

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE MARKET HALL, ERWOOD ON THURSDAY 16TH JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: CLLR ALAN PRYCE
 CLLR STEPHEN DAVIES
 CLLR MRS ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
 CLLR MRS ANNE NICHOLLS
 CLLR MRS KAREN LAURIE-PARRY
 CLLR HAYDN POWELL
 CLLR GEOFFREY LEWIS

There were no DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending on such a wet & windy night and welcomed Mr Geoffrey Lewis to his first meeting as County Councillor.

Minute 1-2020

Co-option of Mr Geoffrey Lewis signed his Declaration of Office agreeing to his
 Mr Geoff Lewis co-option of Councillor on to Erwood Community Council. The Clerk
 gave him copies of the Code of Conduct and The New Model Standing
 Orders 2018 files.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were read out and all Councillors were in agreement to the Chairman signing them as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 2-2020

Training on Reference 136-2019. The Clerk had been informed that Cllr Karen
 Finance,Howey Laurie-Parry would not be eligible to attend this training evening as it was
 the second session on Finance and advised her accordingly.

Minute 3-2020

Meeting on Reference 139-2019. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry, Cllr Alan Pryce and Cllr Anne
 Dementia Nicholls attended this meeting. Cllr Jeremy Pugh, Chairman of this Steering
 Group in Builth is keen to promote awareness of Dementia in the area and
 hope that Dementia Friendly meetings can be developed in Builth similar to
 that at Crickhowell. About 30 were in attendance and the next meeting is
 arranged for Wednesday 22nd January 7 p.m. at The Strand Hall. Julie
 Goodridge, Dementia Community Development Officer would welcome
 ideas for future meetings.

Minute 4-2020

EPST Meeting Reference 140-2019. Next meeting of this Trust will be held in February
 when discussions will take place on the possibilities of receiving funding to
 help provide a disabled entrance and a baby changing unit.

Minute 5-2020

Planning
Information

(a) The Clerk had noticed on Powys Planning site that Application Ref. 19/0852/FUL had been withdrawn in July 2019. This was for the change of use of workshop to storage building and erection of a welfare building on land near to Cwrt Gwenddwr for Mr J. Jones, Llandeilo Graban.

Reference 141-2019(b). The Clerk had received a reply from Powys Planning on application 19/1540/AGR stating that this application was for prior approval only to determine if the development is permitted development or whether planning permission will be required. The erection of this Agricultural Building was not subject to any public consultation.

Minute 6-2020

Adoption of
Telephone Kiosks

Reference 144-2019. The Clerk had received an amended contract which included the three telephone kiosks for adoption in this area and the Chairman had signed the contract and a cheque for £3 was returned to BT. This contract was returned this morning countersigned by BT. Discussions took place on who should be involved in the maintenance of these kiosks and especially the painting of them. To be decided at a future date.

Minute 7-2020

Environmental
Report

Reference 148-2019. The Clerk was informed at the last SLCC meeting that a report should be completed and placed on our web site even if the Council has only limited responsibility on these subjects. Each Councillor had been given a copy of the completed report.

Minute 8-2020

One Voice
Wales

Reference 151-2019. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry had been informed by the Secretary of One Voice Wales that the next meeting of the Brecon & Radnor branch would be on Friday 21st February 2020 at 7 p.m. The Clerk to book Erwood Market Hall with Mrs Edna Evans. Refreshments to be provided for up to about 25 people before the commencement of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 9-2020

Councillors
Travelling Allowance

The Clerk has had several replies on this query, but it seems that tax will be deducted from Councillor's claim on travelling and would have to be entered on the Council's pay roll system. Councillors would have to discuss this direct with HMRC. It was suggest that Councillors could claim the £150 allowance and use it for travelling purposes and they would get £120 after tax. Both SLCC and OVW have pressed the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales to waive the taxable liability with no success

to date. Cllr Stephen Davies asked the Clerk to get confirmation on whether the travelling allowance can be claimed within our area or only out of County.

Minute 10-2020

Bus Infrastructure
Improvements

Powys County Council has been awarded additional funding to improve bus infrastructure along T4/T14 bus routes and is offering electronic displays to be installed at the bus stops. The Chairman agreed these would be beneficial for all persons using the bus services in Erwood. The Clerk was also asked to inform the County Council that a bus shelter at the Southern bus stop was also urgently required. The reply stated that work would commence as soon as available on the RTI screens but stated the path was too narrow at the Southern bus stop and a bus shelter installed there would not meet safety regulations which we have previously been told.

Minute 11-2020

Speed Survey

GoSafe has written to say that the recent survey conducted in Erwood was carried out by the Trunk Road Agency. They have asked to receive the findings and as soon as available will forward the details to the Clerk.

Minute 12-2020

Village
Gateways

The last costings received by the Clerk of Village Gateways was in 2018. A letter and chase letter has been sent to the Clerk of Eardisley Group Parish Council to ask for their Council's views on the advantage of installing gateways but nothing received yet. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry asked that this be put on the agenda for next meeting and that she would try to get all the necessary details available by then. The 2018 prices to be sent to Cllr Laurie-Parry.

Minute 13-2020

Payment of
Councillor's
Allowances

Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to accept his allowance for year 2020/21 but the other Councillors decided to opt out. The Clerk had received these decisions in writing.

Minute 14-2020

Risk
Assessment

The Clerk handed out the risk assessment form and talked through the details. All Councillors agreed that the form suitably covered all the possible risks and was signed by the Chairman.

Minutes 15-2020

Review of
Budget form

The Clerk had prepared a draft form giving estimates for next year's budget. Councillors discussed the figures and made some adjustments especially the sum allocated for the Councillor's allowances and the proposed Clerk's salary which was not known at this point. The Clerk to recalculate the figures as necessary which will be used to complete the precept form for 2020/21.

Minute 16-2020

Precept for
2020/21

Taking into consideration the bank statements in the two accounts on 31st December, the total estimated figure for 2019/20 and the proposed figure for 2020/21 on the budget form, it was agreed by all Councillors that the precept be kept the same as present, namely £5,500.00. This figure to be sent to Powys County Council by 24th January 2020.

Minute 17-2020

Limit on Section
137 Expenditure

The appropriate sum for the purpose of purchases under Section 137(4) has been increased for year 2020/21 from £8.12 to £8.32 per elector.

Minute 18-2020

SLCC & ALCC
Renewals

As both these annual subscriptions were due for renewal on 1st January 2020 before our next meeting, the Clerk e-mailed the Chairman and each of the Councillors who were all in agreement to these renewals so the Chairman authorised the cheques of £78 for membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks and £40 for the Trade Union section of the ALCC. The Clerk is very grateful for the Council allowing her the chance to be involved in this very important Society and is able to bring back lots of valuable information to the Council.

Minute 19-2020Highways

Condition of Roads
and Drains

All roads in this area are now in a very bad state, road up past Tregare Gwenddwr, near Cefgarth, Gwenddwr, and Llaneglwys area. The heavy storms recently have broken up the tarmac and the water is not able to drain away into the gulleys because they haven't been cleaned. It is noted that there is only one suction machine in Powys. Highway's staff appear to keep the verges along the main roads very tidy but more time should be spent on the side roads. Mr Daniel Relf, Boughrood Depot has agreed to travel around the roads with Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry and he should be made aware that many of the problems are primarily due to the gutters not been cleaned.

Items to be
reported by
Cllr Karen-
Laurie-Parry

- (a) Cllr Haydn Powell – Water is running down the road from Chapel House Farm, Abernant across the A470 into the yard & barns at Abernant Farm which is again due to blocked drains.
- (b) Drain by Alltmawr Uchaf (Glen Horridge)
- (c) Highway fronting and main access to Alltmawr Isaf Farm
- (d) Proposed date required for the commencement of a bund and tarmac levelling between Brynhaul & Erw Henallt
- (d) Clarification of hedge cutting areas for Boughrood & Builth Depots and road clearing lengths for Boughrood Depot
- (e) Photographs of highway issues at Alltmawr Isaf Farm
- (f) Issues at Bedw Farm (Jeanne)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minute 20-2020

Defibrillator
At Erwood

Cllr Alan Pryce reported that the pads in the Defibrillator in Erwood will need replacing on 1st February 2020 and the warranty of the defibrillator expires in June this year. The Clerk was given the contact name at Cariad, Mr Anthony Hamilton-Shaw, who has the maintenance contract and will report these facts for their action.

Minute 21-2020

Facebook

Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry had queried with Mrs Natasha Sayer, who advertises the Council meetings on facebook, the number of people who are allowed to put posts on facebook. At present, Cllr Stephen Davies and the Clerk confirm what is posted. It was agreed by everyone that two people are sufficient.

Minute 22-2020

Ink Cartridges

The Clerk stated that she needs to order more ink cartridges for her printer and this was agreed by everyone. She also reported that the Council's printer doesn't work very often, and she has to rely on her own printer which hasn't a flat bed. Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to help the Clerk to choose another printer which was supported by everyone.

Minute 23-2020

Electric Car
Points in Powys

The Clerk had been asked if the Council has a list of locations that provide electric car points in Powys. Cllr Stephen Davies found details on his phone and stated that Powys County Council has been allocated £10k funding and 9 car parks have been selected in Phase 1 for these to be supplied and a few local points were also known by Councillors.

Minute 24-2020

PAVO

The free membership of PAVO has been renewed for another 12 months.

Minute 25-2020

Cheques and
Bank Statements

Cheques paid since last meeting:
SLCC renewal of subscription £78- Society of Local Council Clerks
ALCC renewal of subscription £40 – Trade Union, SLCC
BT - £3 – Adoption of Three Telephone Kiosks
Bank Statements at 31st December 2019 –
Current Account - £6353.36 Premium Savings Account - £3014.97

Minute 26-2020

Date of Next
Meeting

To be arranged end of February/beginning of March

Meeting closed at 10 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT THE NEXT MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY
COUNCIL