6. **BMX Track land**

The Clerk had spoken with the legal team at One Voice Wales regarding the encroachment issue and they advised that in the first instance a letter should be written to the occupant informing them of the encroachment and asking them to remove the fence back to its original boundary. It was agreed that the Clerk would confirm the address details and send the letter as soon as possible.

Resolved: That the Clerk would write the letter to the occupant as soon as possible.

### 7. **Interactive Speed Signs**

The Clerk had spoken with the manufacturers of the signs and given the go ahead for the order of 4 signs. The Clerk was awaiting further information from them regarding a start date and lead times. The Clerk had requested a site meeting with MEGA Electrical for the installation of a new post on Stryt Issa and was awaiting a date. The Clerk had also received correspondence from Highways to say that they would give permission to mount the signs on their columns provided the columns could be inspected by them prior to installation and that they complied with the Welsh Language Standards. It was agreed that the Clerk should inform WCBC that they could carry out the inspections ASAP to avoid delays. It was also agreed that the Clerk should chase MEGA for a date for a site meeting.

Resolved: That the Clerk follow up regarding the site meeting with MEGA and request that WCBC carry out their inspections as soon as possible.

**8. Bench on Plas Bennion**

The bench had not yet been ordered and the Clerk would await the end of the current road works before arranging installation.

Resolved: That the Clerk would progress the order of the bench.

**9. Library**

Following the expression of interest regarding the library information sent out by Steve Bailey of WCBC a letter had been sent detailing the costings of the libraries and mobile units. The letter called for Community Councils interested in funding the services to contact Mr Bayley and advise of their intentions. It was agreed to hold fire at present and to see how the matter progressed.

Resolved To await further information.

**10. Santa Route**

Prior to the event, Cllr. J. Phillips was contacted by the friends of Ruabon who asked for volunteers for the Santa Route and members of the Community Group agreed to help. Cllr. Phillips advised that it was very well attended and very well received once again and thanked everyone for their help.

Resolved: noted

**11. Request to Arriva**

Wendy Owens, Clerk to Rhos Community Council advised that she would put the suggestion forward to members at their next meeting of full council regarding a joint request to Arriva for a Sunday Service.

Resolved: To await correspondence from Rhos Community Council

**12. Paths and Trees on the Rec**

Sion Roberts of WCBC had replied to say that he had been out to inspect the paths at the Rec and had asked Streetscene to go out and clear them. He advised that Elton Watson the tree officer was arranging for the trees to be cut back in January.

Resolved: noted.

**13. Website**

The Welsh Translation had now been completed on the website and there were only a few finishing touches to be made. It was agreed that new admins for the site would need to be created as the previous members had now resigned. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr. Dr Evans regarding any future translation work that needed to be done. The Clerk would email the link out for everyone to view the website in its current state.

Resolved: That the Clerk would send out the link to members to view.

**(20) 05 ISSUES RELATING TO OLDER PEOPLE**

Ffion and the Clerk had organised the delivery of the Christmas gifting and had received help from Cllrs. K. Gilpin and G. Edwards as they had run into difficulties. There were a lot of surplus gifts owing to the fact that despite the best efforts of members and the Community Agent, the list was not fully up to date. It was agreed that an alternative method

should be looked into for this year's scheme. It was agreed to donate the remaining gifts to the food bank as they were still in date.

Resolved: noted

## **(20)06 STREET LIGHTING**

### **Faults**

The lights out on Maelor View and the one next to Guan's had now been fixed and were back on. The Chair advised that the illuminated stop sign near the War Memorial Garden was still not working. The Clerk had reported this to WCBC and would chase up again.

### **Upgrades**

MEGA Electrical had confirmed that there were only 2 lamps left to convert and were inaccessible due to the bases of the columns being concealed by hedges. The Clerk was waiting on confirmation from Cllr. Edwards regarding locations so that letters could be sent to the residents of the properties concerned. Cllr. Phillips also noted that there was one light on Afoneitha Road opposite Pinecroft that hadn't been converted and one on the junction footpath to Ffordd Llanerch from the side entrance next to Guans. The first lamp was due to an error in Scottish Power's reporting, they had marked the lamp as connected when it hadn't been. The second lamp had possibly been missed entirely from the inventory and would need Cllr. Edwards to confirm, if this was the case. It was also suggested that the Clerk contact Allan Richardson of Snapfast to ask if there was any update on the solar light they had been developing.

Resolved: to await further information.

## **(20)07 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no planning applications for the period.

Resolved: noted

## **(20)08 TO DISCUSS Stage two of the MUGA development**

It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged in order for the working group to formulate the paper based questionnaire for the schools. A date of the 20<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm in the Community Centre was agreed upon and the Clerk would email members of the working party to confirm and to invite Michelle and Kelly who had agreed to join at the consultation meetings.

Resolved: To await further outcome.

## **(20)09 TO DISCUSS co-option for the vacancy of Community Councillor in the Groes Ward**

As there had been no request for election in the Groes Ward during the advertised period, the Community Council had displayed the co-option notice locally with the expiration date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. The Clerk had received only one application from Catherine Evans. The Clerk read the letter to members and the Chair asked members present to vote whether they were in favour of accepting Catherine's application or not. All members were in favour and the Clerk would make the necessary steps to inform both Catherine and the Electoral division of the council's decision.

Resolved: That Clerk would make the necessary steps to inform both Catherine and the Electoral division of the council's decision.

**(20)10 TO DISCUSS precept schedule and tax base for 2020/21**

As there had still been no news from WCBC about the figure proposed for the raise in Council Tax it was agreed that the council should consider either a very low percentage increase or to consider running a standstill budget for a further 12 months. The Chair asked members to vote.

Cllr. P. Matthews proposed a standstill budget, seconded by Cllr. K. Gilpin it was voted for as follows

For: 3 Against: 6, Abstentions: 0

Cllr. P. Davies proposed a 1% raise at a cost of 63p per elector per annum, seconded by Cllr. J. Phillips was voted for as follows:

For: 6 Against : 3 Abstentions: 0

It was agreed that the Clerk would inform WCBC of its precept request for 2020/21 with a 1% rise

Resolved: That the Clerk would inform WCBC of its precept request for 2020/21 with a 1% rise

**(20)11 TO DISCUSS The War Memorial Garden.**

The Clerk had sent members a copy of the specification for the War Memorial Garden and it was agreed that before any decisions could be taken that a meeting should be arranged at the garden to determine the works that needed to be done. Members agreed to meet at 9am the coming Saturday morning. It was also suggested to ask Nigel if he would be happy to maintain the plants outside the entrance to the Pant following the removal of the tubs opposite the war memorial from the specification.

Resolved: to await the outcome of the site meeting.

**(20)12 TO DISCUSS Christmas Events for the Elderly in 2020**

Cllr. J. Phillips requested that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion as he would like to suggest that the Community Council arrange a Christmas Dinner for the older people in the community and would like to see a working party set up for this to work in partnership with the Community Agent. Members agreed that this was a good idea and it was also suggested that a community wide events committee should be comprised of all organisations within Pen-y-Cae so that groups could work together cohesively.

Resolved: To await creation of an events committee within the village.

**(20)13 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from Urdd National Eisteddfod Wales with a request for funding. This would be kept on file for the February meeting for discussion under Grants and Donations.

A letter from the Powys Eisteddfod with a request for funding. This would be kept on file for the February meeting for discussion under Grants and Donations.

A letter from Family Friends with a request for funding. This would be kept on file for the February meeting for discussion under Grants and Donations.

A letter from Sandra Neves at Techniquet explaining about a new youth project which aimed to make the sciences accessible to young people in the community through Outreach. Sandra was invited to give a presentation at the next meeting of full council.

#### **(20)14 MISCELLANEOUS**

Resolved: To note receipt of the following:

1. Brochures from Viking Direct detailing offers on stationery
2. Brochures from Glasdon detailing offers on roadside furniture
3. A Brochure from Sunshine Gym detailing outdoor fitness equipment
4. A letter from the Welsh Government advising of the Appropriate sum under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 20/21. For the financial year 2020-21, the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4) is calculated by applying the formula set out in Schedule 12B to the 1972 Act.  
The Retail Price Index increased by 2.4% between September 2018 and September 2019. This means that, by application of the formula, the maximum sum for 2020-21 increases from £8.12 to £8.32 per elector.

#### **(20)15 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The following issues were raised under the above heading:

1. Cllr. K. Gilpin advised that there was moisture coming through the backing of the noticeboard on Afoneitha and asked if the Clerk could contact the manufacturer to obtain a quote for replacing it with metal.
2. Cllr. J. Phillips had taken some photographs of the accumulating rubbish tipped behind the property on Coed-y-Nant and asked the Clerk to once again contact Clwyd Alyn to ask them for a satisfactory resolution to the fly tipping issue. The Clerk would forward the photographs on to the CEO of Clwyd Alyn and raise the issue once again.
3. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that he had been contacted by someone who wished to gift a defibrillator to the Community and asked members if they would support the proposal to find out the costings of having one installed if a suitable location could be found. Members agreed and agreed that Cllr. Phillips should arrange for costings to be sought.
4. Cllr. C. Davies advised that only Council tenants had been informed of the charges being brought in for the green bin collections and the need for registration. Cllr. J. Lowe advised that she would check on this. It was suggested that the Environment department could be contacted to ask if they could send out the waste collection schedules at the same time as the council tax demands in order for people without internet access to access the schedule and be better informed.
5. Cllr. C. Davies also advised that concerns had been raised over the cessation of payment methods accepted for British Gas top ups locally. These could now only be done at Post Offices and shops that accepted Pay Zone payments. The closest outlet to Pen-y-Cae was now the Post Office in Rhos and would only be accessible while the Post Office was operating. This would cause distress for people with limited mobility.

## **(20)16 FINANCE**

The Finance Committee met prior to the meeting at 6.30pm.

### **Payments**

The following payments were approved for November

102866 – Cymen – website translation	£336.00
102867 – EDF Energy – unmetered supply	£672.19
102868 – WCBC – playground repair	£374.53
Bank Transfer – Salary, postage	£1243.73
Bank Transfer – Salary & mileage	£1032.16